



DISTRICT 24 DOUBLE DOZEN NEWSLETTER

District News and Events

District 24

February/2018

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*District 24 Trio at
Toastmaster Midyear
Training*

District 24 Leadership Opportunity!

Every year, the District selects from willing volunteers, the leaders for the following year. Most of the officers are appointed by the incoming District Director, Program Quality Director and Club Growth Director. If you are interested in one of the appointed leadership positions, please let your current district officer know.

Eight key offices in District 24 are elected. The elected officer process begins with nominees being selected by the District Leadership Committee and completes at the District Council Annual Meeting which will be on April 21, 2018. The candidates brought forward by this year's District Leadership Committee are as follows:

- District Director: Glenn Williams
- Program Quality Director: Linda Wilson
- Club Growth Director: Mark Fegan; Karen Watson
- Division A: John Paul Arias
- Division B: Gloria Harmon
- Division C: Laurel Shoaff
- Division D: Jessica Codr
- Division E: Cynthia Coleman

Were you interested and not nominated? At the Annual Meeting, nominations from the floor are possible. If you are interested in one of these offices, a member in good standing, meet the minimum requirements of the office:

- District Director: At the time of taking office, must have served at least six consecutive months as club president and at least 12 consecutive months as a lieutenant governor, division director or a combination of these.
- Program Quality Director: At the time of taking office, must have served at least six consecutive months as club president and at least 12 consecutive months as a lieutenant governor, a division director, an area director or a combination of these.
- Club Growth Director: At the time of taking office, must have served at least six consecutive months as club president and at least 12 consecutive months as a lieutenant governor, a division director, an area director or a combination of these.
- Division Director: At the time of taking office, must have served at least six consecutive months as a member of a district council.

Prior to the election you will be asked to sign the [Officer Agreement and Release Statement](#), and share a photo and bio. Complete details are available at <http://www.toastmasters.org/Leadership-Central/Governing-Documents#Protocol90DistrictCampaignsandElections478>

Look for more information in coming issues of the Double Dozen.



DISTRICT 24 DOUBLE DOZEN

NEWSLETTER

News from the District Director

New Energy! How Will You Energize and Recharge?

Submitted by: *George Volz, District Director*



“Everything is energy and that is all there is to it. Match the frequency (energy) of the reality you want, and you cannot help but get that reality. It can be no other way. This is not philosophy. This is physics.” (Darryl Anka).
“Concerning matter, we have been all wrong. What we have called matter is energy, whose vibration has been so lowered to be perceptible to the senses.” (Darryl Anka). This month I ask you to walk with me in the abstract world of physics to better understand the value of your Toastmaster membership.

How are you using your energy? Sometimes we think the way we use our energy is of little consequence—but it is! Think of the energy you spend to take in a breath—not much energy—but decide not to waste energy taking in new air. How long will you last without taking a breath? I recommend continuing to spend energy on breathing! How are you using your energy at your club? Are you getting the most benefit out of every assignment? Out of every minute? The benefit (the matter) is the result of the energy.

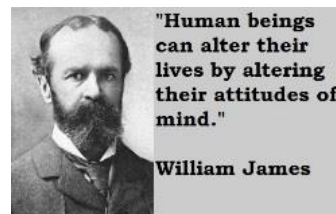
Where is your energy level? Is it at the same level as it was yesterday, last month, last year? Has it reached the level of all consuming? Does it bring a smile to your face, a spring to your step, drive you to always complete your assignments to the best of your ability? Does your energy enthrall you to use the skills learned in Toastmasters in the world outside the safety of your club? How do you keep your energy at this level? How do you recharge when it starts to wane? Do you have a mentor who helps you recharge when needed and reflect your energy?

Is your energy focused on your passion? What is this passion? Is it your community? Is it your work? Is it your family? Is it in making the world a better place? Energy focused on your passions is energy magnified, focused away is lost. Energy focused on your passions leads to success, just as all the words of a well-crafted speech support and emphasize the message.

