

Toastmasters District 26 Spring Conference
Minutes from the Council and Business Meeting, May 4, 2019
Doubletree Hotel by Hilton, Greenwood Village, CO

Call to Order and Meeting Opening

At 2:51 pm, the meeting was called to order by Marcia Wood, Distinguished Toastmaster (DTM), District Director, Council Meeting Chair, hereafter referred to as the "Council Meeting Chair".

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Keith Horowitz, DTM, presented the invocation.

Mission Statement

The District mission statement was read by the Council Meeting Chair and all in attendance.

Meeting Appointments

The Council Meeting Chair welcomed everyone and introduced the Parliamentarian, Alan Swartz, DTM, Past District Governor, and the Acting Administrative Manager, Jeanne Ladewig, DTM.

Credentials Committee Report

Presented by Beth Boaz, DTM, Past District Governor, Past International Director, Credentials Chair

This report provides information on the health of District 26 in respect to voting at today's meeting. As of today (May 4, 2019), there are 183 clubs in the District. Each club has 2 votes. To have a quorum, 1/3 of the club Presidents and Vice-Presidents of Education must be represented. District Officers are also entitled to 1 vote. District Officer votes do not factor in the quorum.

For today's meeting, the required number of votes to constitute a quorum is 122. The following votes have been certified by Credentials:

150 Club Officer Votes and 24 District Officer Votes for a total of 174 votes.

Therefore, a quorum is achieved.

For matters requiring a simple majority vote, the necessary number of votes will be 88.

For matters requiring a 2/3 majority, the necessary number of votes will be 117.

Credentials Calculations (not presented at the Business Meeting.)

Calculation of a Quorum:

1. Total number of clubs 183×2 votes = 366 total possible club votes.
2. Divide total possible club votes by 3 to determine the necessary votes for a quorum. 366 total possible club votes, divided by 3 = 122 votes needed for a quorum.

Calculate Simple Majority: 174 total votes certified divided by 2 = $87 + 1 = 88$.

Calculate 2/3 Majority: 174 total votes certified $\times 2 = 348$ divided by 3, then $+ 1 = 117$.

The Council Meeting Chair declared a quorum to be present and announced that the District Council can conduct business.

Procedural Instructions

The Council Meeting Chair provided the following procedural instructions:

On occasion, the chair will use a procedure called unanimous consent to expedite business not considered controversial. You will hear the phrase, “without objection” or “if there is no objection” in each case. If you wish the issue to be debated and voted upon, simply call out “I object” or “objection.”

Voting Procedures

Each member of the District Council in attendance at this council meeting, or his or her proxy is entitled to one vote. Any active individual member who carries the proxies of both the club President and Vice President Education from a member club is entitled to two votes; and any such individual member who is also entitled to a vote as a member of the District Executive Committee is entitled to three votes. All other members of district council shall be limited to a maximum of two votes.

Conducting Business

In order to conduct business as efficiently as possible we will follow Roberts’s Rules of Order. Any procedural question will be directed to the Parliamentarian whose decision will stand. Although any Toastmaster may attend a District Council Meeting, only members of the District Council may debate or vote on an issue. As a point of clarification, members of the District Council are Club Presidents and Vice Presidents Education or their Proxy carriers and members of the Executive Committee who are the District Director, Program Quality Director, Club Growth Director, Administration Manager, Finance Manager, Public Relations Manager, Division Directors, Area Directors and the Immediate Past District Director.

Bringing Business Before the Council

If you have business to present or a motion to make, please rise, address the Council Meeting Chair, show your ballot, and state your name and the name of the club you are representing for the Administration Manager to record. State the question, business or motion. If a motion is made, allow time for a second. If the motion is seconded, I will call for discussion. If the motion is debatable, the person making the motion will be allowed to speak first. Debate will then continue with a person for opposition, followed by one in favor and continuing to alternate between pro and con until everyone is heard or debate is closed, at which time we will vote.

Parliamentary Note

Presented by Alan Swartz, DTM, Past District Governor

If I want to offer a motion to stop debate, that is called “Previous Question.” It is a motion that requires a second and is not debated. Shouting out “Question” is not a motion and does not show respect for your neighbors or this assembly.

Appointments

The Council Meeting Chair made the following appointments without objections:

Tellers – Laria Lovec, DTM, Natalie Palmer, DTM, Tom Marrs, DTM

Timers – Patty Saunders ACB, ALB, James Owiny, PM3

Microphone Controllers – Beth Baker Owens ACS, ALB, Randee Ryan, CC, ALB

Approval of the Agenda

The Council Meeting Chair asked the members of the Council to review the agenda included in all packets for the District Council Meeting on May 4, 2019. There were no corrections made. The agenda was approved by unanimous consent.

Approval of the Meeting Minutes from the May 2018 District Council Meeting

The Council Meeting Chair announced that the meeting minutes from the May 19, 2018 District Council minutes were posted on the District 26 website. An announcement of this location was made in advance of the May 4, 2019 District Council Meeting.

