



DISTRICT 24 DOUBLE DOZEN NEWSLETTER

District News And Events

District 24

July 2019

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**The District Trio consists of the top 3 officers of a Toastmasters District: Club Growth Director, Program Quality Director, and District Director*

District Highlights

Happy New Year!

The new Toastmasters year started on July 1, 2019. This is when new club officers and District leaders officially began their terms of service. Consider having a celebration of all the great things your club has done the past year! See what others accomplished on **pages 5-6**.

Team C.O.U.R.A.G.E

Remember District 24's theme for the year: COURAGE. **C**reating **O**pportunities **U**nited in **R**etention, **A**ppreciation, **G**rowth, and **E**ducation. What opportunities will you create? Get ideas on **pages 2-3**.

Event of the Month

Toastmasters Leadership Institute (TLI) is critical for the success of club officers and a great learning opportunity for all members. See when to attend and how to sign up on **page 7**.



BIG NEWS FOR DISTRICT 24!

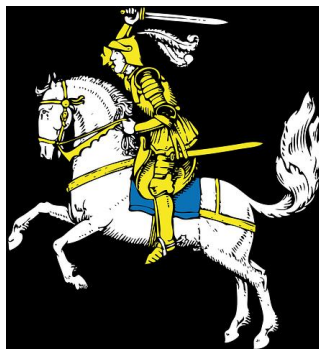
District 24 is thrilled to announce that International Speech Contest District winner Eric Beba has placed first in the region 4 quarterfinal! Eric will advance to the semifinal competition at the Toastmasters International Convention, August 21-24, 2019 in Denver, CO. **Congratulations, Eric!**

New District Leaders Prepare for Service

On June 7-8, 2019 incoming members of our District leadership team learned about their new roles and how to best serve you, the members of District 24. Session topics included area director visits, showing members they matter, and growing new clubs. Leaders came up with some phrases to describe Toastmasters by having each person share a single word at a time: "The Toastmasters of Distinguished clubs are great! Fellowship is encouraging; serving others every day and empowering everyone to succeed. Greatness Through Togetherness. Team Courage."

Each division team came up with a potential theme and mascot for the year ahead.

Division A wants you to charge with courage toward your goals.



Division B embraces the toaster, since you never know what will pop up.

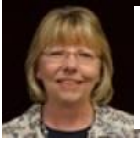


Division C are Champions going the extra mile as the Lincoln Llamas.



Division D will continue to dominate as the Definitely Distinguished Dragons.





Welcome to Team C.O.U.R.A.G.E.!

Submitted by Linda M. Wilson, DTM, 2019-2020 District 24 Director

Welcome to **Team C.O.U.R.A.G.E.** – **C**reating **O**pportunities, **U**nited in **R**etention, **A**ppreciation, **G**rowth and **E**ducation! I am excited to serve as your District 24 Director for the new Toastmasters year that began July 1st and am looking forward to an exciting journey ahead!

What does it mean to be a part of **Team C.O.U.R.A.G.E.**?

...**Creating Opportunities.** As you review the past and prepare to set new goals, consider the words of comedian Milton Berle, “If opportunity doesn’t knock, build a door.” We just need the courage to reach out and grab those opportunities in our clubs and beyond. What opportunity is out there waiting for you and your club?

...**United,** we are working together to achieve our goals. This includes making bold moves on your Toastmasters communication and leadership journey, knowing that whether you succeed or miss the mark, you have the support of your team. When we are working cohesively, the sky is the limit on what we can accomplish...even Distinguished District! Yes, we can!

...**Retention** of both members and clubs. Invite a potential new member to a club meeting or help with a membership drive, but also try new things, like stepping outside of your comfort zone to serve as a club coach for a low-member club...**Appreciation** – Share positive, sincere and meaningful affirmations with each other, in addition to recognizing individual and club achievements. Try a simple handwritten note of appreciation or encouragement to provide that personal touch.

...**Growth** – This could be the year for you to experience the satisfaction of helping build a new club in our district – whether as a member of a demo team, club sponsor or club mentor. Last, but certainly not least, is **Education** – Whether you are completing the Legacy education program, embarking on the Pathways Learning Experience, or continuing your Pathways journey, opportunities abound! This is your year to soar!

