

District News and Events

District 24

November/2017

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Reception for Toastmasters International President on October 30 at Blue Cross Blue Shield

A Rare Opportunity for District 24

District 24 was given the rare opportunity to host Toastmasters International President, Balraj Arunasalam, on October 30. He was the honored guest at a "meet and greet" reception at Blue Cross and Blue Shield attended by 40 District 24 Toastmasters and guests. President Balraj spoke about the importance of the member and the club to the continued growth and well-being of Toastmasters.

Following the reception, a dinner was held in his honor at the Taj Kabob and Curry. About 35 District 24 Toastmasters and guest were in attendance. Division D provided the entertainment by hosting a "Ghostly" Speech and Table Topics Contest. Speech contestants were to dress in costume. Table Topics contestants were given Halloween themed questions to answer. Jessica Codr won the Speech Contest with her speech on penguins. Floy Westermeier was the Table Topics winner.

President Balraj again spoke on the importance of serving the member and the club. He also noted that he saw at least 5 World Champions speak that evening.



Pres. Balraj with Keith and Christine Jones

Table Topics Winner – Floy Westermeier



Speech Contest Winner – Jessica Codr



Pres. Balraj Speaking

District Dir. George Volz and Pres. Balraj

Pres. Balraj



News from the District Director

New Incentives! What Motivates You?

Submitted by: George Volz, District Director



An incentive is the thing that motivates or encourages one to do something. (per Google). After the material basics of shelter, food

and safety are met, we are motivated to want to be more! More affirmation by those around us, more time with those who are significant to us, more symbols of our success? Gary Chapman in his book, <u>The Five Love</u> <u>Languages</u> lists words of affirmation, quality time, receiving gifts, acts of service and physical touch as the five parameters of how we feel valued. For me, it is that new experience which satisfies my hunger to make each day better. What motivates you?

Sometimes we think that if we could just restore things to the way they used to be, we would be happy, that the return to the good old days would fill us with the joy we experienced in those times. A great thought and a hollow wish. Those days are gone and our pining for their return is at best, lost motion. Those you associated with have changed, you have changed and even more important, what motivates you has changed. The thrill of giving the first presentation is a onetime event. Why would we want to return to that point? Restoration? Rebuild the past? Why go back? Build on where you are now! Celebrate the present using those methods that best help you feel valued. Use the incentives that we at Toastmasters offer coupled with your awareness of what motivates members (it is different for each of us each day) to create and satisfy that hunger to make tomorrow better than today. You have the power to look forward in hope and close the door on yesterday!

What is your Toastmaster motivation? What is motivating you and your club to reach new heights, do new things, and make a difference in the world? Share how this is moving you to fill that hunger. If you are struggling to satisfy that need, contact your area director, myself or any of the district team. We are here to help you fill that hunger, help you achieve that dream! We know you can be even better tomorrow than you ever thought you could be today.





New Incentives!

Meeting Your Needs

Submitted by: Glenn Williams, Program Quality Director



Our member experience is enhanced when our needs and the needs of other people are met. It is best when it is two-way between instructor and student. It is fulfilled by training,

support, and skill-building in and outside of your club which allow you to have a greater range of experiences. It is about us serving you better with fun learning laboratories in every club and beyond, learning from one another. It is about us working

together to fulfill our mission at every level with personalized exceptional training, unique experiences, and better support.

Our fellow members do not realize this, but they are routinely training others through their example. This is especially true of the new

member to an existing club or the new members of a new club. What we say, how we say it, and what we do is closely watched and copied without our knowledge sometimes. We learned what we are through the outward focus of serving and observing others. We also learned through the inward focus of training, experiences, and stretching ourselves further in all we do.

We must embrace who we and where we are so that we can move forward. To move forward we all need to reimagine what our own futures will be. Make an action plan to set an exciting new course. For every roadblock, find at least two possible solutions and try them. Take an informed risk. Periodically think about how the journey is going, see if there are things we need to adjust. If the resources are not there figure out why they are not and change the plan if necessary. There are times plans lack resources and must be reassessed or dropped in favor of a new plan which has a reason to succeed. In the future, you may have the resources to revisit that plan.



What I am doing is looking at ways to expand your training opportunities. To make new and existing clubs stronger through a more in-depth look at training, your requests, and your needs. I want you to think of this as

new enhanced support. It is a work in progress that is never done.

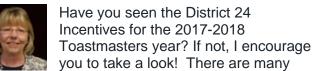
I want to be surrounded by a team of experts. People who have learned the basics well and have explored deeper than before with hands-on experience. We need more experts and a broader leadership pool who can train others. We all need you at least as much as you need us. This is how we all learn and advance by engaging all of you in setting goals, making plans, serving those around us, and training others.



