

Rotary International District 6510

Fall of 2009 - Blanche Carlton Sloan 4-Way Test Speech Contest

Contest Information for the Fall 2009

- Participant Brochure
- Contest Information
- Club Entry Form
- Schedule
- Judging Procedure

For Additional Information Contact:

Karen Jackson

112 Cardinal Drive

Belleville, IL 62221

(O) 618-222-9000

(F) 618-222-9285

(H) 618-234-2304

(M) 618-789-8001

(E) karen_jackson@us.aflac.com

The 4-Way Test

From the earliest days of Rotary, Rotarians were concerned with promoting high ethical standards in their professional lives. One of the world's most widely printed and quoted statements of business ethics is **The 4-Way Test**, which was created in 1932 by Rotarian Herbert J. Taylor (who later served as RI president) when he was asked to take charge of a company that was facing bankruptcy. This 24-word test for employees to follow in their business and professional lives become the guide for sales, production, advertising, and all relations with dealers and customers, and the survival of the company is credited to this simple philosophy. Adopted by Rotary in 1943, The 4-Way Test has been translated into more than a hundred languages and published in thousands of ways. It asks the following four questions:

Of the things we think, say or do:

1. Is it the TRUTH?
2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?

4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

Blanche Carlton Sloan served District 6510 in 1996-1997 as our first woman governor. This speech contest will again be conducted in her honor to recognize her contributions to Rotary International and our district.

Information

The District Chair and the Regional Chairs comprise the 4-Way Test Speech Contest Committee. This committee will be administered by the Deputy Governor for Youth Service.

The local club level contests will be conducted by each club (if needed) and must be conducted before the Regional Contest.

The 4-Way Test Speech Contest Committee will conduct three (3) Regional contests. The Regional contest must be held no later than one week prior to the District Conference. Regional Club assignments, Regional Chairs and Regional Competitions are listed below.

Region	Regional Chairs	Regional Contest Date and Time	Regional Contest Location
East	Julie Webb <i>Rotary Club of Olney</i> davendolores@wabash.net	September 22, 2009 6:30 p.m.	Mt. Vernon First Methodist Church
South	Jacque Betz <i>Rotary Club of Carbondale-Breakfast</i> jacqueibz@gmail.com 618-549-6953	TBA To be held prior to September 30, 2009	Carbondale Civic Center Room 118 200 South Illinois Carbondale, IL
West	Cheryl Moody <i>Swansea Club</i> Karen_j_jackson@charter.net	Thursday Sept. 17, 2009 6:30 PM	SWIC Route 161 Belleville, IL

Rotary Clubs have been broken down into the following Regions for this event:

East Region	South Region	West Region
Albion	Anna-Jonesboro	Belleville
Carmi	Cairo	Columbia
Fairfield	Carbondale	Fairview Heights
Flora	Carbondale-Breakfast	Freeburg
Hamilton County	Eldorado	Lebanon

East Region	South Region	West Region
Lawrenceville	Golconda	Mascoutah
Louisville	Greater Carterville Area	New Athens
Mt. Carmel	Harrisburg	O'Fallon
Olney	Herrin	O'Fallon Sunrise
Richland County	Marion	St. Clair County East
Benton	Metropolis	St. Clair County West
Carlyle	Williamson County – Heartland	St. Clair Valley
Mascoutah	Chester	Swansea
Mt. Vernon	DuQuoin	Sparta
Mt. Vernon West	Waterloo	Red Bud
Salem	West Frankfort	
Centralia		
Centralia Sunrise		

The District competition will be held at the District Conference on October 3, 2009 at Metropolis, IL., at 9:30 a.m. The winner from each Division (Large School Division/ Small School Division) from each Region will compete.

Public, private and continuation high school students in Grades 9 through 12 are eligible to enter the contest. No student may be a contestant in more than one Rotary club speech contest in any one year.

More than one club may recruit contestants from a high school shared with another club. A club may enter more than one contestant; their first contestant must be in their own Region and a second contestant may be sent to another regional contest. This will be accepted. A club may also have a contestant in each the large school and the small school division in their Region. **Note: The size of the school the student *is from* determines their division not the size of the sponsoring Rotary Club.**

The winner of the District speech competition (District Champion) is ineligible to compete in subsequent years.

Rotary clubs should complete the enclosed entry form and return it with your \$125.00 club entry fee prior to the Regional contests.

