



DISTRICT 24 DOUBLE DOZEN NEWSLETTER

District News and Events

District 24

December 2023

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Be sure to check the D24
Events Calendar for
upcoming events

Questions? Comments?
Submissions? Email
newsletter@d24tm.org

Submissions for the
January Double Dozen
are due on **Dec. 28,
2023.**

For all the latest news
and events, visit
d24tm.org



Recognition or Incentive?

Submitted by Pam Hughes, DTM – District Director

Recognition. Incentives. Same? Different? We often use these terms interchangeably; is our use valid? Let's explore these questions through a Toastmasters lens. First, their definitions:

Incentive: something that incites or tends to incite to action or greater effort, as a reward offered for increased productivity.

Recognition: an act of recognizing or the state of being recognized.

I have heard many club officers relish the achievement of having 7 of their 7 officers (“7 of 7”) attend Club Officer Training. Alternatively, in the past, I have also observed clubs carefully plan to achieve a 7 of 7 goal because there may have been a ribbon to hang on their club banners if they achieved the goal. In this example, the reward of a ribbon inciting the club to plan how they were to meet that goal is an incentive. But, receiving a ribbon or a certificate is still recognition!

I have also observed fellow club members beam ear-to-ear when recognized by their Vice President-Education for completing a Pathways Level or Path – even when the recognition is simply verbal comments during a club meeting. I hope that the incentive for the member was the personal growth they earned!



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I will offer my own position that recognition can be an incentive, but the two concepts are not entirely the same. An offer that compels action by a Toastmaster is an incentive. But, we recognize each other all the time regardless of whether we observed a plan-of-action.

Clubs and the District provide recognition for many achievements whether the recognition be in the Double Dozen newsletter or on our website. Or, perhaps, direct, personal recognition with a Triple Crown pin upon completion of three levels in a year. Perhaps the reward of receiving and then wearing the earned Triple Crown pin was incentive for the member to work towards it? Likely! District 24 recognition, as of this writing, is on our [Home Page](#) and on the [Awards, Recognition, and Incentives page](#). Check it out.

We have just introduced a membership building incentive for clubs: the Open House Best Practices Campaign and Incentive. Following Best Practices such as having full buy-in and participation by all club members and having a “chair” who organizes the club’s efforts are just a few of the suggested activities that pay off with new members. The club resource referenced below includes easy-to-follow practices and a timeline for conducting a polished Open House. For clubs that meet the Best Practices criteria, we are offering a \$50 incentive: either reimbursement of any direct expenses OR a Toastmasters gift certificate. See all the details on the [D24 site, Public Downloads, Club Resources, Have a Club Open House...pdf](#)

What can a club buy with that gift certificate? Glad you asked. Among other items, \$50 will buy a Speechcraft module for the club. Clubs that conduct Speechcraft are not only helping their members who are pursuing a DTM (Speechcraft or new club sponsorship is one requirement), but also helping their club’s membership building activities. Speechcraft is a win-win all around. Information is available on the [Toastmasters website](#).

Pam Hughes, DTM – 2023/2024 District Director



2023 is Almost Over. Are You Ready for 2024?

Submitted by Cindy Jenkins, DTM – Program Quality Director



As I look at the calendar, I find it hard to believe 2023 is almost over. I asked myself if I had accomplished the goals that I set at the beginning of the year. One was to earn a Triple Crown for 2022 – 2023, which I did. By the way, that is also my goal for this Toastmasters year. For those who are not familiar with a Triple Crown, it is an award given by Toastmasters to those members who finish three or more educational levels in any path during a Toastmasters year. If you are wondering if any District 24

Toastmasters have already earned a Triple Crown, the answer is yes! Twelve Toastmasters have already achieved this award. This award is attainable by almost all Toastmasters and will be sent to you by the end of the Toastmasters year!



Another goal may be to finish your current path and start another. I encourage you to finish your current path and start a second path so you can work toward completing the first three levels. The reason is with the completion of one path and attaining three levels in a second path, you are eligible to receive the Distinguished Toastmaster (DTM) project material. When you have achieved both of these items, contact Toastmasters International Member Services and ask them to make the DTM project available to you. They will check your educational levels to be sure you have completed the necessary requirements, then the DTM project will appear in Base Camp for you to access. The completion of the project is a requirement for receiving your DTM.

