

HERE IT IS!

The Double Dozen Toastmasters Newsletter

The Double Dozen



This is your District 24
Toastmasters Newsletter



The Double Dozen Newsletter

Making Effective Communication
a Worldwide Reality

JANUARY 2005 EDITION
TAMARA DOWLING, EDITOR

Happy 2005!

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Happy New Year everyone and welcome to our January edition of the Toastmasters Double Dozen Newsletter. We hope that all of you enjoyed your holidays but are now rested and ready to get back into the swing of things, especially Toastmasters. We are really looking forward to all of the possibilities and exciting things waiting for us in 2005.

If you haven't made any New Year's Resolutions, make one today. Make a resolution to become more active in Toastmasters. You're your club members achieve their CTM, ATM, CL, or DTM. Help sponsor a new club. Get the word out about Toastmasters. Even start planning on what position you would like to vie for come election time in June.

Remember, Toastmasters is what you make of it, so we need all of you to make Toastmasters a great organization. Each of you has so much talent, enthusiasm, and creativity; we want to put that to use.

The Area Governors in Division E are busy working with their clubs and seeking new club building opportunities. Most club visits have been made, and we are looking for our replacements to give them time to learn with us how to take advantage of this FUN volunteer opportunity.

Area 43 is looking at a university club possibility and there is new lead at Gallup University in our Division. Members of Greater Communicators and Sheila Hoffert, Lt. Governor Marketing, chartered as new club in Area D32 in December - West O! The mentors are Bonner Bowden and Rick Jensen, their Area Governor. Sarpy County Toastmasters is 3 or 4 members away from charter and hope to make it in January. Sarpy County will be in E42.

So many wonderful things are happening in Division E. I am so excited!

Floy Westermeier
Division E Governor

Marketing Report

Happy New Year everyone!!! I hope that everyone's holidays were fabulous and that you are ready to get busy in 2005.

January is a great time to recruit new members, as they are full of New Years resolutions to improve themselves in the coming year. I solidly believe in resolutions because that is when I made my own commitment to join Toastmasters and do something about my chronic fear of speaking in public. January is also a great month to get started on a speechcraft in your club.

There are some concerns that I would like to share with you. In reviewing the latest membership reports, a lot of clubs hit a big 'speed bump' at the time of October renewals. The members did an excellent job in club building, taking the district from 15 clubs at charter strength at the spring conference to 28 at charter strength at the fall conference. Now, we have our work cut out for us because we are down to 16 clubs at charter strength and 22 clubs (one third of our clubs) with 12 or fewer members. So, start working on those friends and family who need to improve their leadership and communication skills. They can benefit from our supportive environment, which will allow them to grow, and, in turn, their membership helps the district immensely.

Some great news to report! Noonshiners in Lincoln is being reinstated. Terracon in west Omaha has submitted their charter request, and they have twenty members. Sarpy County Chamber of Commerce has also submitted a request to charter. We are working with Allied to get their club going, and with Gallup in both Omaha and Lincoln to set up clubs. Lincoln Plating has indicated they would like to start a club in January. There is definitely plenty of activity going on in the district.

So, keep up the good work everyone! Keep sharing the wealth of Toastmasters, its benefit, and its rewards. Toastmasters is a great organization that has benefited each and every one of us.

Sheila Hoffert
Lt. Gov. of Marketing

A note from the webmaster, Pat Hannan, ATM-B,
OPPD Club 455 and Area 41-E Governor

Hello Fellow Toastmasters,

If you have not visited the District 24 website, you are missing a lot of great information. Go on-line and you'll find the latest calendar information, news about special events and even meet our District Officers, even if only in the virtual world.

In the near future, you will also find information about the Spring Conference and all the reasons why you should attend! Visit us online at the District 24 website:

<http://www.district24toastmasters.com>

I hope you'll come surf with us!

WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENT

Deb Scott, Toastmasters at Principal, will be married to Chuck Jackson on July 23, 2005 with receptions to follow at Plum Street Station in Grand Island.

Anyone wanting more specific details may see Deb at conference or contact her at scott.deb@principal.com or at (308) 390-1023.

Soar Among the Stars!!!

Toastmasters District 24
Spring Conference 2005

April 22 & 23

The Spring Conference will be a very special event where VIP's abound!!!

EMBASSY SUITES, OLD MARKET --- OMAHA

Jon Greiner, Toastmasters International President
Jim Key, 2003 World Champion of Public Speaking
Hal Daub, Former Omaha Mayor and Congressman,
Communication and Leadership Award Winner

Come listen, learn and share with these communication pros!

You're in for the Best Conference EVER!!!!

Be sure to make reservations now to join us!