NOTE: (The \$125.00 covers the cost of the district awards. Please allocate additional budget to cover the cost of club level awards and other expenses for your contest winner and family as they proceed to succeeding levels.)

Additional students may enter for \$125.00 per student.

Purpose and Goals

District 6510's 4-Way Test Speech Contest involves and benefits youth of high school age. The specific goals of the contest are:

- To acquaint a large number of youth with Rotary and, specifically, the tenets of the 4-Way Test.
- To demonstrate and enhance Rotarians' commitment to youth.
- To heighten awareness of Rotary among older youth, parents, school officials, and the community at large.
- To recognize, encourage and reward hard work and accomplishment in our youth.

Topic

The theme of 2009 – 2010 Rotary International is *"The Future Of Rotary is in Your Hands"* and will also be the topic for this year's 4-Way Test Speech Contest. Any topic related to this theme will be acceptable, provided that it is not profane, obscene, unpatriotic or racist. In the speech, the topic must be specifically related to the Rotary 4-Way Test. This must be in the body of the speech and is not to be reserved for concluding statements only.

Levels of Competition and Awards

1. Local Club Contest

A local Rotary Club 4-Way Test Speech Contest can be held in the month of September. Students in Grades 9-12 within each club's area are eligible to enter. Participants will receive plaques, certificates, and/or cash awards at the discretion of each local club. This winner or the clubs designated entry(ies) will advance to the Regional competitions and represent the club at the Regional contest.

2. Regional Contest

Regional competitions will be held in late September, 2009. Participants will be competing this year in either the Large School or Small School Division. The size of the school they attend will determine the division they compete in. Each participant will receive a \$50 award for their hard work. One winner in each Division and in each Regional contest will advance to the District Finals.

3. District Finals

Three Regional contest winners in each Division will compete at the District Finals held during the District Conference scheduled for Oct, 3, 2009 at Metropolis, IL. at 9:30 a.m. In recognition of their accomplishments and to further their education, the two runners-up in each Division will receive \$250 each and the District Champion in each Division will receive \$750.

Entering the Contest

Club entry forms are to be mailed to the district office; contestant manuals and other information are available for download from the District 6510 website (www.rotary6510.org).

Selection of Judges

- Judges at club and the regional levels will be selected and recruited by the Club Contest Chair of the host club.
- Judges may or may not be Rotarians. In either case they must have no knowledge of or relationship to any of the speakers or their schools (if more than one school is represented).
- Judges should be selected on the basis of their impartiality, educational background, and familiarity with speech contests.
- Make sure the Judges are knowledgeable of and understand the four Tenets that are the 4-Way Test.

Contest Rules

Topic: The theme for the Fall 2009 Rotary International "The Future of Rotary is in Your Hands," which will also be the theme of this year's Speech Contest. Any topic related to this theme will be acceptable, provided that it is not profane, obscene, unpatriotic, or racist. If a contestant or coach is in doubt about the appropriateness of a topic, he or she should check with the Contest Chair for the level at which they are preparing to speak. The decision of the Contest Chair will be final.

In the speech, the topic must be specifically related to the Rotary 4-Way Test. This must be addressed during the body of the speech and is not reserved for concluding statements only.

Length: Speeches must be at least 6 minutes and no more than 8 minutes in length. Penalty points will be subtracted for time infractions, at the rate of two points for every

fifteen seconds or fraction thereof that a contestant's speech runs either under the 6-minute minimum or over the 8-minute maximum.

Props: No props are to be used. Audience participation will be considered a prop. Penalty points will be subtracted for use of props or encouragement of audience participation, at the rate of two points per infraction.

Speaker Aids: Lecterns and microphone will be available for speakers if they choose.

Notes: Contestants may speak from notes at the club and Regional competitions. At the Regional competition, only a single 3 x 5 card may be used. At the District final, notes will not be allowed. Infractions will result in disqualification.

Sample Agenda

Start: Ask if judges and timekeeper are ready. Begin the contest by calling on "Speaker Number 1." Continue with Speaker Number 2," etc.

