



Communic~8

District 8 Newsletter



Volume 21 Issue 1

November 2021

District 8 Mission

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

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Winter TLI is Saturday, December 4 over Zoom

We are quickly approaching the time of the year where mid-year club officer elections and the December 4th virtual winter Toastmasters Leadership Institute (TLI). The TLI is an opportunity for all District 8 club members to attend sessions to Expand Your Potential in leadership and networking skills. In addition to the regular club officer sessions that will be offered, we will be offering 11 different electives which cover the following topics:

- Sessions on the ins and outs of how to utilize Free Toast Host
- How to run successful hybrid meetings
- Avoiding common contest mistakes
- Empowering fellow members by being a mentor

- Improving your tactics on how to respond to Table Topics
- Have your Pathway questions answered
- Learn how to utilize features in Zoom to enhance your club meetings
- Prepare for the contest season by exercising your judging skills
- Use your Pathways projects to grow your club.
- Learn how to 'Fight Fairly' by using conflict managements skills.

Make sure to register for the event and bring your fellow club members.

Register Here





Message from your District Director

David Kincade

Where is District 8 Going?

When are we going to get back to the way it was? When can we get back to meeting the way we used to? Very valid questions. But examine these carefully. If we “get back to the way it was,” or “the way we used to,” we are going backward. Even without the pandemic, there was bound to be evolution and change in the Toastmasters program.

The pandemic kick-started the innovation and put it into top gear, racing forward at high speed. So where are we going? To know that we need to see where we came from.

A few years ago, virtual meeting attendance was already being sampled by a few clubs, and fledgling attempts at hybrid meetings popped up here and there. I even did a seminar on the mechanics of virtual attendance in 2017. Boy, was I naive. We dipped out virtual toes into the virtual pool, and the virtual water was virtually too cold. We were timid about taking the leap. Until we were forced to. Then, we embraced the technology and dove head first into the virtual pool, and by our sheer numbers, we warmed the water up. We shared best practices, and the tools improved and were fine tuned to our liking. We got pretty good at it.

So what's next? Do we “go back” or go forward. Walt Disney's motto, “Keep Moving Forward” says it best. We will take the lemonade that we made from the lemons of the pandemic and make ourselves a cocktail of technologies and strategies that will best serve our membership and their educational goals. Since the pandemic forced our District 8 functions online, attendance is way up over pre-pandemic numbers. Engagement in District programs and incentives are at an all time high. I cannot help but think that we are seeing a glimpse of things to come.

I see our meetings serving those that desire the in-person experience as well as those that prefer to meet virtually. We have demonstrated that some of our District 8 programs actually work better and reach more people online than in-person. We must leverage that into even more engagement by offering more online opportunities coupled with live experiences, giving everyone in the District the chance to share the learning.

One of the new innovations is the Fall Awards Picnic. Getting awards to the membership without spending enormous amounts on postage was a challenge. Dawn, Karen and myself (mostly Dawn and Karen) came up with the Awards Picnic plan. Outdoors, safe, fun and family friendly. And you can pick up your awards and a sweet treat while you are there.

Look for innovations coming in the Spring Conference. The “way it was” with expensive hotel rooms and premium-priced meals was not being well attended. We are working right now to build out this new framework so that all District 8 members can engage with each other in the virtual or in-person format that they prefer. We know it will be a leap forward. Because, if we go back, we have learned nothing from the experience. I prefer to *Keep Moving Forward. C'mon with us.*



Message from your Program Quality Director

Karen Leingang

“Opportunity is missed by most people because it is dressed in overalls and looks like work.” - Thomas Edison

When I was asked to consider the possibility of running for Program Quality Director, I definitely saw something dressed in ripped overalls with lots of sweat stains. However, I also saw the opportunity to meet new people, to encourage people to engage in District 8 activities, and to give back to fellow Toastmasters as others have given to me. Four months into my opportunity, I have found an abundance of work but have found an equal amount of awards.