New Incentives!

Now is a Great Time to be a Club Coach or Mentor

Submitted by: Linda Wilson, Club Growth Director



opportunities for you as a member and for your club to earn recognition while achieving your Toastmasters goals. As your Club Growth Director, I want to highlight two incentives that tie in directly with strengthening and growing our clubs.

District Outstanding Club Mentor: This recognizes a trained mentor of a new club who is active in the district club support group and attends a minimum of one meeting and one club officers meeting a month. They must ensure that new club officers understand their duties and are trained. Additional selection criteria and recognition are outlined on the incentives list.

Opportunities: The club mentor works with a club and its members for at least six months to guide and assist the newly chartered club. A club mentor helps the club get off to a good start, emphasizing those things that will make the club a success. In addition to earning credit toward Advanced Leader Silver recognition, you have the opportunity to practice leadership skills and gain satisfaction from helping others meet their personal goals.

District Outstanding Club Coach: This

recognizes trained coaches of the coached club with the largest increase in membership and most distinguished club points at the end of the year. Additional criteria and recognition are outlined on the incentives list. Opportunities: The club coach helps struggling clubs become Distinguished Clubs by providing guidance and support. A club that has 12 or fewer members is eligible and up to two coaches may be appointed to each club. The coach is not a member of the club they are coaching, but may decide to join after being assigned. The assignment lasts to the end of the current club year, but may be extended another year if the club has not reached distinguished status. Completion qualifies you for credit toward the ALS award and offers valuable experience.

It is important to remember that club coaches don't run the club – they just offer suggestions and support the members who are doing the work and will get the credit for success. Club coaches get their own guidance from district leaders.

If you are one of 30 eligible clubs in District 24 who don't have a club coach, please consider taking advantage of the opportunity to have the perspective of someone outside of your club who can provide invaluable guidance and support. Your club members will reap the benefits!

To request a club coach or club mentor, or to ask that your name be submitted to serve in either of these roles, please contact me and I will work with you to get this accomplished. Also, your Area and Division Directors can assist in the process prior to submitting the application forms.

I encourage you to dive in and explore all of the new incentives...It will be a fun and rewarding experience!



Update on Toastmasters Pathways

Submitted by: Kathy Henvey, Chief Ambassador



In October's Chief Ambassador Update from Toastmasters International, the following Pathways information was received.

Rollout updates

The Pathways rollout continues with the launch of regions 6 and 7 in the next few weeks. Regions 10 and 12 are next, scheduled to roll out in early December. Recruitment has begun for Pathways Guides in regions 3 and 5 in anticipation of a February 2018 launch, and regions 1 and 11 are scheduled to roll out in March of 2018. Stay tuned for more details!

Adoption report

In districts where Pathways already has launched, members are enrolling, progressing through the program and providing invaluable feedback that's overwhelmingly positive. As of October 19, 2017:

- More than 7,016 members have enrolled in Pathways

 representing 20.13% of the members where
 Pathways is available. The usage rate in districts that
 were part of the program pilot is at least 32.9%.
- More than 8,186 paths are in progress.
- Members are choosing to go digital! Out of all of the paths in progress, only 48 paths have been requested in print.

Future Developments

While 10 paths are available now, two new paths already are in development. The first path focuses on humor, and the second path will be geared toward advanced leadership skills. These paths are expected to be available in early 2019, and more paths are scheduled to be added in the future.

In March 2017, the Board of Directors approved Tamil as a new official language of Toastmasters International. The process to translate Pathways materials into Tamil will begin after the rollout is complete, and availability is scheduled for late 2019.

Language Launch

Included with the rollout of regions 6 and 7 is the launch of Pathways in French.

Common Member Questions

Below you'll find answers to some of the most-asked Member Questions:

The Pathways rollout schedule is too vague. Is there detailed information on when I will be able to start?

Answer: The new program launched in March 2017 and will continue to roll out by region in eight phases. The order of the rollout can be found on the Toastmasters.org website, Education tab, Pathways Learning Experience, Rollout Schedule. Please be aware, the rollout schedule is fluid. Each rollout depends on multiple factors, such as the readiness of each district, the readiness of members and the success of the previous rollout. As such, we are unable to provide a specific date or time frame in which all members will be switched over to Pathways.

I'm a new member. Where is my New Member Kit?

