



DISTRICT 24 DOUBLE DOZEN NEWSLETTER

District News and Events

District 24

February 2019

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This is a friendly reminder that Spring dues need to be paid before March 31 to remain in good standing and be eligible to complete in contests. You can help your club out by paying them before March 15! If a club has 8 or more members pay their club dues and have them submitted by March 15 they will win the Early Bird Award! The winners of this award will be presented a ribbon for their club banner.

Help Wanted

District 24 has a number of low member clubs that are eligible to have a Club Coach. (To be eligible for a club coach, a club must have 12 or fewer members.) Once appointed, the club coach is charged with bringing the club back to distinguished status. (Coaches that are appointed will also receive district officer credit when the club becomes distinguished.) We need experienced Toastmasters to help our low member clubs grow. Will you step up and become a Club Coach?

For more information, contact Club Growth Director Mark Fegan, DTM, at cgd@d24tm.org.





DISTRICT 24 DOUBLE DOZEN

NEWSLETTER

From Around the District

New M.O.V.E.s The Personal Touch (#PersonalTouch)

Submitted by: Glenn Williams, District Director



The Personal Touch. What does this mean to you? To me, it is a goal to be more thoughtful and timelier to our fellow members. A handwritten note, something is given or awarded with meaning, or individual time or

attention is given to listening to a person. This is something for all of us to aspire to and perpetuate. Some of you do this very well and always have.

Often those of us with a technological talent will think an e-mail or text is sufficient. If the words are from the heart and authentic to the person, how it is sent may not matter as long as it is received. How many of us go the next step to save that?

Contrast this with a handwritten note, something handmade, or something is chosen with meaning attached to it. The same heart was there, but the recipient may hold on to this longer. The recipient may frame or display it in some cases.

In this disposable world, the tangible becomes far more meaningful than similar things had in the past. They have built-in value, reverence, and awe for recipients that someone in this world of the impersonal and mass

produced has been thoughtful or authentic in actions or uniqueness.

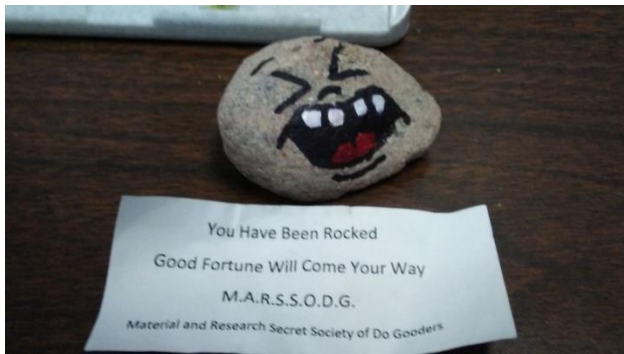
Items given do not need to cost money or be from a store. A colored pebble, a painted rock, or a tiny note attached to this item given personally or anonymously can make one feel very special. See the photo in this article for one example from my workplace. It made me feel special. Look at the time and care they did to make a rock look like a face! What could you do with a simple object? I have already held onto this rock longer than an email.

Our lives are way too short, sometimes much shorter than we realize. I encourage you to do something

radically different. To go way outside of the box that you are comfortable with. To live your fullest life in a way which makes sense to you. Be safe to your well-being, but out of your comfort zone. Take the time to recognize other people and inspire them through your Personal Touch.

When you see that someone has customized something with you in mind, their mindfulness can touch your heart. How does that make you feel? How will that affect other people beyond the recipient? Will the recipient of this pay it forward to someone else? The ripple in the pond can make positive waves. The Personal Touch is that ripple in the pond which radiates outward from this.

I encourage the members of our clubs and the district we are part of to set the standard of The Personal Touch. Make this something meaningful to you and to others. Let us build on the outreach to others. Make them feel our thoughtfulness and how special we think they are, not just this year but for every year which follows.





DISTRICT 24 DOUBLE DOZEN

NEWSLETTER

From Around the District

New M.O.V.E.s Sharing Your Love of Toastmasters

Submitted by: Linda Wilson, Program Quality Director



It's February... the month of love! Opportunities abound this month to share your love of Toastmasters!