Each month, in the space below, I will spotlight a member or club for their exemplary efforts in one of these aspects of **C.O.U.R.A.G.E.** If you know someone deserving of this recognition for his or her efforts since July 1st, please send a brief description of their contribution to LindaWilson.d24tm@gmail.com. Stay tuned, **you** might be featured on this page next month!

Welcome to Team C.O.U.R.A.G.E.! It is going to be an awesome year!

Spotlight on Team C.O.U.R.A.G.E.

Provide member’s name and Club name.

Describe his or her efforts since July 1st to exemplify one of the letters of the acronym C.O.U.R.A.G.E. in their individual Toastmasters journey or as a club.

What stands out about this person as a Toastmaster or their club?

Send your nomination to:

LindaWilson.d24tm@gmail.com



Starting the New Year Strong!

Growing Membership and Clubs

Submitted by Cindy Jenkins, DTM, Club Growth Director

I am excited for the new year and to be part of Team COURAGE! As Club Growth Director, my job is to help all clubs grow their membership and to charter new clubs. One fantastic opportunity for existing clubs to grow membership is to work to earn the **Smedley Award**. The Smedley Award is given to any club that gains 5 new or reinstated members in August and September. Why not plan a membership drive during these months and target earning this award? Your membership drive can be a club open house where the speakers explain how Toastmasters has helped them succeed. Another possibility is “bring a friend night” where every member brings a friend and explains the benefits of Toastmasters. If your club does achieve the 5 new or reinstated members, the club will receive a ribbon for the club banner from Toastmasters International and a certificate for a discount on the next supply order from Toastmasters.

There are two other membership campaign opportunities later in the year. **Talk Up Toastmasters** takes place in January and February. **Beat the Clock** takes place in May and June. Planning ahead for these membership campaigns gives your club time to put these membership activities on their calendars and prepare outstanding membership building events.

Did you know District 24 broadcasts club meetings through **Meetup**? This is another great way to get the word out about your club to individuals who are looking to improve leadership and presentation skills. If you would like to advertise your club meetings through Meetup, send the information to Prem Nataraj at premlathan@gmail.com or to me at cindy.jenkins18020@gmail.com and we will make sure to make your club information available on Meetup.

District 24 is always looking to grow by **adding new clubs**. If you are aware of a new club opportunity or want to be part of starting a new club, please contact me so we can begin to make contact with the new lead. Starting a new club is an exciting experience and also a team effort.

Finally, I am very pleased to announce the chairpersons for the **Club Growth and Retention committees**. Tammie Lang has agreed to chair the Club Growth Committee for 2019 – 2020. She is responsible for growing new clubs. George Volz and Melinda Haag have agreed to chair the Retention Committee for 2019 – 2020. These Toastmasters are responsible for programs to support existing clubs and grow membership. Both committees are looking for additional members. Contact George at (d24pdg@gmail.com) or Melinda (balloongirl83@gmail.com) if you are interested in assisting on the Retention Committee. Contact Tammie (tammielang.avon@gmail.com) if you are interesting in assisting with the Club Growth Committee.



Pathways Project Pick: Connect with Your Audience

Pick by Jessica Codr, DTM

Find project in level 2 (required) for “Innovative Planning” & “Engaging Humor” paths or level 3 (elective) for all others.

Ever feel like your audience isn't listening to you? Or maybe they're listening, but you're not sure they understand. Getting new ideas across is challenging, but with the “Connect with Your Audience” project, you'll learn to do just that!

In the “Connect with Your Audience” project, you choose a speech topic that is unfamiliar to most of your audience members and try to engage them with a meaningful speech on the topic. For example, I chose to talk about Dungeons and Dragons for my speech. I was challenged to relate an unfamiliar fantasy world to a room of folks who had never embarked on the adventure of tabletop roleplaying before. I related Dungeons and Dragons to something I knew my audience could relate to: Toastmasters. And it was a hit!

If you'd like to join me in finding new and creative ways to connect with your audience, complete the “Connect with Your Audience” project. You, and your audience, will be glad you did!

Have a favorite Pathways project you'd like to share? Send a short write-up on it to prm.d24tm@gmail.com.