The following announcements may be made at the beginning, but you may wish to make them between the speeches, when the judges will need a moment or two to finish marking their score sheets:

- The theme for Rotary International President "The Future of Rotary is in Your Hands" and will also be the theme for this year's 4-Way Test Speech Contest.
- Speeches must be at least 6 minutes but no more than 8 minutes in length. Penalty points are assessed if a speech is too long or too short.
- Approximately 48 clubs in our District are hosting contests this month. Our winners will advance to the Regional Contest in early October.
- Winners of the three Regional Contests will advance to the District Finals.
- The top three speakers in each division will compete at the District Conference on October 3, 2008 at Metropolis, IL. Runners-up will receive \$250 cash awards and the contest winners in each division will receive a \$750 cash award.

Conclude: After the last contestant has spoken, invite the judges to leave the room to tally their points and rank the speakers.

While the judges are deliberating, introduce the contestants using their biography sheets. Ask them to introduce their coaches or whoever is with them.

When the judges return with their rankings, introduce them and the time keeper. Then announce the winning speaker.

Announce all the runners-up (not placing them 2nd, 3rd, etc.).

Award each \$50 check from the District.
Take photos.
End.

Follow-up Checklist

Thank-you notes to speakers.
Thank-you notes to schools/coaches.
Mail or fax the winner's biography to Regional Chairs and District Chair.
Make sure the winner and coach have details on the Regional level contest.
Record the 2nd place finisher in case the winner is unable to compete at the next level of competition.

Judging Instructions

- Judges will seat themselves apart from each other and not communicate about their evaluations of speakers until after the final awards have been made.
- Each speaker will be awarded points in the following four categories: Personal Qualities & Presentation (0-15 points), Use of the 4-Way Test (0-35 points), Use of the Rotary Theme (0-35 points), and Overall Effectiveness (0-15 points). Record points immediately after each speech. The contest Chair will ask if judges are ready before calling the next speaker.
- Rankings should be computed after all speeches have been given and the judges have left the room.

Judge's Scoring Sheet

The 4-Way Test

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1. Is it the TRUTH?
2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
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4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

Instructions

1. Judges will seat themselves apart from each other and not communicate about their evaluations of speakers until after the final awards have been made.
2. Each speaker will be awarded points in the four categories listed below. Record points immediately after each speech. (The contest Chair will ask if judges are ready before calling the next speaker.)
3. Columns should be added and rankings computed after all speeches have been given and the judges have left the room.

Items to be Judged	Speakers in order of appearance							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Personal Qualities & Presentation (0-15 points)								
Use of the 4-Way Test (0-35 points)								
Application of the Rotary Theme (0-35 points)								
Overall Effectiveness (0-15 points)								
Subtotal of points								
Penalty points (if any) reported by the Timekeeper. Subtract from subtotal.								
Net points								
Ranking								

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Fall 2009
Blanch Carlton Sloan 4-Way Test Speech Contest
Judging Procedures**

Selection of Judges

1. Judges will be selected and recruited by the Club Contest Chair
2. Judges may or may not be Rotarians. In either case they must have no knowledge of or relationship to any of the speakers or their schools.
3. Judges should be selected on the basis of their impartiality, educational background and familiarity with speech contests.

Contest Rules

1. TOPIC: The theme for the Fall 2009 Rotary year is "The Future of Rotary is in Your Hands" which will also be the topic for this year's 4-Way Test Speech Contest. Any topic related to this theme will be acceptable, provided that it is not profane, obscene, unpatriotic or racist. If a contestant or coach is in doubt about the appropriateness of a topic, he or she should check with the 4 Way Test contest Chair for the competition at which they are preparing to speak. The decision of the Contest Chair will be final. In the speech, the topic must be specifically related to the Rotary 4-Way Test. This must be during the body of the speech and is not to be reserved for concluding statements only.
2. LENGTH: Speeches must be at least 6 minutes and no more than 8 minutes in length. Penalty points will be subtracted for time infractions, at the rate of two points for every fifteen seconds or fractions thereof that a contestant's speech runs either under the 6-minute minimum or over the 8-minute maximum.
3. PROPS: No props are to be used. Audience participation will be considered a prop. Penalty points will be subtracted for use of props or encouragement of audience participation, at the rate of two points per infraction.
4. SPEAKER AIDS: Lecterns and microphones will be available for speakers to use if they choose.
5. NOTES: Contestants may speak from notes at the Club and Regional competitions. At the Regional level, only a single 3 x 5 card may be used. At the District competition, notes will **NOT** be allowed. Infractions will result in disqualification.

