



DISTRICT 24 DOUBLE DOZEN NEWSLETTER

District News and Events

March/2017

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#D24TEAMChampions during the Spring Conference to learn the latest happenings!

TEAM CHAMPIONS

**Toastmasters: Empowering and Motivating
Together Everyone Achieves More**

Congratulations to Sean Hanafan Winner of the February Double Dozen Identify the Incentive Contest!

Spring Conference Registration is Open!

Join your fellow District 24 Toastmasters in Lincoln on April 21 - 22 for our Spring Conference. Registration details are on www.d24tm.org under 2017 Spring Conference. The price to register goes up on March 16, so don't delay.

The Conference hotel is the Hilton Garden Inn, Downtown Lincoln. To make reservations, call 888-370-0984 and tell the hotel booking agent you are with the District 24 Toastmasters Conference to get the special room rates. The block of rooms will only be held until March 20 so don't delay!



Featured Spring Conference Speaker

Barbara Khozam!

See Page 6 for More Information on Barbara!

Turn to pages 5 through 9 for more information on District 24 Spring Conference. Save the dates – April 21 and 22 in Lincoln!

February Double Dozen Identify the Incentive Contest Winner

The Winner of the contest was Sean Hanafan of the Shelf Talkers in Division D, Area 33. Sean correctly identified the incentives named in the February Double Dozen. He received an Interpersonal Communication manual for his winning entry. His name was chosen at random from all the correct answers.



DISTRICT 24 DOUBLE DOZEN NEWSLETTER

News from the District Director

Look Inside Your Crystal Ball!

Submitted by: *Marian Albin Gramlich, District Director*



Can you see your future? The future of your club? Can you see your success? Have you shared with your club leaders your plan of success? If not, why not?

Successful people do not succeed by working alone. Successful people work as a team sharing common goals and values. As members of Toastmasters we are TEAM: Toastmasters Empower And Motivate and Together Everyone Achieves More.

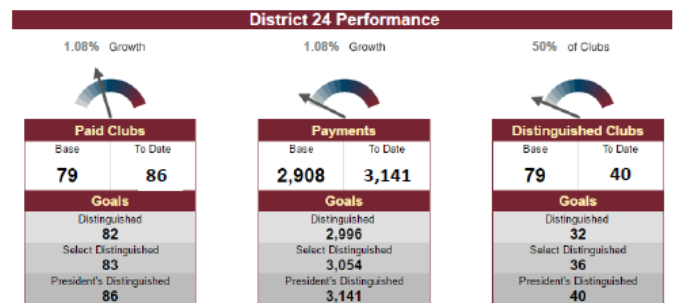
Next month we celebrate being TEAM CHAMPIONS during our spring conference on April 21 and 22. Not only do we honor our district members, we will learn communication and leadership skills from our keynote speaker, Barbara Khozam, and from our own district experts on negotiating social media.



Have you been practicing your 30 days of transformation? Have you

verbally spoken the words, "I can help build up Toastmasters in my area because I can help!" Remember, by verbally saying it, it reaffirms to your brain through your own voice and ears your intentions.

Work the program and the program will work! Share your journey of fun and friendship with others. You can help build your club's membership inviting people you may not know to join you on your journey. Statistically for every three people that visit your club, one will join. Help your club with a solid game plan of inviting visitors and help them realize the benefit of Toastmasters. Mentor a new member and make a new friend!



Challenge yourself and your club to reach the goals above and celebrate a successful year on June 30, 2017. Empower each other to be TEAM CHAMPIONS - let's be stronger together!

Thank you, YOU ARE a member of TEAM Champions!

Check your club progress using the Toastmasters International dashboard ([District](#), [Division](#) and [Club](#)). [District Recognition Program](#).



DISTRICT 24 DOUBLE DOZEN

NEWSLETTER

News from the Program Quality Director

Building Blocks of a Club!

