



DISTRICT 24 DOUBLE DOZEN NEWSLETTER

District News And Events

District 24

September 2019

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District Highlights

International Convention!

Several members of District 24 attended the International Convention in Denver, including the District Trio and Immediate Past District Director. Read about their experiences and insights on **pages 1-4**. See additional photos of our District 24 contingent on **page 6**.

Virtual District Council Meeting

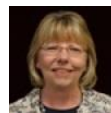
Members of the District Council (DEC members plus all club presidents and VPEs) should mark their calendars for our Virtual District Council Meeting on **September 19**. More details about our meeting on **page 7** and about virtual meetings in general on **page 8**.

Pathways DTM

Congratulations to Marian Albin Gramlich for being the first member to earn a Pathways Distinguished Toastmaster (DTM) credited to District 24. Learn from Marian about the Pathways DTM project on **p 5**.



Left: District Director Linda Wilson poses with the top three speakers in the World Championship of Public Speaking. **From left to right:** Kwong Yue Yang (3rd place with “Less and More”), Aaron Beverly (1st place with “An Unbelievable Story!” - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xmj1LBJu_Ss), Luisa Montalvo (2nd place with “First Impressions”), Linda Wilson.



Mile High Memories!

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

Energized...Enlightened...Empowered...These three words encapsulated my experiences during the District Officers Training and the 88th annual Toastmasters International Convention, held August 19th – 24th at the Gaylord Rockies Resort and Convention Center in Denver, Colorado, the Mile High City! This was my third convention, having attended last year in Chicago and the previous year in Vancouver.

By now, I had a pretty good idea of what to expect...meeting nearly 2,500 Toastmasters from around the world, renewing friendships, hearing amazing keynote speakers, gaining new insights during educational sessions...and of course, the World Championship of Public Speaking! The anticipation was building...I was definitely ready to explore these and many other opportunities!

The energy was electric during the opening ceremonies, featuring the Parade of Flags, with 143 countries represented. Each person proudly carried their flag while wearing the traditional attire for their country. The pageantry, pride and spirit of unity were breathtaking and gratifying!

The World Championship of Public Speaking energized and enlightened as we supported our favorite contestants from the semifinals to the finals. Although he did not advance to the finals, Eric Beba did a fantastic job representing District 24 in a very competitive contest. Aaron Beverly, District 83, from Philadelphia, was named the 2019 World Champion of Public Speaking with his winning speech, titled “An Unbelievable Story!” Luisa Montalvo, District 55, from Texas, placed second and Kwong Yue Yang, District 89, from Australia, placed third.

Continued on page 2.

Linda Wilson, District Director, Continued from page 1.

We were enlightened by a number of speakers throughout the conference who challenged us to stretch our minds in ways many of us hadn't considered before. For example, the recipient of the 2019 Golden Gavel Award, Jia Jiang, Owner of Rejection Therapy, shared with us his experiment in taking risks and keeping a blog, which resulted in his Amazon best-selling book, "Rejection Proof: How I Beat Fear and Became Invincible Through 100 Days of Rejection." By finding his true calling, Jia Jiang has inspired individuals and organizations to be fearless. After hearing this presentation, I felt empowered to take more risks in my life.