Build a Better You

Submitted by Mark Fegan, DTM
'19-'20 Program Quality Director

At its heart, the Toastmasters Education Program is simple: you learn by doing. You work on a project, present the results of that project, receive feedback on your presentation, and apply the lessons learned in working the project to your next project. When you are not presenting the results of your project, you are helping your fellow Toastmasters by listening analytically to their presentations and providing feedback to assist them in becoming more proficient.

For the Toastmasters Learning Model to work, and it does work, the Toastmasters club must work as a team to help each member "Build a Better You!" Oddly enough, this same basic learning model applies equally well to both communication and leadership projects!

In the past, I've summed this process up with the phrase *Team Based, Self Directed, Self Paced, Self Improvement Program*. More importantly, I've seen the Toastmasters Learning Model work outside of the manuals; two years ago, a group of Toastmasters met together as the Competitive Speakers Group. They practiced the Toastmasters Model as they prepared for the annual speech contest; four of the ten competitors in the District contests that year were from the Competitive Speakers Group.

We know the Toastmasters Learning Model works! To be a better evaluator, follow the model. To become better at leading meetings, follow the model. To become better at extemporaneous speaking, follow the model.

My challenge to each of you is to use this model to help you improve in other aspects of your Toastmasters life.

Build a Better You!



Building A Vision

Imagine and build your success now

Submitted by Glenn Williams, DTM
2019-2020 Immediate Past District 24 Director

It is hard to start something new or different. Where to begin?

What you can do right now is write **one sentence** about what you would like to see in your future. This forms your vision for yourself or your club. What would it take to make that sentence happen for you or your club? This can go into your more detailed plans and those success plans for your club. Members have input for where the club goes, whether stated or not. They vote by their actions.

Do a club **Moments of Truth** right now to get member input on what your club does well and what can improve. Form your **Club Success Plan** from the member input of the Moments of Truth. Legacy program members can earn credit in running a club Moments of Truth from the Successful Club Series.

Find out more about the Moments of Truth at
<https://www.toastmasters.org/resources/moments-of-truth>

Photo of the Month



*Lou Hernandez becomes a bit of a fire-starter as Helen Hayes looks on.
Photo credit: Tom Colling*

Lou and other incoming District leaders had a great time at the fire pit the evening of June 8 at District Leader training. View more photos from the training at https://www.facebook.com/pg/D24TM/photos/?tab=album&album_id=2523181611035931

Club Happenings



Advanced Traveling Toastmasters on Road Five Years, Working to Grow

Submitted by Kathy Henvey, DTM

Advanced Traveling Toastmasters Club celebrated its 5th Anniversary in June 2019! New and positive life is being brought back to our club under the great leadership of our Club Coach, Jacob Lawson, and the energetic efforts of club members Doni Stoner and Carol Sullivan. A second Club Coach also is being requested.

Carol is working to gain new members in Norfolk. Until a permanent meeting location is found, the club meetings are being held in her Norfolk home: 406 South 11th Street, Norfolk, NE 68701.



Three prospective Advanced Traveling Toastmasters: Mindy Johnson, Michael Hoferer and Shawn Johnson

See the club website at:

<https://attm.toastmastersclubs.org>

Let's Build New Clubs!

Our District has a great opportunity to **build new clubs**. We have 67 paid clubs as of July 1, 2019, whereas we had 76 on July 1, 2018. Clubs are vital to draw in new members and help everyone learn and grow. Will you help us get back up to 70 or more clubs?

When you help form a new club as a **sponsor** or teach the club how to succeed as a **mentor**, you get credit towards the Distinguished Toastmaster award. Contact Club Growth Director Cindy Jenkins at cindy.jenkins18020@gmail.com if you are interested or want to learn more.

Club Why Not Speak Celebrates Six Years of Rocking and Rolling!

Why Not Speak hosted their annual club anniversary party on June 13, 2019, featuring spectacular speeches, fantastic food, and great guests.



Club founders Evelyn Mosley, Cynthia Coleman, and Anthony Coleman pose at the club's anniversary party



It's a wonder they weren't distracted by the delicious cake.



Perhaps outgoing club President Sandeep Puniya and incoming club President Debbie Rodriguez kept them in line.