Make checks payable to --- "District 24 Spring Conference 2005"

Date:	Amount: \$80 – price Good until Valentine's Day	Check #:
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This portion of the promo serves as your receipt. Thank You!

Send checks to: Sheila Hoffert, LGM - 2204 Coventry Drive, Bellevue, NE 68123

Tear here

Name:		TM Designation:	
Address:		Club Name:	
City, St., Zip:			
Phone:		Club Number:	
Email:		Dietary Choice?	

Send checks to: Sheila Hoffert, LGM - 2204 Coventry Drive, Bellevue, NE 68123

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

District 24 officer elections will be held at the District Conference on April 24, 2005 in Omaha, Nebraska. The following officers will be elected: District Governor, Lt. Governor Education and Training, Lt. Governor Marketing, and Division Governor.

THE MISSION OF THE DISTRICT

The mission of the District is to enhance the performance and extend the network of Clubs, thereby offering greater numbers of people the opportunity to benefit from the Toastmasters educational program by:

- Focusing on the critical success factors as specific by the District educational and membership goals.
- Insuring that each Club effectively fulfills its responsibilities to its members.
- Providing effective training and leadership development opportunities for Club and District officers.

TOASTMASTERS INTERNATIONAL VISION

Toastmasters international empowers people to achieve their full potential and realize their dreams. Through our member Clubs, people throughout the world can improve their communication and leadership skills, giving them the courage to change.

The mission/purpose and qualifications of each elected officer follows:

DISTRICT GOVERNOR

Mission/Purpose

As the District's chief executive officer, directs the District in a way which fosters strong Clubs; produces maximum growth in education completions, Club and membership; and is consistent with the interests of members of Toastmasters International. Responsible for motivating the District to achieve Distinguished District. Achieves the Mission of the District in a manner which motivates volunteer leaders and promotes a standard of excellence in all District activities.

Qualifications

At the time of taking office, the District Governor shall have served at least six (6) consecutive months as a Club President and at least twelve (12) consecutive months as a Lt. Governor or Division Governor or a combination thereof.

LT. GOVERNOR EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Mission/Purpose

Under the guidance of the District Governor, strives to have every Club and each member reap the benefits of the Toastmasters educational program and to have every Club become a Distinguished Club. Responsible for achieving Distinguished District goals for CTMs, ATMs, and Distinguished Clubs. Provides direction and counsel to Division governors, Area Governors, and Club officers on the educational opportunities in Toastmasters. Responsible for the design and conduct of successful District training programs, conferences, and other District educational events.

Qualifications

The Lt. Governor Education and Training shall have served at least six (6) consecutive months as a Club President and at least twelve (12) consecutive months as a Lt. Governor, Division Governor, or an Area governor, or a combination thereof.

LT. GOVERNOR MARKETING

Mission/Purpose

Under guidance of the District Governor, makes the benefits of Toastmasters membership available to greater numbers of people. Plans, develops, implements, and directs short-term and long-term District marketing objectives. Develops and directs programs for new Club development, Club rescue efforts, Club membership promotion, and membership retention. Responsible for achieving Distinguished District goals for membership and Club Growth. Promotes standards of service to the member and to the Club.

Qualifications

The Lt. Governor Marketing shall have served for at least six (6) consecutive months as a Club President and at least twelve (12) consecutive months as a Lt. Governor, a Division Governor, or as an Area Governor, or a combination thereof.

DIVISION GOVERNOR

Mission/Purpose

Achieves the Mission of the District within the Division, accomplishing District goals in membership building and retention, Club extension, and educational accomplishments. Ensures that each Club realizes its Mission and fulfills its responsibilities to its members. Responsible for achieving Distinguished Division Program goals and for ensuring that Areas and Clubs within the Division achieve Distinguished status. Serves the division Clubs by providing District support and resources through the Area Governors.

Qualifications

A Division Governor shall have served at least six (6) consecutive months as a member of a District Council (e.g., Club President, Vice President Education, Area Governor, District Secretary, District Treasurer).

OTHER POSITIONS

The following positions are either elected or appointed by the District Governor:

AREA GOVERNOR

Mission/Purpose

Provides District contact, support, and assistance to the Club so that it may achieve the Club Mission and fulfill its responsibilities to its members. Helps Clubs by keeping in regular contact with Club Presidents in the Area and by visiting each Club at least twice during the year. Is responsible for achieving Distinguished Area Program goals and for ensuring that each Area Club is a Distinguished Club.

Qualifications

Insofar as practicable, an Area Governor should have served as a member of a District Council (e.g., Club President, Vice President Education, or District Officer).

DISTRICT PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICERS

Mission/Purpose

Works under the direction of the District Governor. Helps maintain communication between the District and its members and works to increase public awareness of Toastmasters International through the media. The Public Relations Officer prepares a public relations program designed to achieve goals for membership growth, Club growth and educational achievements in Clubs and achievement in the Distinguished Club Program. Promotes District Conferences and leadership training opportunities within the District.

