



DISTRICT 24 DOUBLE DOZEN NEWSLETTER

District News and Events

District 24

September 2020

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Club Payment Options

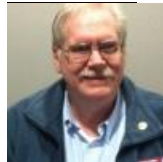
Learn how to take some of the stress out of collecting dues, using PayPal and more on [page 7](#).

In Case You Missed It

Catch up on what happened in August, including the Toastmasters International Convention on [page 9](#).

The District Council

What is the District Council and why should you care? Find out prior to this month's District Council Meeting on [page 11](#).



ENGAGE

Submitted by Mark Fegan, DTM, District Director

Every year, the new District Director picks a theme for the year and creates an acronym from that theme. In the past we have had TEAM (Together Everyone Achieves More), MOVE (Mentoring Outreach Visibility Education) and COURAGE (Creating Opportunities United in Retention Appreciation Growth and Education).

This year, I chose as our theme “ENGAGE”. Engage means: 1) occupy, attract, or involve; 2) participate or become involved in. This year, we are living in interesting times; to meet the challenge of COVID-19, we need to ENGAGE ourselves and our fellow Toastmasters as we strive to fulfill our club and district missions

When Toastmasters International started working on the “Revitalized Education Program” back in 2010, the working group took stock of the current state of the Toastmasters Educational Program. Among other things, they found

1. On membership retention, new members tended to drop out after one year of membership.
2. The average time required to complete the Competent Communication manual was 18 months.

This paints a rather stark picture of the Toastmasters experience. A new member paid his/her dues, renewed once, and then quit. In their time as a Toastmaster, they did not complete a single educational level. To me, this this says the new member did not ENGAGE in Toastmasters!

This raises an interesting question: how do you help a new member ENGAGE in Toastmasters?

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For all the latest news and events, visit d24tm.org or <https://www.facebook.com/D24TM/>.
Comments, questions, suggestions or corrections? Email prm.d24tm@gmail.com

I think a good place to start is to ask yourself "How did I become ENGAGED in Toastmasters?"

More to the point, ask yourself three questions:

1. What did I expect to gain from Toastmasters?
2. Why do I keep renewing my membership every six months?
3. How has Toastmasters changed me?

Once you have asked (and answered) those three questions, you will have your story which you can use as you begin to engage your new members. Start with one simple question:

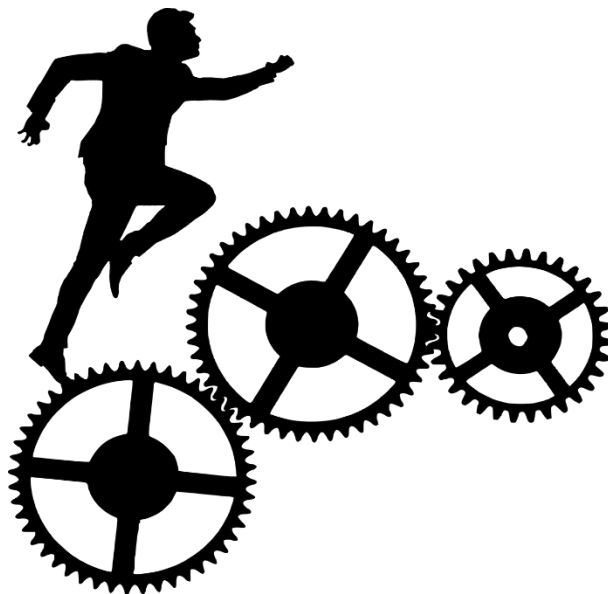
What are you looking to gain from Toastmasters?

It may take time for the new member to answer that question, but listen carefully. You can then use that answer and your personal story to help the new member see how becoming ENGAGED in Toastmaster will help them find what they were seeking when they found Toastmasters.

Remember, Toastmasters and your Toastmasters club exist because they support the members goals and aspirations. Make it your mission to assist your members to ENGAGE in Toastmasters; help them join you on your journey as you both "Build a Better You!"



ENGAGE – Energize New Growth and Guide Excellence





It's Time to Talk about Incentives!

Submitted by Cindy Jenkins, DTM, Program Quality Director

District 24 had a record year for awards in 2019-2020. There is no reason 2020-2021 cannot be even better! Here are the Toastmasters and District 24 incentives for this year.