There were no corrections made. The minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

Audit Committee Report

Presented by Brenda Uitts, CC, CL, Audit Committee Chair

Audit committee members:

Diane Nuss
Katrina Johnson and
Brenda Uitts

Summary:

1. The Audit Committee reviewed the books for the period from July 1, 2018 to December 31, 2018.
2. The Audit Committee Chair thanked the committee team members.
3. The audit was performed consistent with the audit process approved by Toastmasters International.
 - a. The committee reviewed copies of all canceled checks to ensure signatory guidelines were followed.
 - b. The committee reviewed all vouchers (reimbursement and deposit) to ensure appropriate signatures, supporting documents, and preapprovals were present.
 - c. The committee reviewed all expenditures to verify that they matched the Payment Register and all deposits to verify that they matched the Receipt Register.
 - d. The committee reviewed Profit and Loss statements to verify that they matched other documentation.
 - e. The committee reviewed documentation to verify that all transactions were appropriate as dictated by Toastmasters International.
4. The committee concluded that the finance records for District 26 are clean and appropriate as dictated by Toastmasters International.

The mid-year audit report was approved. The Council Meeting Chair directed the Administration Manager to enter into the record as reported and thanked Audit Committee Chair Brenda Uitts and the Audit Committee for their diligent work on the audit.

Appointed District Officers Report

The Council Meeting Chair announced the appointed officers since the Fall District Council meeting, October 6, 2018. There were four appointments as follows:

Retention Chair: Victoria Bard
Logistics Manager: A. J. Herran
E-3 Area Director: Ali Abouzalam, CC, CL
M-5 Area Director: Cynthia Schuller, DTM

Esther Cook, Toast-a-matics, moved to accept the appointments as made by the Council Meeting Chair.

Terrence Smith, Peterson Toastmasters, seconded the motion.
The appointments were approved.

The Council Meeting Chair directed the Administration Manager to enter into the record as accepted.

District Finance Manager Report

Presented by Justin Searles, ACB

A copy of the 2018-2019 Budget and the Financial Report is in all packets. The signatures of the four officers that approved the report are included. The Finance Manager gave a verbal report.

Joyce Feustel, DTM, Excelsior, questioned why the available funds verbally reported do not match the "available funds" page in the report distributed to all.

The Finance Manager explained that upon closer inspection, the numbers used in the verbal report were more up to date than the numbers provided in the handout; he had assumed (incorrectly) that they would be the same. Therefore, the numbers in the verbal report were more recent, and consequently, inaccurate with respect to the time period given, effective the end of March. The Finance Manager amended his report to accurately reflect the numbers given in the handout, effective the end of March.

The Profit & Loss report (P/L) was accurate and matched between verbal and handout because they were effective end of year 2018; those numbers are reported on a semiannual basis rather than on a quarterly.

Bob Kittredge, Front Range TM – Were we expecting to lose 11k this year?

Finance Manager: Yes, that's correct.

Finance Manager's Report (written record after the meeting):

Current Balances (effective 3/31):

- First Bank (non-TM expenses): \$41,253.16
- PayPal (temp. revenue holding): \$5,756.33
- District Reserves (TM expenses): \$136,429.70

Notes

- Profit/Loss at mid-year:
 - Budgeted: (11,827.99)
 - Actual: (7,059.91)
 - Variance: 4,768.08
- Wrapping up Q3 reconciliation
- Coordinate with International to get reports for auditing to make their job easier
- Currently have one successor interested in Finance Manager 2019-2020

The Council Meeting Chair directed the Administration Manager to enter into the record as reported.

District Alignment Committee Report

Presented by Mark Entekin, ACS, ALB, Alignment Committee Chair

The District Alignment Report is included in the Spring Council Meeting packet. The purpose of the alignment is to rebalance clubs in an Area/Division due to the changeover in clubs (new clubs, clubs closing) and to more fairly distribute the number of clubs within each Area.

The rebalancing of clubs/areas included:

- Transfer of Eastern Division Area 7 to Foothills Division Area 5
- Southern Division Areas consolidated from 6 to 5
- Clubs moved from/to Areas (refer to the packet for details)

The Council Meeting Chair introduced Proposal A, “Should District 26 allow the realignment of clubs to other Areas within existing Divisions?” The proposal will be discussed.

Carol Pace, DTM, BodyShops, - What’s the protocol for submitting an amendment to the proposal?

It was confirmed that this was the correct forum. Carol Pace then presented (and provided hardcopy to the Administrative Manager) an amendment for the Denver Division and an amendment for the Urban Division as follows:

Denver Division

- move On Broadway to D-1
- add HAvocado Toast to D-3

Urban Division

- move Cherry Creek such that U5 would consist of Cherry Creek, Timberline, El Puente, DU Speaks, and Janus.
- define U6 as consisting of BodyShops, C4HCO, Pinnacol, and TOPS.

Carol made a motion to amend the alignment committee report (Proposal A) to move On Broadway to D-1.

Louise Watson, ACS, ALB, On Broadway, seconded the motion.

