



Double Dozen

August, 2014

It's Toastmasters Boot Camp! Or, A Taste of Toastmasters

by
**Marian Albin Gramlich,
Ann Gentle,
& MeganJo Paulson**

Many parents enroll their children in sports camps to help them learn how to play the sport at a higher level. Or an adult may purchase a trial membership at a gym before giving their full commitment.

Speechcraft is that and more!

1. It benefits the person who wants to try on the clothing of Toastmasters. The participant experiments speaking in front of a small group, evaluates fellow classmates' speeches, learns how

to properly introduce another speaker, and participates in Table Topics.

2. It is a great way to

it can be a needed shot in the arm to reengage a club to follow the path and processes of Toastmasters.



There is nothing like a cake to celebrate success.

showcase the club and encourage participants to join. OR

Continued on Page 2



From the District Governor, Shellie Pointer

One month has passed for the Toastmasters Year 2014-2015. My vision for this year is RACING – Reaching All Club members In Nurturing their Goals. My passion is for Sprint Car Racing and Toastmasters. I have combined both of my passions for this year's vision. Please help us in reaching your goals. What are your goals for Toastmasters? *Continued on Page 4*

Take Action!

- Invite guests to join your club to qualify for the [Smedley Award](#) by *September 30*
- RSVP for the INnovators club awards banquet by *September 2* (details on page 14)
- Attend an [Area Speech Contest](#) *August 16—September 12*
- Register for the [District 24 Fall Conference](#) on *October 10 & 11*
- Submit photographs and articles for the [September Double Dozen](#) by 11:59 p.m. on *August 31*

“With the help of Speechcraft, our club has a foundation on which to build and grow.”

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Speechcraft (Continued from Page 1)

To understand how Speechcraft can work for your club, consider the experiences of three different Toastmasters from three different clubs on how the clubs conduct Speechcraft and why.

Blue Ah Busters—Marian Albin Gramlich

Not knowing anything about Toastmasters, three of us in the membership training area of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Nebraska (BCBSNE) signed up for Speechcraft. Blue Ah Busters, a community club supported by BCBSNE, was the host club and invited anyone to attend – employees and non-employees. For eight weeks each spring during the normal weekly noon meeting time, anywhere from 10 to 16 Speechcrafters join current members in boot camp – an accelerated glimpse into Toastmasters.

Even though speech times are shortened, evaluating other Speechcrafters or introducing a speaker and overcoming the fear of speaking can be stressful. During Speechcraft there is always laughter and genuine support. Agendas are slightly different to accommodate and enhance the learning process and members are active in filling roles and mentoring Speechcrafters.

While Speechcraft continues to be a successful membership building venue for the Blue Ah Busters, the value of Speechcraft itself was noticed by management. For the last two years an employee-only session has been conducted on a different weekday by the Blue Ah Busters.

As a 2011 graduate of Speechcraft, I found the program of Toastmasters fascinating and yes, I became a Blue Ah Buster.

Railtalkers – Ann Gentle

Several years ago, veteran Toastmasters Bob Ford, Sarah Ferneding, and Gary Voogd worked with Union Pacific to develop the Speechcraft class under the company’s Human Resources umbrella. This meant that any employee seeking to improve his or her public speaking skills could sign up for the class via UP’s online “Success Factors” application. It’s grown in popularity each year such that we now offer four sessions of classes each year. Each session is made up of six 2-hour classes over twelve weeks. Most classes reach their 8-student limit and some have a waiting list. Recently, word-of-mouth around the company has been great, and we’re filling even the January/February/March session, typically the session that does not fill. We’re excited to report that we’ve been asked to develop a separate Speechcraft class just for the Asian Employee Resource Organization, a group with many members for whom English is not the first language.

We in Railtalkers use Speechcraft not only as a great recruiting opportunity for our Toastmasters club, but also as a place to develop ourselves as facilitators. In addition, Speechcraft is a great opportunity for those seeking to achieve their Advanced Communicator Silver (ACS) by delivering some of those Better Speaker Series speeches like “Using Body Language” – and do it without taking up a speaking slot during a regular meeting.