For Outstanding Service to Toastmasters and District 24

The Of the Year Awards are intended to honor the best of the best in District 24. These awards are given at the beginning of the year for the previous year. Categories include Club of the Year, Club Officer of the Year, District Officer of the Year, Toastmaster of the Year and Decade, and Rookie of the Year. There are also categories to honor the Outstanding Club Mentor and Coach.



Club Quality

This award category includes the Distinguished Club Program (DCP) defined by Toastmasters International. Your Area Director can explain the criteria to qualify for these awards. Working the Program and Halfway to Distinguished are awards given by District 24. Working the Program is a certificate given to clubs that had the points to be Distinguished but lacked the membership criteria. Halfway to Distinguished is an award given to clubs at the end of December that have earned 5 or more DCP points.



This category includes individual education awards such as the Triple Crown of Education given to members earning three or more education awards during a Toastmasters year. Special recognition is given to the Toastmasters and clubs earning the most education awards.

Going outside your club is an incentive to encourage District 24 Toastmasters to visit other clubs and events that take place outside their club. During this time of COVID-19, many Toastmasters have chosen to visit clubs outside their home areas, states, and even countries to see how other clubs and districts function. Prizes are given to the Toastmasters with the most visits outside their club.

District 24 has several special awards offered at the club level. The 7 for 7 award is given to clubs where all seven officers are trained at each TLI session. The Early Bird award is given to clubs that have eight paid members before September 15 and March 15.

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Membership Building

Each year, Toastmasters International sponsors three membership building campaigns. The first is the **Smedley Campaign** in August and September. Clubs increasing membership by at least five new, dual, or reinstated members receive a ribbon and Toastmasters discount coupon.

The second is **Talk Up Toastmasters** in February and March. Clubs increasing membership by at least five new, dual, or reinstated members receive a ribbon and Toastmasters discount coupon. Additionally, District 24 will run **February Frenzy** and **March Madness**, awarding \$100 in prizes to the club that adds the most new, dual, or reinstated members during this timeframe. New members will also receive a Toastmasters Challenge coin.



The third is **Beat the Clock** in May and June. Clubs increasing membership by at least five new, dual, or reinstated members receive a ribbon and Toastmasters discount coupon. Additionally, District 24 will again award \$100 in prizes to the club that adds the most new, dual, or reinstated members during this timeframe. New members will also receive a Toastmasters Challenge coin.

To honor current Toastmasters who help recruit new members or help reinstate members, District 24 offers the **Triple Star of Sponsorship**. This award goes to Toastmasters who sponsor three or more new, dual, or reinstated Toastmasters during the year. Prizes are given to the top three Toastmasters with the most sponsorships.

The top three clubs with the highest member growth throughout the year are honored with Toastmasters gift certificates.

The final award category is Public Relations. Clubs may submit their websites to earn an award for best website. If throughout the year your club creates a promotional flyer, submit it to determine if it can earn the club a Toastmasters gift certificate.

The explanations and due dates for all of these incentives are posted on the District 24 website (d24tm.org) under Awards, Recognition, and Incentives. If you have questions on these incentives, please email me at cindy.jenkins18020@gmail.com.



Why Do We Join Clubs?

Submitted by Rebecca Fegan, DTM

Have you played church softball? Do you enjoy biking with others? Do you join a chess club because you get tired of playing chess against a computer-generated opponent? These are activities that allow you to do what you already love with others with like interests. What entices you to do something that scares the pants off you with others with the same phobia? Who would do something like that? Oh, we do.

Didn't most of us join Toastmasters because we were awful at public speaking and wanted to improve our skills? TM added the tagline, "Where leaders are made" to entice corporate types to our teaching methods—amateurs teaching other amateurs. But in the general population, both Toastmasters and those unenlightened, only 20% want to become leaders. You can be a great communicator without being a leader. You cannot be a great leader without being a good communicator.

You can give great briefings to your boss; you can be a fantastic third-grade teacher; you can write great articles for your newspaper or your blog with the communications skills you learn here. What do we do for people? We enhance their hobbies or their work by improving the way they convey ideas and information.

Can you picture a coach at halftime presenting a PowerPoint to his players? Can you imagine an accountant standing on his desk and stomping his feet saying, "Let's get out there and CRUNCH SOME NUMBERS!" Our members learn to apply the right types of communication in any situation. That coach might also be a salesperson where a PowerPoint presentation would complete the information his staff needs to know. That accountant might be giving a motivational speech to actuaries. But once our members have developed the tools we give them, the applications open up. They don't know this when they join! They see others in the group growing, learning and getting better, then become aware of the personal benefits in that culture of group support.