Another requirement for attaining a DTM is one year of District Leadership. The District is entering the cycle where next year's leaders will be elected or appointed. The District Leadership Committee (DLC) is looking for next year's Division Directors and Trio Members. The appointed positions are Area Director, Finance Manager, Administration Manager, Public Relations Manager, and Logistics Manager. You can find the specific duties for these offices on the Toastmasters website in the [District Leadership Handbook, Item 222](#).

Club Officer Training

Registration for club officer training is still open for the following three sessions:

[Saturday, December 16, 1 – 3 pm \(UTC-6\)](#)

[Thursday, January 11, 7 – 9 pm \(UTC-6\)](#)

[Monday, January 15, 6 – 8 pm \(UTC-6\)](#)

You can register by clicking on the date you want to attend. We are very lucky to have David Premo, DTM and our current PRM, opening each session with How to Market Your Club Using Social Media. Following David on December 16 is Randy Prier, DTM, PDG, PID with Effective Evaluations. On January 11 and 15, George Volz, DTM, PDD, PDG will offer insights on introducing Pathways to new members.

Remember, these sessions are open to all Toastmasters! If you are interested in one or more of the sessions, go ahead and register! Clubs that have four or more officers attend a Round 2 session AND that had four or more officers attend the Round 1 Club Officer Training will earn one DCP point. That's 41 clubs that are eligible for this easy-to-earn DCP point. Clubs sending all seven officers to training will receive special recognition from District 24.

If you have any questions about any information in this article, please email me, Cindy Jenkins, at cindy.jenkins18020@gmail.com

I wish all of you a very safe and happy holiday season!

Cindy Jenkins, D24 PQD

The Distinguished Club Program... What's in it for YOU?

Submitted by Carol Sullivan, DTM – Club Growth Director



I am sure that you all have seen the emails going out about the Club Officer Training, and the Open House Best Practices/ Incentive. I thought I would write a little about the Distinguished Club Program so you could see an example of why club officer training and Increased membership are important.

Distinguished Club Program:

If you've been a member for more than a few months, chances are you've heard of the Distinguished Club Program, or DCP. You may also know that each year, clubs that perform well in the DCP are recognized for their efforts and can proudly display a Distinguished, Select Distinguished or President's Distinguished ribbon on their club banner. But, what's in it for YOU, the individual member?



Here's why focusing on your club's performance in the DCP should matter to every Toastmasters member:

- **The DCP promotes club quality.** Clubs that perform well in the DCP provide a high-quality club experience for all of its members. Each aspect of the DCP, from membership to education awards to club officer training, is designed to enhance and reinforce the enjoyment and supportive atmosphere for each member, every time the club meets.
- **The DCP ensures productive meetings.** Focusing on the educational Pathway goals of the DCP will keep members moving through the education program. When people earn communication and leadership awards, they gain much more than just a certificate or points toward the DCP; they gain the satisfaction and confidence that comes from completing a goal. They also provide an inspirational example for other club members, who can see the transformation that has occurred as a direct result of Toastmasters training. Other aspects of the DCP help keep meetings productive, too. Keeping club membership at or above 20, for example, will fill club meeting roles and maintain the energy level needed for a successful meeting.
- **The DCP provides structure and guidance.** Clubs that perform well in the DCP always know who should be doing what and when they should be doing it. The club officer training requirements of the DCP, for example, help to ensure that club business is conducted fairly, efficiently and in accordance with Toastmasters policy. Similarly, the educational goals of the DCP provide direction and incentive for all members to achieve individually as well as collectively.

- **The DCP increases the enthusiasm of the club.** The goal is not for clubs to compete against one another: it's for all clubs to strive to achieve the same standards of excellence. Nonetheless, striving for achievement in the DCP is a way to engage the spirit of friendly competition that can help motivate club members to perform their duties with gusto!



So, remember: When you work hard to help your club achieve in the DCP you're not only helping your club – You're helping yourself as well.



Please check out the Open House-Best Practices/Incentive Flier on page 6. This incentive has been added to d24tm.org, Public Downloads, Club Resources, Have a Club Open House.

Carol Sullivan, D24 CGD





Have a Club Open House, and D24 Pays the Tab!