I started this year with two seemingly simple goals. My first goal was to encourage more members to participate in District 8 events. I have really enjoyed the opportunities to facilitate sessions at past Summer and Winter TLIs (Toastmasters Leadership Institute), but I have started to see a pattern of many repeat facilitators. I decided that I wanted to have as many new faces as facilitators as possible to allow others to step outside of their comfort zones and grow. My second goal is encourage people to engage in the Pathways education system. From personal experience I have found it helpful to be working on two Pathways Paths at the same time. This allows one to work on the higher levels while also making progress on the smaller ones. Pathways really is a program that can be applied to both personal and work aspects of life, but that only works if people complete their projects. Now that I have shared my goals, I hope that when I reach out to you ask you to step up and take on a role for the District you will agree and complete a level project while doing so.

One of my biggest accomplishment up to this point of the year is the result of the District clubs engagement in the Summer TLI and makeup officer training. We started the year with a base number of 95 clubs with a potential of 665 club officers that needed to learn about their new roles. At the end of August, we had 451 officers attend training session. To put this in a different light, this number equates to 67.82% of all potential officers. An even bigger accomplishment of our club is that 30 clubs had all 7 of their club officers attend training. This equates to 31.58 % of the District's clubs. All that is left to be said is District 8, You Rock!

The next big upcoming event will be the Dec 4th District 8 Virtual Winter TLI. This event will include electives on how to use Free Toast Host, how to use Zoom to enhance club meetings, preparation for the contest season, several panel discussion that will have question and answer sessions in addition to the club officer sessions. The TLI is for all club members and is a great way to learn, grow as a leader and meet people.

I would like to end by stating that the District 8 Spring Conference committee is looking for members and fresh ideas. If you are interested in participating, please reach out to me at leingang65@aim.com. If you get an email or a phone call from me about this event, please look past my overalls and be open to the growth opportunities that lie ahead of you.



Message from your District Club **Growth Director**

Dawn Tucker

Creative Thinking: The Other Toastmasters Skill

We often talk about communication and leadership as being the two skills our Toastmasters participation improves. (Note that I said “participation,” not “membership.” Toastmasters membership is like a gym membership: It only benefits you as much as you use it.) But underlying good communication and leadership is creative thinking. The more creative thinking you put into your communication and leadership, the more opportunities you will have to grow, and in more ways.

Many clubs are unhappy about meeting remotely, and there are a lot of complaints about that situation. Clubs have put off PR and membership campaigns, and members have put off projects and speeches “until we’re meeting in person again.” How long has it been now? If you’re meeting on Zoom (or another platform), why not figure out how to use it creatively for both your club’s and your own growth? Make learning your remote meeting platform, and remote presentation skills, selling points for your club! Think creatively about all the features and opportunities to grow your club in membership numbers, and your club members in 21st century skills.

Pathways is full of opportunities to grow through creative thinking! How can you make the best use of Pathways projects to grow your life and career skills? There are a lot of opportunities to apply those projects, if we do a little creative thinking. Which ones seem intimidating because the requirements are outside of your comfort zone? How might the results grow your skills? Grow your business? Grow your relationships? Put some creative thought into it!

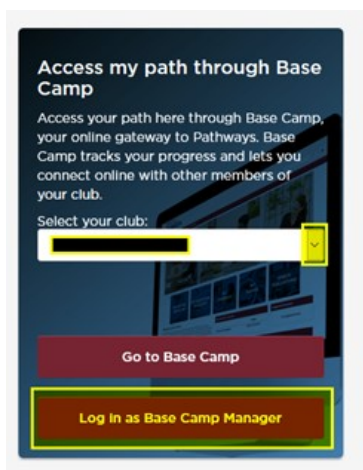
Who is doing some good creative thinking in District 8, when it comes to growing their club, helping D8, or using Pathways? Nominate them for the Creative Thinking Award - which I just thought up while writing this article! (Note to self: Nominate myself for thinking up this creative award.) Send an email about your creative fellow D8 Toastmaster, or yourself, to

CGD@Dist8TM.org!

Submitting Awards in Pathways

Are you members completing but they are not finding their way on your dashboard? This is a comment that I often hear from clubs. The main cause for this was the level was not submitted both in Pathways Base Camp Manager and Club Central. When you get ready to submit your club's next award make sure to do the following:

1. Sign into Toastmasters International (www.toastmasters.org) and navigate to Pathways>Go to Base Camp.
2. On the Access my path through Base Camp, pick you club from the dropdown list box and click on the Log in as Base Camp Manager.