Submitted by: Steve Dawkins, Program Quality Director



The last of six Toastmaster Leadership Institutes were completed on February 18 with a great representation! Overall the District did well and 10 of our clubs had seven of their seven officers trained. Yes! Banner Bling was earned by those 10 clubs and they will receive their bling during the awards luncheon on Saturday, April 22 during the TEAM Champions conference!

The list of honorees is:

- *Tally Ho Toastmasters Club of Fremont*
- *Prime Time Toastmasters Club of Norfolk*
- *Roadtoasters Toastmasters of Lincoln*
- *Sunrise Toastmasters Club of Lincoln*
- *Shelf Talkers Club of Omaha*
- *Why Not Speak Toastmasters Club of Omaha*
- *Road 2 DTM of LaVista*
- *Dynamic Speakers of LaVista*
- *Offutt Toastmasters of Offutt Air Force Base*
- *River City Speakers Club of Bellevue*

Trained officers help clubs stay focused on retaining our members. Officers attending TLIs exchange ideas, meet new people and renew old friendships – all while having fun!



A quick glance at the dashboard shows we currently have 76 clubs that have paid dues. Let's change that to 79 for a perfect 100%! Every member counts! You count! Of the 77 paid clubs, 52 clubs (68%) had four or more officers trained. Great job everyone!

Club meetings are more vibrant when more members share in the fun! Everyone acquires leadership skills by filling roles- both speaking and non-speaking! Challenge your members with a membership building contest and earn incentives too! Invest in yourself and in your club!

What building blocks are you using in your club?



DISTRICT 24 DOUBLE DOZEN

NEWSLETTER

News from the Club Growth Director

Incentives to Renew and Grow

Submitted by: Glenn Williams, Club Growth Director



There are several [incentives](#) for you to renew your membership and for you to help grow our district! Build on your existing club or help to create a new club. Share the best possible club experiences with others on your journey together.

Your club treasurer needs to process your renewal now through March 15 for your club to earn the Early Bird Award – banner bling! Renew early! If you do not renew by April 1, your membership is dropped with no grace period at Toastmasters International! This directly impacts speech contests because the clubs of contestants and contestants must be in good standing!

There are many reasons to renew in existing clubs and to grow new clubs. You meet new people. More people provide fresh ideas! Your leadership and communication skills grow. You and your club becomes eligible for district awards by building the district’s membership.

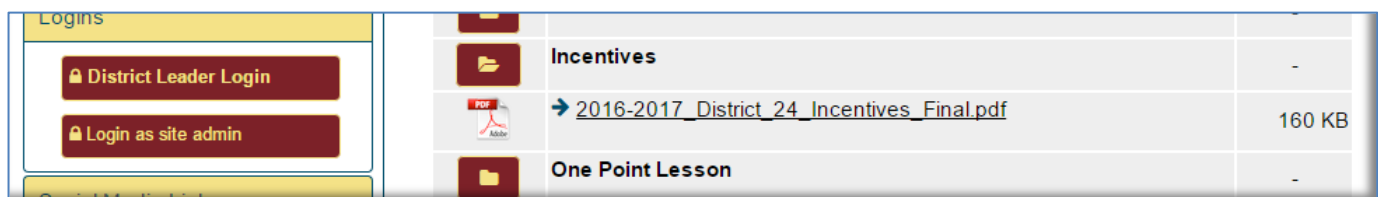
The *Buddy Club Incentive* involves one to two people who volunteer to help a club of 8 to 12 members to become distinguished. Beyond the benefits mentioned, you may also earn an Executive Calculator Padfolio from the District.

The *Building the District* award helps the individual person earn points for building the district by June 30, 2017. E-mail glennlw@gmail.com with your new club leads to be entered for a chance to win! Contact information for a potential club is worth 5 points; if the lead becomes a demo meeting you earn 10 points; if the lead/demo meeting becomes a club you earn 20 points. The first prize is \$75 in Toastmasters Gift Certificates and second prize is \$50 in Toastmasters Gift Certificates.

New clubs need club sponsors and members; eligible clubs with one to twelve members need club coaches. Help build existing clubs and build new clubs.