Have you shared your Toastmasters story with a friend, neighbor, co-worker or family member? It can be as simple as asking them to join you for a cup of coffee, telling them how membership has helped you in your job or personal life, then inviting them to a meeting. After the meeting, don't forget to follow up and ask them to join!

According to Toastmasters founder Ralph Smedley, "The personal touch, in all levels of our work, is one of [Toastmasters] distinguishing features. We are working together."

During a recent presentation to District leaders, Distinguished Toastmaster Pat Hannan reminded us of the importance of the personal touch. Hannan, who has served as District 24 Governor, International Director and Region 4 Advisor, shared her insights on creative ways to show recognition and appreciation, emphasizing that a handwritten note, phone call or other simple gesture of kindness may reap dividends in our club membership and retention efforts.

As you share your love of Toastmasters, I encourage you to try the new club quality incentive introduced last month by Toastmasters International President Lark Doley. The Wow! Factor is a chance for your club to shine. Club members were asked to assess their club's

performance (see Club Quality Checklist in January Toastmaster Magazine or use Moments of Truth), discuss the results and develop a plan to increase the quality and performance of their club.

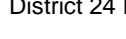
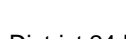
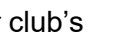
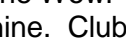
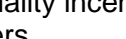
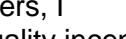
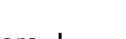
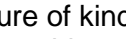
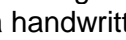
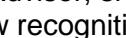
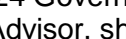
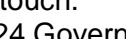
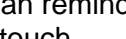
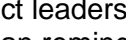
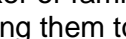
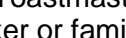
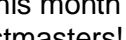
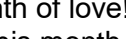
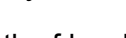
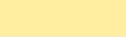
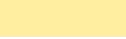
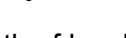
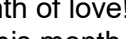
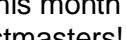
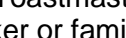
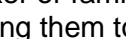
In February and March, clubs will implement their plan to be "the best club possible," to improve their club experience by holding an open house and conducting exceptional meetings. Will your club members say "wow!" when they attend a meeting? Each club is asked to send a one-minute video of their unique "wow" experience using #wowfactor. Let's see who has the biggest Wow! Factor in the month of February and carry the momentum on into March.

Another incentive that just kicked off is the "Talk Up Toastmasters" Award. Any club that adds five new, dual or reinstated members from February 1, 2019, through March 31, 2019, will receive a ribbon for their banner and a discount on items purchased on the Toastmasters International website.

Why not share your love of Toastmasters by participating in Club Speech Contests? Club Contests will continue through February 16, followed by Area, Division and District Contests. Contestants have the opportunity to compete in the Evaluation and International Speech Contest. Join this fun and educational Toastmasters tradition – whether as a contestant, official or guest!

The second round of five district-sponsored TLI sessions has been completed. However, if you were not able to attend, I have good news! Divisions and areas are offering make-up training opportunities and would love to see you there... Stay tuned for dates. Remember, our goal is to have all seven of seven club officers trained!

Join me this month in sharing your love of Toastmasters!





DISTRICT 24 DOUBLE DOZEN

NEWSLETTER

From Around the District

New M.O.V.E.s Shifting Paradigms

Submitted by: *Mark Fegan, Club Growth Director*



Several years ago, I gave up giving speeches at Toastmasters meetings. Don't get me wrong, I did not quit participating in the meetings; I did not quit speaking at the meetings. Instead,

I started thinking differently about what I was actually doing in Toastmasters. I no longer give manual speeches; rather, I work a project (from one of the various manuals) and present the results of that project to the club. For me, this represented a major paradigm shift.

Dictionary.com (<https://www.dictionary.com>) defines a paradigm as "a typical example or pattern of something; a model". In changing the way I thought about how I was working the Toastmasters Educational program, I was changing the paradigm, the mental model, by which I worked Toastmasters.

Toastmasters was originally conceived by our founder, Ralph Smedley, as a tool to help young men improve their lot in life. I do not believe Dr. Smedley was talking about improving their personal life, although becoming a better communicator can absolutely lead to a fuller personal life. Rather, I believe he was talking about improvements in the young man's professional life.