Qualification

This officer serves in a staff position under the direction of the District Governor and must be a member in good standing of a Toastmasters Club in good standing.

DISTRICT TREASURER

Mission/Purpose

Establishes and maintains effective fiscal management of the District. Promotes the growth of Toastmasters by providing sound fiscal guidance to the District. Produces monthly reports reflecting the District's financial status and ensures that expenditures remain within the budget approved by the District Council. Ensures that the District maintains the financial controls established by Toastmasters International.

Qualifications

Should have accounting experience and understand basic bookkeeping practices.

SECRETARY

Mission/Purpose

Helps District function effectively and achieve its Mission by recording and maintaining accurate minutes of District Council, Executive Committee, and other meetings. Serves as custodial of District Administrative Bylaws and policies.

Qualifications

Should be a reliable, prompt, well-organized Toastmaster who can accurately record meeting actions. Should have access to facilities for work processing and reproduction of materials.

If you would like to serve in one of these positions or if you know of someone who would like to serve, please submit his or her name to the District Governor.

NOMINATION FORM

District 24 District officer elections will take place on April 23. Names to be considered for nomination are being accepted for the following offices: DISTRICT GOVERNOR; LT. GOVERNOR EDUCATION AND TRAINING; LT. GOVERNOR MARKETING; AND DIVISION GOVERNORS A THROUGH E. If you would like to be nominated for office or if you want to enter a person's name for nomination, please complete the form below and mail to Melinda Haag, District Governor, by March 25, 2005. See Nominating form for District Governor's address and phone number. You may submit more than one person's name (including your own) for each position. The deadline for submitting this form is March 25, 2005. The Nominating Committee will consider all candidates received by the deadline. To be nominated or elected, a person must be a member in good standing, meet the qualifications of the office, must consent to being nominated, and must sign an Officer Agreement and Release Statement.

District Officer Nominating Form

I wish to have the Nominating Committee consider the follow person for the office of:

- District Governor
- Lt. Governor Education & Training
- Lt. Governor Marketing
- Division Governor, Division _____

Name _____ CTM ATM DTM

Address _____ State/Prov. _____

City _____ Postal Code _____

Country _____

Telephone (H) _____ (B) _____

FAX _____ Email _____

Home Club Name _____ Club No. _____

List the Club and District offices in which this person has served and the dates of service. Describe this Toastmaster's qualifications for office and fitness to serve. Please attach any other information about this candidate that may be helpful in assisting the Nominating Committee.

Submitted by: _____

Mail to: Melinda M. Haag, DTM
District Governor, District 24
2019 N. Huston Avenue
Grand Island, NE 68803

Deadline for submitting this form is March 25, 2005.

Proxies – Your Toastmaster Voice

Floy Westermeier, Division E Governor

What is a Proxy?

Proxies are your Club's voice in the decision making process about how our organization is managed. They are exchanged for ballots, and when voted, make your voice heard. The regional proxy certificate is used in June at the regional conference to select an International Director candidate from the region. The proxy certificates for the Annual Business Meeting are used to elect Officers and members of the Board of Directors at the Toastmasters International (TI) convention in August. The Officers and Directors develop policies and procedures for the operation of Toastmasters, plan for the strategic development of our organization, and in general conduct the affairs of the organization for its membership. Proxy certificates and ballots are also used at the convention to vote on changes to the Toastmasters International by-laws, District constitutions, and/or club constitutions. Each club's proxy equals two votes.

How do I get proxy

The official Toastmasters International proxy certificates are mailed **to club presidents of record** about March 31st. Each proxy mailing will contain two proxies that look like post cards. One is stamped "R" for Regional Conference and the other is stamped "A" for the Annual Meeting at the International Conference. Generally clubs mail these proxy forms to the District Governor (DG) after the club has discussed any issues to be voted upon.

Even if someone from your club plans to attend the meetings, mail your proxies to your District Governor whom TI charges with accountability. District Governors are given appointments to exchange proxies for ballots: the individual Toastmaster must stand in long lines waiting a turn. Once the District Governor has completed the exchange, he or she will return your ballot(s) to you. These ballots are the Club's voice at the Regional and International business meetings

If the club wants their proxy voted a certain way, that information should be written on the proxy. Officer candidates for the Annual Business Meeting are usually written in section 3 of the Proxy A. A Club may designate a Toastmaster who is not a member of their club to carry and vote their proxy at both the Regional conference and Annual convention. If no voting directions are given, the person casting the ballot decides how to vote in the best interests of the club.- **Your club has no voice in our organization if it does not turn its proxy in. Use your voice to help shape the future of Toastmasters!**

Our Club didn't get a Proxy!