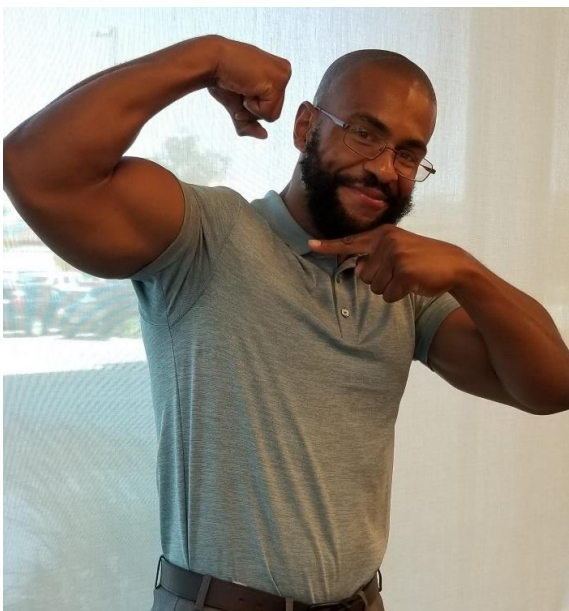
I had the opportunity to meet with candidates for International Officers and Directors and to learn more about the 12 proposals to be voted on during the Annual Business Meeting at the convention. As your District Director, it was my responsibility to be informed to represent all of the club presidents and secretaries who had given me their proxies. This was well worth the time and effort to ensure we selected leaders who will be responsive to the needs and concerns of our members in guiding our organization into the future.

After enduring a business meeting, what better way to end the convention than with the inauguration and celebration of our newly inducted 2019-2020 International President Deepak Menon and Board of Directors? Menon succeeds Immediate Past President Lark Doley. They both gave inspiring and empowering speeches to district leaders on setting and achieving our goals for the year ahead. A celebratory atmosphere prevailed during an evening of dining and dancing.

I left the convention feeling energized, enlightened and empowered...with mile high memories and pride in representing District 24 at the convention... **Go Team COURAGE... Creating Opportunities, United in Retention, Appreciation, Growth and Education!**

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.** - **C**reating **O**pportunities, **U**nited in **R**etention, **A**ppreciation, **G**rowth and **E**ducation! If you know someone deserving of this recognition, please send a brief description of their contribution to LindaWilson.d24tm@gmail.com. Stay tuned, **you** might be featured on this page next month!

District 24 Spotlight on Team C.O.U.R.A.G.E.



Tim Collins (pictured left) is a member of Blue Ah Busters and Road 2 DTM. He is a certified personal trainer who owns TC's Strength and Conditioning in Omaha, with more than 50,000 sessions served. Tim has certifications through the National Academy of Sports Medicine and CrossFit. He also coaches varsity basketball at Bryan High School and mentors young men at the Nebraska Corrections Youth Facility. The TC's strength and conditioning mantra is "Train hard to make yourself better, encourage to lift up others, and stay disciplined in pursuit of excellence." Tim's values align perfectly with Toastmasters – integrity, respect, service, excellence!

<https://www.3newsnow.com/news/community/vista-semanal/local/inmates-learn-valuable-lessons-during-fitness-course>



Convention – Why Attend?

Submitted by Mark Fegan, DTM, District 24 Program Quality Director

I'm writing this as I recover from a week at work following a week at the Toastmasters International Convention in Denver. The question that comes to mind: why conventions and why bother to go? The same question can be asked about other Toastmasters events: District Conferences, Toastmasters Leadership Institutes (TLI) and even our monthly District Officer Training (DOT) sessions.

There are any number of excellent reasons to attend, and participate in, conferences. There are the education sessions, the contests, and yes, even the business meetings. (Not to mention the food!) In addition, there is the networking at conferences and other Toastmasters events.

I attended my first TLI in Lincoln in 2010. I was the newly elected Vice President of Membership. Other than the those I rode with, I didn't know a single person at the TLI, or so I thought. One of my fellow VP-M's was a young woman who used to babysit for us before we moved to the Omaha area; I had no idea she was a Toastmaster!

My first District 24 Conference was in Bellevue 2011. (I had been elected Club President, so I figured I should attend the conference.) I didn't expect to know many people, other than my fellow club members. One of the Toastmasters working the registration desk was a college classmate of mine; I had no idea he was a Toastmaster.

I have lost count of the number of people, all fellow Toastmasters, that I have met by attending the various Toastmasters events over the 10 years I have been a Toastmaster. Going forward, I look for more of the same: great contests, great educational sessions, (great food), and even the business meetings. But over and above all that, there is the networking and renewing friendships.