3. Once in Base Camp Manager, click on the tile that is labelled Pending Requests,



Approve member requests.

4. The members that have marked their levels complete will be listed under Requested By. If the member has completed the level, click the green check mark under options.

Training Pending Approval				
Printable Version Export to Excel		(2 Results)		
<input type="text"/> Search				
Requested By	Training	Type	Date	Options
Club) Club Secretary (Position)	Level 1 Completion—Presentation Mastery	Completion	6/7/2021 2:13 PM	

- The following page will be presented for you to add any additional comments. When completed click the Submit button

Home > > View Pending Requests > Approve Request

Please enter any additional comments:

Cancel Submit

- You will be returned back to the previous page and the person will no longer be present.

Training Pending Approval

Printable Version Export to Excel (0 Results)

Name

Requested By Training Type Date Options

- Exit Pathways Base Camp Manager and from the Toastmasters International site, navigate to Leadership Central>Club Central.

About | Pathways | Education | Membership | Leadership Central | Resources

Leadership Central

Club Central District Central Distinguished Performance Rep
 Club Officer Tools District Leader Tools Region Advisor
 Brand Portal Public Relations Governing Documents
 Speech Contests The Leader Letter Month-End Closing Dates
 Eligibility Assistant Legal and Tax Compliance

- In the Club Membership panel, click on the tile labelled Submit Education Awards.

Club Membership Feedback

Add Membership
 Add new, dual or reinstated members

Submit Education Awards
 Submit member education awards

- In the dropdown list box, select the member you will be submitting an award for.

SUBMIT EDUCATION AWARDS

Select Member

(Note: If you are a club officer and are applying for your own award, please have another officer submit your award application.)

Select Member

- Then move to the Select Education Program, use the dropdown list box to select the award that was earned.

Select Education Program

Please select the award that the member is applying for:

Select Education Program

- Complete the remaining screens with the requested information.



Message from Your Division C Director

Annetta Works Salley

Hello Division C Toastmasters! Do you realize it has been over 120+ days in this Toastmasters year and we have less than 40 days until the end of 2021! FIRST, I want to SAY THANK YOU to the Area Directors, Club Officers, Club Members, and EVERY POTENTIAL MEMBER (your meeting/event guests) for SHOWING UP and providing quality club meetings.

THANK YOU for your continued selfless service to follow up with potential members, reaching out with calls, texts, and safe home visits to former members, showing kindness to those overwhelmed by life's challenges and yes comforting those who lost loved ones. THIS is above and beyond what the "fine print" says. Many of you rose in the chaos and shared their expertise and resources to help clubs figure out how to do hybrid meetings, virtual networking, digital Speechcraft, charter new clubs, and explore new ways to better foster cultural diversity. #LevelUP

To review your collective efforts, [CLICK HERE](#) to see the overall District 8 dashboard, as well as by Division/Area/Club. WELL DONE to the clubs for submitting your club success plans (CSP). CSPs and the Area Director Club Visit Reports help District leaders better understand your needs to adequately address them.

The challenges Division C Leaders face are club membership and retention. If you have not yet registered for the Winter TLI, please make plans to spend the day with District 8. There are great breakout sessions to answer questions to Pathways questions, show you how to effectively use FreeToastHost usage, conflict resolution and so much more! Take advantage of these great sessions to empower and strengthen your club officers and members. Your Division C Leadership Team is also a great resource. Let us know how we can help you.

Let's continue to celebrate, encourage, and intentionally support one another in the days ahead. In my Diana Ross singing voice, "Ain't no mountain high enough, ain't no valley low enough to keep me from [supporting] YOU!

iCelebrateU365
Annetta Works Salley
Division C Director
Respect – Integrity – Service – Excellence



District 8 Fall Awards Picnic

Saturday, November 6th marked a milestone in District 8: The first large District gathering since the Area speech contests of 2020. We met at Faust Park in West St. Louis County, and brought our own picnic lunches, lawn chairs, and families. Frisbees could be seen soaring about at intervals as well. Hot and cold drinks and sweet treats met the picnickers as they gathered to exchange greetings, stories, and pick up their District incentive awards.