Terry Ploski, DTM, Golden Orators, gave statements in support of Carol Pace's and Louise Watson's inputs and recommended approval of the amendment.

The amendment passed.

Carol Pace motioned to amend the alignment committee report (Proposal A) to add HAVocado Toast to D-3.

Glenn Knight, VC3, Artfully Speaking, seconded the motion.

As a reminder of priorities, the Council Meeting Chair asked the alignment committee to correct her if wrong, but the realignment priorities are:

1. geography
2. strength of all the clubs combined
3. who competes and who doesn't

Carol Pace motioned to amend the alignment committee report (Proposal A) to move Cherry Creek Toastmasters to U5

Keith Bailey, Cherry Creek TM – Why move us instead of BodyShops?

Carol Pace - I have no preference as to which of the two clubs move. We have two of the most unbelievable clubs in the district in the same area and we're not sharing our strengths with other areas.

Esther Cook. Toast-a-matics – Isn't there already a proposal to move BodyShops to D-6?

Council Meeting Chair – That is a mistake. In Proposal A no clubs from U5 or U6 are going to D6.

Nancy Winston, DTM, Excelsior Advanced Club – Is there some other club that can be moved from U5 to U6?

Council Meeting Chair – As a committee member I am opposed to changing U6. The committee worked hard using easymapmaker.com to consider the geography and the other priorities I mentioned were considered. A Town Hall conference call (on April 24) was held for feedback, and the realignment list was distributed to voters 17 days prior to the Business Meeting.

Trixie Hunter-Merrill, ACG, ALB, moved to table the motion for moving Cherry Creek Toastmasters to U5 until next year.

Alan Swartz, Parliamentarian – The motion cannot be tabled. The proper procedure is to vote down this second amendment. Can't table because this would table the entire alignment (Proposal A).

Stacey Williams, DTM, Resource Masters – I was unable to make the Town Hall call. Are there minutes available?

Council Meeting Chair – The Town Hall was not a formally recognized meeting so taking minutes was not required. The Town Hall was just answers to questions.

Stacey Williams – Shouldn't we have the answers to the questions?

Council Meeting Chair – The meeting was not recorded.

Stacey Williams – The District should consider taking minutes in the future.

Mark Entrekin – The committee considered the number of members, distances between clubs and in areas, etc.; we worked with the process. Map-maker was especially helpful and allowed us to put all the members together. I'll vote against the amendment.

Glenn Knight, – The realignment makes a fairly major change in Southern, reducing the areas. Overall, the intent is to strengthen my division and all divisions. This is all a good effort.

Council Meeting Chair -- Called for vote.

The No's carried. The amendment to move Cherry Creek to U5 was defeated.

Kevin Whaley, ACG, ALB, Peterson TM – Does it take a majority? The yes/no's were based on verbal. Should we take a more formal vote?

Alan Swartz – To dispute a vote, the correct procedure is to call for a "Division of the House" if you think it was wrong.

Kevin Whaley - My question was point of order. What if the No's included those who just want to get out of the room [editorial note: it was very warm in the room] instead of from those in the affected clubs?

No further action was taken. The amendment to move Cherry Creek to U5 remained defeated.

Carol Pace – I won't proceed with the proposal for U6 since it isn't valid without approving the move of Cherry Creek to U5.

Alan Swartz - To clarify, the first amendment consisted of:

Denver Division

- move On Broadway to D-1
- add HAvocado Toast to D-3

Victoria Cox, DTM, S-Peak Leaders – On Stacey's comment, if you are not able to make a meeting, make a note to have another leader go in your place. Have a back-up leader so these items can be discussed prior to the business meeting. Plus, if an emergency comes up this will ensure you're equally represented at the Town Hall or other meeting.

Joe Sean Kennedy, IP2, Thunderbolt Orators, - How do you get on the committee?

Mark Entrekin – Let him know through Linked-In or otherwise. Put February 1st on your calendar as the date to jump in.

Mark Entrekin provided his contact information and encouraged interested members to contact him.

Nancy Winston, Excelsior. – If the realignment is approved and a club folds, will the realignment have to be totally redone or how is that taken care of?

Mark Entrekin – We don't have to realign to remove or add clubs. The realignment is done once a year.

Nancy Winston – W1 has one club that's been suspended and there's a second club that's really struggling. What happens with the numbering? This is a numbering issue not just the club.

Mark Entrekin – This will be considered in the next realignment. The numbers stay and clubs can be moved around within the Areas.

Bonnie Ann Smith, 21st Century toastmasters – What motion do I need to make to make this move on?

Mark Entrekin – We need a motion to approve the alignment report.

Joe Sean Kennedy, Thunderbolt Orators, motioned to accept the realignment (Proposal A) with the first amendment that was passed.

The Council Meeting Chair called for a vote to approve Proposal A as amended [editorial note: "as amended" means the passage of the Denver Division changes to move On Broadway to D-1 and to add HAvocado Toast to D-3.

Proposal A as amended was approved.

The Council Meeting Chair directed the Administration Manager to enter into the record Proposal A as approved.

