



District 8 Executive Committee Meeting
Minutes for September 20, 2014

Call to order by Stuart Welter, SAA

Adoption of Agenda: Motion was made by Sandy Kardis, DTM, DG to adopt the agenda; seconded by Larry Kimbrow, Area 5 Governor.

Secretary Report by Sandy Kardis: Sandy Kardis distributed the July Meeting minutes in email prior to DEC meeting for review. Carol Steinbach, Division B Governor moved to accept the July 19 report as sent; Mark Strothman, Area 12 Governor seconded.

District Public Relations Report by Gina Willard, Public Relations Officer

Leveraging WordPress for blogs and social media. Planning an open house in spring featuring a free event with top flight speakers.

Credentials Committee Report, Stuart Welter, SAA

A quorum was met with 17 members.

Division Team Reports

Division B Governor: Carol Steinbach

- Performed 2 club officer installations for River City and Aerospace Orators
- Hosted a makeup officer training session for Division B attended by over 30 club officers
- Helped with two of my area's fall contests (so far)

Area 3: Ron Gossen attended club contests for Script Masters and M-Powered Speakers and officer installation for River City. I have my evaluation with Aerospace orators scheduled for 9/23. I am working with Script Masters on their big, five Express Scripts clubs teleconference meeting on October 1. The Area 3 contests were held on Sept. 6. I also assisted with the Toast of Fleet (Enterprise Holdings) demo meeting resulting in momentum towards chartering soon.

Area 13: Pat Tyrell has visited three of her clubs – Creve Coeur Toastmasters, Bulls & Bears, and Wry. She is still trying to contact the others. Her contest is scheduled for Oct. 11, and she still needs Ballot Counters and Timers. Pat has no issues to bring up at this time.

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Area 16: Gail Vaucher held her area contest today before the DEC meeting. There were representatives from the Earth City and Grace clubs. She has visited Toast on the Town, Macy's and SALT. She was assigned as a coach for the Earth City club in her area. They have had 4 visitors and signed up two of them so far.

Area 18: Dr. Camesha Carter visited the Money Talks, Monsanto Noontime, Shalom, and Triton clubs. She still has plans to visit the Plus Factor club. Lora Mather is helping her by visiting the Speak Out club. Great things happening include: Sept. 6- Plus Factors had an Educational Day where all facets of Toastmasters were discussed.

Sept. 17 – Triton Toastmasters held Constitutional Day activities.

Monsanto, Plus Factor and Shalom clubs are sending contestants to the Area Contest.

The corporate club Money Talks is in need of help. At the end of the year they will lose half of their membership due to a change in employee performance objectives. We have been working on this as an Area, but outside help is always welcomed.

Shalom Toastmasters needs some assistance in growing their numbers. They are housed in a huge church but need some additional sources to pull those within the church.

Area 20: Will Hayden visited Magellan, St. Charles County, Weldon Toast, Little Hills and Cave Springs. He is scheduled to visit the City of St. Peters club on Oct. 2. He is still looking for officials for his contest on Sept. 27.

Division C Governor: Tom Gillard

Accomplishments since the last DEC: Conducted two makeup officer training sessions since the last DEC. Both were a huge success with over 25 officers being trained. Division C is the host division for the upcoming Fall Conference being held in Collinsville, IL. Members of the division are extremely busy in planning this event.

Areas Update (Status of Area Visits, Council Meetings, Successes, etc):

Area 1: Smedley Hometown has gained four new members and is one shy of receiving the Smedley award. 3 club visits have been accomplished and the area has experienced growth in membership.

Area 6: Two club visits are scheduled for October (St. Elizabeth's & Fairview Heights). The Area Governor has begun monthly teleconferences with the club Presidents and is developing an Area Success Plan. Areas 6 and 11 are having a joint speech contest on October 4th.

The Scott Air Force Base public affairs videotaped a club meeting and has the meeting posted to the base YouTube channel on the base webpage. In addition, a half-page article about Toastmasters was run in the weekly base paper with a readership of over 4,000. The Scott Toastmasters are celebrating their 20th Anniversary on October 11th and have gained five members during the August-September months to earn the Smedley Award.

Fairview Heights Toastmasters is at 11 members.

Area 10: 3 of 5 club visits are completed with two more scheduled for October. League of Our Own has gained 4 new members. Club officer makeup training was a huge success.