Karen Leingang, the Program Quality Director and Dawn Tucker, the Club Growth Director led several rounds of clever and intriguing Table Topics. Questions such as, "Sell me this house, and it's next door to a nuclear power plant!" were fielded and we were treated to some of the most inventive responses and some of the best District 8 has to offer.





Cape Girardeau High-Noon Toastmasters Celebrates 61 Years of Shaping Lives

2021 Marks the Chapter's 61st Anniversary

Congratulations to the High-Noon Toastmasters club of Cape Girardeau, which celebrated its 61st anniversary on June 14! The "60+1 Anniversary Celebration" was filled with old and new friends and lots of laughs and memories.

In addition to representatives from Toastmasters District 8 in attendance, the High-Noon milestone was recognized by several local and state dignitaries, and the club received proclamations from the Missouri House of Representatives and from the City of Cape Girardeau.

High-Noon members kept the June 14 festivities fun and lively. The event was kicked off by Dr. Bill Meyer, who will note his 50th year as a High-Noon Toastmaster in 2022. Led by Celebration Master Dr. Jered Wayland, the proceedings included a spirited Table Topics activity – ask Patti Howard to tell you about her 30th birthday! – and a celebration-appropriate Word of the Day. In addition, Mickey Burlison delivered the keynote speech, reflecting on the High-Noon club over the years.

Chartered in 1960, High-Noon Toastmasters has developed the public speaking, leadership and communication skills of hundreds of professionals in the Cape Girardeau area and business community -- in government, financial services, healthcare, education, information and communication, technology, and the community service and non-profit sectors.



District 8 Members Who Earned Education & Leadership Awards from July 1, 2021 to November 25, 2021

Division A

Capital T Toastmasters

- Kincade, David—PI5

Centene Speaks

- Ali, Nighat—MS2
- Dahm, Sara—EH2
- Dahm, Sara—MNTR

Crossroads

- Ablan, Tamara—VC3
- Darnall, Daniel—LD5
- De Silva, Umanga—EC4
- De Silva, Umanga—EC5
- Mathews, Margret—EC3
- Nicolas, Bret—EC1
- Stanze, Arthur—IP1
- Stanze, Arthur—IP2
- Stanze, Arthur—IP3
- Stanze, Arthur—IP4
- Wenneker, Stephanie—MS1

High-Noon Toastmasters

- Bohnert, Arielle—PM2
- Bohnert, Arielle—PM3
- Kirchdoerfer, Ellen—IP4
- Kirchdoerfer, Ellen—IP5
- Welter, Andrew—SR1
- Welter, Andrew—EH4
- Welter, Andrew—EH5

Jeffco Challengers

- Gans, Charmin—IP2
- Gans, Charmin—PM2
- Gans, Charmin—MS1
- Meadows, Brook—LD5

RGA Toastmasters

- Campbell, Lisa—PM1
- Kenney, Kristen—IP2
- Pronovost, Erik—MS1
- Pronovost, Erik—PI5

South County Toastmasters

- Denton, Kathryn—PI4
- Young, Debbie—MS1

Speak Easy Toastmasters

- Barnes, Jeffrey—PI1
- Cross, Tim—EC2
- Freeman, Carmen—MS1
- Kulkarni, Advait—DL2
- LaCroix, Andrew—DL3
- Ruzicka, Stephen—IP4

West County

- Bell, Susan—TC1
- Rohan, Michael—IP3

Division B

Aerospace Auditors

- Green, Rhonda—EC1
- Green, Rhonda—EC2
- Green, Rhonda—EC3
- Green, Rhonda—EC4
- Schultz, Tawanda—PM2

Ascension Toastmasters

- Geier, Charidee—PM2
- Scott, Katrina—LD1

Creve Coeur Toastmasters

- Gibbs, Kasey—PM1
- Gibbs, Kasey—PM2
- Kardis, Sandra—EH1

Grace Church Toastmasters

- Altman, Barbara—IP2
- Altman, Barbara—IP3
- Blue, Willie—MNTR
- Blue, Willie—VC2
- Blue, Willie—MS3
- Blue, Willie—IP5
- Lowe, Etta—IP1
- Robinson, Earnest—MNTR
- Robinson, Earnest—PM5
- Tyrrell, Pat—ID2