Besides that, we show people how to articulate a vision, motivate their teams, and organize and plan activities to reach a goal. The point is: We appeal to those folks who want to improve their speaking skills. Once they've had the experience and seen the improvement, they discover they can apply these skills on a much bigger canvas. The people they meet in Toastmasters and the skills they learn allow them to stretch into leadership if that's the path they want to take. Individuals will join Toastmasters to fill a particular void in their education, but will stay because of personal growth, a safe environment to practice things they need in the real world, and the friendships they make.

Upcoming District and Club Events

See also: https://d24tm.org/D24_Calendar.html

District 24 Awards – Less Than One Week Away

There's still time to register for the District 24 Awards Celebration! In less than one week, the District will recognize all the accomplishments of 2019-2020. District 24 had a record year in many award categories, and we certainly deserve a celebration!

Join us on **September 12 at 10:00 a.m.** (immediately following the District Executive Council meeting) to celebrate an unprecedented year and to honor all of our award winners. This is an online event so come as you are and feel free to bring a friend!



The webpage to register is d24awards2020.eventbrite.com. We hope you will join District 24 in honoring all the amazing achievements for 2019-2020!

District Council Meeting – September 17

Members of our District Council are encouraged to attend the Fall District Council meeting on **Thursday, September 17, from 7:00-9:00 p.m.** to hear and vote on our District's budget and the appointments of the District area directors, public relations manager, administration manager, and finance manager.

Find the most up-to-date information about the upcoming District Council meeting on d24tm.org. Click on [Public Downloads](#) and look under the **2020 Fall D24 Virtual Council Meeting** folder to find relevant files, or simply navigate to d24tm.org/district-council-sept-17-2020.html to see Zoom meeting details, download links for the items to be voted on, and view any additional updates that District 24 leadership would like to share prior to the meeting. Even if you are not a voting member, you are still welcome to register for the District Council meeting on September 17 to be informed on the items being discussed!



Additional details about the District Council and the upcoming meeting can be found in the article submitted by District 24 Parliamentarian, Jessica Steele-Codr on page 11.

Parliamentary Procedure Training – September 19

District 24 is hosting a training module all about Parliamentary Procedure, hosted by District 24's Immediate Past Parliamentarian

Karen Watson, PRP, DTM on **Saturday, September 19 at 9:30 a.m.**

There are many reasons why learning Parliamentary Procedure is valuable, and now is the perfect time! Learn how and why in this training session. All members are invited to learn how to properly conduct club meetings, official Toastmasters business, and more. Register for the event at d24parliamentaryprocedure.eventbrite.com.

Register by September 11 to have your questions and training requests addressed in the training session!

Club Payment Options

This article contains portions of a December 2018 Double Dozen submission by Nicole Rossitto and Felecia Jones

Member Dues

Are you looking for ways to retain or even increase membership in your club? Are you frustrated with the current process of collecting dues? Many clubs seem to be struggling with submitting online payments to Toastmasters International and collecting club dues.

A goal for our District is to have each Toastmaster renew their membership dues in a timely manner, but have we given members satisfactory options to pay their dues? Fortunately, we live in the online age, which enables members to combine their renewals with an online payment option.

You can connect your club bank account with a PayPal account. This makes it easy to send all members an invoice along with a link to PayPal to make the payment. It takes less than five minutes to complete. Here are the benefits for completing renewals using PayPal:

1. Timely renewals which help in achieving your club's Administrative Member Renewal goal.
2. Satisfied members due to ease of renewal payment process.
3. Aid with accurate bookkeeping.
4. A potential option to allow members to make payments if their budget is limited, by splitting the dues over time.



NOTE: There is a \$1.75 processing fee per member using the PayPal online option. Your club may consider increasing your club dues by \$1.75 per member or the club may take on the fees. Remind members that this is another option to renew their membership. Cash and checks are still accepted.

Club Treasurers should seriously consider offering PayPal as an option for your members. The benefits speak for themselves.

Submitting Renewal Payments

Club officers can submit payments by mail, by fax, or by using [Club Central](#). Club officers may also email a renewing member list, applications for any new, dual, and reinstating members to renewals@toastmasters.org.

To remain in good standing, club officers are responsible for collecting and submitting the minimum renewal payment by **October 1, 2020**. If a member wishes to submit their international dues directly to World Headquarters, the club officers can provide written authorization to renewals@toastmasters.org.

The minimum renewal requirement is eight paid members – at least three of whom were members of the club during the previous renewal period.