If the club president has not received the proxy mailing by the end of the first week of April, s/he should first check to see if it was sent to the former president. Toastmasters International uses the officer list last reported to them when sending information to the clubs. Clubs should always ensure club officer lists are current at WHQ. **Only the District Governor may request a duplicate proxy only once from Toastmasters International and it must be mailed to the current Club President.**

What is a District Proxy?

The District Governor will send a separate mailing to Club Presidents, Vice Presidents Education, and District Officers or publish a proxy form in the District newsletter prior to the Spring District Conference. These paper proxies are not to be confused with the ones Toastmasters International sends for the regional conference and international convention. At the District Conference, only a club member may represent the Club. District Officers may only vote their own ballots. Designated club representatives must have a proxy form signed by the Club President and/or Vice President of Education. All proxies must be exchanged for ballots. **The Spring Conference is your Officer Election time!**

NOTE: It is important that there be **club representation from every club** at the business meeting in order to **meet quorum and validate actions** voted upon. Without quorum, all motions will have to be voted upon by clubs through the mail or in a second meeting. **None of the proxies - District, Regional, or International - are worth the paper they're printed on unless your club dues are paid in full prior to the time the proxy needs to be used!**

Your club's vote is important!

Here is how it works!

CLUB PRESIDENTS AND VP's OF EDUCATION!!!!

Do you need this???

If you are a club president or vice president of Education and plan to attend the council meeting and vote, you do not need a proxy to obtain a ballot at the credential desk.

However, any club member may vote if they are carrying a proxy from the club President or VP of Education, in the event that those two officers cannot attend the conference. If you will be voting in place of the club President or VP of Education, you must present this signed proxy at the credentials table the day of the conference to obtain your ballot(s).

Toastmasters District 24 Proxy Certificate

Spring District Council Meeting – 11:00 a.m.
April 23, 2005
Omaha, Nebraska

Date: _____

Delegate's Name: _____ Club Name & Number: _____

I, the undersigned, hereby assign my proxy to the above named club member to act as an official delegate of our club at the 2005 Spring Council Meeting at the Embassy Suites, Omaha, Nebraska.

The Delegate may cast one (1) ____ or (2) ____ official club votes.

As authorized by: _____
(Signature and printed name of Club President or Vice President of Education)

This proxy must be hand carried to the District Business Meeting by a member of your club.

The District 24 Annual Business Meeting will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 23, 2005 at the Embassy Suites, Omaha, Nebraska. It is your right as a member of Toastmasters to attend the business meeting.

There is **NO CHARGE** if you are only attending the business meeting portion of the conference.

DISTRICT CALENDAR 2005

(dates subject to change)

Feb 5	TLI – Omaha
Feb 5	TLI – Lincoln
Feb 26	Club Contests Completed (Tall Tales and International)
Mar 19	Area Contests Completed
Apr 9	Division Contests Completed
Apr 22-23	District Spring Conference, Embassy Suites – Old Market – Omaha, NE
April 23	District Executive Council Meeting
Apr 30	Area Governor Reports Submitted to District Governor
May 1-8	Club Elections Held, Officer Lists to TI Headquarters
May 14	District Picnic (Pot Luck) All Clubs Invited
May 21	District Executive Council Meeting
June 9-11	Region IV Conference – Saskatoon, Saskatchewan
June 18	Area/Division Governor training – 1 st Round (Mahoney)
June 30	Club officer lists for all clubs due at TI Headquarters
June 30	2004 – 2005 Distinguished Club Program ends
July 9	TLI Lincoln
July 9	TLI Omaha
July 30	TLI Grand Island
Aug 24-27	Toastmasters International Convention – Toronto, Canada
Aug 27	Club contests to be completed (Humorous and Table Topics)
Aug 30	Club officer training completed
Sept 1-4	Area contest completed
Sept 24	Division contests completed
Oct 1	Dues and Membership reports due at TI Headquarters
Oct 14-15	Fall Conference, Grand Island
Oct 14	District Council Meeting
Oct 31	Area Governor Reports submitted to District Governor
Nov 12	Div/Area Governor training, 2 nd Round
Nov 12	District Executive Committee meeting
Dec 10	Club Semi-annual elections completed

District Governor:

Melinda Haag Melinda.Haag@med.va.gov Home phone—308-379-8840; Work Phone—308-382-3660 ext 2205

Lt. Governor Education and Training:

Capiz Greene capizg@cox.net, Work Phone—402-390-9111, website: <http://www.capizgreene.com/>

Lt. Governor Marketing:

Sheila Hoffert SHoffert@woodmen.com Home phone—402-292-1424; Work Phone—402-449-7798