Moneta Voices

- Beavers, Kendall—MS1
- Hunt, Lauren—PM1
- Lawson, Kelly—LD1
- Whatley-Blaine, Nancy—EH1

Noontime

- Austin, Steffnee—IP1
- Brown, Shannon—PM3
- Hill, Laura—LD1
- Li, Wensheng—VC1
- Mudd, Jeffrey—LD2
- Reding, Joan—EH1
- Shah, Viral—IP1
- Van Meter, Sarah—VC1

Plus Factor Club

- Jones, Robert—DL2
- Triplett, Melissa—VC5
- Valley, John—SR3

Script Masters

- Clay, Krystal—MS3

Shalom Toastmasters

- Beecham, Linda—LD3
- Jamerson, Keith—VC1
- Jamerson, Keith—VC2
- Rogers, Christina—PM1
- Williams, Paula—EC2
- Williams, Paula—EC3
- Williams, Paula—EC4

Triton Toastmasters

- Sandidge, Isaac—LD1
- Sandidge, Isaac—LD2
- Sandidge, Isaac—EH1
- Taube, Rachel—SR1

Division C

Capital City Toastmasters

- Evoy, Curt—PI3
- Rozhon, Amanda—LD3
- Street, Melissa—PM3

Effingham Toastmasters

- Siemer, Henry—PM2

Fairview Heights Toastmasters

- De Silva, Umanga—VC3
- Miller, Shannon—IP2
- Miller, Shannon—IP3

District 8 Members Who Earned Education & Leadership Awards from July 1, 2021 to November 25, 2021 (cont.)

Gem City Toastmasters

- Dieker, Kathy—PM3
- Holliday, Bryant—PM1
- Nelson, Sherry—VC2
- Reed, Ray—VC3
- Todd, Timothy—DL1
- Todd, Timothy—DL2

League of Our Own Toastmasters

- Stephens, Shaketta—MS5

Marion VA Toastmasters

- Howard, Patti—TC3
- Martin, Carla—PM4
- Patrick, Chaze—IP4
- Patrick, Chaze—EC3
- Patrick, Chaze—EC3

McBrian Lincoln-Douglas

- Manriquez, Ana—VC1
- Manriquez, Ana—VC2
- Manriquez, Ana—VC3
- Wilson, Lynn—SR2

Mt Vernon Toastmasters

- Mlot, Linda—IP2
- Mlot, Linda—IP3
- Scarbrough, Timothy—PI1

O'Fallon Toastmasters

- Lambert, Warren—PM1
- Lambert, Warren—PM2
- Lysdahl, Alexandra—VC1
- Nagaraj, Aparna—EH2
- Nagaraj, Aparna—EH3
- Smith, Justine—SR2
- Smith, Justine—SR3
- Smith, Louis—LD3
- Woodside, Aimee—PI3
- Woodside, Aimee—PI4
- Works Salley, Annetta—MNTR

Scott Toastmasters

- Bowser, Dawnella—MS1
- Bowser, Dawnella—MS2
- Manor, Charice—PM1
- Miller, Larry—PM1
- Wood, Yolanda—MS3

- Wood, Yolanda—IP5

Southern Illinois Toastmasters

- Beck, Aur—VC3
- Beck, Aur—VC4
- Bryk, Karla—IP2
- Pathak, Deepa—PM1
- Scarbrough, Timothy—LD4
- Scarbrough, Timothy—LD5

St. Clair Toastmasters

- Koester, Herman—VC2

Toast of Belleville

- Tutterow, Melissa—PM2

Division E

Cave Springs Toastmasters

- Bianco, Lisa—MNTR
- Swanson, Catherine—VC1
- Webb, Amber—SR1
- Willman, Darlene—PM3
- Willman, Darlene—PM4
- Willman, Darlene—PM5
- Woods, David—PI1