If you have any questions about the renewal process, please contact renewals@toastmasters.org, or refer to the [Renewal Dues FAQ](#) page on the Toastmasters International website.

Current Standings in the Distinguished Club Program (DCP)

Will your club be Distinguished this year? We are officially two months into a new Toastmasters year, and several clubs have already begun meeting goals and earning points toward Distinguished status. *Shout out to **Sunrise Toastmasters Club**, leading the pack with 6 points; they would simply need a net growth of at least five new members by June 30, 2021 to earn Distinguished status!*

- **Advanced Traveling Toastmasters**, Area A01 – 2 points
- **Tally Ho Toastmasters Club**, Area A02 – 2 points
- **Kearney Toastmasters Club**, Area A03 – 3 points
- **Gateway Club**, Area A03 – 1 point
- **Ameritoasters**, Area B12 – 2 points
- **Road 2 DTM**, Area B15 – 2 points
- **Strictly Speaking Club**, Area C21 – 3 points
- **International Friends**, Area C23 – 2 points
- **Sunrise Toastmasters Club**, Area C24 – 6 points
- **Capitol Voices Club**, Area C24 – 4 points
- **Blue Ah Busters Club**, Area D32 – 2 points
- **Speak First Club**, Area D33 – 2 points
- **Why Not Speak**, Area D33 – 2 points
- **Mutual of Omaha Toastmasters Club**, Area D33 – 1 point

See updated details on your club's performance in the Distinguished Club Program at dashboards.toastmasters.org/Club.aspx?id=24

DISTINGUISHED	5 out of 10 Goals Achieved
SELECT DISTINGUISHED	7 out of 10 Goals Achieved
PRESIDENT'S DISTINGUISHED	9 out of 10 Goals Achieved



In Case You Missed It...



The first ever virtual **Toastmasters International Convention** took place August 24-29, 2020. Despite an entirely online experience, this year's convention was full of entertaining and valuable content.

- The voting members of Toastmasters International hosted the [Annual Business Meeting](#), followed by the inauguration of International President-elect Richard Peck, DTM.
- Toastmasters International hosted the **International Speech Contest Semifinals**, which included District 24 member Ash Banaszek's speech "I Raise My Hand," followed by the **World Championship of Public Speaking finals**.
- There was no shortage of excellent keynote presentations and [educational sessions](#) discussing leadership, effective communication, forming connections, and much more.

If you missed any live-stream sessions, don't worry! You can still view the recorded content from the International Convention at toastmasters.org/events/2020-international-convention.



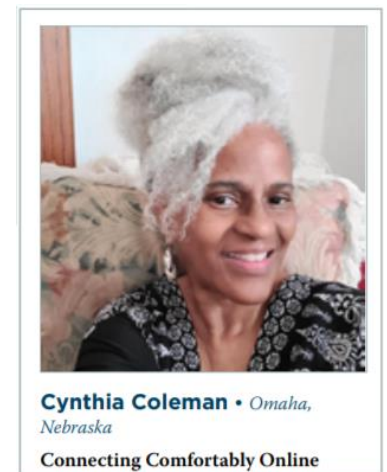
Did you know that Toastmasters International publishes a monthly magazine?

District 24's Area B12 Director **Cynthia Coleman, DTM** was featured in the [latest issue](#) of the Toastmasters International Magazine!

Page 7 of the September magazine highlights several "Masters of Online Meetings"; members that were nominated for outstanding contributions in helping others adapt and excel in our new virtual environment.

The column details Cynthia's success in helping her club, Why Not Speak, transition to online meetings as well as visiting outside club meetings and identifying needs and areas for improvement. Cynthia has also been instrumental in organizing educational sessions and establishing speak-a-thons for those needing to complete educational goals. In addition to club support, Cynthia helps set up District training sessions based on members' needs and feedback, and finds the appropriate people to do the actual training.

Thank you to Jessica Codr-Steele, DTM, for nominating her, and thank you to Cynthia for all that you continue to do for District 24!



Read the full magazine and view previous issues at toastmasters.org/magazine.