Tally Ho – MeganJo Paulson

Our club is a community club in Fremont, NE. With membership down to seven, our coach convinced us to host a Speechcraft in order to grow our membership. While we did not have any people sign up for Speechcraft, our coach gave us the choice to hold the session as planned in case someone showed up. We said “yes” because we had all worked hard to prepare for Speechcraft. Even when guests did not materialize, we held four weeks of Speechcraft for our club. We were both the ones giving the Speechcraft and enrolled as the Speechcrafters re-learning the basics of what it means to be a Toastmaster and how to craft a good speech, give an evaluation, and introduce someone.

With the help of Speechcraft, our club has a foundation on which to build and grow. Because of Speechcraft we met five DCP goals this past year and we began using our manuals again. Best part of all, our speeches became fun again. This year we plan to host Speechcraft as a membership building tool because we have personally reaped its benefits.

Our advice - plan well, advertise early, and have fun. Speechcraft Is All That And More!

Are you ready to

- . revitalize your club?
- . boost membership?
- . share Toastmasters with others?

Visit

www.toastmasters.org/speechcraft

**“... the
year
does
go
fast
so
remember
to
go
RACING!!!!!!”**

From the District Governor

Shellie Pointer (Continued from Page 1)

The Trio and the Immediate Past District Governor, Kathy Henvey, will be attending the International Convention in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. We will be leaving Nebraska on Thursday, August 14 and returning Tuesday, August 26. We will be cheering on Gene Deyoe, who is representing District 24 in the International Speech Contest. Along with us in Kuala Lumpur will be Pat Hannan, our outgoing Region IV International Director; Sheila Hoffert; George Volz, Region IV Candidate for International Director; and Floy Westermeier. This is the first time the International Convention has been held overseas.

Deadlines – By July 15, each District had to have the following information to Toastmasters International: District Calendar, District Leader List, District Alignment, and District Signatories. I submitted the District Alignment, District Calendar and Leader List on July 1. District 24 changed banks and we waited until after July 1 so the new Trio didn't have to sign two sets of signature cards. I submitted the District Signatories on July 11. The District Budget, District Success Plan, and Division and Area Governor Training all have to be submitted by September 30. We have started the District Budget and Success Plan. All of the Division and Area Governors have been trained except for two. I will be going to Tecumseh to train Greg Carlson on August 11. Greg Carlson is with LibORATORS and we got him approved by Toastmasters International to be an Area Governor even though he is in prison. The process will be as follows: Deb Joy, his assistant area governor, will attend meetings and record a video of the meetings. Greg will then review the tapes and give his response to the clubs by writing a letter to them. He will then fill out the forms needed and Deb will submit them. As for area contests, Deb will be in charge of that contest unless we are able to hold a contest at the penitentiary.

The Trio plans to have a FUN and educating Year. We hope everyone feels comfortable enough to contact us with any ideas or concerns for District 24. We are volunteers as well as leaders. Yes, family does come first; however, the year does go fast so remember to go RACING!!!!!!

From the Lieutenant Governor Education and Training

Sunny Faronbi

By the time you're reading this, the first round of this year's Toastmasters Leadership Institute (TLI) will be over. As usual, we had six TLI sessions – one each in Norfolk and Grand Island; two each in Lincoln and Omaha. The overall turnout was good.

For each club that have sent at least 4 of its officers to this round, and then does the same during the second round of TLI between December and February, Distinguished Club Program (DCP) goal #9 will be met.

Furthermore, the Fall speech contest season is already in full swing! Club contests started July 26 and will continue until August 15. Next will be the Area speech contests from August 16 until September 12. The Division-level contests will start September 13 and end on September 27. The Division contest winners will slug it out at the District contests, which will be at the Fall Conference in Lincoln. Detailed information for each Area and Division contest can be found [here](#) on the District Calendar.

The Fall District Conference is scheduled to take place at the Hilton Garden Inn in downtown Lincoln from October 10 – 11. Registration is free to members of our newest clubs that were chartered after the last conference. These clubs are the Government Gabbers Toastmasters, Night Talkers Toastmasters and Advanced Traveling Toastmasters. Members of these clubs do need to pay for their meals and lodging if they choose to stay overnight. Online registration for the Fall Conference is now open, and can be found [here](#).

Finally, to all our speech contestants, I say “break a leg!”

For more information on the Fall Conference, visit the Fall Conference page on the District 24 website, d24tm.org/2014FallConference.html.