Over the years, Toastmasters moved to expand its potential clientele, first expanding from its base in California (USA) and then by opening its membership to all, including women, who desired to improve their communication and leadership skills. But the basic mission has not changed; Toastmasters exists as a tool for anyone with a desire to improve their lot in life.

Membership retention has long been a problem for Toastmasters clubs. (The average new member drops out of Toastmasters after about a year.) A club can help improve its membership retention by helping members relate the Toastmasters program to their lives. Members who see the value of the Toastmasters program will stay active in the club and will see the benefits of Toastmasters in their lives.

This may represent a paradigm shift; a change in the way you look at Toastmasters. If you want to help your members see the professional benefits of Toastmasters, consider changing the way you talk about the Toastmasters educational program. Instead of a Toastmasters **club** meeting; consider talking about the Toastmasters **Educational** meeting. Instead of giving **speeches** from **manuals**, deliver **presentations** based on work **projects**.

This is also true if you want to apply your Toastmasters experience as a part of your annual review at work. Think about this: When was the last time you or one of your coworkers gave a **speech** as part of their work assignment? But, when was the last time you or one of your coworkers was called on to prepare and give a presentation? It's your choice, but I suggest documenting the **presentations** you have delivered as a result of working various **projects** in the Toastmasters **educational** program is a better way to sell yourself and Toastmasters in your workplace.

Are you still giving speeches or delivering presentations?



DISTRICT 24 DOUBLE DOZEN

NEWSLETTER

From Around the District

Noteworthy News from Area C21

Submitted by: **Claire Titus, DTM**



The Personal Touch

During a club visit to Fairview

Toastmasters Club on January,

24 2019, **Christian Beard**

gave personal handwritten

thank you notes to club

members who are a part of his

support network. **Angi**

McAndrew, Debra Davis,

Brian Kokesh, and David

White help provide rides for

Christian to the weekly club meetings, contests and Toastmaster officer training. Christian is currently the Sargent at Arms for Fairview Toastmasters Club #4284. He has completed his Advanced Communicator Silver and Competent Leader awards in his Toastmaster Journey. Well done Christian for showing how the personal touch makes a difference.



During a club visit to Strictly Speaking on January 26, 2019, **Pat Hannan** DTM PID presented hand-made quilt hangings to two members. **Laurel Shoaff** received a quilt with the words, "Bloom where you are planted" with a picture of a flower in a pot. Pat shared that she has watched **Laurel Shoaff** bloom in Toastmasters. **Claire Titus** received a quilt with a snowman and snowflakes with a pink button heart as Pat shared that she has seen Claire Titus work in Toastmasters with a "heart". Well done Pat for showing how the personal touch makes a difference.



Claire Titus and Laurel Shoaff

D24 Spring Conference

Pat Hannan is donating two baby quilts to the Silent Auction for the D24 Spring Conference which will be held April 26-28, 2019 at the Nebraska Methodist College in Omaha, NE. The first baby quilt is the Christmas themed quilt in the photograph and the second baby quilt has not yet been completed. There will also be a lap sized quilt made and donated for the Raffle at the conference. Thanks to Pat Hannan for these donations to support the conference. We hope to see many Toastmasters attend the conference.



Pat Hannan, Laurel Shoaff, Claire Titus, and Mike McCollum accepting this donation.



DISTRICT 24 DOUBLE DOZEN

NEWSLETTER

From Around the District

Find your Path

Submitted by: Colleen Steinhauser ACS, ALS

Have you ever wondered where you are going in Toastmasters? Come **FIND YOUR PATH** at this year's 2019 District 24 Conference. We will be hosted at Nebraska Methodist College in Omaha, NE.

Your conference planning committee has been working hard at developing a Spring Conference that is full of information that you can take back to your own clubs and take out into your professional lives. Our invited speaker this year is Ed Tate, the winner of the 2000 World Champion of Public Speaking. He will share from his experience in the corporate arena and as a Coach for fellow Toastmasters. Breakout sessions by our local Toastmasters experts will cover topics on Leadership, How Toastmasters can apply outside the club, Toastmasters Branding and Team Building.

At this year's Conference we will be able to see the best Evaluators and International Contest Speakers from each of the five Divisions. Come cheer them on as they compete.