Member Educational Awards (8/1/2020-8/31/2020)

LuAnn Anglo **EC1** 8/7

Indrajit Basu **PM1** 8/2, **PM2** 8/3,
PM3 8/5, **PM4** 8/7, **PM5** 8/8

Nicole Bauer **PI1**, **PI2**, **PI3** 8/6

Paul Bauer **MS3** 8/6

Saptashati Biswas **LD2** 8/2

Tom Colling **VC1** 8/11, **EH1** 8/13

Eugene Deyoe **DL2** 8/6

Eileen Erovick **DL2** 8/24

Casey Foster **PM1** 8/10

Casey D. Foster **PM2** 8/10

Norma Gonzalez **PM3** 8/19

Marian Albin-Gramlich **SR1**, **SR2**
8/25, **VC4** 8/26, **SR3** 8/31

Melinda Haag **PI3** 8/21

Brandon Halvorsen **PM2** 8/28

Ryan Harrell **DL1** 8/21

Jeffrey Hines **IP1**, **IP2**, **IP3**, **IP4**,
PM1, **PM2**, **PM3**, **PM4**, **VC1**, **VC2**,
VC3, **VC4** 8/6

Felecia Jones **LD2**, **LD3** 8/5

Laurie Klosterboer **MS1** 8/7

Brenda Kucera **TC1**, **TC2** 8/9

Anita Brown **LD1** 8/1, **LD2** 8/23

Bradley Love **PM2** 8/17

Benjamin Malczyk **MS1**, **MS2**,
MS3 8/7

Jeff Martin **PM1** 8/6

Matthew McNally **PI1**, **PI2** 8/17

Susan Mead **LD1** 8/15

Dave Oshlo **IP1** 8/7

Beverly Patterson **VC1** 8/19

Wanda Peterson **PM1**, **PM2** 8/4

Randy Prier **VC3** 8/1

Harivololona Ramilison **PM1** 8/20

Michael Richter **VC1** 8/18

Gary Schroeder **IP1**, **IP2** 8/7

Lori Shriner **SR1**, **SR2**, **TC1**, **TC2**
8/6

Doni Stoner **SR1** 8/15, **LD5** 8/24

Thanh Dong Vo **DL4** 8/5

Jennifer Wilson **IP2** 8/22

Awards key at
[reports.toastmasters.org/reports/
850-EducationAwardsKey.pdf](https://reports.toastmasters.org/reports/850-EducationAwardsKey.pdf)



What is the District Council and Why Should You Care?

By Jessica Steele-Codr, District 24 Parliamentarian

The District Council is the governing body of our District. Decisions about how our District operates and who should serve in leadership positions are made by the District Council. You should care about the District Council because it offers your club a voice in decisions that affect all members of the District.

Through the District Council, our District is run not only by “District leaders” but by individual club leaders as well. As the District Administrative Bylaws state, “The District Director shall report to and take direction from the District Council in matters pertaining to District organization, programs, and procedures.” The District Council ensures that your club always has a say in what is happening across our District!

Who is on the District Council?

The Bylaws of Toastmasters International say, “The District Council shall consist of the District officers, Immediate Past District Director and two (2) representatives from each Member Club in the District.”

The District Administrative Bylaws further break this down as follows:

- District officers:
 - District Director, Program Quality Director, and Club Growth Director (called the “Trio”)
 - District Public Relations Manager
 - District Administration Manager
 - District Finance Manager
 - Area Directors (16 in our District)
 - Division Directors (4 in our District)
- Club representatives from every club:
 - President
 - VP Education

How does your club represent you on the District Council?

Your President and VP Education have a responsibility to represent your club at the District Council meetings. There is a minimum of two District Council meetings every Toastmasters year. The first meeting of this year is September 17, 2020. At this meeting, the District Council will vote on at least two items:

- Approval of appointed District officers – namely, the area directors, public relations manager, administration manager, and finance manager
- Approval of the District budget

Details of the appointed officers and budget should be provided two weeks prior to the meeting. These votes are your club’s chance to state whether you approve of those the District Director has appointed to leadership positions and whether you approve of how the District plans to spend money this year. They are your club’s voice in the operation of our District!

These votes will not be valid without a quorum of the District Council present. Generally, a “quorum” is the minimum number of people required for any governing body to conduct official business. For the District Council in particular, bylaws define quorum as one-third of the club representatives (Presidents and VPs Education). Note that this means District actions cannot be approved without clubs being represented and exercising their voices!

I encourage you to exercise your club’s voice September 17. If you are a Club President or VP Education, attend the District Council meeting and vote! If you are not, talk to your club President and VP Education about how they will be voting and why. Do not let your club’s voice go unheard!

If you have questions about the District Council or anything else related to District policies and procedures, do not hesitate to reach out to me at jcake2@gmail.com or 402-617-8787.