The Fall District Conference is scheduled to take place at the Hilton Garden Inn in downtown Lincoln from October 10 – 11. Online registration is now open, and can be found [here](#).



TLI In Full Swing!

The first round of Toastmasters Leadership Institute (TLI) sessions in District 24 featured presentations from the Trio, an update on changes to the Toastmasters educational program, and breakout sessions for each officer role.



DG Shellie Pointer leads a TLI in Omaha on July 29. Photo courtesy of Amie Carnahan.

LGET Sunny Faronbi leads at TLI in Lincoln on August 2. Photo courtesy of Marian Albin Gramlich, LGM.



It's not all dry academics as Area A2 Governor Sandy Yager socializes at TLI in Lincoln on August 2. Photo courtesy of Marian Albin Gramlich, LGM.



Division D Governor Bob Schapp speaks up at TLI in Omaha on July 29. Photo courtesy of Amie Carnahan.

From the Lieutenant Governor Marketing

Marian Albin Gramlich

Enhance Your Club's Membership Medley: Achieve the Smedley Award by September 30!

By definition a medley is a varied mixture of people or things; a miscellany. That definition also describes a Toastmasters club. Members of a Toastmasters club are people who have a variety of experiences, born in different decades, and can even be from different countries; all supporting each other in their quest to enhance their communication and leadership skills. Each year Toastmasters International hosts a club challenge to earn the Smedley Award. What is the Smedley? A club earns the Smedley Award by adding five new, transfer or reinstated members between August 1 and September 30. All applications must be received by World Headquarters or submitted online by September 30.

Ironically, the founder of Toastmasters, Ralph Smedley's name rhymes with medley. Why is this ironic? Because in 1924 when Ralph Smedley had his first meeting in the basement of a Santa Ana YMCA in what would become Toastmasters International, his vision was to help a medley of young men develop skills in public speaking and presiding over meetings. Within a short period of time the success spread by word of mouth and clubs began to form modeled after Smedley's first group, the Number One Toastmasters Club. In 1930 Toastmasters International formed after Smedley spoke to a group in New Westminster, British Columbia, Canada.

When it comes to the Smedley, what is your club's WIFM (what's in for me)? In addition to your club earning the banner bling of a ribbon "Smedley Award", your club earns a 10% discount on your next club order. (The discount expires six months after the date of issue.) In addition to earning bragging rights within District 24, your club will be listed on the Toastmasters International website!

If you need ideas of how to start a membership campaign, review the last page of the July Double Dozen for notes on earning Competent Leader (CL) credit for club membership campaigns during Toastmasters speech contests. Use the contest season to its fullest to promote your club!

Yes, earning a Smedley Award is not an easy feat – every district and club experiences a change of leadership July 1. Plan now to earn the Smedley Award. Begin by establishing SMART (Strategic, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic, Timely) goals and map out how your club can increase your club membership by new, transfer or reinstated members. Together, WE CAN DO IT!

For more information on the Smedley Award, visit www.toastmasters.org/membershipcontests.



Division C Report

Support Your Local Area Governor

By Jean Dier

Jean Dier, Area C22 Governor, decided it was time the clubs in her area got to know one another. On July 22, she opened her home to all members within her area—and served dinner, to boot. Around twenty five Toastmasters—including area governors Ron Snyder (Area C20), Yolanda Gomez (Area C21) and, of course, Jean Dier (Area C22), as well as two assistant area governors, Jean Kolar and Amanda Fintel—braved the heat and turned out for the picnic, which was moved indoors. As part of the event, Jean inducted club officers, and Gene Deyoe, DTM, gave his speech in preparation for international competition.



Out-of-Comfort Zone

By Cheryl Hansen

Cindy Kaliff once again organized and hosted an Out of Your Comfort Zone Meeting for Southeast Toasters! The club enjoyed a beautiful morning (at 6:30 am!) at Roberts Park in Lincoln sampling pastries and coffee from the local Love Knots coffee shop, with a meeting full of TableTopics™ around the theme of "Love". Highlighting everything from foods to movies that have inspired, there were "no rules" . . . each participant could either respond, pass or comment on someone else's topic. Definitely, the theme of enjoying growth as a Toastmaster's group is something that Southeast Toasters "loves"! Left: A morning in the park for Southeast Toasters, including Division C Governor Tammie Lang and International Speech Semifinalist Gene Deyoe. Right: Long-time club member John Coffey takes command.