Meals offered at the conference will be ticketed buffet style with the option to pre-order vegetarian and gluten free meals. Meals must be purchased prior to April 15th.

Hotel blocks have been set up at the Holiday Inn Express 8736 W Dodge Rd. (402)-343-1000 that can be a short walk to the college building or at the Staybridge Suites 7825 Davenport St. (402)933-8901 just a few blocks away.

We will be celebrating the awards that Clubs and Individual Toastmasters have earned. If you have

earned your DTM since the 2018 Conference, please note this on the registration.

In closing – Many hands make light work. If you are interested in Chairing a Committee or serving on one, please reach out to us. All are welcome to join our ZOOM Conference Planning Meetings. February 13th from 7:45-8:45pm, March 14th from 8:30-9:30pm, and April 11th from 8:30-9:30pm. To join the meeting via Computer/Web camera select <https://zoom.us/j/666873485>. If you can join via Telephone only, call 1-669-9000-6833 or 1-646-876-9923. The Meeting ID is 666 873 3485.

Your Conference Co-Chairs

Colleen Steinhauser ACS, ALS
csteinh@centurylink.net

Anthony Coleman ACS, ALB
anthonycynthiac04@msn.com

[Click here for a link to reserve your spot!](#)

Just looking to attend the conference?

[Click here to reserve your spot!](#)



DISTRICT 24 DOUBLE DOZEN

NEWSLETTER

From Around the District

Of The Year

Submitted by: Rebecca Fegan

Secretary: The most important aspect of this office is the fact that the secretary serves as the club archivist, the club memory, the resource for information for nearly every other office.

The VPE misses a meeting. Where does he get his notes about what happened? Who spoke? Who evaluated? Well, he could check the agenda. But if he went to the secretary, then he'd have an idea about how the speaker did, the subject matter, which speech in the pathway they chose, which manual...So much more information can be gleaned from the meeting notes! What were the table topic questions? Who was the Table Topic master? If this was the first time they'd had that position, is it recorded in the Competent Leader manual or in the Pathways profile? Who missed the meeting (besides the VPE) that may have to be rescheduled to fill that particular role in order to continue on their path?

How many times has John been timer? The secretary can find out. When is the club party? The secretary knows. When are the club/area/division and district contests? The secretary will get the information out.

The extraordinary secretary keeps minutes on every meeting including the executive council's. The extraordinary secretary sends out personal notes or cards to guests thanking them for their attendance and offers to answer any questions they have about the club. The extraordinary secretary contacts guests that may have visited once but haven't come back to re-invite

them to the meeting. The amazing secretary puts out a newsletter to spark interest in the members. They make sure the president or presiding officer knows precisely what has to be covered in the business meeting for the general membership. They relate any news from the district and may share specific information with the VP Membership and VP Public Relations in order to boost membership and promote the activities of the club to a wider audience. One club I know of has a scrapbook with two pages of events and pictures and news for every year since charter. It includes contest winners from their club, rewards, and recognition from the district, and activities and parties. They celebrate their charter birthday every year and display the scrapbook.

If the Sergeant at Arms is the current activity and culture for the club, the Secretary is the legacy and the tradition for the club. The secretary maintains and records the culture. If your secretary goes beyond the call of duty for your club, nominate this person!!!





DISTRICT 24 DOUBLE DOZEN

NEWSLETTER

From Around the District

Parliamentarian's Corner

DOES YOUR REPORT HAVE 'ICING ON THE CAKE'?

Submitted by: Karen Watson DTM



In Toastmasters (TM), members need to learn to write reports. Reports are required of **Directors** (District, Division, Area), **Officers/Extended Officers**, and **Committee Chairs**. While TM gives specific information for duties, creative freedom is allowed in the way reports can be submitted - with the exception of imposed time limits (sometimes as little as 2 minutes). Enter Robert's Rules of Order. Using Robert's, writing a report is 'easy'. Basically, you answer four components, or questions, in the 'Form of Detailed Report'.

