



District 8 Executive Committee Meeting
Minutes for April 11, 2015

Call to order by Stuart Welter, ACS, ALB, SAA

Adoption of Agenda: Motion to adopt the agenda was made by Rebecca Now, Area 9 Governor; seconded by Ron Gossen, Area 3 Governor.

Secretary Report by Sandy Kardis: Sandy Kardis distributed the March Meeting minutes in an email prior to the DEC meeting for review. Motion to adopt the report was made by Dan Darnell, Area 2 Governor; seconded by Mark Strothmann, Area 12 Governor.

Credentials Committee Report, Lora Mather, DTM, IPDG

A quorum was met with 19 members.

Public Relations Reports – Gina

- Open House Contest through May 15th
- Encourage clubs to run Open House
- Looking for story about millennials
- Looking for guest speaker – educational speech 2 weeks from today.
- Questions:
 - Area governors can forward information on behalf of clubs
 - May 15th not hard day, some flexibility for open house

Division Team Reports

Division B Governor: Carol Steinbach, ACB, ALB

Accomplishments since the last DEC:

Carol helped with 10 different contests and is still scheduled to chair the Division B and District 8 contests on Apr 25 and May 29-30 respectively. She is pleased to state that her Area Governors completed their contests and turned their paperwork in to her. They also have a good start on their club visits and reports for the second half of the year.

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

Area 3: Ron completed all his club visits and just needs to enter them into the system. It looks like 2 of his clubs will reach President's Distinguished.

Area 13: Pat has 4 club visits complete. It looks like at least 3 of her clubs will reach at least Distinguished.

Area 16: Gail has all visits scheduled before May 16th. Grace Church club will reach President's Distinguished if they can get enough of their members to renew in time.

Area 18: Camesha has most of her club visits scheduled. Monsanto Noontime will reach President's Distinguished and two other clubs should reach Distinguished.

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Area 20: Will is scheduling club visits now. While City of St. Peters club has been suspended, there is another St. Peters group that we are aware of as a potential club in this area. The rest of the clubs in Area 20 are very healthy with 3 already reaching distinguished status.

Division C Governor: Tom Gillard, ACG, ALB

Accomplishments since the last DEC:

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

Area 1: Two clubs have completed 4 goals and have the membership base upon renewals to be distinguished. The Smedley Hometown Memorial Club has 17 members and 5 goals. With three more members, it can reach Distinguished status.

Area 6: The Scott Toastmasters have completed 6 goals and 5 new members have joined between February and March so the club earned the Talk Up Toastmasters Award. Scott Toastmasters are also planning an Open House for May. O'Fallon Toastmasters are Distinguished since they renewed with a membership of 25. O'Fallon Toastmasters are also beginning a Speechcraft to attract new members.

Area 10: The McBrian Lincoln Douglass club is Distinguished since it renewed with a membership of 24.

Area 11: The St. Clair Toastmasters Open House was a success with two new people joining. Club members shared the difference Toastmasters has made in their lives, and two of the students from the JROTC Youth Leadership Program also spoke about the benefits of Toastmasters for them as youth.

Division C contest will be conducted on April 25th, and we are in need of judges.

New Club Leads: Still working with Lincoln College in Lincoln, IL. A mentor from Bloomington will begin helping in June and Betty Ellis will be mentoring as well.

Division E Governor: Kenny Freeman, DTM

In Kenny's absence, the report was delivered by Lorie Kaplan, Area 7 Governor

Accomplishments since the last DEC:

Area 7: Columbia Toastmasters visited the Alpha Club in Jefferson City and held a joint club contest on March 19. Several contestants from each club competed. We have also received a number of stories from the Alpha Club members about their experiences as members of a Toastmasters prison club. Those stories have been submitted to the district leadership for inclusion in the report at the District Conference meeting. Both prison clubs in Division E, Alpha Toastmasters Club and Talu Toastmasters Club will be holding their annual awards banquets on June 4 (Alpha's was later changed to June 17) and visitors are welcome. Must have a month notice of any visitors.

Mark Clervi and Leia Walker of the Columbia Toastmasters Club were married recently at a regular club meeting. Division E Governor, Kenny Freeman, who is also a minister and a member of the Columbia Club presided over the wedding. More information can be found in the District 8 newsletter about the event.