Where is the energy of your club? Is it focused on making every element of every event a benefit for all the members? Are all the members excited and driven to make your club learning laboratory environment be all it can be? Do they mentor each other and support each other with solid preparation, excited participation, and sincere evaluations? Does attending a meeting charge you up or drain you down?

How does your club energy apply to your life energy? Are you applying the time and effort of the club meeting to help you to prepare for the world's challenges? Does your club mentor help you sharpen the focus? Does the energy you spend practicing in the meeting charge you up and give you the confidence to energize the world?

Fellow Toastmasters, make this your goal. Dedicate this month to re-energizing, recharging, and refocusing your energy. “Match the energy of the reality you want, and,” as was so wisely said, “you cannot help but get that reality. It can be no other way.”





DISTRICT 24 DOUBLE DOZEN

NEWSLETTER

News from the Program Quality Director

New Energy!

Toastmasters Appreciation Month

Submitted by: Glenn Williams, Program Quality Director



It takes work and time to think ahead and plan what we each can do to add to our own and our club's member experience. What we do as a district is provide you access to tools and ideas that help to plant a seed for the future. It is up to you to nourish and care for the seeds of ideas provided. We can only do so much, you are encouraged to take it from there. You cannot do it alone, you need more people to invest in your ideas to make an action plan work better.

Within five months, seventeen new members have joined Nebraska Union Toastmasters, located on the University of Nebraska-Lincoln City Campus. No one person does this alone, but when you meet Kee En (aka "Jony") Lim, you see a very energetic club President. This helps to set the tone which inspires other people. Their faculty advisor helped to plant the seed by incorporating Toastmasters into their College of Business curriculum. It takes many to make new energy.



Several clubs create special events which cover real-world topics for non-Toastmasters. Greater Communicators of Council Bluffs, Iowa; Road 2 DTM Club in Omaha, Nebraska; and a few other clubs have thrown the proverbial box away by doing topics like "Interview Techniques" using Toastmasters communication techniques to draw new audiences.

My challenge to you is, "What are you doing to bring members and excitement to your club?" Do you hold regular club officer meetings to plan activities out such as these? In these ways, your personal development pathway journey has only just begun.

Make February 2018 and every February and August thereafter Toastmasters Appreciation Month. Reflect on what drew you to Toastmasters, keeps you in Toastmasters, and what you and we can do to add to your member experience. While you

reflect on this, prepare to continue your investment in your personal development journey by sending your club Treasurer your renewal by the end of February or mid-March. Your pathway journey has only just begun.

I encourage you to not just renew your journey, but reflect on how you can make your experience in Toastmasters more rewarding and exciting for you and those around you. These are activities that you can plan with your clubs to combine Toastmasters techniques with interesting, unique, and exciting activities that bring in members. By being a part of organizing interesting and educational events, you can earn credit in your leadership manual.

By renewing your energy in Toastmasters, you can see the world from a whole new perspective. Rather than continuing to go by rote and do what you have always done, you throw the box away and try new things that relate back to Toastmasters techniques. For those traditions you have always done, you can bring new energy to those traditions.

By bringing in new members through a renewed focus and energy, you have more people to talk to. You have more people to learn from. When I meet new people I sometimes get a whole new perspective on things. Wouldn't that in turn give you and your club a whole new energy? Of course, it would. New people add interest and excitement to what would have been more work for you without them.

My challenge to you is, "What are you doing to bring members and excitement to your club?" Do you hold regular club officer meetings to plan activities out such as these? In these ways, your personal development pathway journey has only just begun.





DISTRICT 24 DOUBLE DOZEN NEWSLETTER

News from the Club Growth Director

New Energy!

What Is Your Focus?

Submitted by: *Linda Wilson, Club Growth Director*



A wise person once said that there's a direct correlation between positive energy and positive results. Most of us can relate to this principle. I will share two recent examples.