Host three guests, sign one new member, and get \$50!!!

Steps for success:

Item	Task	Responsible	Timing
1	Select Date	All Members	8 Weeks Out
All club members must agree to support the Open House date.			
2	Choose "Lead" or Chair	All Members	7 Weeks Out
Lead coordinates all the planning and execution, but does not perform all roles/tasks			
3	Appoint Member for Follow-up	Lead + Club Officers	6 Weeks Out
4	Inform Area Director, PRM, prm@d24tm.org , and Admin. Manager am@d24tm.org	Club President	6 Weeks Out
5	Members Agree to 1+ Guest	All members	4 Weeks Out
6	Agenda Done/All Roles Filled	Lead	3 Weeks Out
7*	Speeches/Table Topics Practice	All members	2 Weeks Out
8*	Guest Packets Ready	Lead + VP Membership	1 Week Out
9	Room/Refreshments Ready	Lead + SAA	1 Hour Before
10	Club Members Arrive 30 min early	All Members	30 Min Before
11	Guests Greeted Individually	All Members	Showtime!
Guest packets are provided at the door or digitally provided to each on-line guest upon arrival.			
12*	Guest Book (Live & Virtual)	Lead+VP Membership	Showtime!
13	Open House Meeting	Toastmaster of the Day	Showtime
14*	Questions Asked & Answered	President	Curtain Time
15*	1st Follow-up	Follow-up Chair	w/in 24 hours
16	2nd Follow-up	Follow-up Chair	

Seek volunteers for all roles.

Important Points

7*	All Table Topics questions are light, fun, or uplifting.
8*	Suggestions: membership application, agenda for the meeting, one page about the club. In-person club guest packet or on-line digital packet.
12*	Collect guest information in either a guestbook or in ZOOM chat (email and phone number).
14*	Guest surveyed for comments and/or question. Schedule ice-breaker?
15*	Next day: thank you for attending, ask for questions, invite to the next meeting with exact date/time. Ask if they want to be on club's mailing list
16*	For guests who do not respond to first follow-up.



The Fine Print

Club Incentives--one per club by June 30, 2024: reimbursement of direct costs up to \$50 or a \$50 Toastmasters International gift certificate which can be used for a Speechcraft module, a customizable meeting sign, ribbons or certificates, a guest book, and more. **Requirements:** submit to cgd@d24tm.org: The Open House Agenda and promotional materials, contact information of at least 3 attendees, and the name of at least 1 attendee who joined the club due to the Open House. The request should specify whether reimbursement of expenses is requested or a \$50 TI certificate is requested.

You can give a TED talk.

Submitted by David Gillis



I'm David Gillis and I'm on the TEDx Omaha board. TED started in 1984 as a non-partisan, non-profit conference focused on technology, entertainment, and design, which spawned the acronym TED. In 2009, we became one of the first local versions which were called TEDx events.

We are a non-profit 501(c)3 organization focused on finding local people with "ideas worth spreading" who would be interested in applying to speak at our 2024 annual main event next fall at Creighton University in Omaha.

I've been a Toastmaster for many years and know what incredible people are in our clubs.

People don't need a fully formed talk. They just need a great "idea worth spreading." Over approximately 6 months, I (or one of the other speaker coaches) will help you craft your idea into a script. Extensive speaker experience isn't required.

The 2024 theme is "Connections" so every talk should be related to that. Talks average about 12 minutes with 18 minutes being the maximum.

TED talks are different from keynotes or personal stories. They need to focus on a unique "idea worth spreading."

TED has given us a few guidelines regarding speakers.

- 1) **No commercial agendas.** You can't use the stage to pitch your services or sell your books. It's not a platform for professional or circuit speakers, such as motivational speakers or professional life coaches.
- 2) **No political agendas or inflammatory rhetoric.** The TEDx stage is not for partisan politics. Speakers should focus on discussing concrete problems and solutions.
- 3) **No religious agendas.** Speakers shouldn't attempt to prove or persuade the correctness of a single belief system.
- 4) **No bad science.** TED has specific science standards. Scientific claims should be able to be tested experimentally or based on theories considered credible by experts in the field. I can give you more info on this if you'd like.