Please take time to participate in the upcoming District 24 events, such as the 2018 – 2019 Year End Celebration in Gretna on September 7 (RSVP at <https://d24endofyear2019.eventbrite.com>) and Toastmasters Live! In October.



Memories of the 2019 International Conference

Submitted by Cindy Jenkins, DTM, District 24 Club Growth Director

I just spent a week in Denver attending the Toastmasters International Conference. I met Toastmasters from all over the world! It is one thing to say Toastmasters is in 143 countries but to actually meet members from those countries makes it very real. I met Toastmasters from Taiwan, China, Australia, New Zealand, Jamaica, Canada, Aruba, Ghana, Bahrain, UAE, South Africa, India, England, and all over the United States. We talked about what Toastmasters has done for them, the issues their clubs face, how they recruit members, and many of the same things we discuss here. It was clear that all of us were dedicated to making our clubs and districts succeed.

During the course of the week, I had the opportunity along with Linda Wilson and Mark Fegan to interview the candidates running for International Director and Vice President. We were given a total of 15 minutes to talk with each of the candidates. It was very interesting to hear their views on current issues within Toastmasters and their positions on possible solutions. When it was time to cast our votes during the business meeting on Friday evening, casting votes for people I had actually met and talked with made the election process more personal.

My favorite part of the conference was the International Speech Contest. Our own Eric Beba did a wonderful job representing District 24. I know all of us who witnessed his speech were very proud of him. The finals consisted of six great speeches. If you haven't had a chance to view the top three speeches, you can find them on YouTube. All three were very funny but at the same time had very heartfelt messages for all of us.

Next year's International Conference is in Paris, France followed the next two years by Nashville, TN and San Antonio, TX. It is definitely worth attending a conference and meeting all the Toastmasters from around the world. I plan to continue attending as long as I can to learn and enjoy the fellowship of Toastmasters!



Helping Hands

The inside scoop on helping at Toastmasters International Conventions.

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

I have just returned from the Gaylord Rockies Resort at Aurora, Colorado, the site of the 2019 Toastmasters International Convention. For the first time ever I was one of the Helping Hands. See if you can spot me in the photo displayed below.



To be a Toastmasters International Convention Helping Hands volunteer, you need to:

- Be an active member in good standing.
- Commit to a **minimum** of 10 volunteer hours.
- Attend a volunteer orientation for two hours on the day before the convention which does not count toward your 10 volunteer hours.

Volunteering could mean that you will miss your favorite event. For example, you might miss the opportunity to attend the World Championship of Public Speaking®, the convention's most popular event, which requires many volunteers.

In appreciation for your time and commitment to the Helping Hands program, you receive over \$200 off for your registration rate.

No matter what you do at a convention, you meet new people. What I did for one educational session was stand out in the hallway prepared to answer attendees' questions about whether they were going the right way to a session. The crowd walked right at me, then parted to go around me. It was the crowd walking straight at me that was a little disconcerting at first until I got used to it.

This was my fourth International Convention, the first not being a Trio member. What stands out to me about these conventions are:

1. Sing A Long – As a twenty-seven-year tradition, Past International President Ted Corcoran conducts a free for all combination of acapella and karaoke singing done by many volunteers over two hours after the day's activities end. The room is often packed. The last couple of years it was in the convention program although it was often a secret in years past.
2. A one-hour 5:30 a.m. morning walk. Meeting every morning during the week of convention, look for a few yellow-shirted leaders. It is an eleven-year tradition that no one knows about without having met someone who does this. It is not in the program.
3. The incredible number of people you meet. This should not surprise you as 2,500 people or more attend each year from throughout the world.
4. The high-quality topics and presenters.

I encourage everyone to give a future annual International Convention a try. The next one is in Paris, France. After that, future International Conventions will be in Nashville, Tennessee and then San Antonio, Texas. This is something you need to do at least once in your Toastmasters life.



Pathways Project Pick: DTM Project

Pick by Marian Albin Gramlich, DTM

Focused on earning a Pathways DTM?