The last weekend in January, I had the opportunity to join leaders from Toastmasters Regions 4 and 6 at mid-year training in Minneapolis. These regions include north central United States and Canada. Throughout the entire weekend, the energy was electric! Everyone was passionate about Toastmasters and it showed! We were engaged and focused on learning and sharing best practices, eager to take new ideas home to share with our members. This positive new energy will help us stay focused in achieving our Toastmasters goals.

Another example occurred recently when I attended a meeting of the LibORATORS, a club that is about to re-charter at the Tecumseh Correctional Facility. My initial misgivings about visiting this club were immediately dispelled by the positive energy that was apparent the minute I stepped into the room. Guests were greeted enthusiastically. Everyone introduced themselves during the meeting and made us feel comfortable right away. I was most impressed by the overall atmosphere of edification and encouragement.

One of the speakers that evening compared his prison experience to the movie "Groundhog Day," with the initial experience of shock, followed by selfishness, culminating in service to others. Very inspiring! I encourage you to visit this club and see for yourself! Despite the mistakes these men have made in their lives, they are committed to moving forward, focusing their energy on learning and growing through Toastmasters.

This is one of two prison clubs that will be chartering in March at Tecumseh; the other club is ExcelORATORS. Before they can charter, they need mentors. Can you help one of these new clubs along the path toward success? Or do you know someone who could help? Each club meets twice a month, on Thursday evenings. Besides earning credit toward your Advanced Leader Silver, you will gain valuable experience as a leader and build teamwork skills. Not to mention gaining new focus and new energy!

According to renowned French actress Sarah Bernhardt: "Life begets life. Energy creates energy. It is by spending oneself that one becomes rich."

This is powerful! Simply put, where your focus is, the energy will follow. If you want to improve your public speaking skills, *you can*. If you want to be a more effective leader, *you can*. If you want to make a positive difference by being a club coach, sponsor or mentor, *you can*. If your club wants to achieve membership and educational goals for Distinguished Club Program recognition, *you can*.

Where is *your* focus? Once you find it, new energy...and rewards...will follow!

Talk Up Toastmasters Award

February 1, 2018 through March 31, 2018

Add 5 new, dual or reinstated members

Receive ribbon, discount and other recognition





DISTRICT 24 DOUBLE DOZEN

NEWSLETTER

News on Pathways

Update on Toastmasters Pathways

Submitted by: *Kathy Henvey, Chief Ambassador*



Rollout updates

The Pathways rollout is now more than halfway complete! Visits from Pathways Guides are underway in regions 3 and 5 (Rollout 5) both scheduled for a February 13 launch date; and recruitment is now complete for Pathways Guides in regions 1 and 11 (Rollout 6) with an anticipated March rollout. Regions 4 and 13 (Rollout 7) also have completed recruitment of Pathways Guides. Our District 24 is in Region 4. Regions 8 and 9 (Rollout 8) have begun the Pathways Guides recruitment process.

Adoption report

In the regions where Pathways has launched, district leaders are reporting that the transition to the new program has been much smoother than anticipated and members are enjoying the new educational content. Here are some statistics as of January 18, 2018:

- More than 25,000 members have enrolled in Pathways — representing 21% of the members where Pathways is available. The average usage rate in districts that were part of the program pilot is 39%.
- More than 27,000 paths have been initiated.
- Out of all of the paths in progress, only 142 have been requested in print.

New Pathways Testimonial Video

As Pathways arrives in more districts, members are sharing their stories about how the new program is enhancing their Toastmasters experience. Watch this all-new [testimonial video](#), featuring members from District 33.

Common Member Question

Am I required to upload my completed evaluation resource on Base Camp in order for my project to be marked complete?

Answer: No, members are not required to upload their completed evaluation resources on Base Camp. Projects will automatically be marked complete once you have

worked through the project content, including the before and after Assess Your Skills sections.