A club in good standing has eight or more club members paid for that renewal period. In the world of Toastmasters International, if a club has one to seven members, they don’t exist. This has major impact on members competing and those running for office. Be fair to you and others by paying dues on time.

Have more fun with more people and a healthier club! Share your journey in Toastmasters, which will help you, your club and district. **Renew and Grow - Be Incentivized!**



The list of incentives is available for download from the District 24 web site. Select the folder “Incentives”.



DISTRICT 24 DOUBLE DOZEN

NEWSLETTER

News about Spring Conference

We Are TEAM Champions!

Submitted by: Doni Stoner and Claire Titus, Spring Conference Chairs

TEAM CHAMPIONS

We are going to have the BEST Spring Conference ever!

Picture yourself in the locker room right before the BIG Football game, excitement is in the air. Spring Conference is our BIG game in Toastmasters, a culmination of hard work.

We are TEAM CHAMPIONS!

PRE-GAME PEP TALK

We hold each other up! Spur each other on! We play for each other and we play to win. There is plenty of time to celebrate later, now we need to talk strategy.

We are TEAM CHAMPIONS!

STRATEGY

In football, everyone has their special skills, executing what they have been taught and what they know. Gestures, speech organization, voice volume and pitch are skills and strategies Toastmasters use.

Skilled players adjust, pivoting to the left...pivoting to the right. Toastmasters adjust, adding to the number of Table Topic questions after asking if extra time is available. Toastmasters work as a TEAM.

We are TEAM CHAMPIONS!

LEADERSHIP/COMMUNICATION

Offensive and Defensive coaches work hard during practice using the playbook to enhance skills on the field. Team Building, Time Management and Facilitation are projects required in the Toastmasters Competent Leader Manual. Whether it is a face-to-face meeting, committee meeting, or weekly conference call Toastmasters repeatedly use Leadership Skills in making the play.

TEAM CHAMPIONS

Once again, picture yourself huddled in the locker room. We are ready to go out on the field. All hands joined, voices shout out, hands rise then release. GO TEAM CHAMPIONS!

Come be part of the Spring Conference TEAM. Committees consist of two Team Leads, one-two Advisors and Team Members. We are 71 members strong. There is always room for one more, whether as a TEAM member on a committee or as an attendee at the Spring Conference.

We are going to have the BEST Spring Conference possible!

We are TEAM CHAMPIONS!

Silent Auction and Raffle Items

The Spring Conference Silent Auction and Raffle committee is asking all clubs and individuals for donations. The theme for the Spring Conference is TEAM Champions. Do you have any sports tickets you would like to donate as either raffle or silent auction items? Perhaps your club can put together a sports themed basket. How about donating a cozy blanket for those cool fall nights in the football stands. Start working on your donations now! All donations are gratefully accepted.



Do you have questions? Contact chairpersons Gail Brabec (gail.brabec@NTTdata.com) and Cynthia Coleman (cc4ynotspeak@gmail.com). These ladies can answer all your questions!



DISTRICT 24 DOUBLE DOZEN

NEWSLETTER

News about Spring Conference

About Our Featured Speaker, Barbara Khozam

Reprinted from barbarakhozam.com

Barbara is known around the world for her impactful, high-energy delivery, outrageous wit, and ability to connect with her audience.

Barbara has spoken more than 1,100 times to more than 35,000 people in 9 countries about customer service, leadership, motivation, and communication. And from the millions of people who have been through Toastmasters programs, she is one of just 67 (the 14th woman) who has been awarded with the **Elite Accredited Speaker Designation for Outstanding Platform Professional Speaking**. She is also the recipient of 27 awards for Sales Achievement & Outstanding Trainer Ratings.

Her wit, energy, and jaw-dropping insight, reveal practical principles necessary for success in today's cynical marketplace. Barbara will show your audience how to create win-win scenarios in all of their professional relationships and how to create rapport with clients, propelling your business into a category of one.

