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Photo Available Upon Request

Toastmasters members elect Pamela McCown to group's international Board

New director at 250,000-member organization hails from Pasadena, Texas

RANCHO SANTA MARGARITA, Calif., Sept. 12, 2009 – Pamela McCown of Pasadena, Texas, has been elected to the Board of Directors of [Toastmasters International](http://www.toastmasters.org), the world's leading organization devoted to teaching skills in communication and leadership. She was elected to the two-year term at the organization's 78th annual International Convention, held last month in Mashantucket, Conn.

McCown, who had a 30-year career in the banking industry, joined Toastmasters in 2001, when she helped form a corporate Toastmasters club at the JPMorgan Chase Bank in downtown Houston, Texas. Subsequently, she and other charter members of that group founded three other JPMorgan clubs in Houston.

McCown has attained the Distinguished Toastmaster speaking designation – the highest level a member can achieve. She has also served in many leadership positions with Toastmasters, including division governor and district governor, and since retiring from her corporate career, has been a full-time Toastmasters volunteer and mentor.

"I enjoy creating opportunities for others to accept leadership roles and build leadership skills," says McCown, who is a member of two clubs: the Firm Speakers Toastmasters and the Dining Out Toastmasters, both in Houston. "I promote Toastmasters everywhere I go and proudly wear my Toastmasters pins and badges even when I'm not at a Toastmasters event."

Married for 36 years to Gary McCown, Pamela is a long-distance runner who has completed two marathons – both after the age of 40! She volunteers for such community groups as Junior Achievement, Dress for Success and Habitat for Humanity.

About Toastmasters

[Toastmasters International](http://www.toastmasters.org) is a nonprofit educational organization that teaches public speaking and leadership skills through a worldwide network of clubs. The organization currently has 250,000 members in 12,000 clubs in 106 countries. Since its founding 85 years ago in October 1924, the organization has helped more than four million men and women give presentations with poise and confidence. For information about local Toastmasters clubs, please visit www.toastmasters.org.

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