FOUR COMPONENTS OF A CONCISE REPORT

- 1. What are you 'charged' to do?** NOTE: The 'charge' is a term that means 'the role or responsibility'. *You have to know - thoroughly and completely - what you are expected to do! Find every description of your 'charge' by relentlessly searching Bylaws (District and Club), Policy & Protocol, District and Club Handbooks - in that sequential order. Make a comprehensive list of the task(s).*
- 2. What do you find?** *In this component, you look at the way things are currently.*
- 3. What findings and conclusions are derived from the facts and information?** *In this component, you use leadership skills to 'identify the gap' (between 'what is' and 'what is supposed to be'). Then, work your charge by 'bridging the gap' in each task on your list. Keep records of what you do; give details (dates/times/people contacted, etc.).*

4. What resolutions or recommendations are offered as a result? *In this component, as a result of working your charge, relay to your organization valuable information for the future by giving suggestions for improvements for a) the charge itself, b) ways to do the charge, and even c) new, innovative and entrepreneurial ways to do both that you believe can yield better results! This is the 'Icing on the Cake' in a report! Ultimately, you can offer resolutions or recommendations to the organization in motions at meetings. You are a leader, after all!*

Writing a report may be frustrating for those doing it the first time. A (final) report can't be written if you don't even know what it is you were supposed to be doing in the first place! Robert's four components will enable you to write a report. 1) Research your charge, 2) Observe the status quo, 3) Identify 'the gap', then, work your charge. The final report is a concise documentation of what you've found and done giving the details.

Please send us a copy of your next report. We're interested to see how you're doing! We'll review your report giving you positive and encouraging feedback-if your request it.

For help with writing reports or any other parliamentary issue, do not hesitate to contact:

District 24 Parliamentarian:

Colleen.Steinhauser@methodistcollege.edu

OR, Immediate Past Parliamentarian:

KarenWatsonLincoln@gmail.com



DISTRICT 24 DOUBLE DOZEN

NEWSLETTER

From Around the District

District Education Awards

Every month we will be listing the education awards earned for the month! Anyone who has omitted their name from reports will not be listed.

PM1	8/3/2018	Fuqua, Robin Elaine	Toastmasters Club Omaha 229
DL2	1/2	Kucera, Brenda L.	Gateway Club
VC1	1/2	Barrowman, Pamela M.	Toast of the Town
IP1	1/2	Hancock, Vivian Marie	Toast of the Town
CC	1/3	Ross, Timberly S.	Tenaska Nebraska Toastmasters (TNT)
LD3	1/4	Berck, Bruce J.	Gateway Club
CL	1/4	Warnes, William C.	River City Speakers Club
CC	1/5	Allen, Stacy	Tally Ho Toastmasters Club
LD4	1/7	Berck, Bruce J.	Gateway Club
DL4	1/7	Stoner, Doni	International Friends
PWMENTORPGM	1/8	Colling, Thomas Patrick	Omaha Toastmasters Club 281
IP1	1/8	Wroblewski, Lea Anne	Capitol Voices Club
DL1	1/8	Shoaff-Tranick, Laurel A.	Capitol Voices Club
CC	1/8	Allen, Stacy	Prime Time Toastmasters Club
PM2	1/8	Henvey, Kathleen M.	Advanced Traveling Toastmasters
EC4	1/9	White, David W.	Fairview Toastmasters Club
EC5	1/9	White, David W.	Fairview Toastmasters Club

TC2	1/9	McDermott, Kari Nicole	Mutual of Omaha Toastmasters Club
IP1	1/9	Malle, Preethi	Mutual of Omaha Toastmasters Club
CC	1/9	Hernandez, Juan Antonio	Excelorators Toastmasters Club
VC1	1/10	Titus, Claire D.	Strictly Speaking Club
CC	1/14	Love, Vickie Hawks	West O! Toastmasters
CC	1/16	Gramlich, Marian Albin	West Dodgers
PM1	1/16	Stoner, Doni	International Friends
LD4	1/18	Titus, Claire D.	Capitol Voices Club
LD1	1/19	Johnson, Shawn Leroy	Prime Time Toastmasters Club
CC	1/19	Anderson, Devon G	Prime Time Toastmasters Club
TC2	1/21	Nittler, Mari	Toastmasters Club Omaha 229
CC	1/22	Deyoe, Eugene	Southwest Toastmasters Club
CC	1/23	Horak, Matt H	Southwest Toastmasters Club
ACB	1/24	Anderson, Bernard L.	NPPD Toastmasters Club
CC	1/24	Brown, Sharon W.	NPPD Toastmasters Club
IP2	1/24	Ingram, Mary Ann	Gateway Club
LD4	1/25	Gramlich, Marian Albin	Blue Ah Busters Club
PM3	1/25	Gramlich, Marian Albin	Blue Ah Busters Club
PM1	1/25	Gramlich, Marian Albin	Blue Ah Busters Club
LD3	1/25	Gramlich, Marian Albin	Bank On Toastmasters
LD2	1/25	Gramlich, Marian Albin	West Dodgers