It was an unknown! What hoops do you need to jump through?? Earning the Distinguished Toastmaster (DTM) is a challenge especially when information appeared to be cloaked in secrecy!

Fear not, it is very doable and in my humble opinion, a pleasure cruise compared to the Legacy DTM.

Since starting Pathways with everyone in District 24 during the May 2018 launch, the Pathways DTM was an unknown – even to this Pathway Guide. In addition to presentation and leadership requirements, it requires an additional DTM project after completing two paths.

Do not dismay, the DTM Project requires an informal team unlike the formal guidance and action teams of a High Performance Leadership (HPL) project. Depending on the Path you chose, an HPL may or may not be required in Level 5.

In addition, the DTM Project requires completing subprojects of 1) Ethical Framework, 2) Goal Setting Worksheet, 3) Goal Task List, 4) Project Plan Overview, 5) Project Plan, and 6) 360° Evaluation. Like an HPL project, the DTM project requires two speeches - first 5- to 7-minute presentation explaining your project and the second presentation recaps your project with an 8- to 10-minute speech.

The Pathways program allows previous projects to be used. By keeping copious notes, I used my experience as a club coach of [West Dodgers](#) for my DTM Project. The two paths were Leadership Development and Presentation Mastery. These paths fit beautifully with the purpose of the project - demonstrate your skills as a leader (listening and guiding) and a public speaker (communicating with your audience).

The theme of my DTM Project centered on goals. Not my goals, the goals of the members. The initial discussion considered the club succumbing to "... it was a great club" or "rebuild the club."

Coach any team at work or your kid's team – once the players understand how their respective goals are valued and can work together, buy-in and camaraderie begins. Members of West Dodgers rose to meet the challenge and became President's Distinguished!

My personal recap of my coaching experience and DTM project? It solidified focusing on how the goals of each member can become the common goal of a team. With any TEAM, together we achieve more.

(Click [here](#) view the different requirements of the Legacy DTM and Pathways DTM.)

Have a favorite Pathways project you'd like to share for next month's Double Dozen? Send information about it to:

prm.d24tm@gmail.com

We welcome any new ideas for features and other articles as well!

Toastmaster Tip: Situational Speaking

You will likely find yourself speaking in many different settings and situations throughout your life, or maybe you have already! Some aspects of speaking should always be applied (such as preparation), but other techniques can differ based on the situation. Find tips on speaking in a variety of settings from receiving an award to delivering a eulogy at <https://www.toastmasters.org/resources/public-speaking-tips>

August Events Photo Highlights



Above: Current members, charter members, and guests joined Advanced Toastmasters of Omaha in celebrating its 10th Anniversary on August 12. Featured speakers at the anniversary event were Eric Beba, presenting to us his two International Speeches, and Charter Member, Bill Warnes, presenting his Pathways Inspirational speech on Advanced Toastmasters Clubs. Spectacular speeches and tasty treats were enjoyed by all!



District 24 Toastmasters (above) supported Eric Beba (left) as he represented our District and Region 4 in the International Speech Contest Semifinals August 22. Though he did not place in the semifinals, Eric delivered an excellent presentation about living in the now and being more like children.



Left and Below: Toastmasters from Club 229, Ad-Libbers, Speak Now, Greater Communicators, and more District 24 clubs represented Toastmasters well at Dundee Day on

August 24. Hundreds of festival attendees stopped by to enter to win fabulous prizes by giving a table topic about one of their favorite Dundee establishments. Special thanks to Steve Everitt, VP PR of Club 229, for taking the lead on organizing the event and to Terry Knipp of Ad-Libbers for providing signage.