Downtown Toastmasters

- Acharya, Shikha—PM1
- Hubble, Kenney—PI1

Little Hills Toastmasters

- Jacobsen, Jennifer—DL5
- Mokriakow, Kathryn—MS2

Mastertoasters Club

- Allen, Wayne—EH1
- Kohlmann, Patricia—IP1

Ozark Orators Club

- De Silva, Umanga—PM2
- Nuno, John—PM1
- Nuno, John—PM2

St Charles Cnty Toastmasters

- Thornhill, Toney—MS5

UniGroup Toastmasters Club

- Orban, Terri—EH3
- Smith, Jeffrey—MNTR

Division F

Anheuser-Busch Toastmasters

- Sciaroni, Andrew—IP2
- Sciaroni, Andrew—IP3

Free Speakers Toastmasters

- Dunphy, Shannon—EC3
- Hammond, Cheryl—PI2

MilliporeSigma Toastmasters

- Breinin, Angela—MS1
- Russell, Karen—VC5

Parrhesia Toastmasters Ministry

- Watts, April—VC1

Primary Conversations

- Lee, Brenda—LD3

Rent-A Toast Club

- Loeffler, Lauren—IP1
- Waugh, Leanne—IP2
- Waugh, Leanne—IP3
- Waugh, Leanne—IP4

Smedley Hometown Memorial

- Christina, Ritter—PM3
- Kincade, David—EH5

Speak Up!

- Strothmann, Mark—VC4
- Wnuk, Nick—PM1

Toast of SLU

- Leingang, Karen—PI4
- Leingang, Karen—PI5

Toast of WU

- Huck, Jennifer—TC1
- Kleekamp, Maureen—PM5
- Leingang, Karen—EC5
- Leingang, Karen—PI2
- Leingang, Karen—PI3

Voices in Unity

- Lamb, Jeannine—PI2
- Sherwood, Patricia—DL3
- Triplett, Melissa—DL3

District 8 Members Who Earned Education & Leadership Awards from July 1, 2021 to November 25, 2021 (cont.)

WashU Med Masters

- Leingang, Karen—EC1
- Leingang, Karen—EC2
- Leingang, Karen—EC3
- Leingang, Karen—EC4

WUSTL Speaks

- Krupp, Jennifer—PI1
- Ogunniran, Peter—PI5

Editor's Note

Did you earn an award and it does not show? Your privacy settings at TI are set to hide your name.

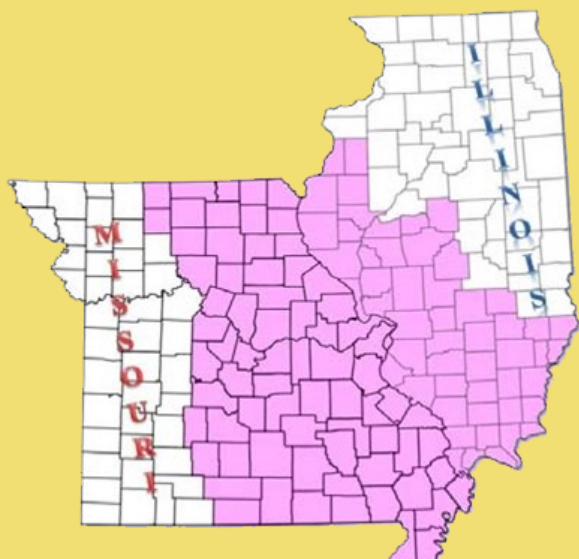
Educational Descriptions

Abbr.	Path Name
DL#	Dynamic Leadership
EC#	Effective Coaching
EH#	Engaging Humor
IP#	Innovative Planning
LD#	Leadership Development
MS#	Motivational Strategies
PI#	Persuasive Influence
PM#	Presentation Mastery
SR#	Strategic Relationships
TC#	Team Collaboration
VC#	Visionary Communication
MNTR	Mentor Program



The Passing of Past District 8 Governor and International Director Chuck Carpenter

District 8 is saddened to recently learn of the passing of Past District 8 Governor and International Director Chuck Carpenter. He passed away August 29, 2021 at the age of 86. He is survived by his long-time wife and fellow Toastmaster Sally Carpenter. Chuck served as the District 8 Governor from 1992-93. He is the only District 8 Toastmaster to serve as an International Director as a District 8 Toastmaster. A retired Chemical Engineer, he loved gardening, photography & music. He also had a wonderfully dry and understated sense of humor. He will be sorely missed.



District 8 Mission

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

www.Dist8tm.org

From Your Editor



Tom Coscia, DTM, PDG

Next issue will be in winter 2022.

Have something you would like to submit?

Please email Tom at webmaster@dist8tm.org