Answer: If you joined a club before Pathways arrived in your region, a New Member Kit will ship once your New Member Fee is processed; estimated delivery time for kits is five to seven business days. If your New Member Kit does not arrive within this time frame, call the Toastmasters Tracking team at +1 949-858-8255 ext. 411.

If you joined a club after Pathways arrived in your region, you will not receive a New Member Kit. Instead, your New Member Fee covers the cost of your first path, your print or digital version of The Navigator (depending on if you choose an online or print path) and the processing and maintenance of your records and online account by World Headquarters. If you chose to receive a print version of The Navigator, it will arrive within five to seven business days after your new member fee is processed. Call the Toastmasters Tracking team if it does not arrive within this time frame.

I'm a club officer. Why don't I see an option to select a language for New Member Kits in Pathways?

Answer: In Pathways, there is no New Member Kit, and the path and language selection are a separate process from adding new members to the club, whereas in the traditional education program, the New Member Kit always was selected when a member joined a club. This is just one example of the new flexibility Pathways offers members.

Common Chief Ambassador Questions

This month's featured Chief Ambassador Question is:

Can the DTM district leadership credit I earn for serving as an Ambassador or Pathways Guide be applied to the traditional education program?

Answer: Yes. Ambassadors and Pathways Guides who complete their service have until the 2-year transition period is over to apply the DTM district leadership credit they earn to either the traditional education program or Pathways. After that, you will have to apply it to Pathways.

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News on Pathways Continued from Page 5...

Pathways Learning Experience FAQ page

"How many projects are in a path?" "Is Pathways only available online?" "How will I receive recognition in Pathways?" Find answers to these and other Pathways questions on Toastmasters.org website, Education tab, Pathways Learning Experience, then go to the bottom of the page, and click on Pathways FAQ.

More information about Pathways also is available on Toastmasters.org by visiting:

https://www.toastmasters.org/Pathways-Overview

Additionally, you can visit the District 24 website, d24tm.org. Go to Public Downloads and access the Toastmasters Pathways folder. If you have questions on Pathways, contact me at <u>kathyhenvey@gmail.com</u>.

The Art of Effective Evaluation

Submitted by: Don Karnish, ACB, ALB

The Road 2 DTM sponsored a seminar on "The Art of Effective Evaluation" on Saturday, September 6th at the La Vista Embassy Suites. We had a great audience of over 30 people in attendance. The objective of the training was to focus on how important effective evaluations are to each of us as individuals, as clubs and as a district as a whole. The audience actively participated in the exercises and agreed to go back to their clubs and present the information to their members. Two of the attendees decided to join the Road club and we are very excited about that.

We as Toastmasters sometimes take for granted how an evaluation can teach all of us how to become better speakers and more confident leaders. Through effective evaluation we listen, we speak, we mentor and we learn. District 24 will continue to promote the Evaluation process through TLIs and other workshops in the coming years. Effective Evaluations are so very important to the core values of the Toastmasters mission. Hopefully this workshop highlighted District 24's dedication to help our clubs focus on this very important part of the Toastmasters meeting.

Help Lead District 24!

Submitted by: Marian Albin Gramlich, DTM, Immediate Past District Director

Consider a district leadership position now! Your voice and experience are needed. Be engaged and review <u>Toastmasters</u> <u>International website</u> to explore what is required to run for a district office. Then click <u>here</u> for the nomination form – you can self-nominate or nominate another leader! Evaluate yourself or another potential leader and click <u>here</u>.

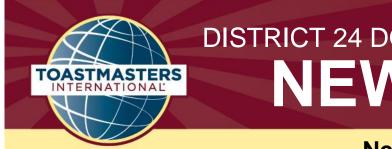
Elected District Offices: Division Director, Club Growth Director, Program Quality Director, and District Director.

Appointed Office by the incoming District Director of 2018-2019: Administration Manager, Public Relations Manager, Finance Manager, and Area Director.

If you have questions, ask any of the following members of the District Leadership Committee (DLC)! Throughout the month of November, the DLC will be discussing possible candidates and all candidates must file by December 15 with the DLC their declaration to run. (Click <u>here</u> for entire District Nomination Schedule.)

Members of the DLC:

- Chair Marian Albin Gramlich, DTM, Immediate Past District Director
- Division A Shellie Pointer, DTM, Past District Governor
- Division B Don Karnish, ACB, ALB. (Past District Secretary, Division Governor, and Club Growth Director)
- Division C Tammie Lang, DTM (Past Division Governor and Division Director)
- Division D Cassandra Johnson, DTM (Past Area Director and served on many district conference committees including chairing a district conference.)
- Division E Randy Prier, DTM, Past District Governor, Past International Director



News from Around the District

Need More Time – Here's How to Get It

Submitted by: Karen Watson, District 24 Parliamentarian



At the October DEC meeting, Secretary Colleen Steinhauser used a combination of two motions which allowed important information to be received while saving the assembly valuable time. Knowledge and understanding of these two motions are a powerful tool for any member in any organization to possess.