When your Base Camp manager verifies the completion of a level, they will confirm that you met every requirement within that level, including presenting speeches and receiving evaluations. The process for this verification is determined individually by each club. You can also store your completed evaluations on Base Camp by adding them to your documents folders. These folders are private and only visible to you, and they cannot be accessed by other club members or the Base Camp manager.

Common Chief Ambassador Question

What are the most popular paths in Pathways?

Answer: Currently, the three most popular paths are:

- Innovative Planning
- Presentation Mastery
- Dynamic Leadership

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, Pathways tab, Learn More, 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>

Furthermore, 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 kathyhenvey@gmail.com.





DISTRICT 24 DOUBLE DOZEN

NEWSLETTER

News from Around the District

Devoting Energy to Debate by Using Parliamentary Procedure

Submitted by: Karen Watson, District 24 Parliamentarian



In many aspects of life, communication is not optional. In meetings, a **motion** (or resolution) is a proposal that an organization collectively have **ENERGY** to **do** something. That is why a motion from a member always begins with the first three word, "I **move** to [or that]" After being stated by the president, the debate begins.

Debate takes **ENERGY**; it is often 'messy'. Debate must be lucid and clarifying. Democracy requires time and fairness for those 'in favor' and those 'opposed' to present their reasons for the adoption or defeat of the motion. "The great lesson for democracies to learn is for the majority to give the minority a full, free opportunity to present their side of the case, and then for the minority, having failed to win a majority to their views, gracefully to submit and to recognize the action as that of the entire organization, and cheerfully to assist in carrying it out, until they can secure its repeal." (Henry M. Robert, *Parliamentary Law* (1923; reprint, New York: Irvington Publications, 1975), p. 4.) A great example of this is the effort of William Wilberforce, an English politician, who lead the parliamentary campaign to abolish slave trade. In his **22nd** year of entreating the British Parliament, the Slave Trade Act of 1807 was adopted.

Most people assume the worst-case scenario for democracy is when members are on 'polar opposite' sides of an issue. In reality, the biggest threat for democracy is lethargy – or lack of **ENERGY** - towards debate. Why? Because the adoption of a motion, after null debate, yields the false impression that 'everyone is ok with this' – a 'pseudo-consensus'. In actuality, the decision has been made only by the vocal majority. A motion proposed that the organization **do** something is worthy of debate!

Many think the mental activity of learning parliamentary procedure is esoteric and/or too complicated to learn. Yet, **ENERGY** devoted to debate using parliamentary procedure far more clearly ferrets out and demonstrates the will of an assembly. That's our motive for learning parliamentary procedure for such simple things as: i) requesting information, ii) asking for accuracy with a parliamentary inquiry, and iii) raising a 'point of order' to point out and/or prevent possible breaches of previously agreed upon rules.

We are Toastmasters. A Toastmaster who does not offer their communication and parliamentary skills to the World is no better than an individual in the world who has none! The erosion of democracy will begin when we give **NO ENERGY** to its process.

The people, or *demos* in Greek, are at the heart of the word 'democracy'.

Democracy is *not* something we *have*; it is something we *do*.

Parliamentary Procedure is the grass-roots of Democracy.

Will we, as Toastmasters, allocate enough **ENERGY** (via time) to participate in debate? Will we, as Toastmasters, devote **ENERGY** (via sustained mental activity) to learn parliamentary procedure? In doing so, we contribute to the strengthening of the foundation of democracy in America!





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News from Around the District

Retention Mentoring in Roadtoasters

Submitted by: Karen Watson, VP Education, RoadToasters TM Club 1761

Most athletic programs go through 'vital cycles' including recruiting, training a team to be championship quality, graduating seniors, followed by re-building the program. In the Toastmasters (TM) organization, we face a similar cycle described by the words: extension - reaching out to (gain) new members in the organization, retention - engaging members to continue in the organization, and attrition - seeking new members to replace those leaving the organization due to various reasons.

