



Curtis Scroggins

District Governor

District 8

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**District 8 Toastmasters
District Executive Committee Meeting
Saturday April 27th, 2013
1:30p.m. - 3:30p.m.**

The Mission of the District

We build new clubs and support all clubs in achieving excellence.

Agenda

- 1:32 pm Meeting Called to Order Curtis Scroggins, DTM**
- 1:33 pm District Governor Welcome and Adoption of Agenda Curtis Scroggins, DTM**
Cynthia Warren, Division B Governor, moved we adopt 2/23 agenda as is
Jef Williams, Division C Governor, seconded the motion
- 1:34 pm District Secretary Report Wendy Clothier**
Asked all present to review the 2/23 minutes and state corrections
Three corrections were stated, noted, and made during the Division Caucus

Farzana Chohan, Area 13 Governor, moved we adopt the 2/23 minutes with stated changes
Jeanette Lynch, Division F Governor, seconded the motion
- 1:39 pm District Treasurer's Report Gert Baldwin**
- Reported we are \$10,809 over our income
- Curtis explained this is no cause for alarm as TI (Toastmasters International) requests we stay within this range
- Reported total cash in reserve with our account held at TI is \$17,531, which means we have less District reserve to carry us into next year
- Said May 17-18 conference will generate additional funds, putting us in excellent condition for coming term
- Q&A**
- Jeanette Lynch asked if we could look into applying the funds toward a bus for the international convention in Cincinnati

- Curtis said we must ask TI if mileage or bus rental can be applied toward our available funds; would need to make a motion to TI that states if we pay \$ X (or no more than \$ X), will TI approve?
- Jeanette agreed to get the highest bid for us if we rent a van
- Lora pointed out the cost would go toward next year's budget since convention is in August, which is better because we could figure into the next budget and justify the expense

1:44 pm **District Public Relations Officer Report** **Eileen Roth, DTM**
Not present

1:48 pm **Credentials Committee Report** **Tom Coscia, DTM, IPDG**
Stated we need 17 for quorum and have 24

1:49 pm **Best Practices** **Mike Kotur, DT and Jeanette Lynch, DTM**

- Jeanette stated the Best Practices manual will have a section for contests (recruiting functionaries, forms), being an Area Governor (visiting and coaching clubs, working with your Division Governor), Division Governor, and chairing a TLI or conference
- Jeanette and Mike will organize into a manual to give to the incoming District 8 leadership
- Will send it out to DEC in advance of publication to www.dist8tm.org
- Looking for ideas with a few bullets (e.g., "This is what worked for me.")
- Consider what made it easy, enjoyable, less stressful, easier
- Mike stated we need two to three bullets from all present: "You've all had good and bad experiences. Share them!"
- Curtis said, "This is the best DEC. Every year, we say we will shore up our documentation. We say it every year, but never do. Now we are!"

1:52 pm **Division Caucus for 10 minutes with their Areas**
John Barry announced reports will be timed: green card at 3 mins., yellow at 4, and red at 5.

2:02 pm **Division A Report** **Mike Kotur, DTM**

Stuart Welter, Area 2 Governor

Two more visits to do; when done, Area 2 will be Distinguished
3 of 5 clubs are already Distinguished

Mike for Bob Heaton, Area 4 Governor

Scheduled all visits

1 President's Distinguished club

2 clubs need membership requirements for Distinguished

½ his clubs will be Distinguished

Mike for Bill Burlison, Area 5 Governor

Scheduled his visits

2 Select Distinguished clubs

2 clubs in Distinguished range ending membership

Mike for Jason Obert, Area 9 Governor

All visits scheduled

2 clubs are 1 member short of Distinguished

4 out of 6 clubs should be Distinguished

2:07 pm

Division B Report

Cynthia Warren, DTM

Stated, "Our Division is Distinguished! I could not do this without them."

Area 3 still needs to do visiting

1 club chartered, Mallinckrodt Speaks

Have 28 paid clubs at this time and 4 Distinguished clubs

Casetta Stevens, Area 20 Governor

Stated "All is well in area 20" and she would continue to work with her assigned clubs.