Upcoming Events

District Calendar – September 2019

Find all the latest events online at
https://d24tm.org/D24_Calendar.html

Monday, Sept 2: Club coaches call on zoom at 8:30pm

Saturday, Sept 7: End of Year Party, 11am-4pm at Petersen Park in Gretna – RSVP at
<https://d24endofyear2019.eventbrite.com>

Saturday, Sept 14: DEC/DOT meeting, 8:30am-12:30pm at BCBS in Omaha



Sunday, Sept 15: Deadline for “early bird” dues renewal. Have 8+ members paid (including 3+ renewing) for October-March to get “early bird” recognition from the District. Paying these dues before October 1 ensures your club remains in good standing with Toastmasters International.

Monday, Sept 16: Club coaches call on zoom (<https://zoom.us/j/778321388>) at 8:30pm

Thursday, Sept 19: Virtual District Council Meeting at 7pm on zoom -
<https://zoom.us/j/7130722212>. All Club Presidents and VPEs as well as DEC members encouraged to attend. Voting by electronic ballot to follow. More details via emails. See page 8 for information on parliamentary procedure in virtual meetings



Thursday, Sept 26: TeamMates Program Director Presentation, 5:45pm at Tecumseh State Correctional Institution, 2725 NE-50. This is a great opportunity to visit Excelorators Toastmasters Club as they welcome DeMoine Adams (TeamMates Program Director and motivational speaker) to their meeting. Check-in is at 5:45. Space is limited. Contact George Volz (d24pdg@gmail.com).

Tuesday, Oct 1: Deadline for dues renewal. Must have 8+ members paid (including 3+ renewing) for October-March to remain a club in good standing.

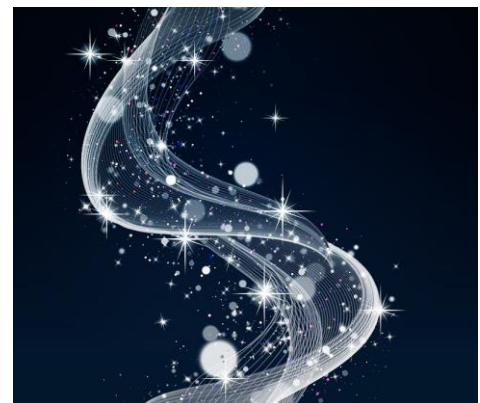
Club Anniversaries – September

Plattsmouth Club: 41 years (Chartered 9/1/1978)

Kearney Toastmasters Club: 62 years (Chartered 9/1/1957)

Small Talkers Club: 20 years (Chartered 9/1/1999)

NU Toasters: 9 years (Chartered 9/13/2010)





Special Requirements for a Special Meeting

By Karen Watson, DTM, D24 Parliamentarian KarenWatsonLincoln@gmail.com 402-310-6946

District 24 is preparing for the VIRTUAL District Council meeting. Don't be intimidated! It is a different kind of meeting; but different does not mean difficult.

Those allowed to vote are prescribed in TM District Bylaws, Article IX: District Council, a. Composition.¹ TM bylaws also prescribe requirements for items such as credentials and quorum. The business to be transacted is listed in the agenda (TM Protocol 7.1 District Events, 6. District Council Meetings) and include eight items: 1. District Mission, 2. Credentials committee, 3. Audit committee, 4. Budget², 5. Profit and Loss Statement (i.e. Treasurer's report), 6. Appointed officers confirmed, 7. Action to fill vacancies, and 8. Reports of DD, PG, CG, IPDD, and PR.

Special parliamentary requirements for virtual meetings include:

- Notice that specifically states the meeting is virtual AND includes phone number and/or URL and/or meeting link and/or codes necessary to connect
- Login time at which members may login (e.g. 6:30-6:50 pm).
- Announcement of whom is presiding and whom is secretary for the meeting.
- Procedure for members to 'announce departure' (as a way to maintain quorum).
- Procedure for obtaining the floor. (e.g. raise hand)
- Procedure for submitting motions during meeting. (e.g. chat box)
- Procedure for taking/verifying votes. (Unless a secret ballot is required, the chair may simply use unanimous consent; an objection proceeds to a roll call vote.)
- Procedure for preference on webcam to display chair through entire meeting and member currently recognized to speak or report.