In the 2016-2017 TM year, RoadToasters Club 1761 was 'championship quality' being named District 24's "Ann Gold Club of the Year"! This year, attrition is high, our starting base at 18 while we currently have only 15 members. 'Themed meetings' are planned as an enticement for potential members to visit. The D24 Mentor Program Incentive is being used as the stimulus to address both the retention and attrition parts of the TM cycle. Some of the new ideas being developed are described below:

At this current time, every **new** member who has joined within the last 18 months is assigned a mentor - for a total of 100% participation in '**new member mentoring**'. The goal of '**new member mentoring**' is to ground new members in the club culture and the foundational basis of Toastmasters; thus, fulfilling the TM Club Mission by assuring every **new** member is mentored. In this way, RoadToasters is "providing a supportive and positive learning experience".

What is even more exciting is the creative, specific aim for '**retention mentoring**' being implemented by RoadToasters. Club officers are scoping out members who are working in their Competent Leadership manual approaching and asking these members if they would like to be involved in next year's club leadership. To make this opportunity appear attractive and seem doable, officers are providing **mentoring** in the officer

role that piques the member's interest. Not only that, but these prospective officers have been encouraged and invited - and are scheduled - to attend a Round II TLI with the objective to participate in actual training, thus receiving preparation in advance, for the officer position in which they are interested.

The benefits of '**retention mentoring**' include:

- Future (potential) leadership for the club.
- Increased member confidence due to advanced training before committing to an officer role.
- Boost in attendance at TLIs. (*NOTE: Attendance at TLIs provide a glimpse of the fun of gathering at events beyond the local club; including the next logical step, attendance at the annual meeting.*)
- Greater loyalty to officer fiduciary duties,
- Completion and credit of Advanced Leadership Bronze award,
- Higher member satisfaction in membership, resulting in . . .
- (hopefully) Future continuation of membership.

The whole process of '**retention mentoring**' comes full circle! Who benefits more from the implementation of this '**retention mentoring**'? The club or the member? (The answer is in the last paragraph.)

The **value of mentoring** has been validated after a conversation with Jen who is a newer member in RoadToasters. She shared her opinion on the '**new member mentoring**' being done at the club level. Jen states, ". . . I think sometimes y'all forget that you've been in TM for years and I'm still only on eight months. . . I am a very organized person, but think of future members who need the structure & the ability to plan, or they stress out. . . . Seasoned club members seem to always know the answer or are able to tell me where to find an answer; which I appreciate greatly . . ."

Jen's candid comments show insight into the value of mentoring new members! She is on track for earning the Triple Crown award this club year, and is scheduled to



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News from Around the District

Retention Mentoring Continued from Page 7

earn credit for the Advanced Leader Bronze award the following year. Before Thanksgiving, RoadToasters VP Education approached Jen to be an officer next club year. After receiving information on the seven officer positions, Jen shared her interest in managing a website, therefore, Jen is currently in the process of being mentored to learn about the club website navigation. Spoiler Alert to District 24: In the near future, be watching out for Jen whose goal is to manage the Best Website in District 24!

RoadToasters is taking Jen's evaluation of mentoring to heart. A concentrated effort to keep members informed of even the most basic info has become a priority. Last year, a goal was to have education to enable proficiency of all club members to access the club and District 24 website. This year, a new **'Member to Member' mentoring** is in the works so that each one 'who has the skill' can teach one addition club member 'to access the International website'. (The ability to 'log-on' is beneficial on three levels. At club level, it ensures every member can sign-up their speech projects and functionary roles according to their own schedules. At the District level, members have access to a wealth of information of the District. Of ultimate significance, on the TI International website, members begin their Pathways journey's on the TI homepage!

Asked earlier: **Who benefits more** from the implementation of **mentoring**? Regardless if it is used for **'new member mentoring'**, **'retention'**, and/or **'Member to Member'**, the answer is: **Everyone!** Currently, RoadToasters has 11 out of 15 members (73%) involved in mentoring.