Area 11: Three club visits have been accomplished and one CC has been earned. St. Clair Toastmasters continues to conduct a Youth Leadership Program at the Mascoutah High School, Mascoutah, IL in conjunction with the Junior ROTC program. The students often visit and participate in the St. Clair meetings.

Specific victories since the last DEC (Open Houses, Club Charters, etc.):

A total of three education/leadership awards have been earned; 4 membership goals have been met by division clubs.

Specific challenges that needs to be addressed by Area (candidates for coaching, visits, etc.):

Fall conference planning is ongoing. In addition, we had a club fold in Area 11.

How can the District help (Specific ways in which the District can help make your Division better):

Consider placing a newly chartered club into Area 11. The club that folded was placed in Area 11 as part of the district realignment. Without restoring this lost club, Area 11 and District C have no chance of being distinguished which is a discredit to the excellence, dedication and hard work exhibited by division members.

New Club Leads: Two ongoing - Speechcrafts.

Division E Governor: Kenneth Freeman

Area 7: Columbia Toastmasters and Alpha Toastmasters have already earned 5 and 3 DCP goals respectively. Area 7 Speech contests scheduled for September 27.

Area 14: Area Speech contests scheduled for October 11.

Area 21: Area Speech contests held September 13. Expect Toastmasters International at Truman to fold.

No area governor visits reported yet but are planned.

Division is proud of Sudarshan Anandan's 2nd place in semi-finals at Toastmasters International in Kuala Lumpur. Division contest is November 8.

Division F Governor: Regina Dennis

Accomplishments since the last DEC:

- Division F is a team. Collaboration among team members exist. Area Governor 12 was delegated by Division Governor to conduct a successful division make-up training session in which 25 club officers were trained.
- All five Area Contests and the Division Contest have been scheduled and listed on District 8's website, and two area contests have been held.
- Division Council members have been identified, and a council meeting will be held in October.
- Primary Conversation received a ribbon from TI to mark sixth year as President Distinguished.

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Areas Update (Status of Area Visits, Council Meetings, Successes, etc):

Summary: All five AGs have successfully conducted initial club area visits to clubs, including presiding over an induction of officers. Club Success Plans (CSP) are in place or being drafted. Division F Council members have been identified and a council meeting will be planned in October.

Specifics:

Area 8: Club visits conducted for Toast of SLU and MAC Toastmasters clubs. Area 15 Governor attended Jacobs P3 on behalf of Area 8 Governor. Club visits scheduled for remaining two clubs. CSPs submitted for MAC and Jacobs P3.

Area 12: Area governor presided at induction of officers at Grand Center 5000 and helped with BJC's club contest. Two club visits and have been made, and three more are scheduled. Area Contest is scheduled for October 1. Grand Center launched a new website.

Area 15: Area Governor has conducted club visits for all five clubs. All five clubs are actively participating in CSP. Wells Fargo Advisors conducts bi-weekly mentoring sessions to help members obtain CC/CL. Toast US is on target to achieve goals by June 15, 2015. Primary Conversation has reported three new members on its CSP.

Area 17: Area Governor has conducted club visits for four of five clubs. Fifth club visit planned. Clubs have been encouraged to submit club success plans. Successful area contest held September 20, 2014. Post meeting note: Let's Talk has been on hiatus since June due to lack of attendance. Club President expressed his hope that he could restart the club in September.

Area 19: unavailable

Specific victories since the last DEC (Open Houses, Club Charters, etc.):

Club officers trained in all areas with Areas 8, 12, 15 and 17 training all or at least principal officers. Two separate chartering ceremonies held at Washington University clubs. Clubs plan to have due renewals paid by 9/25.

Specific challenges that needs to be addressed by Area (candidates for coaching, visits, etc.):

Area 8, Open Line, low attendance. AG proposes to work with club to increase membership by attracting small companies to attend and join this Open Community club. Older established clubs not interested in attending officers' training (FRB).

AG requests guidance on what to do when there is only one contestant for the Humor and Table Topics contests. Please advise.

Area 12, Torchmasters (MO College) is closing and members joining BJC. Learned after the meeting that Torchmasters will not close. Members came to a recent meeting and three/four new members joined the club. AG plans to monitor and support this club.