Tony Neal, Area 18 Governor

2 of 6 clubs are Distinguished, 4 visits scheduled or done; need to schedule a few more

Farzana Chohan, Area 13 Governor

Of 6 clubs, have visited 5

Table Talk needs more members

Join more clubs!

Howard Price, Area 16 Governor

3 of 5 are select Distinguished; 4th club is one point from Distinguished

Stated he expects to be a Distinguished area, has a few more visits to make

One club not Distinguished; is hemorrhaging members; needs to work on transferring them to a corporate club to funnel corporations in area (Earth City) may bolster their membership

Discussion

- Cynthia stated Bible Toastmasters had officers trained and needs its Distinguished points, which are not showing on the site.
- Howard stated the entire site is slow and incompatible with Internet Explorer 10. His report is also not reflected.
- Carole Breckner gave these instructions to be followed while on the site in Internet Explorer: Click **Tools > Compatibility View Settings**, and add Toastmasters to make the site display in normal font size.
- She stated erasing cookies may help, too. Here are those steps: Go to **Tools > Internet Options**. From the **General** tab, click the **Delete** button in the **Browsing History** section. Put a check next to **Cookies**, click **Delete**, then click **OK**.)
- Curtis reminded us of our catchphrase/acronym coined by Area 18 Governor, Tony Neal: **Lifting Expectations And Delivering Exceptional Results**
- He pushed all present to think about whether we are embodying this goal in our areas and divisions
- Curtis said he is willing to walk leaders through the TI reporting site.

2:15 pm

Division C Report

Jef Williams

Announced his area is Select Distinguished and thanks those who supported the contest.

Erika Suzuki, Area 1 Governor

Of 5 clubs, 3 of 5 have been visited; 4th one will be visited May 1, Wednesday
Last one will be scheduled this week
1 club has 8 points; another club has 5 DCP points

Rodney Dayson, Area 11 Governor

Of 5 clubs, visited three; scheduled 2 to be visited
1 club is Distinguished, hopefully, will be Select Distinguished
1 club is one goal from Distinguished
Stated his club, ADM, is looking to sponsor another club. It has 20 member applications and is waiting on funds

Jef for Chris Harris, Area 6 Governor

New club doing well
Possibility of a few more clubs, expecting growth

Paul Matthews, Area 10 Governor (not present; no report)

2:20 pm

Division E Report

Frank Yates

Complimented area governors for attending most every DEC meeting
Kenny Freeman won Toastmaster of the Year award
Had most exciting contest of the district. If you weren't there, you missed it.

Cynthia Scroggins for Kurt Minton, Area 7 Governor

6 clubs, 3 have been visited, 3 more remaining
A few clubs have low membership, working on how to pull up those memberships
Hosting an ice cream social at the Lincoln Club

Jean Craft, Area 14 Governor

Have 5 clubs, visited 3; scheduled last two in May
Held our speech contest; Clarise Jones will be representing Area 14 in the conference

Leigh Britt, Area 21 Governor

Visited all six clubs, submitted report last night
Two clubs are Distinguished; two would be if had membership (will follow up)
Two won't get there, but I've been pleased overall with my six clubs

2:25 pm

Division F Report

Jeanette Lynch, DTM

- Said her Area Governors are good at getting their visits and reports, but less great at filling. "Think of it as taxes. Please file!"
- Said Soleil changed to DuPont; discouraged members, but even though DuPont will pay for membership, the members don't want to renew.
- Announced officers who need training before or after TLI will be bribed with ice cream and homemade fudge

Q&A

- Jeanette: Could one of the club presidents visit clubs on Damon's behalf?
- Curtis: I would prefer an Area or Division Governor attend; not a president. If that president is an assistant with plans to move into that role, I'd make an exception. If not, would prefer those three visits be completed by AGs or the DG.