The members of RoadToasters TM Club 1761 appreciate that the District is being faithful to fulfill it's mission to "support all clubs (in our district) in achieving excellence". Had RoadToasters not had this incentive, we may never have delved into creative thinking in order to devise these mentoring programs that address the

'vital cycles' faced regularly by every TM club. RoadToasters welcomes new members, places them in **'new member mentoring'**, involves members to keep them engaged using **'retention mentoring'**, and provides **'Member to Member mentoring'** - to share information.

RoadToasters TM Club 1761 thanks to District 24 for providing this Mentoring Incentive!

Club 281 Bestows Annual Awards

Toastmasters Club 281 has a long tradition of honoring members for their successes in the previous year. This year's honorees are:

Most improved speaker, Sarah Paul

Best table topics, Martin Roy

Best speaker, Prakruthi Viswanath

Best evaluator, Simpson William

Toastmaster of the year, Madan Nirmalraj

Information about past recipients is available at:

<http://281.toastmastersclubs.org/halloffame.html>





DISTRICT 24 DOUBLE DOZEN

NEWSLETTER

New Energy in Division C!

Submitted by Doni Stoner, Division C Director

Area C21 - Kiki Yuan, Area Director



Pablo Barbosa, President International Friends

This Area started with only three clubs and now has five. International Friends Chartered August 21, 2017 and Beatrice Toastmaster Club reinstated. Beatrice Club chartered in 1983 and it's good to have them back. Strictly Speaking Club met five goals for the Distinguished Club Program and is currently working on meeting the required number of members.

Area C22 - Duane Horseman, Area Director



Laurel Shoaff, President Capitol Voices

Capitol Voices met six goals for the Distinguished Club Program and met the required member numbers. Congratulations, on becoming a Distinguished Club. INnovators Toastmaster Club was featured on NET radio...way to GO!

Area C23 - Pam Barrowman, Area Director



Tri-State Club met six goals for the Distinguished Club Program and is currently working on meeting the required number of members. This Area has three clubs and soon to be five with the charter of two Tecumseh clubs.

Area C24 - Claire Titus, Area Director



Kee En (Jony), President NU Toastmasters



Michael Meier, President E. C. Speakers Toastmasters

NU Toasters and EC Speakers are working jointly to promote both University-based clubs. NU Toasters gained seventeen new members since July 1, 2017. This is the most new members gained by a single club in Division C this year.



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NEWSLETTER

Division D Fun Letter!

Building Success in Division D



Want to help make our Toastmasters clubs more successful? The [Successful Club Series](#) offers several presentations related to building strong clubs. Topics include:

Finding New Members, Mentoring, Creating the Best Club Climate, Meeting Roles and Responsibilities, Evaluate to Motivate, How to Be a Distinguished Club, and Going Beyond our Club.

If you are interested in having someone present on any of these topics at your club meeting, or if you would like to present on one of these topics at another club, contact Jessica Codr (jcake2@gmail.com).

Ongoing Success in Division D

Division D members have earned 42 educational awards this Toastmasters year that they attributed to Division D. This is currently more than any other Division in District 24, but Division C is only one award behind. Can we finish the Toastmasters year with the most awards of any Division in District 24??

Five Division D clubs have earned the 5+ goals required to be distinguished in the Distinguished Club Program (DCP). Of these clubs, Rail Talkers, Blue Ah Busters, and Mutual of Omaha are also currently at the membership level required to be distinguished. Club 229 and Why Not Speak have the points, but need more members. Check your club's status at <http://dashboards.toastmasters.org/Club.aspx?id=24>

Competition in Division D

Contest season is here! This spring, paid members in clubs that are in good standing (8 or more paid members in the club) can compete in International and Table Topics speech contests.