Division A Governor: Adam Kutell

Area 2: Area Governor has made introductory visits to clubs. Mastertoasters has already earned 3 DCP goals. Mercy is rebuilding after losing key members to downsizing or major IT projects. Area Speech Contests scheduled for September 27.

Area 4: Area Governor asked for advice on writing an article on the DSAGSL Toastmasters club. JeffCo Challengers has already earned 3 DCP goals. Area Speech Contests scheduled for September 27.

Area 5: Area Speech Contests scheduled for September 27.

Area 9: Area Speech Contests being held before DEC meeting. Webster Groves and Unigroup have earned 4 DCP goals.

No area governor visits reported yet but are planned.

Division contest is scheduled for October 30.

Marketing/Club Coaching/Membership Report by Jacquie Vick, DTM

Jacquie reviewed topics brought up during Division Report (DIV E: Moberly Club – regroup; Division F: 2 clubs with low membership; BJC Merging; Area 4: Article on DSAGSL club to *Toastmasters* magazine, Division F: Expand clubs in downtown area-suggestion from Laura Rebbe, Area 8 Governor). Chartered 1st Club – Toast of the Fleet, a 4th Enterprise club. Discussed Demo Meeting. Looking for consistent branding – a template to facilitate a quick turnaround. The goal is 2 meetings and then charter. There was discussion whether a club can be assigned a club coach. Noted: Governors can suggest, but a club coach can't be mandated

Education and Training/Club Officers Trained/Contesting Report by Farzana Chohan, DTM

23 Clubs have 0 officers training, 16 clubs have 7 officers trained. Clubs eligible for \$50 gift if 7 officers trained again in next session. Farzana noticed several area contests on 9/27 and suggested collaborating to stagger. Consider how to consolidate calendars and limitations to Saturdays.

Fall Conference Report by Tom Gillard, ACG, CL

The date is November 14-15th at DoubleTree Inn in Collinsville IL. This is the 90th anniversary of Toastmaster, hence the theme, 'A Toastmaster Anthology'. Tom encouraged people to attend and volunteer. To date, 9 education sessions. Flyer and registration forms will be available shortly. Tom has to work with committees to finalize a few details.

District Governor Report by Sandy Kardis, DTM, DG

July Officer List – several clubs have not submitted to TI. 26 clubs have 12 members or less. Toastmasters International at Truman has 1 member listed. Mastertoasters and South County have membership count over Toastmaster's recommended levels. Dues due October 1st and expect to see better numbers. Area Governor first round visits are due November 30 and second round visits are due May 31. Budget was approved by TI. I will fax the required signature page. District Success Plan will be finalized and submitted to TI this week. We had 92% Area and Division Governors trained.

Conference Registration Form Committee Recommendations by Dan Darnall, DTM, PDG

Dan provided handout of findings and recommendation. Bulk of conversation around shared cost within clubs. Clubs can fund overhead cost to reduce an individual member's personal cost. The pricing is intended to make conference break even. Several concerns raised (e.g. logistics, corporate clubs not reimbursing conferences). Past data suggest average is 3 members per club attend. The goal is to get more folks to attend. General conversation around handling influx of attendants. Tom reiterated he won't know amount until October. A few recommendations made to language on form.

Adam Kuttel, Division A Governor, moved to accept recommendations.

Rob Van Winkle, Area 4 Governor, seconded the motion.

The motion passed.

New Business/Open Forum/Closing Announcements by Sandy Kardis, DTM, DG

Eliminated District Recognition Program Report from agenda due to time. Gave everyone the assignment to read pages 40-44 from handbook. Be prepared for a quiz. Check out District Governor Blog on District 8 website. Thanks to an inquiry from Dan Darnall, Area 2 Governor, TI does not support teleconference/video conferencing.

Opened conversations for members to highlight lesson learned. Mark Strothmann, Area 12 Governor, highlighted Grand Center 500 Club discussing events in Ferguson. Other topics included mention of Gavel Club for young people interested in Toastmasters. Suggestion to include outside activity for Spring Conference. Library Fees for contest in STL County up to \$15; free in St. Charles County if for non-profits. Informed DEC of the Midtown Toastmasters 70th Anniversary. Details on website.

Announcement: No January DEC Meeting.

Our next DEC meeting is October 18 at 1:00 pm at Missouri College.