Barbara's highly acclaimed book, ***How Organizations Deliver BAD Customer Service (and Strategies that Turn it Around)*** has become a staple on the bookshelves of people who excel at creating great customer relationships. She also co-authored ***Executive Etiquette Power*** and was featured in ***The Power of the Platform***, along with Jack Canfield, Brian Tracy, and Les Brown. These books have sold in excess of 25,000 copies

Barbara is a former professional beach volleyball player and can still be found spiking balls on a court when she is not lobbying insightful and practical advice to groups like Kaiser, Xerox, Symantec, Verizon, FEMA, the FBI, and hundreds of other multinational corporations, and government agencies.

The Contest Season is Here!

Remember the opening words?

"Greetings fellow Toastmasters and most welcome guests. It is my pleasure to welcome you to the Speech Contest! Today we have the opportunity to see some of the District's most proficient speakers in action."

Whether the contest is to honor the best, most unbelievable tales of District 24 or to select the best speaker in the international contest to advance in August to the semi-finals of the World Championship in Vancouver, BC, Canada – speech contests are entertaining!



If you are competing – make sure your club is in good standing and you have paid your dues by April 1! If you are not competing, make sure you have paid your dues to help your representative be eligible to compete and represent your club.

If you are not competing, volunteer to help and be a member of the audience! Most of all - have fun being a part of TEAM Champions!



DISTRICT 24 DOUBLE DOZEN NEWSLETTER

News about Spring Conference

#D24TEAMChampions

Submitted by: Jacob Buss, Public Relation Committee

#D24TEAMChampions This is the hashtag for our Spring Conference. Some of you may not know what we are talking about when we speak about a hashtag. A hashtag as defined by the Merriam-Webster Dictionary is “a word or phrase preceded by the symbol # that classifies or categorizes the accompanying text (such as a tweet).” A hashtag takes your social media post and adds a tag or keyword to it so others can find your information or post quickly. Hashtags are used on the three primary social media platforms; Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. Go to any of these Social Media platforms and type in something like #Toastmasters (or whatever topic/event you want to look up) in the search and you will pull up any post that has been tagged with that hashtag.

Our hope for the Spring Conference is attendees will use the hashtag so we can begin to collect not only some highlights of the conference but also gain some feedback on what went well and what did not. As you are preparing for the conference, during, or even just after, share your information by using the **#D24TEAMChampions** hashtag so more people can share in your excitement. Share what you are excited about, share some photos, or even a video. We want to see what you see and make this conference more interactive than ever before!

Now the hashtag is a tool that you can also use in your individual clubs as well to create a stronger social media presence. All you do is figure out a short, unique phrase that you would like to use to identify your club and put a “#” in front of it and then use on social media! You will want to make sure to think of how easy it is to type and remember. Many people use their phones to check and post things on social media, so the last thing you want is a long hashtag that is difficult to remember, type, and

takes up more of the 140-text limit in a tweet than the actual post. One suggestion to think about before you create your hashtag is to double check that it is not being used for anything else on social media. To find out just put the hashtag into the search bar and see if you receive any results.



My challenge to you is to not only create a hashtag for your club but also get your club members to use it. Do you have a picture of a member receiving an award? Post that picture on the club’s Facebook page and use the club hashtag. Continue posting to that hashtag and it will catch on with your fellow club members. This will create a reference point on social media that you can go back to later, giving the club the chance to relive or re-share memories and club experiences.

You can also see what’s happening in District 24 by following [D24Toastmasters](#).

Remember to use **#D24TEAMChampions** during the 2017 Spring Conference TEAM Champions!



Did you know the name of the Twitter symbol is Larry Bird?



DISTRICT 24 DOUBLE DOZEN

NEWSLETTER

News about Spring Conference

District 24 Election Process

Submitted by: Kathy Henvey, DTM

District 24 Leadership Committee Chair

District 24 Elections for 2017-2018 District Director, Program Quality Director, Club Growth Director and Division Directors will be held during the Spring Conference District Council Business Meeting on Saturday, April 22, 2017.