The Year in Review

Since the Toastmasters year runs July 1 – June 30, we are celebrating the **new year** as of July 1, 2019! Read on for a recap of some amazing things from the past Toastmasters year and opportunities for the year ahead.

District Accomplishments

427 new members, **435** educational awards, and **19** distinguished clubs! Those are some measures of our District this year. And even beyond the numbers, we've done so many great things! Here are just a couple...

We hosted our first "Toastmasters LIVE!" fall educational. We had engaging educational sessions, inspiring speech competitions to train for official contests, awards recognition, delicious food, and fantastic fellowship.

In the Spring, our annual conference showcased the best of our District as well as past World Champion of Public Speaking Ed Tate. We selected our District's best evaluation given by Ann Gentle and best International speech given by Eric Beba. Eric also won our regional quarterfinal and is advancing to compete in semifinals during the International Convention in Denver, CO, August 21-24. Our District's specialty and advanced clubs hosted a special panel on the benefits of such clubs. We considered how we can all move towards being influencers and champions!

Club Accomplishments

Individual clubs were up to great things this year as well! Here are a few accomplishments...

Gateway Club, Toast of the Town, Club 281, Capitol Voices, Rail Talkers, and Mutual of Omaha all achieved perfection by earning **10** of 10 Distinguished Club Program (DCP) points.

EC Speakers had a phenomenal speech contest with a record **8** participants and **20** attendees. **Tania Biswas** and **Indrajit Basu** organized and publicized this contest. The club also held **two** membership drives organized by VP Membership **Abby Kundu** and assisted by VP PR, **Tania Rugamba** and Secretary **Indrajit Basu**.

Blue Ah-Busters gained **9** new members from their 8-week **Speechcraft** program.

Members of the **Excelorators** prison club earned a total of **12** educational awards this year.

NMC Voices for Change, Small Talkers, and International Friends each had **two members** earn DTMs. From NMC: **Colleen Steinhauser** and **Rebecca Fegan** (her 2nd). From Small Talkers: **B.C. Clark** and **Gloria Harmon**. From International Friends: **Claire Titus** and **Doni Stoner**.

The new **Zachry** club formed, sponsored by **Gloria Harmon** and **Lou Hernandez** and mentored by **Rebecca Fegan** and **Annie Dunn**.

Of the Year Awards

The accomplishments above only scratch the surface of all the amazing things done in 2018-2019. Want to recognize someone for their outstanding accomplishment as a Toastmasters member, club officer, or district leader? Know a club that deserves to be honored as "Club of the Year"? Watched a new Toastmaster who joined April 1, 2018* or later show such passion that they should be honored as "Rookie of the Year"? Go to https://d24tm.org/2018-2019_of_the_Year_Awards.html to find a nomination form for one of the District's "of the Year" honors. Fill out the form and submit to Glenn Williams by **July 20**.

**NOTE: The "Rookie of the Year" award previously stated the member must have joined no earlier than July 1, 2018. To reach a wider audience of candidates, we have expanded this to include any members who have joined no earlier than April 1, 2018.*



EC Speaker Indrajit Basu at club's membership drive

Upcoming Events

Leaders are Made at Toastmasters Leadership Institute

Toastmasters Leadership Institute (TLI) is a great place to learn more about the leadership side of Toastmasters. In many ways, TLI is literally “where leaders are made” as the Toastmasters motto says.

TLI is where club officers learn about their role and duties. If you are serving in a role for the first time, learn what it’s all about and come with questions. If you’ve been in your role many times before, come share your knowledge and make sure you’re up to date on any new information. If you’re not an officer at all, come sit in on a session for a role you plan to assist with or which you might consider taking on next year. It’s a great opportunity to explore the ways you can best serve your club members and yourself!

TLI is also where everyone can receive great development advice from Toastmasters International and our District. This round of TLI offers engaging sessions on topics such as **club success**, **competitive speaking**, and **Pathways**.

If you’re a club officer, attending TLI gets your club credit towards point number 9 in the Distinguished Club Program (DCP). For everyone attending, TLI offers a great chance to meet Toastmasters from other clubs and learn more about how you can grow your skills. Oh, and there’s free food... To secure your seat, click on the link on the calendar below for the date you’d like to attend, or find the full listing of sessions at d24tm.org.