The Scenario: Club Quality Director Glenn Williams was giving his report when the two minute time limit expired. (Rules of debate require a speaker whose time is exhausted to *immediately stop speaking and sit down*.)

At this point, Secretary Colleen made the motion 'to allow the speaker to finish his remarks'. It is possible for any member to make a motion to extend the time limit for speaking – even the member who is speaking! The normal procedure to process this motion includes: making the motion, having a 'second', stating the motion for debate, debate, putting the motion (for a vote), and then, finally a vote.

In addition, Secretary Colleen made the motion as a 'Request for Unanimous Consent' which allowed the District 24 Director George Volz, presiding chair, to bypass the normal procedure to process a motion; thus, saving time.

A Presiding Chair may use any of three forms in processing a request for unanimous consent. Used in combination with the motion to allow the speaker to finish his or her remarks, they are as follows:

FORM 1

FORM 2

"If there is no objection, the	
,	member's time will be extended 'X'
minutes."	
	(OR)
	member will be allowed to finish."
[pause]	
"Since there is no	
	member's time is extended 'X' minutes."
	(OR)
	member will be allowed to finish."

"If there is no objection, the member's time will be extended 'X' minutes?" (OR) member will be allowed to finish?" ...[pause] "Since there is no objection, the member's time is extended 'X' minutes." (OR) member will be allowed to finish." (OR) it is so ordered."

FORM 3- Used particularly if no objection is anticipated.

"Without objection, the member's time will be extended 'X' minutes." (OR) member is allowed to finish."

NOTE: it is also the right of any member to 'object' (to time being limited or extended). If there is an objection, the normal procedure to process the motion is required with a 2/3 vote to be adopted.





Submitted by: Jacob Lawson, District 24 Division C Assistant Director

Is your club on the web? Does your club have a social media? Could a person find out about your club by doing a google search? If you answered no to any of these, it might be time for the club to invest some time in creating something.

Website

If your club does not have a FreeToastHost website, you should take the time to create one. <u>This</u> is an excellent resource that cannot only be a way to bring in new members but also can help your current members.

Your website can include directions to your meeting, a photo of your officers, and much more. However, this can also serve to create and keep records of the agendas and other club documents. The possibilities with FreeToastHost are limitless and are there to help your club succeed.

Social Media

Social media can be daunting if you have not worked with it before, but not to fear there is help. If you need help creating a social media page there is going to be a Toastmasters who can help you, all you need to do is ask.

News from Around the District

one of two things for your club: your greatest ally or a lame duck that does nothing. You can make it your ally by regularly posting to your page(s) and keep it active. With Facebook, you could also have your members "check in" to every meeting. Not only will this generate activity on the page but it will also go out to their friends and hopefully create some interest.

Google



Getting found on Google is always awesome, but the key is to make your club stand out.

There are a few things that you can do to stand out amongst the results. For one, on your FreeToastHost website use keywords that are commonly searched for in Google, and if you are trying to figure out the best words to use can look at <u>Google Trends</u>. With that webpage you can see how often different words are searched.

A second thing that you can do to make your club easy to find on Google is using <u>Google Business</u>. Google Business is a free tool that helps to promote your business by including you in businesses nearby and on Google Maps.



Submitted by Doni Stoner, Division C Director

Laughing & Learning

At the...Area C21 Halloween Party



Key Note Speaker...Gangster, Brice Middleton



Lea Wroblewski brought Uncle Sam as a guest...



Michael Meier and his Mad Scientists were truly inspiring...



Kiki Yuan, Area C21 Director, held a Halloween Party on Saturday, October 28th. This festive event was filled with plenty of food, fun, and games. We had a great turn out with eight clubs represented.

Division C Council Meeting

Division C held their 5th Council Meeting on Sunday, October 29th. They are motivating each other while becoming motivators for Division C.

Division C Event

Mark your calendars for the upcoming Division C event, Friday, November 17th at the Wells Fargo Center, 13th and O, from 6:00 – 8:00pm.

"Ask Me about Toastmasters"

Will be a night of comedy...

Laughter & Learning

Hand in Hand...

More information to come on this

Entertaining Event!