Taffy Cobb, Area 8 Governor

Area 8 is better than it looks on paper

Club we thought would fold (Fed Reserve Bank) has found new members (HR didn't send check); visited them 5/2

Visited two clubs, remaining 4 scheduled, and will submit paperwork

May add a 7th club

Brainstorming how to improve membership

Mary Sanders, Area 12 Governor

All seven clubs have been visited, goal to submit report by May 10

3 clubs in position for Distinguished; all but one club are participating in DCP

Scheduled to talk to DuPont club president; will decide on action, such as meeting with management to join; as they lead the club, it will encourage existing members and bring new members

Richard Porter, Area 15 Governor

All seven have been visited; submitted three reports

1 club has 10 points, 2 have over 5, and another club has 4 and is close to 5

6 clubs turned out for an awesome area contest

Damon Watson, Area 19 Governor

3 of 3 visits complete; needs someone to meet with his noon-time clubs

Thanked everyone who helped with successful area contest

Clubs agreed to increase participation in contests and events outside club in the future

2:35 pm

Club Extension Report

John Barry, DTM

- Welcomed two new clubs: Starmasters (Macy's) and Lawson Calhoun's Church (CBPC)
- 5 potential clubs have filed applications: Tarleton, Messenger Church (Eileen Roth's church), Mercy Tech Services, Research Park (Weldon Springs), Alpha Club (prison club will be revived); Redeemer will not be a club,
- On pace to charter 12, which would be a good year (10% growth)

Speakers Bureau Update

"If you know great speakers in your Division or Area, pass them to me. If you have opportunities, I can match a speaker to the location."

Said he would like to list these speakers on our site (with bios, photographs, and topics).

2:39 pm

Club Coach Report

Debra Morrissey, DTM

- Like others before her, Debra expressed frustration at the TI reporting site: "I print out the reports and they are not up to date. Many clubs showed zero paid members. It's impossible to give a good report with bad data."
- "The reports made it difficult to see who's doing what because the numbers are not current. We've since had renewals and not all are showing."

- When is the year over? June 30!
- Cannot be Distinguished without growth in membership (20 or +5)
- We have two months to add membership
- My home club has 7 DCP points, but still needs to add members
- You have two months to get DCP and increase membership. Do all you can to make that happen.
- Coaches can still be appointed. Coaches have two years to get a club to Distinguished.

2:44 pm

Nominating Committee

Tom Coscia, DTM

July 2013 - June 2014 Candidates

Lora Mather, District Governor

Sandy Kardis, Lt. Gov. Education & Training

Debra Morrissey, Lt. Governor Marketing

Stuart Welter, Division A Governor

Gail Vaucher, Division B Governor

Howard Price, Division C Governor

Gert Baldwin and Kenny Freedman, Division E Governor

Richard Porter, Division F Governor

Will vote at the council meeting; Gert and Kenny will each give a speech

2:46 pm

Realignment Committee

Tom Coscia, DTM

- Stated each year the District has to realign so each area only has 4-6 clubs
- This is what we proposed to take effect July 2013
- If clubs charter between now and when we have to complete realignment, we will list them
- Renewals refer to October since we do not yet know about April
- In many cases, when we lost, we also gained and stayed even

Reviewed Details

- Losing two clubs to District 54 (one club elected to stay in D8, move to Area 10)
- Division E: lost a club
- Division F: Added a new area, 17, because areas had 7 clubs

- Jeanette explained her rationale for realigning Division F: Looked at membership, DCP points, age of club, type of club, couldn't find strong trends, so looked to geography

- Stated all present would approve, Tom would post on Internet and promote at Council Meeting on May 18 where final decision would be made
- Called for questions

Q&A

- Frank Yates: Area 17 starts with 4 clubs, whereas Area 12 and 15 have six clubs. Could one of those give up a club?
- Jeanette: Each should have five or 6 clubs. Keeping Tarlton as the fifth (potential for chartering exists; will not list until chartered)
- Jeanette: Can we include a column that shows how they will look?
- Tom: Not easy to do. We can talk afterward.
- Frank: Division E, Area 14, Cuba Communicators not Cuba Chamber of Commerce
- Curtis: Will this be debatable?
- Jeanette doesn't anticipate discussion. Curtis will schedule 10 minutes.
- All in favor say Ay
- No nays
- In the opinion of the chair, the ayes have it.
- The motion carried and District Realignment will be presented by the committee on May 18 at the council meeting