District Leadership Committee Report

Presented by Rhea Thompson, DTM, PDD, DL Committee Chair.

Madame District Director, members of the District Council, fellow Toastmasters and guests. On behalf of the District Leadership Committee, composed of:

- Rhea Thompson, DTM, PDD, and Committee Chair
- Carolyn Conover, DTM - representing Denver Division
- Robin McIntosh, Jr., DTM - representing Denver Division
- Linda Fellion, PM2 - representing Eastern Division
- Chrys Withrow, DTM - representing Eastern Division

- Lori High, DTM - representing Foothills Division
- Colette Smith, DTM - representing Foothills Division
- Claudette Ereik, DTM - representing Metro Division
- Tom Ludlow, SR1 - representing Metro Division
- Gini Horner, ACS, ALS - representing Northern Division
- Gayle Rodgers, CC, ALB - representing Northern Division
- Rusty Stephens, DTM - representing Southern Division
- Marty Scholes, ACS, ALB - representing Southern Division
- Nick Breen, DTM - representing Urban Division
- Tom Marrs, DTM, - representing Urban Division
- Joe Fleenor, DTM - representing Urban Division
- Gordon Savage, DTM, - representing Urban Division
- Laria Lovec, DTM, - representing Western Division

It is my privilege to present the following nominations for the 2019-2020 elected district officer positions:

District Director:

Mike Akins, clubs: 9375 Talking Ideas Toastmasters Club

Program Quality Director:

Jacqueline Smith, clubs: 2136 Aurorators Toastmasters Club

Club Growth Director:

Victoria Cox, clubs: 644254 Tenacious Toastmasters, 4002183 S-Peak Leaders, 1155833 Top Class Toastmasters

Terry Ploski, clubs: 2626 Golden Orators

Denver Division Director:

David Johnson, clubs: 3247 Excelsior Advanced Toastmasters Club, 3801 Downtowners Toastmasters Club, 3942 George Sutton Toastmasters Club, 7448 Evening Stars Club

Eastern Division Director: Open

Foothills Division Director:

Stephanee Borck, club: 6104573 WorldView Toastmasters Club

Metro Division Director:

Jeff Ruiz, club: 4109334 Eloquent Entrepreneurs

Cynthia Schuller, club: 1440289 Spirited Speakers

Northern Division Director:

David Dawson, clubs: 8593 Pathfinder Club, 97 Pioneer Toastmasters Club

Southern Division Director:

Bonnie Ann Smith, clubs: 4829 21st Century Toastmasters, 555 Colorado Springs Toastmasters Club, 4002183 S-Peak Leaders, 1155833 Top Class Toastmasters

Urban Division Director:

Marc April, clubs: 2136 Aurorators Toastmasters Club

Western Division Director:

Greg Harris, clubs: 3413 Gates to Excellence Toastmasters

Tom Marrs, Simply Speaking – Isn't Ali Abouzalam running for Eastern?

Council Meeting Chair – He's running from the floor. The nominating committee didn't nominate anyone which is why the position on the slide says "Open".

Election Process

Presented by the Council Meeting Chair

During the elections, the Chair will call for floor candidate nominations for an office. After nominations are closed, candidates will have 2 minutes to present their qualifications for contested elections. After presentations by all nominated candidates for an office, election ballots will be collected and counted. Candidates are expected to assign one member to observe the counting of ballots. Each election is completed and the winner announced before moving to a subsequent office. Candidates not elected may be nominated from the floor for subsequent offices. Protocol 9.0 paragraph 11.D defines the nomination process. After the chair calls for nominations, floor candidates rise and state their name and club number. A voting member of the District council or proxyholder will then rise, state their name, club number and nominate the candidate. Before proceeding to give their 2-minute presentation, the floor candidate must give a signed Officer Agreement and Release Statement Form to District Leadership Committee Chair, Rhea Thompson, if not done previously.

Election of the 2019-2020 District Officers

Presented by the Council Meeting Chair

There were no nominations from the floor for District 26 Director nor for Program Quality Director. The Council Meeting Chair instructed the Administration Manager to cast one elective ballot each for Mike Akins, District 26 Director, and for Jacqueline Smith, Program Quality Director.

There were no nominations from the floor for Club Growth Director. Victoria Cox and Terry Ploski each presented a 2-minute presentation for the position. While ballots were counted, the District Officer Reports were presented.

District Officer Reports

Presented by the Council Meeting Chair

We will now hear the District Officer Reports on the State of the District. Each District Officer has

two minutes for their reports. The Timers will lead the applause at 2 minutes 15 seconds.

Program Quality Director

Presented and submitted by Mike Akins, DTM

What a great year for education and training! Thank you volunteers and leaders for executing all the training, contests, Fall Expo and this Spring Conference. Without you, we could not support our clubs or members as well.

For a trip down memory lane, nearly 80 events were organized and posted to our District calendar: <https://www.d26toastmasters.org/our-calendar/>

But first, let's discuss the most important aspect...