DISTRICT 24 DOUBLE DOZEN

NEWSLETTER

From Around the District

CC	1/25	Graff, Julie	West Dodgers
PM2	1/25	Gramlich, Marian Albin	Road 2 DTM
LD5	1/25	Gramlich, Marian Albin	Road 2 DTM
TC1	1/28	Wilson, Amy L	Capitol Voices Club
ACG	1/28	Banaszek, Ashley	Rail Talkers Club
VC3	1/28	Lawson, Jacob	Strictly Speaking Club
PM4	1/28	Gramlich, Marian Albin	West Dodgers
ACS	1/28	Steinhauser, Colleen Marie	NMC Voices For Change
ACG	1/29	Gramlich, Marian Albin	West Dodgers
CL	1/29	Gramlich, Marian Albin	West Dodgers
PM2	1/30	Stoner, Doni	International Friends
DL1	1/30	Vo, Thanh Dong	International Friends

KEY	
CC	Competent Communicator
ACB	Advanced Communicator Bronze
ACS	Advanced Communicator Silver
ACG	Advanced Communicator Gold
CL	Competent Leader
ALB	Advanced Leader Bronze
ALS	Advanced Leader Silver
LDREXC	High Performance Leadership
PWMENTORPGM	Pathways Mentor Program
DL (1-5)	Dynamic Leadership
EC (1-5)	Effective Coaching
IP (1-5)	Innovative Planning
LD (1-5)	Leadership Development
MS (1-5)	Motivational Strategies
PI (1-5)	Persuasive Influence
PM (1-5)	Presentation Mastery
SR (1-5)	Strategic Relationships
TC (1-5)	Team Collaboration
VC (1-5)	Visionary Communication



DISTRICT 24 DOUBLE DOZEN

NEWSLETTER

From Around the District

Happy Anniversary!

District 24 has some great long-standing and new clubs! Let's all celebrate their anniversary!

1/1/1961	58	Revellers Greater
1/1/1961	58	Communicators
1/1/1988	31	Roman Forum
1/1/1992	27	Shelf Talkers
1/1/2009	10	Club Sandwich
1/3/2013	6	Royal Babblers

Interested in being
an Area Director
for 2019-2020?

Talk to Program
Quality Director,
Linda Wilson
today!

District
24

Conference

Nebraska
Methodist
College

Omaha

April
26-28





DISTRICT 24 DOUBLE DOZEN

NEWSLETTER

From Around the District

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

Area E41 and E42 Contest, February 19, 2019, Omaha, NE

Area E43 and E44 Contest, February 23, 2019, Omaha, NE

Area C21 and C24 Contest, February 26, 2019, Lincoln, NE

Area D31 and D33 Contest, February 26, 2019, Lincoln, NE

Area C22, C23 and A3 Contest, February 28, 2019, Lincoln, NE

Area B11 and B12 Contest, March 4, 2019, Omaha, NE

Area D32 and D34 Contest, March 7, 2019, Omaha, NE

Area A02 Contest, March 9, 2019, Schuyler, NE

Area B13 and B14 Contest, March 11, 2019, Omaha, NE

Division A Contest, March 23, Norfolk, NE

Division C Contest, March 26, Lincoln, NE

Division D Contest, March 30, Omaha, NE

Division E Contest, April 6, Omaha, NE

Division B Contest, April 8, Omaha, NE

District 24 Annual Conference, April 26-28, Omaha, NE

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 Location with the complete street address. If there is a building and room 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.



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 25th of the month. Include your contact information so we can verify the information.