Area 7's contest is scheduled for April 2, 2015.

Area 14: contest is scheduled for April 18, 2015.

Area 21: contest is scheduled for April 16, 2015.

Division E Contest is scheduled for May 2, 2015 in Columbia, MO.

Other News:

Division E will be holding a summer gathering at the Lake of the Ozarks again this year. The event will be held at the Shelter House at Grand Glaize Beach in Lake of the Ozarks State Park on Saturday, July 18. All District 8 Toastmasters are welcome to attend -- more information to come.

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Division F Governor: Regina Dennis, DTM

Accomplishments since the last DEC:

All five Area Contests have been held and Division F Contest is on April 18, briefings are at 9:30 am. Second round of club visits are underway, Area 15 completed and others have completed at least 3 Clubs are tracking Distinguished Club Plan, 13 on track to be distinguished Elections are underway

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

Area 8: Area Governor has completed three of five club visits. Three clubs have 20 or more members and are eligible to participate in the distinguished club program.

Area 12: A well-attended and very successful evaluation and international contests held. Both contests has participants from four clubs. Two official visits have been made.

Area 15: Continues to provide regular weekly updates on activities in the club and highlights division and district events. Four of the five clubs have submitted their 2nd round of dues.

The last Area 15 Council meeting is scheduled for May 2, 2015. Clubs in Area are currently starting our Officer Nomination/Elections process.

Area 17: Three of five second round of Area Governor completed and plan to complete by end of April. Area Spring Contest successfully completed on March 17.

Area 19: Second round of Area Governor visits started in March and April. Spring Contest successfully completed on March 25.

Division F Governor has accompanied Area Governors on visits and reminded members to: participate in District 8 activities; membership is valuable globally; acknowledged the benefits of members who got promoted on their jobs using their TM skills. Division F Governor continued to participate in club visits/contests at club or area levels in Areas: 8, 12, 15, 17 and 19. During visits, continued to promote Toastmasters skills by pointing out benefits; encouraging members to attend district level events to network and understand that there is a dynamic District beyond their club.

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

Area 8: Toast of SLU has added four new members since the fall visit! Membership is up from 8 to 12. They have a strong publicity campaign on campus and continue to grow. Area Governor has offered them a club coach if they feel they need it. At this point, however, I think they are on an upward trend! F.R.B Club has grown by 6 members to make them eligible for the distinguished club program.

Area 12: Area Governor worked closely to support Torchmasters' re-instatement.

Area 15: Primary Conversations to hold an Open House April 28th. Three prior club visitors shall turn in New Members Application this next week. Primary Conversations to also to hold a Speak-A-Thon April 14, 2015. Sigma Aldrich to submit CL award next week. They also have two new member applications to submit which should bring them into distinguished status. Wells Fargo is already distinguished status. Club to submit their Open House sign in sheet to the PRO for the District 8 award incentive. Speaking of Us – Checking with their club treasurer on their dues status.

Area 17: Area 17 has two of five clubs Distinguished, on pace for both clubs being Select Distinguished. Clubs are beginning nomination process for next round of club officers.

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

Area 8: Open Line continues to have sluggish membership growth, currently club has 11 members. Area Governor has also offered them a club coach. Area Governor is targeting businesses in downtown St. Louis.

Area 19: A couple of clubs are struggling with member retention and leadership turnover. Tarsus' club president departed; club working to identify new president.

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Division A Governor: Adam Kutell, ACG, ALB

In Adam's absence, Larry Kimbrow, Area 5 Governor, presented report.

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

Area 2: 2 Clubs have been visited, 3 more are scheduled over the next 2 weeks

4 clubs have paid dues. Working with ROi to get theirs in.

Master Toasters and West County Toastmasters are on their way to be President Distinguished.

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

Mercy Toastmasters had an Open House this past Thursday. They had over 20 guests. Three people joined that day and several others expressed interest. A year ago Mercy was down to 1 member due to down-sizing they are now up to 13, and growing.

Chesterfield Toastmaster is now over 20 members. The newer members are becoming active and helping with the club's success. A shout out and big thanks to Kevin Derosiers for the effort he is putting into bringing this club back.