Distinguished clubs status as of 5/3/19

- **43** clubs have earned Distinguished+. We need at least **78** to qualify for Distinguished District.
- According to this "Daily report": <http://reports2.toastmasters.org/District.cgi?dist=26>, 93 clubs already have 5+ goals submitted but many are short membership.
- According to this "Almost Distinguished" report: <http://reports2.toastmasters.org/Needs.cgi?dist=26>, 14 clubs only need 1-2 members to be distinguished.
- This "To Do" report: <http://reports2.toastmasters.org/ToDo.cgi?dist=26>, helps focus our attention on what's needed at the clubs, areas and divisions.

Fall Training Expo 10/20/18

- Our webpage was: <https://www.d26toastmasters.org/fall-training-expo/>
- This was our replacement event since fall contests and conferences were discontinued
- We celebrated our 70th District anniversary
- We held a Hall of Fame awards celebration
- Kyle Wilson was the Expo chair
- Sheryl Roush was our keynote speaker
- 151 registered to attend

Spring Conference 5/3 & 5/4/19

- Our webpage is: <https://www.d26toastmasters.org/spring-conference-2019/>
- Louise Watson is the conference chair
- Darren LaCroix is our keynote speaker
- 40 volunteers have worked hard to execute a great event
- 40 more are contest functionaries
- 20 more are contestants or speakers
- A record 235 registered including 15 WHQ staff.

30 Speech contests were held

- First year skipping fall contests, per WHQ direction. We decided to hold International Speech (required) and Evaluation contests during the spring.
- 21 Area contests were held during March/April
- 8 Division contests were held during March/April with winners competing at District

4 District Officer Trainings (DOTs) were held at Xilinx, Longmont, CO

- 7/14/18 - first training event for new district leaders.

- 12/1/18 - second training event, focused on Spring contests
- 3/2/19 - focused on open house for potential district officers. Our Region Advisor, Rob Christeson, attended and helped train.
- 6/22/19 - date is reserved for incoming district officers. We must have 85% trained for Distinguished District qualification.

10 Toastmasters Leadership Institutes (TLIs) were held

- 6/2/18 - Southern Division
- 6/9/18 - Denver/Metro/Urban/Foothills Divisions
- 6/16/18 - Western Division
- 6/23/18 - Northern Division
- 6/30/18 - Eastern Division
- 1/5/19 - Foothills/Western Divisions
- 1/5/19 - Metro/Denver/Urban Divisions
- 1/12/19 - Southern Division
- 1/19/19 - Eastern Division
- 1/26/19 - Northern Division

42 Club Officer Trainings (COTs) were held

- Leaders held 26 COT make-up sessions in round 1 during July/August. Between the TLIs and COTs, 62% of clubs had at least four officers trained, which matches the previous year.
- Leaders held 16 COT make-up sessions in round 2 during January/February. Between the TLIs and COTs, 54% of clubs had at least four officers trained.

Let's finish the year strong!

Club Growth Director

Presented and submitted by Jacqueline Smith, DTM

- Nine Clubs Chartered
 - C4hCO Collaborative Communications, 04/02/19
 - HAvocado Toast, 02/28/18
 - TU Mile High Toasters, 01/24/19
 - Platte County Toastmasters Club, 01/03/19
 - Lookout Leaders, 12/21/18
 - Webroot Toastmasters, 10/12/18
 - SuiteTalkers, 10/18/18
 - Elimators Toastmasters Club, 08/20/18
 - Yellowstone Toastmasters, 08/03/18
- Charters in Process at WHQ
 - CU Chip Chat, awaiting charter date
 - Zoom Communications, awaiting charter date and movement from Undistricted to District 26. No longer online exclusively, at least 50% members in Denver with option for virtual attendance
- Chartering Paperwork being completed
 - CTEC affiliated with Charter Communications
 - Riverton, WY group

- Club Support Roles Assigned
 - 13 club mentors
 - 8 club sponsors
 - 10 club coaches

- Kickoff Meetings held
 - 8 kickoff meetings for prospective groups, this does not include future kickoff meetings or kickoff meetings not coordinated through CGD.

- Eight Suspended Clubs as of March 31, 2019
 - Toastblasters Speaking Club
 - Steamboat Toastmasters Club
 - RingCentral Toastmasters
 - ANM Speaks
 - Meridian Mid-Day Toast
 - Commerce Communicators
 - Constant Contact
 - Proudly Speaking

Denver Division

Presented and submitted by Carol Pace, DTM

The Denver Division has 27 clubs in 6 areas.

Area Club Visits are well underway and 16 of 27 club visit reports are complete and submitted. Most of the remaining visits are scheduled or complete and the club visit reports have been started.

At dues renewal 3 clubs did not have Complete Renewals. One club has indicated its intention to disband, after being unable to recruit members and leaders within a Restricted Club environment. A second corporate club is still considering its future and has had swings in membership, but little leadership beyond 1-2 officers. A third club is short of 8 members, but fully intends to achieve good standing, and has requested coach support throughout the year but not been able to be assigned a coach.