By March 11, 2017, I will report the District Leadership Committee's nominee names for 2017-2018 District Leaders, to our District 24 Director, Marian Albin Gramlich.

By March 25, 2017, Marian will submit the nominee report in writing to all members of the District Council (the District Executive Committee, and the Club President and Vice President Education from each member club in the district). This may be done in the district newsletter or on the district website.

Additional qualified candidates may be nominated from the floor at the District Council Meeting on Saturday, April 22, 2017. Floor candidates must be nominated by a member of the District Council or their proxyholder. Floor candidates may self-nominate when they are a member of the District Council or a proxyholder. However floor candidates are not published in any district publication prior to the election.

Each member of the District Council in attendance at the Spring District Council Meeting, or his or her proxy, is entitled to one vote. Any active individual member who carries the proxies of both the Club President and Vice President Education from a member club is entitled to two votes; and any such individual member who is also entitled to a vote as a member of the District Executive Committee (District Director, Program Quality Director, Club Growth Director, Public Relations Manager,

District Administration Manager, District Finance Manager, Area Directors, Division Directors, and Immediate Past District Director) is entitled to three votes. All other members of the District Council shall be limited to a maximum of two votes. Proxy forms may be found on the District 24 website

Public Downloads
2017 Spring Conference
District Proxy Form document

If you are a District Council member or a proxyholder, be sure to visit the Credentials Desk at the Spring Conference prior to the start of District Council Meeting to pick up your ballots!

Attention District Council Members:

You will receive an email from Marian Albin Gramlich, District Director on or before March 25 with the District Leadership Committee's nominees for office for the Toastmaster Year of 2017 – 2018 and the District 24 Realignment proposal for 2017 – 2018.

Please review this information carefully. If you do not plan to attend the Spring Conference, assign your proxy to a member of your club that will be in attendance. Club officers may not carry more than two votes at the District Council Meeting. If a member of the District Executive Committee (DEC) serves as president or vice president of a club(s) or is carrying a proxy of a club he/she is a member of, a member of DEC may carry three votes at the District Council Meeting.

[Reference Toastmasters International](#)



DISTRICT 24 DOUBLE DOZEN

NEWSLETTER

News about Spring Conference

Parade of Banners Photo Contest

Show us your team spirit and join us in the District 24 2017 Spring Conference Opening Ceremony Photo Contest!

A fun and exciting parade on Saturday, April 22, 2017 will recognize all participating Toastmaster Clubs and its champion members and provide an opportunity to show off their banners and more!

Contest rules:

1. Each participating club is encouraged to submit a group photo of their club, club members and brand compliant club banner.
2. Include a clear image of the branded banner with the Club Name and Club Number visible.
3. Use of signs, t-shirts or other items is permitted.
4. Use of the Toastmaster brand or name is prohibited unless permission is received from Toastmasters International. Please provide proof of authorization from Toastmasters International, if appropriate.
5. All photos must be done in good taste and reflect the professionalism of the Toastmasters International organization.
6. Photos must be presented in a JPEG landscape format (5MB or smaller).
7. Panel of 5 judges, one from each Division, will select the winner and forward it to the Opening Ceremony Team Leads.
8. The winner will be announced during the evening of Saturday, April 22, 2017.

Prize:

The winning club will receive a \$100 Toastmasters International Gift Certificate.

Submission:

A club may enter this contest by submitting a photo to Diana Schilf at diana.schilf111@gmail.com with subject line of "Photo Contest" and include in the body of the email Club Name, Club Number and Club Contact.

Contest Dates: The District 24 2017 Spring Conference Photo Contest is open April 3, 2017 at 8AM CST through April 14, 2017 at 8PM CST. All entries must be received by April 14 at 8PM CST to be considered a valid entry.

Questions? Email Diana Schilf (diana.schilf111@gmail.com) or Brice Middleton (bwmiddleton@yahoo.com)



Toastmaster Branded Banner



DISTRICT 24 DOUBLE DOZEN NEWSLETTER

News from Around the District

Confident Tortoises



Division C – E. Jean Dier



Division C is working on a new club at Southeast Community College. The Demo Meeting was held on February 15. Club Sponsors and Mentors are Tammie Lang, Claire Titus, Doni Stoner, and Yolanda Gomez.