Submitted by: Jessica Codr, Division D Director

Celebration in Division D

The **Blue Ah Busters Club** is celebrating its **30th Anniversary**! Join them for a celebration meeting on **November 7, Noon to 1:00 pm at Blue Cross Blue Shield**, 1919 Ak-Sar-Ben Drive. For more information or to RSVP to attend the meeting, contact Kathy Henvey (<u>kathyhenvey@gmail.com</u> or 402-650-1579).

Competition for Division D

Division D's unofficial table topics and improv contest held October 21 saw victories for **Meg Barr** in Table



Topics and **Daniel Lyle and Rakshit Rekhi** (Team "Whatever", pictured left) in Team Table Topics/Improv.

Attendees also witnessed two great prepared skits that were so much fun they couldn't choose a winner!

Winners in table topics and

team table topics will take on winners from Division E in a **D vs E throwdown** on **Friday, November 17, 6:00-8:30pm at UNO's Barbara Weitz Community Engagement Center**, Room 201, 6400 South, University Drive Road North, Omaha. Contact Rebecca Fegan (fegan54@msn.com) for more details on the Division D versus E contest, and be on the lookout for an event on Division D's Facebook page: <u>https://www.facebook.com/D24DivisionD/</u>, where you can also find videos of all the great speeches and skits from the October 21 contest!

Success in Division D

So far this Toastmasters year, Division D has earned **18** educational awards from individual members. This past month, Division D members **Tom Colling** and **Kaylee Erlbacher** joined Evelyn Mosley and Daniel Lyle in earning triple crowns. **Seven** Division D clubs have **at least two DCP points**, making them at least 40% of the way towards earning the number of points they need to be distinguished clubs. To be "distinguished" at the end of the Toastmasters year on June 30, 2018, clubs need to earn at least 5 of 10 possible points and have a membership of either 20 or of 5 more than they did at the start of the Toastmasters year.

Learn with Division D

Keep watching and sharing our great videos on the first manuals that new Toastmasters receive:

- Competent Communicator (CC) video: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=igf6VQShGu</u> <u>4</u>
- Competent Leadership (CL) video: <u>https://youtu.be/2tG9JIWNoFM</u>

Network with Division D

Division D's Rail Talkers Club invites you to a Happy Hour event November 29, 5-7pm at Wilson & Washburn, 1407 Harney St, Omaha. RSVP to Kaylee Erlbacher at kerlbacher@gmail.com.

Help Division D

Downtown Dodgers wants to host a Speechcraft and they need your help! If you're interested in helping with some Speechcraft sessions, contact Linda Vermooten (<u>ilistentwou@gmail.com</u>). To learn more about Speechcraft, contact Jessica Codr (<u>jcake2@gmail.com</u>). The sessions will likely start in early 2018.

Have news you'd like to share with Division D? Send it to Jessica Codr at <u>jcake2@gmail.com</u>.



District 24 Dates to Remember – For more details check d24tm.org, District 24 Calendar

Blue Ah Busters 30 Anniversary Celebration – November 7, 12:00 – 1:00 pm, Blue Cross and Blue Shield, Omaha November DEC/DOT Meeting – November 11, 8 am – 12:00 pm, CSG International, Omaha District 24 Quality Program Committee Meeting – November 11, 11:25 – 12:30 pm, CSG International, Omaha New Club Sponsor/Mentor and Club Coach Training – November 14, 6:00 – 9:00 pm, CSG International, Omaha Division D and E Table Topics Contest – November 17, 6:00 – 8:30 pm, UNO Engagement Center, Omaha Division C Special Event – November 17 – 6:00 – 8:00 pm, Wells Fargo Center, Lincoln

For more information on these events, please go to the district calendar on d24tm.org.

How to Submit Items to the District Calendar

Is your club, area, or division hosting a special event or celebrating a special milestone? Would you like to publicize it on the District 24 calendar for all to see? Here's how. Send an email to <u>d24calendar@gmail.com</u> with the following information:

- Event Title and purpose
- Event Date along with Start and End Time
- Event Location with complete street address. If there is a building name, please include that information too.
- Contact name along with an email where questions can be sent. This is important especially if you want to have RSVPs to prepare material or refreshments.

The email should be sent as far in advance as possible so anyone looking at the calendar will see it. If you have questions about how to submit an entry to the calendar, you can send them to <u>d24calendar@gmail.com</u> or <u>prm.d24tm@gmail.com</u>. Let's fill up the calendar with all the special events in the coming months!



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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 <u>prm.d24tm@gmail.com</u>. Submission deadline for completed articles is the 22nd of the month. Include your contact information so we can verify the information.