There are multiple additional Denver Division clubs that have membership challenges, both Restricted and Open Clubs. Some of the corporate clubs tend to have major membership and officer changes due to changing work situations.

Within the DCP program 7 clubs have reached Distinguished status, including 2 President's Distinguished and 1 Select Distinguished. Other clubs have membership numbers issues, and may not be able to achieve Distinguished status this year.

Area D5 has reached Distinguished Area status.

All of the 6 areas have area directors as well as club leaders that have made significant efforts to build their areas and clubs, and are to be commended for these efforts.

The Division has made a major successful effort to have clubs attend Club Officer Trainings (COTs)

70 officers received credit for their clubs, in addition to those that attended TLI's or other trainings.

Numerous club marketing ideas have been proposed and some have been explored. A few clubs have been successful with their strategies.

The Division Director has been steadily involved in numerous educational and training opportunities, at the Club, Area, Division and District levels, notably supporting Pathways, club officer and district officer training, working with struggling clubs, as well as in kickoffs, demos, and launching new clubs. The Division Director has spent time on a number of specific issues, including increasing accessibility for the sight-impaired. Another area of attention has been assisting members who wish to complete DTMs within the grandfather period.

Eastern Division

Presented and submitted by Sarah Beasley, DTM

Status Summary

- Need 31 paid clubs and 13 Distinguished clubs to be a Distinguished Division
- Currently at 30 paid clubs and 6 Distinguished clubs

Progress

- Area Director Reports
 - E2 & E7 ADs have completed 100% of their reports
 - E3 AD has completed 75% of his reports
 - E4 - 50%
 - E5 - 40%
- DCP Status
 - 1 club is Distinguished
 - 2 clubs are Select Distinguished
 - 3 clubs are President's Distinguished
- Clubs in Good Standing
 - All clubs except Morgan County Club and the clubs we knew were disbanding are paid and in good standing.
- Eastern Division Contest is on April 27

Areas in Need of Attention

- Star Speakers Society has not submitted their January club officer report. E6 Area Director and I have contacted them. There was an issue with the report showing officers as unpaid members so we have been working with Toastmasters International to straighten that out. We still can't get them to work with TMI HQ on it but will keep trying.
- E1 and E6 ADs have not started their 2nd round of reports
- 13 clubs are on the Almost Distinguished and need members to reach Distinguished.
- Morgan County Club has low enrollment; the AD is reaching out to see what they are

Goal for Next Review

- Complete the Area Director Reports
- Get more clubs to Distinguished status
- Successfully transition to incoming Division Director

Division Events

- Boulder Speakeasy speech event - May 11th.
- See You Speak working with Boulder Start Up Week - May 15th

Election Results for Club Growth Director

Presented by Natalie Palmer, Parker TM

Victoria Cox 125, Terry Ploski 43 = 168 total votes

Election Result: Victoria Cox

Election of the 2019-2020 District Officers (continued)

Presented by the Council Meeting Chair

There were no nominations from the floor for the Denver Division Director. The Council Meeting Chair instructed the Administration Manager to cast one elective ballot for David Johnson, Denver Division Director

Council Meeting Chair – The nominating committee hasn't nominated anyone.

Esther Cox – I'd like to ask if Sarah Beasley would be willing to be the Eastern Division Director again.

Sarah Beasley – I decline.

Ali Abouzalam – I nominate myself.

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Rhea Thompon - I confirm that Ali Abouzalam meets the requirements for Eastern Division Director.

There were no other nominations from the floor.

The Council Meeting Chair instructed the Administration Manager to cast one elective ballot for Ali Abouzalam, Eastern Division Director.

There were no nominations from the floor for the Foothills Division Director. The Council Meeting Chair instructed the Administration Manager to cast one elective ballot for Stephanie Borck, Foothills Division Director.

continued as ballots were counted.

District Officer Reports (continued)

Foothills Division

Presented and submitted by Terry Ploski

The state of Foothills Division is strong. The area directors, club officers and members are making headway with membership dues renewal, achieving educational goals, conducting club officer elections, and club visits.

Status Summary: Started the year with 22 clubs; currently have 23 active (11 corporate clubs and 12 open clubs). Lost no clubs. Gained one club - Webroot Toastmasters, Charter: 10/12/2018. One club remains delinquent with dues renewal payments, (corporate club).

Progress: Two clubs are President's Distinguished, Talking Ideas Toastmasters Club and Dam Good Speakers; two clubs are Select Distinguished, BALL Talks Toastmasters Club and WorldView Toastmasters Club; and, two clubs are Distinguished, Speak Up Toastmasters Club and Terumo BCT. Anticipate more clubs will achieve Distinguished status, or higher, by June 30, 2019.

Areas in Need of Attention: Five clubs qualify for a club coach (Westminster Communicators Club, AdamSpeak, Speak Up Adams, Wheat Toast, Speak and Influence). Continuing to work with these clubs to increase membership. Next, encouraging clubs to move forward with achieving communication and leadership completed and tendered by June 30th. Clubs are evenly split between adoption of the Pathways Educational System as compared to the traditional, legacy system.