District Calendar + Club Anniversaries – July 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Rail Talkers – 41 years	2	3	4 Independence Day (US) 🇺🇸	5	6 Lincoln TLI - 10am @ 7300 Holdrege
7	8	9 Omaha TLI - 5pm @ NMC	10	11	12	13 DEC/DOT – 8:30am @ BCBS
14	15	16 Lincoln TLI - 5pm @ 7300 Holdrege	17	18	19	20 Omaha TLI – 10am @ BCBS Award Nomin. Due (see p. 6)
21	22	23	24	25	26	27 Grand Island TLI - 10am
28	29	30	31	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>Find all the latest events online at https://d24tm.org/D24_Calendar.html</p> </div>		

Member Educational Awards (6/1/2019-6/30/2019)

Pamela Barrowman **VC2** 06/12

Cathleen Barry **ACS** 06/13

Indrajit Basu **ACB** 06/05

Saptashati Biswas **LD1** 06/16

Vinson Champ **ACG** 6/17

Cynthia Coleman **ACS** 6/26

Thomas Patrick Colling **PM2** 06/11

Michael Keith Dalke **PM3** 6/29

Sharon K. Flohr **CL** 06/04, **CC** 6/17

Angeline Ford **CL** 6/20

Robin Elaine Fuqua **PM3** 6/14

Marian Albin Gramlich **PM5** 06/05, **ALB & EH1** 6/28

Melinda M. Haag **CC** 6/20, **CL & ACB** 6/28

Jeffrey G Hines **ACS** 6/17

Eric Hoferer **ACG** 6/28

Eric Eugene Grove **CC** 6/28

Cynthia L. Jenkins **VC1 & VC2** 6/19, **CL** 6/26, **VC3** 6/27

Jean J. Kolar **CL** 6/30

Brenda L. Kucera **CL** 6/28

Alan E. Kuzma **IP1** 06/14

Tammie S. Lang **DL3** 6/22

Preethi Malle **IP2** 06/12

Devan A. Martin **ALB** 06/17

Kari Nicole McDermott **TC4** 6/19

Sonya Reynolds **DL1 & DL2** 06/12

Aaron Rothenberger **PM1** 6/28

Adam D. Schmidt **IP2** 06/10

Doni Stoner **PM4** 6/23

Carol Sue Sullivan **EC2** 06/10

Claire D. Titus **CL** 6/26, **CC** 6/28

George Volz **VC1 & MS2** 06/14

Robert A. Wolff **CL** 6/28

Amanda Victoria Wood **CC** 6/24, **CL** 6/25

Brandon Odell Wood **PI1** 06/09

Awards key found at
<http://reports.toastmasters.org/reports/850-EducationAwardsKey.pdf>

Top Individual Educational Achievement 2018-2019 Year

Saptashati Biswas – 5 awards

Mark Fegan – 5 awards

Brenda L. Kucera – 5 awards

Jessica Codr – 6 awards

Jacob Lawson – 6 awards

Tammie Lang – 7 awards

Thomas Patrick Colling – 8 awards

Rebecca Sue Fegan – 8 awards

Claire D. Titus – 11 awards

David W. White – 12 awards

Doni Stoner – 15 awards

Marian Albin Gramlich – **17 awards**

Top Club Educational Achievement 2018-2019 Year

Gateway Club, Grand Island – 14 awards

Strictly Speaking, Lincoln – 15 awards

Toast of the Town, Lincoln - 15 awards

International Friends, Lincoln – 16 awards

Rail Talkers Club, Omaha – 16 awards

Mutual of Omaha – 17 awards

Capitol Voices Club, Lincoln – 20 awards

Fairview Toastmasters Club, Lincoln – 20 awards

E.C. Speakers Toastmasters, Lincoln – 21 awards

Omaha Toastmasters Club 281 – **23 awards**

Thanks for reading! Comments, questions, corrections, or suggestions? Email prm.d24tm@gmail.com

Submissions for each month's Double Dozen are accepted until the 25th of the previous month.

For all the latest news and events, visit d24tm.org or follow us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/D24TM/>.