Preparation for technical issues may include: loss of meeting room connection, ability to show agenda business item on screen, other technical malfunctions and requirements, and procedure for 'forced disconnections'.

Virtual meetings are used for any variety of reasons and can be conducted expeditiously for routine business expecting no controversy. Lorenzo Cuesta, professional parliamentarian and expert in conducting virtual meetings, adds a very practical two-part rule. "First: No one, **No One, NO ONE** speaks without first being recognized. Second: Every time anyone speaks without first being recognized, the presiding officer must stop the meeting and remind the attendees that a teleconference meeting is not an opportunity for a party line, a free for all, or free speech. Having a presiding officer that will enforce this two-part rule is a top priority. All other rules will fail if this one rule is neglected." (This District 24 parliamentarian will add one additional simple reminder: Keep your phone/computer *muted unless* you are the recognized speaker!)

With clear guidance from TM Bylaws, TM Protocol, and Roberts for procedures and *Special* requirements, we can look forward to a *SPECIAL* District Council meeting!

For more parliamentary information or advice, contact Karen 402-310-6946.

¹ Note that District committee chairs and others, whose participation the council *requires*, may attend. Members, who are not voting members of the council or their proxyholders, may attend but do **not** participate in council deliberations.

² Protocol 8.4: District Fiscal Management, 6. District Audit, G: "The district executive committee provides copies of the audit *prior to* or at the district council meeting."

Member Educational Awards (August & Some July)

*The DTMs and ALS for Marian Albin Gramlich on 7/1-7/2 were not yet credited at the time of the August newsletter and thus are included below. **Congrats to Marian for earning both a Pathways and Legacy DTM in July and for being the first in our District to earn a Pathways DTM credited to District 24!***

Jay Dean Amaya ACG 8/28	Donald R. Hotz PM2 8/23
Teresa L. Armagan CL 8/15	Lori Hueschen EC2 8/6
Meg Barr ACS 8/12	Mary Ann Ingram IP4 8/1
Eric C. Beba PM1 8/27	Titania A Jones LD2 & LD3 8/29
Jason Albert Beineke CC 8/6, CL 8/28	Kate Amelia Larsen PM1 & PM2 8/6
Yolanda Colin PM1 8/15	Jacob Lawson VC5 8/15
Thomas Patrick Colling MS2 8/12, MS3 8/22	Sandra R Manfull IP1 8/7
Timothy T. Collins EC2 8/12	Ali R Meister VC1 8/7
Amanda Leigh Costello CL 8/7	Sheila A. Nelson EC1 8/11
Judith A. Dickey CC 8/13	Jennifer R Robinson CL 8/22
Mark W. Fegan DL2 8/13	Susan St Cyr CL 8/26
Agnes Flamen Dunlop EC3 8/8	Doni Stoner VC3 8/23, CC 8/23, CL 8/26
Barbara R. Frank CL 8/1	Claire D. Titus PM4 8/5, PM5 8/9, CC 8/15, CL 8/23, VC2 8/29
Angela Friedman CL 8/26	Jon E. Tucker CL 8/22
Ann K. Gentle MS5 8/8	George B. Volz PWMENTORPGM 8/7, VC2 8/9
Norma P Gonzalez CC 8/28	Ernest John White CC 8/14
Marian Albin Gramlich DTM 7/1, ALS & DTM 7/2	Frank Joseph Wilson ALS 8/19
Helen Hayes LD1 8/14	
Duane Dean Horseman VC1 8/20	

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

Club Officer Training Seven for Seven

Congrats to the following clubs for having all seven officer positions trained for the Summer TLIs.

Ad-Libbers, Advanced Traveling Toastmasters, Dynamic Speakers, Excelorators, Greater Communicators, Lib'Orators, Lincoln Toastmasters Club 403, NMC Voices for Change, Omaha Toastmasters Club 281, Prime Time Toastmasters Club, Strictly Speaking, Why Not Speak

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/>.