Other Efforts: All area directors are making or completed club visits, completing reports and working with clubs to create a stronger foundation for the upcoming 2019 – 2020 year.

Special Note: Jennifer Grant has led Area F3 to Distinguished Area status.

Metro Division

Presented and submitted by Randee Ryan

Appreciation for the Area Directors and club growth coordinators. Without them the Division would not have been successful.

Club counts

Started with 25, had two clubs chose to disband and one was suspended for no officer reports

being sent to headquarters. Good news for one of the disbanded clubs, the remaining members joined other clubs.

One of the challenges for the next ADs are with the corporate clubs. Corporate clubs are the hardest to involve in district activities.

COT

We have one club (Empowering Great Speakers) who has offered to hold the final alternate COT at its location for the next Toastmaster year COTS.

DCP

Overall, for Metro Division, four clubs have met the goals to be Distinguished. Nine clubs have five plus DCP goals they just need more members. Castle Rock club has ten goals and needs two members. Come on Castle Rock!

2nd round of visits

Area 1 and 5 have already submitted their round 2 club visit reports. The remaining Area Directors have scheduled and are attending the 2nd round of club visits.

Lessons learned / Suggestions for incoming District Officers

Reserve facilities early for the alternate COTs and the Spring contests for Area and Division level. Collaborate with your peer district officers. They each have a lot of good experience

Council Meeting Chair – I must depart from the agenda from a moment. I saw Randee shaking when giving her second speech. Randee Ryan, you are excellent now!

Northern Division

Presented and submitted by Janice Haldi

Election Results for the Metro Division Director

Presented by Natalie Palmer, Parker TM

166 votes cast. 50 Cynthia, Jeff 116

Election result - Jeff Ruiz

Election of the 2019-2020 District Officers (continued)

Presented by the Council Meeting Chair

There were no nominations from the floor for Northern Division Director. The Council Meeting Chair instructed the Administration Manager to cast one elective ballot for David Dawson , Northern Division Director.

There were no nominations from the floor for Southern Division Director. The Council Meeting Chair instructed the Administration Manager to cast one elective ballot for Bonnie Ann Smith, So

uthern Division Director.

There were no nominations from the floor for Urban Division Director. The Council Meeting Chair instructed the Administration Manager to cast one elective ballot for Marc April, Urban Division

instructed the Administration Manager to cast one elective ballot for Mike April, Urban Division Director.

There were no nominations from the floor for Western Division Director. The Council Meeting Chair instructed the Administration Manager to cast one elective ballot for Greg Harris, Western Division Director.

The Council Meeting Chair congratulated the newly elected officers and there was a round of applause.

Summary of Elected Officers:

- District Director – Mike Akins
- Program Quality Director – Jacqueline Smith
- Club Growth Director – Victoria Cox
- Denver Division – David Johnson
- Eastern Division – Ali Abouzalam
- Foothills Division - Stephanie Borck
- Metro Division – Jeff Ruiz
- Northern Division – David Dawson
- Southern Division – Bonnie Ann Smith
- Urban Division – Marc April
- Western Division – Greg Harris

District Officer Reports (continued)

Southern Division

Presented and submitted by Glenn Knight, VC3

As of this morning (5/9/19), the Southern Division of District 26 has 23 clubs. 22 of our clubs are paid. Four of our clubs are distinguished.

Area Director Club Visits Reports

Area S1: 4 Clubs, 0 Visit Reports, 0%
Area S2: 4 Clubs, 0 Visit Reports, 0%
Area S3: 3 Clubs, 3 Visit Reports, 100%

Area S4: 4 Clubs, 0 Visit Reports, 0%
Area S5: 4 Clubs, 0 Visit Reports, 0%
Area S6: 4 Clubs, 4 Visit Reports, 100%
Total: 23 clubs, 7 Visit Reports, 30%

Club Dues Renewals:

Area S1: 4 Clubs, 4 Renewals, 100%
Area S2: 4 Clubs, 4 Renewals, 100%

Area S3: 3 Clubs, 3 Renewals, 100%
Area S4: 4 Clubs, 3 Renewals, 75%
Area S5: 4 Clubs, 4 Renewals, 100%
Area S6: 4 Clubs, 4 Renewals, 100%

Total: 23 clubs, 22 Renewals, 96%

Clubs in Good Standing (8+ Members)

Area S1: 4 Clubs, 4 in Good Standing, 100%
Area S2: 4 Clubs, 4 in Good Standing, 100%
Area S3: 3 Clubs, 3 in Good Standing, 100%
Area S4: 4 Clubs, 3 in Good Standing, 75%
Area S5: 4 Clubs, 4 in Good Standing, 100%
Area S6: 4 Clubs, 4 in Good Standing, 100%
Total: 23 clubs, 22 in Good Standing, 96%

Distinguished Clubs:

Pikes Peak Toastmasters	President’s Distinguished
Colorado Orators League	President’s Distinguished
Colorado Springs Toastmasters Club	Select Distinguished
Chemical Weapons Masters	Select Distinguished

Distinguished Area:

Area S3 Distinguished

Urban Division

Presented and submitted by David Johnson, DTM

Area 1 Chris Tremel

Two clubs are President Distinguished Toast of Inverness & Spirited Speakers. All reports complete with exception to Spectrum Speakers needs to make payment falling behind. Work has been done to get the club back on track.