2:54 pm

Procedures Committee

Carole Breckner, DTM

- Called everyone's attention to a copy of the procedures; also on www.dist8tm.org under the Conferences tab

Reviewed Changes

- Added TI branding to the title page
- Updated the District 8 map, which is not yet approved (divisions will be applied after Illinois approves their counties)
- Added web site
- Dietmar in charge until June 30, midnight
- TI changed the district purpose and mission is brand new
- Organization Service Chart removed because it's old and inaccurate; replaced with current 2013 chart
- Change to mileage (30 mile restriction removed for LGM and extension chair because some were well out of the 30-mile area)
- Clarified speech contestant reimbursement for conferences
- Updated election procedures (qualifications, call for nominations deadline)
- Member Discipline (brand new district and club procedures) because TI suggested districts add to procedures since TI fields many questions re. how to remove a district or club officer; prevents you from contacting TI
- District Directory: Publish by 9/1 each year and strive to publish a supplement by 3/1
- District 8 Hall of Fame: Lists explicit award recipients to be listed on www.dist8tm.org; the list in the procedures manual will be removed as it is a roster, not a procedure
- Called for discussion

Q&A

- Frank Yates: On page 9 for mileage reimbursement, I understand these two positions were reimbursed for more than 30, not under 30.
- Carole: The new clubs that were brought in are more than 30 miles.
- John Barry: Many trips are 20 miles each way, so this removes the 30-mile one-way restriction.

- Curtis: Tall Tales is not addressed. Is that not considered?
- Frank: District 5 would occasionally change the humorous to Tall Tales and would publish the winners on the Hall of Fame.

- Jeanette: Page 9, mileage reimbursement; in the past, never reimbursed site chair; current site chair asked to be reimbursed for a 30+-mile trip, which is why we included it here; contingent upon how much money the district has to spend

- Called for District Executive Committee to approve the manual
- All in favor of changes said "Aye"
- No opposed

- The motion carried and District Procedures will be presented by the committee on May 18 at the council meeting

3:15 pm

L.G. Marketing Report

Sandy Kardis, DTM

With membership on everyone's mind, drew for an XL T-shirt to promote membership. (John Barry drew Frank Yates' name.)

95 paid clubs (We were at 117 before dues renewal.)

April 9/April 12: 1+1 Membership Building Campaign flyer posted on website and emailed to Division Governors

April 11: Division Governors and Area Governors were emailed follow-up reminder for April 1 dues renewals.

Suspended clubs as of March 31: 6 – Alton, Cent Louie, Decatur Commodore, Parkland Area, Westplains, and Westport

Clubs with low membership payments (less than 6): 7

Clubs that have not submitted dues: 11

Mentors are assigned to Star Masters and CBPC. Mentors are attending meetings at Mercy Technology Services.

Expect Mercy Technology Services and Heartland Dental to charter in next 2 weeks and Tarlton Corp., Alpha Club and Magellan Health before June 30. ADM looks promising before June 30.

Membership payments: 4027 (need 589 for district to be Distinguished)

Total number of new members: 774

Division A – 176, Division B – 211, Division C – 101, Division E- 126, Division F – 160

Shout Outs

James Shields, Poplar Bluff Toastmaster, for making Curtis aware of a grant—"Advertising for a Cause"—from Tri-State Advertising & Marketing Professionals. Three finalists will be selected to make a verbal presentation on May 7 in Cape Girardeau. I completed the application. If we are 1 of 2 finalists, we could receive up to \$75,000.