Division E Report

Division E Leaders Celebrate Success!

By Mark Fegan

On July 26, the 2013-2014 Division E leadership team met at Old Chicago in Omaha's Old Market district to reminisce and celebrate the Division's success last year. Under the leadership of Division Governor Tim Johnson, Division E achieved President's Distinguished status.

Division E was the only Division in District 24 to have all its Areas Distinguished.

Area E41 (Governor Mark Fegan) was Distinguished; Area E42 (Governor Ayele Vossah) was Presidential Distinguished; Area E43 (Governor Bob Wolff) was Distinguished; and Area E44 (Governor Terry Plumb) was Select Distinguished.

Based on a base of 17 clubs, Division E had 11 Distinguished clubs (65%). Four clubs were distinguished; three were Select Distinguished;

four were Presidential Distinguished. Congratulations to Division E on a very successful year.



Left to right: Bob Wolff, Terry Plumb, Mark Fegan, Tim Johnson. Not shown: Ayele Vossah. Photo courtesy of Rebecca Fegan.

OPPD Powers Fall Contest

By Ryan David

The OPPD Toastmasters, Club 455, conducted its Fall Speech Contest on Thursday, July 31 at OPPD's Energy Plaza building. The contest was well-attended and featured evaluations and humorous speeches by several of the club's finest. The contestants for the Evaluation Contest were Ryan David, Tim Johnson, and Keith Jones. Tim Johnson took 1st place, with Keith Jones as runner-up. The contestants for OPPD's Humorous Contest were Jeremy Franks, David Sandstedt, and Keith Jones. Jeremy Franks won the Humorous Contest, with David Sandstedt taking 2nd. The contest was facilitated by Contest Chair Kim Hoock, and the Toastmaster for the day was Kevin Fustos.

The OPPD Toastmasters would like to thank everyone who was in attendance, and all those who helped to make our contest a success!



Left to right: Kevin Fustos, Ryan David, Kim Hoock, David Sandstedt, Jeremy Franks, Tim Johnson, Keith Jones.

Club Success (And Communication)

by Mark Fegan, Area E44 Governor

What does club success mean to you? If you answered “being distinguished”, you may be surprised to learn that in District 24 50% of the clubs were not distinguished last year. That does not, however, mean those clubs were unsuccessful. To be successful, a club needs to set goals; if the club meets the goals, it is successful. Determining those goals takes planning. In short, a successful club will have a success plan; that success plan will have three parts:

1. A clearly defined mission statement that is specific to the club,
2. A statement defining what success means to the club, and
3. A list of steps the club will take achieve that success.

To help clubs in that planning process, District 24 has developed a Club Success Planning Report. This tool consists of three parts:

1. The single page Club Success Planning Report,
2. A single page of instructions for filling out the report form, and
3. A single page of notes on how the report form was developed and how to use it.

The Club Success Planning Report itself is a PDF form that can be filled out, saved, and printed or emailed to communicate your club's success plan.

This tool allows you to briefly summarize the your club success plan. Using this tool, your club officers meet and:

1. Develop your success plan determining your club's mission, success criteria, and plan of action,
2. Fill out and save the Club Success Planning Report,
3. Email the completed Club Success Planning Report to the members of your club, and
4. Email the completed Club Success Planning Report to District 24.

Sharing your success plan with your club will help engage your members in achieving success; sharing your success plan with District 24 will help you tap into the resources District 24 can provide so your club can be successful.

A copy of the form is shown on the following page. For a pdf version of the form, and for more resources, visit www.d24tm.org/ClubSuccessPlan.html.

District 24 Club Success Planning Report

Club Name:

Club Number:

Division: Area:

Club Mission Statement:

We provide a supportive and positive learning experience in which members are empowered to develop communication and leadership skills, resulting in greater self-confidence and personal growth.

Success Plan Completed: Date Completed:

Club Success Objective:

Our club will be successful when...

Participate in DCP program:

Summary of Club Success Strategy:

Our club plans the following activities in order to meet our Club Success Objective...

Prepared By:



District 24—Fall Conference 2014

Featuring Keynote Speaker

Byron Embry, DTM



2014 Fall Conference Chair:

Tammie Lang, ACS, ALB
402.580.1715
tammielang.avon@gmail.com

Save The Date!