The chartering of the new Sikeston Toastmasters Club is progressing well. Jim Shields, Poplar Bluff Toastmasters Club's VP for Membership reviewed and forwarded the Charter Application Request and check for the applicable fee from Missouri Bootheel Regional Consortium (MBRC) to TI on March 30. Jim met with Dr. Cynthia Dean, MBRC CEO, and some of her staff members and offered the assistance of the Poplar Bluff Toastmasters Club. They discussed the next steps needed for formation of their new club. They agreed to hold an informational meeting for the public and a demonstration meeting in the next month or two.

Division A is excited about having another TI Club in southeast Missouri.

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

Area 2: Working with ROi to set goals, increase involvement and use the Toastmaster materials to manage their club. We are in danger of losing this club.

Treasurer's Report by Richard Porter, ACS, ALS

- Went through Actual versus Budget -> Revenue down YTD
- Conference budget and actual right on target
- District Store made money
- District TLI Expenses – spent less than budgeted because conference location donated.
- Will write checks for reimbursement at conference

Speaker Bureau: John Barry, DTM:

- 1 to 2 requests a month
- Typical is colleges, business, leadership groups
- Goals: build out website, online application, request a speaker, bio on speaker, create category
- Find speakers – grass root effort to find good speakers and good opportunity
- Marketing – Facebook, LinkedIn and Social Media
- Goal – be the go-to group for professional speaking
- Questions: Do controversial topics? Will consider, but wouldn't recommend taking a position.
- Opportunity to hook up with South County speaker bureau

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Nominating Committee, Lora Mather, DTM, IPDG:

- District leadership new titles
- Candidates for top 3 roles and division directors
- Submit names for area directors in next 6 weeks
- Nomination information will be in newsletter

Realignment Committee, Lora Mather, DTM, IPDG:

- Shared the Guidelines and Rules on Club Alignment from TI's Protocol 7.0
- Recommend moving the Smedley Hometown Toastmasters club from Area 1 to 11

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

- We have 3,030 paid memberships – continue with open house
- Called for volunteers for demonstration meetings
- 1 club chartered for year – there's 5 to 6 prospects
- Marketing has \$2000 to spend; ads in community newspapers
- 34 clubs are eligible for a club coach, need volunteers
- Encourage area governors to encourage clubs to request coaches
- New template available for open houses
- Put open house on website – email Tom Coscia
-

Procedure Committee, Frank Yates, ACG, ALB:

- Reviewed modifications to the District Procedures Manual
- New Map
- Sandy asked that those in favor of the changes, indicate by saying "aye". Changes to the District Procedures Manual will be presented at the May 30 District Council meeting.

Conferences, Farzana Chohan, DTM:

- District 8 Spring Contest is the May 29th weekend. Lisa Cooksey-Cannon, Area 15 Governor is contest chair. The theme is Cultures Around the World.
 - Lisa highlighted notable aspects to date (e.g. keynote speaker)
 - Will use Club and Membership registration again (see faq) on website
- Next TLI is June 20th, 2015. Called for volunteers to train

District Governor Report by Sandy Kardis, DTM, DG

Sandy reviewed the documents for Area Governor of the Year, Division Governor of the Year, and Toastmaster of the Year awards and requested they be submitted to her after June 30.

We lost 9 clubs with TI suspending 4 on March 31. She was informed that Cuba Communicators is not going to continue. With only 1 new club, we cannot make up the loss. To date, 13 clubs have not paid dues, 10 have low-minimum requirement not yet met, 1 ineligible-minimum requirement not yet met, and 3 arrived but not yet verified. She encouraged all Area Governors and Division Governors to contact clubs and see where they stand. Membership payments are 1, 328 from being Distinguished, but expects the number to decrease as we have 2 ½ months yet and clubs are having Open Houses.

Education awards were given to: Tom Gillard, Stuart Welter (2), Carol Steinbach, Chris Rigdon (1), Alan Ayers (2), Ron Gossen (5), Lora Mather (3), Dan Darnall (1), Rebecca Now (1), Richard Porter (2), and Jacquie Vick (1).

She reminded Area Governors to complete their club visits and reports by May 31.

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

Sandy Invited the DEC members to an end of year appreciation picnic June 13th at her house.

Sandy asked the DEC to join the Smedley Hometown Memorial Toastmasters meeting at 3:45 – 4:45 in Room 17.

Our next DEC meeting is May 30th at District Council at the Sheraton Westport Plaza Hotel.