Jacquie Vick, Primary Conversations Toastmaster, for making Curtis aware of the Entrepreneur Think Tank on April 20 at the John Cook School of Business at St. Louis University

Raymond Allen designed a nice open house flyer/card (half 8.5x11) for Primary Conversations; if you'd like to do the same, contact Ray for the template.

The dynamic **team of volunteers** who helped me at the event: Elizabeth Link, Tom Applewhite, Elizabeth Kroll, Kat Mokriakow, Max Kaiser, and Pat Mathias who engaged attendees about the benefits of Toastmasters at various times during 7:00 A.M. – 3:30 P.M. at the District 8 Toastmasters display table and Ray Allen, John Barry, Debra Morrissey, Cynthia Scroggins and Curtis Scroggins who participated in a sample meeting. Have 60 follow-up calls to make. Help if you can.

Total New Club Leads: 41 (following up with 21)

New Club Leads since February 23: 6 (all community-based with 2 from colleges)

Sample Meetings:

February 27, March 14, March 28, April 11, and April 25 at Mercy Technology Services
March 6 at Florissant Valley Community College; March 22 at Forest Park Community College

March 11 at Tarlton Corp

March 13 and April 3 at Star Masters (Macy's)

May 23 at UMSL

A Day in Week of May 28 – 30 at Magellan Health

Coaches: Need volunteers for Fairview Heights and Franklin County who have requested a coach. Let's get serious about the MAXPLAN. With it we can help clubs needing coaches with virtual coaches. The MAXPLAN documentation is on district website. Richard Porter is working on a date and venue for an educational session.

Held drawing for posters from Marketing Kit from TI. (Jean Craft drew names.)

Casetta Stevens

Gail Vaucher

John Barry

Leigh Britt

Cynthia Warren

Tom Coscia

Richard Porter

Erika Suzuki

Jeanette Lynch

Mary Sanders

Taffy Cobb

- 3:25 pm L.G. Education and Training Report Lora Mather, DTM**
- 15 Toastmasters working on advanced leadership; getting DTMs or HPLs
 - ALB: 30
 - CC: 129 (Lora's goal: 200)
 - CL: 74
- Stated we typically get a great number of CCs at the end of they year; encouraged members to stress the DCP achievement, not just the educational value
 - Said we need more people bridging the gap from AB to DTM
 - Had a great year with education eagles
 - Go forth, remind people to get their CCs!
- Q&A**
- Leigh: Thinking about who will be taking over the AG roles, would be good to speak with incoming AGs
 - Lora: Since we have a lot of people come forward to become AG, on June 1, after TLI early-bird training, will have a 10:30-1:30 meeting for outgoing AGs meeting AG potentials; purpose to meet and talk about clubs when they meet and what time
 - Stated all present should be recruiting at this time. You've made these roles look inviting, exciting. You've demonstrated what it takes and others want to follow.
- 3:27 pm District Governor Report Curtis Scroggins, DTM**
- 22 clubs have not paid dues
 - Encouraged all present to contact these clubs and see where they stand
 - Stated membership is 500-600 from being Distinguished; not insurmountable since we can average 100 new members each week at this time
 - Thanked all present for "all you've done this year. You made our jobs so much easier."
 - Promised he would continue to call his leadership committee until June 30.
 - Announced there will be no more DEC meetings aside from the conference, May 18.
- 3:31 pm Unfinished/New Business/Open Forum Curtis Scroggins, DTM**
- None
- 3:32 pm DEC Meeting Wrap up and Closing Announcements Curtis Scroggins, DTM**
- Wendy Clothier encouraged DEC not just to attend the Council Meeting, but to come to the *entire* conference. Flyers are on the front table. Lora Mather will take your checks today!
- 3:34 pm Toastmasters Reporting Curtis Scroggins, DTM**
- Curtis demonstrated the TI reporting site for anyone who needs a tutorial or wants to see the latest report.

Next DEC Meeting

*Council Meeting @ 10:00Am at the District 8 Conference on Saturday May 18th
Renaissance St. Louis Airport Hotel, 9801 Natural Bridge Road, St. Louis, MO 63134*