There are also two new Speechcraft sessions going in Division C. One is in the Haymarket led by Claire Titus and Phyllis Thesier and the other is at the People's City Mission lead by Greg Spar. Good Luck to all!



Dedicated Dawgs

Division D – Rebecca Fegan



Why Not Speak First Annual Chili Cook Off

Submitted by: Annie Green, Why Not Speak Toastmasters Club

What at Chili Cook Off we had!

Daniel Lyle won first place with cream in his chili. Deb Rodriguez won second place with a whole garden of vegetables in her chili and three different types of beans. The Colemans and George Hast submitted awesome chili entries as well.

Wendy Hicks stole the show with her homemade cake. It had two types of icing. One side had powdered sugar, while the other had pecan and coconut icing. Pecans were also in the cake. I just know I had four slices, because it was good! If her cake wasn't enough, Wendy also brought cookies.

Editor's Note: Next time, invite the editor to enjoy this event!



Empowered Starfish

Division E – George Volz



Congratulations to the Greater Communicators Toastmasters Club on 56 great years. District 24 is invited to their annual celebration on March 8 at 6 PM at the Council Bluff Public Library. As an extra special treat all club members and visitors will be treated to the Greater Communicators Spring Speech Contest!

Division E is electrified, and engaged. We are actively looking for more opportunities to extend Toastmasters into local educational and community venues. Our clubs are engaged and moving forward.

Division E is planning joint contests for areas 43 & 44 on March 20 at the Embassy Suites, La Vista. The combined Area 41 and 42 Speech Contest is March 22 at the Council Bluffs Public Library. The Division contest is at the ConAgra Auditorium in Building 11 in downtown Omaha on April 8 from 8 – 11 am.

As the snow is falling and the wind is blowing, I am reminded that we are affected by many things seen and unseen. Some are obvious like the snow swirling down and blocking my view of the surrounded community. Things like our work, our family, and all of the things we are blessed to have. Other things are not so obvious like the wind and the plummeting temperatures. In life that can be our wants, our fears, and our lack of confidence. As the wind blows and changes a beautiful snowfall into an oppressive blizzard, or a bitter chill turn a beautiful star-filled night to a time of dread, so can our fears and lack of confidence turn blessings into hardship and cloud the hope and wonder of today.

Please join Division E, as we move forward helping each member find their strengths, conquer their fears, build confidence, listen better, be heard with conviction, and provide the leadership that is needed in these trying times!

Division E is committed to do all that we can do to ensure the success of our members and our clubs.



DISTRICT 24 DOUBLE DOZEN

NEWSLETTER

District 24 Mini Calendar

District 24 Dates to Remember

Dues Renewal

Early Bird Renewal – March 15

All Club Dues in to Toastmasters International – March 31

It is time to renew club dues for April through September. Your club can earn banner bling by submitting 8 members' dues on or before March 15! Banner bling will be awarded at the Spring Conference.

All dues must be turned into Toastmasters International on or before March 31. Please remember all clubs and individual Toastmasters must be in good standing in order to compete in the Spring Speech Contests. Avoid the rush and submit your dues early!

Spring Speech Contest Dates – Refer to the District 24 Calendar on www.d24tm.org for specific dates and places.

Area Contests – March 1 - 31

Division Contests – April 1 - 15



Spring Conference Dates

Lincoln – April 21 - 22, Hilton Garden Inn, Downtown Lincoln.



DISTRICT 24 DOUBLE DOZEN

NEWSLETTER

About the Double Dozen

The District 24 Double Dozen Newsletter is published on the 5th of the month by the Toastmasters District 24 Public Relations Team. We welcome your suggestions for articles for future newsletters. Please submit your comments, articles, or ideas to prm.d24tm@gmail.com. Submission deadline for completed articles is the 22nd of the month. Include your contact information so we can verify the information.