There Will Be Online Registration

For more information
go to District 24's website:
www.d24tm.org

October 10—Evening

October 11—All Day

Hilton Garden Inn

801 R Street, Lincoln, NE 68508

Phone: 402-475-9000

www.GardenInn.Hilton.com/Lincoln

Hotel rooms are NOT included in pricing.

Block Name: District 24 Toastmasters

Deadline special rate is October 1st

Special rate is \$129 plus tax per night.

PART A – Registration

Meals and Hotel are NOT included in the registration fee.

Please register for your meal selections in Part B.

If you pay for a Club Registration please submit names of attendees online.

- \$100 Club Registration – Before 8/31/2014 Club Name: _____
- \$125 Club Registration – After 9/1/2014 Club Name: _____
- \$150 Club Registration – After 10/01/2014 Club Name: _____
- \$ 25 Individual Registration – Before 8/31/2014 Name: _____
- \$ 35 Individual Registration – After 9/01/2014 Name: _____
- \$ 45 Individual Registration – After 10/01/2014 Name: _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ St _____ Zip _____

Email _____

Educ. Designation _____

Club _____

First Conference? YES NO

PART B – Food

Meals are paid for by each individual attending the conference.

Food reservations must be made before 10/5/2014.

- \$13 Friday night appetizers
- \$10 Saturday continental breakfast
- \$15 Saturday lunch
- \$30 Saturday Banquet – Circle One: Chicken – Beef – Vegetarian

_____ Total

**Make checks payable to:
District 24 Toastmasters**

**Mail registration and payment to:
Kim Hoock
District 24 Treasurer
444 S 16th St.
Omaha, NE 68102-2608**

***Online Registration
for the Fall Conference
is Now Open!***

***To register, go to
tinyurl.com/d24fall2014***

***To learn more
about
Byron Embry,
our keynote speaker,
visit***

www.d24tm.org/2014FallConference.html

***To volunteer to support the conference,
contact Tammie Lang
tammielang.avon@gmail.com***

Save the Date!!

From Jose Rodríguez, Vice President of Education, INnovators, Club #4362

We are pleased to announce INnovators Club #4362 will be holding our 34th annual awards banquet. This fantastic event will be held on Monday, September 22, 2014 at the Nebraska State Penitentiary visiting room from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

This is a great opportunity to come and share your stories, speeches or to show your support for your fellow Toastmasters. The evening will include a fine dinner, refreshments and good conversation.

Please RSVP as soon as possible, but no later than **September 2, 2014**. You will need to complete and return an NCIC form to be eligible to attend. You can contact our Club Coordinator, Amy Whitfield, at 402-479-3379, e-mail her at amy.whitfield@nebraska.gov, or mail a request to NSP PO Box 2500, Lincoln, NE 68542.

This is truly the one event to attend this year, so we look forward to seeing you soon.

The Nebraska State Penitentiary is located at 4201 South 14th Street, Lincoln, Nebraska. The NCIC form is available for [download](#) at the District 24 website.

Do you wanna build a great club?

By Marian Gramlich

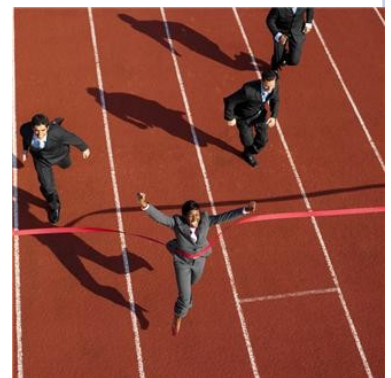
Calling all Coaches!

We need members to be coaches! What is a coach? A coach works with a low member club for up to two years and may not initially be a member of the low member club. Success is achieved when the low member club becomes distinguished!

If you are working to earn your Advanced Leader Silver (ALS) and would like to help develop and increase a club's membership, please submit your request to the Lieutenant Governor Marketing at marian.d24tm@gmail.com.

Is Club Membership Low?

Is your club membership 12 or less? If you would like a coach to help guide you to become distinguished, please submit your request to the Lt Governor Marketing at marian.d24tm@gmail.com.



Help a club cross the finish line and make distinguished status!