

Toastmasters International Turns 90

The organization's mission of empowering speakers and leaders remains as relevant today as in 1924

RANCHO SANTA MARGARITA, Calif., Oct. 22, 2014 /[PRNewswire](#)/ -- Toastmasters International has come a long way since its humble beginnings 90 years ago. Since October 22, 1924, when Toastmasters' founder Ralph C. Smedley held the first meeting in the basement of a YMCA in Santa Ana, Calif., more than 4 million men and women have become more confident speakers and leaders through the Toastmasters experience. And Smedley's idea of turning young business leaders into "would-be orators" has led to a thriving global organization with membership exceeding 313,000 in more than 14,650 clubs in 126 countries.

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