The TEDx Omaha talks will be recorded. Each of the 2022 talks has between 400 total up to 200,000 views. You don't, however, need thousands of views to make an impact. If you can help one person with your "idea worth spreading," the world can be a better place.

Our 2024 application window is now open at TEDxOmaha.com. The deadline for applications is December 24, 2023.

I'm available to answer questions to anyone interested.

Email me at David@SparkFinancialWellness.com.

Say “Yes” to District Leadership!

Submitted by Keith Jones, DTM – Immediate Past District Director

The District Leadership Committee is seeking candidates for District Leadership. The seven District Leadership positions we are seeking candidates for are: District Director, Program Quality Director, Club Growth Director (at least two nominees per Toastmasters International), and four Division Directors (A-D Divisions).

Candidates may self-nominate, agree to serve when a member of the DLC calls, or be nominated by another active Toastmasters member.

Serving in District leadership is an unparalleled growth opportunity for you as well as a chance to share your knowledge and experience with District 24. The term will begin July 1, 2024, and end June 30, 2025.

District leadership is a fun, challenging, and an exhilarating year of value and positive personal development!

Candidates must meet the following requirements:

- Member in good standing of a Toastmasters District 24 club that is in good standing
- Meet the qualifications of the position
- Complete and submit all required documentation:
 - Candidate Application
 - [District Leader Nominating Form](#)
 - District Leader Agreement and Release Statement
 - Submit a completed Candidate Biography Form
 - Submit a high-resolution headshot photograph

The deadline for candidates to declare intent to run and be considered for nomination by the DLC is tentatively **February 15, 2024** but may be extended if needed.

NOTE: Please send the [nomination forms](#) to the District Leadership Chair, Keith Jones at ipdd@d24tm.org.

Shine the Light on Your Club!

Has your club done something to support the community while sharing about Toastmasters? If so, let us know!

Send a photo and brief article, and we will feature your club in a future issue of the Double Dozen!

Educational Awards, November 2023

See awards key at <http://reports.toastmasters.org/reports/850-EducationAwardsKey.pdf>
Congratulations to our D24 Toastmasters who earned Educational Awards in November!

<u>Name</u>	<u>Award</u>	<u>Date</u>
Linda Wilson, DTM	PM5	11/06/2023
Jennifer Hamilton, MS1	MS1	11/07/2023
William Zuck, TC3	TC3	11/09/2023
03418711 - Name unavailable	IP2	11/14/2023
Carla Stephenson, MS4	MS1	11/14/2023
Carla Stephenson, MS4	MS2	11/14/2023
Carla Stephenson, MS4	MS3	11/14/2023
Carla Stephenson, MS4	MS4	11/14/2023
Thomas Noack, PM4	PM1	11/15/2023
Thomas Noack, PM4	PM2	11/15/2023
Thomas Noack, PM4	PM3	11/15/2023
Thomas Noack, PM4	PM4	11/15/2023
Thomas Noack, PM4	PWMP	11/15/2023
07246879 - Name unavailable	DL1	11/15/2023
David Gillis, IP3	IP3	11/15/2023
David Gillis, IP3	SR1	11/15/2023
David Gillis, IP3	SR2	11/15/2023
Linda Necker, MS2	LD2	11/15/2023
Linda Necker, MS2	MS2	11/15/2023
Tina Andrews, PM3	PM2	11/15/2023
Tina Andrews, PM3	PM3	11/15/2023

Educational Awards, November 2023 (Cont.)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Award</u>	<u>Date</u>
David Geck, PM5	PWMP	11/15/2023
David White, DTM	EH4	11/15/2023
David White, DTM	EH5	11/15/2023
Lee Henning, DL1	DL1	11/17/2023
Chad Shoemaker, PM1	PM1	11/28/2023
Brenda Angulo, PM2	PM2	11/28/2023
Dwaine Divis, DL3	DL3	11/29/2023
Naomi Lyon, LD1	LD1	11/29/2023
Kristin Malek, IP3	IP3	11/30/2023
Laurel Shoaff-Tranick, PM1	PM1	11/30/2023
Laurel Shoaff-Tranick, PM1	VC3	11/30/2023
Malathi Balu, DL1	DL1	11/30/2023
Joanne Sprott, PM3	PM3	11/30/2023