During February, your club should select two members to send to your area competition in International and two

for Table Topics. Your club can select these contestants in any way. One option is to have an official club speech contest, but be aware that if you have an official contest you must follow all contest rules and guidelines set out by Toastmasters International, including timing restrictions.



In March, we have area contests. If you are representing a club in area D32 or D34, your contest is March 18 at 2pm. If you are representing a club in area D31 or D33, your contest is March 25 at 2pm. Both are at the main branch of the Omaha library downtown.

First and second place winners from the area contests will advance to the Division D contest April 8 at 2pm again at the main branch of the Omaha library downtown.

Those not competing are also encouraged to attend the contests. We'd love your help as a ballot counter, timer, sergeant at arms, or judge. To volunteer to help or for more information, contact Jessica Codr (jcake2@gmail.com) or your area director. You can learn more about speech contests from the first episode of our new District 24 Podcast, coming soon to d24tm.org.

Speaker Swap in Division D

Why Not Speak Club and Ad-Libbers Club had a "Speaker Swap Event" on January 25. Rakshi Rekhi and Chris Righter represented Ad-Libbers at Why Not Speak's meeting while Cynthia Coleman and Daniel Lyle represented Why Not Speak at Ad-Libbers. The event was a major success and both clubs had a lot of fun! Consider joining the fun and joining with another club to organize a speaker swap of your own!

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



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NEWSLETTER

District 24 Annual Conference

District 24 Annual Conference Registration is Open!

The District 24 Annual Conference is April 20 – 22 in Kearney, Nebraska at the Younes Conference Center. This will be a conference full of excitement! There are two incredible speakers on the agenda for this conference. 2005 World Champion of Public Speaking, Lance Miller, will be the Featured Speaker. Lance will bring his exciting speaking style to District 24. Toastmasters International Region 4 Director, Monique Levesque-Pharaoh, will be the Keynote Speaker at the conference! What an incredible opportunity to learn from two outstanding speakers!

The conference begins Friday, April 20 with a workshop from conference featured speaker Lance Miller followed by the District 24 Table Topics Speech Contest. Lance and Monique will both be speaking on Saturday, April 21. The District International Speech Contest will be in the afternoon. There will be several educational sessions throughout the day. The day will end with a banquet and awards ceremony. To close out the weekend there will be a special breakfast on Sunday, April 22 with Region 4 International Advisor Monique Levesque-Pharaoh and Region 4 Advisor Pat Hannan.

Registration for the conference is open and can be done on-line using this URL:

<https://district24-2018-annual-conference.eventbrite.com>

Cost for the conference is \$44.00 until March 4 and \$49 until April 15. Non-Toastmasters can attend for \$60 a person. There are five meals at the conference, Friday evening, Saturday morning, Saturday midday, Saturday evening, and Sunday morning. Meals are priced separately or if you like, you may purchase the full meal deal for \$120.

The host hotel is the Fairfield Inn & Suites at 501 W. Talmadge Rd in Kearney. District 24 has reserved a block of rooms for the conference. The room rate is \$99.95 plus tax per night. The rooms will be held until March 23. Call the hotel direct (308-236-4200) and tell them the room block name of District 24 Toastmasters.

Interested in helping with the conference? Contact the Co-chairs for the conference John Paul Arias, DTM (jpablo_arias@yahoo.com) and Shellie Pointer, DTM (shellie24tm@gmail.com). They will have many volunteer opportunities available.

More information is available about the conference on page 12 of this newsletter and on d24tm.org.



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NEWSLETTER

District 24 Mini Calendar

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

February DEC/DOT Meeting – February 10, 8:00 AM, Omaha, CSG International

February – Club Speech Contests

March – Area Speech Contests

April 1 – 15 – Division Speech Contests

April 20 – 22 – District 24 Annual Conference and District Speech Contests

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 d24calendar@gmail.com 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 d24calendar@gmail.com or prm.d24tm@gmail.com. Let's fill up the calendar with all the special events in the coming months!



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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.