Area 2 – Beth Baker Owens

Bob Ord is Select Distinguished.

Beth has worked with DTC Speaks to help the club with completing Speech Craft which worked out well.

Club visit reports have not been completed. Beth is working on them.

Area 3 – Will Robinson

Simply Speaking Toastmasters Club is President Distinguished. Professional Presenters Toastmasters needs 1 member to get to 20 members.

George Sutton has lost a lot of members but is starting to regain membership.

Club reports have not been completed, I know that Will Robinson is working on them.

Area 4 – Marc April

Aurorators Toastmasters Club needs 2 members to be Select Distinguished they still have time to make it

Make it.

Defenders of Speech has lost some members due to transfers within the Air Force. Need to work on a program to get retired and people who can get on base to join the club. Military clubs are very different and with new leadership next year Buckley should do better.

Toast-A-Matics is in need of help lost too many members 10 members and Peggy McIntosh is doing way too much and needs to delegate the work.

AP Toastmasters is doing well but not submitting education awards.

All Club visit reports have been completed.

Area 5 – Kim Brokling

Timberline Toastmasters made Select Distinguished.

El Puente Bilingual TM Club needs 2 more members and one more Education Award to make Distinguished.

Janus Capital Group has not paid their Dues. Not surprised they have a history.

All Club Visit Reports have been completed.

Area 6 – Tom Gross

Two clubs made President's Distinguished Body Shoot and Cherry Creek.

Two clubs are having difficulties. Lowry Peak Speakers Club is losing the meeting location and has seen a large number of members not renew. TOPS-Toastmasters of Pinnacle needs more members with Lowry Peak Speakers Club having issues members should move into TOPS.

Tom is working on the Club Visit Reports and will have them completed. By the end of the month.

Contest Evaluation and International Speech Contest.

Contest Saturday, March 30, 2019 two winners advanced from each of the contest. Evaluation Nick Rizzi and International Diane Thompson. Good luck to both contestants!

Marc April is running for Urban Division Director and he will do an outstanding time.

Division Director David Johnson

Most of the clubs have seen a decrease in membership. Many factors play and having a marketing method is important to keep the Urban Division healthy. Contest help however seeing the same ringers has caused some concerns need to make sure members have chances to move up and have the learning experience. The clubs are performing the same looking from year to year.

Western Division

- We had a successful area contest on March 23, with attendees from 3 of the 4 clubs.
- 2 paid clubs, Cloud Nine TM (Aspen) has not yet submitted their dues
- Summit TM has only 10 members as of the April renewal
- No distinguished clubs

Nancy Winston, DTM

W2 Mary Watson

Clubs - 3 clubs

- o Grand Junction - 8 goals met / strong club continue to support community / sent contestant to contest = Tanya Baber / annual Youth Leadership Program starting in summer
- o Talk of Town - 5 goals met but need 8 more members / good energy and working hard on community events / lead for Toastmaster June Proclamation for Mesa County / community Farmers' Market presence
- o Western Slope Liberty - won TM lectern for signing up new members past campaign / 4 goals but need 3 more members / have dug out of a hole with help of club coach Penny Alleman
- o New Club at Colorado Mesa University (CMU) will start in fall 2019 - (Club Sponsors Rebecca Mullen & Julie Seidel)

W3 David Hay

- o Completed 2 visit reports.
- o Area Contest was a great success
- o Club Progress
 - o Buffalo - Presidents distinguished, but needs 2 members to count
 - o Golden Orators - Distinguished but needs 8 members to count
 - o Dawn Yawn - Select Distinguished with a chance to reach Presidents
 - o MillerCoors - Struggling. Have been unable to contact them. 5 members remaining
 - o Golden Speak EZ - Distinguished with a chance to reach Select
 - o Toastblasters - Suspended
 - o HAVocado Toast - Charted 2/28. Will not reach distinguished

District Director – Marcia Wood

Council Meeting Chair – We held a virtual council meeting for the first time! What I found is that “Leaders Lead Change.” Virtual meeting – bring it on! We also had a very successful fall training expo.

At your clubs when you say it’s time to renew dues, remember, what’s in it for the members? Emphasize the benefits. Mention renewing their original commitment. Meet every challenge that comes your way.

Public Relations

Presented and submitted by Trixie Hunter-Merrill, DL3

Thank you to my PR Dream Team and Web Team, Thank you the Greg Harris, Dia Kline and Rhea Thompson. Special thanks to the trio for helping me reach new heights this year and try things

Thompson. Special thanks to the trio for helping me reach new heights this year and try things out.

Network with Toastmasters was a success and we did Co Springs, Combined and Eastern. Hopeful will be able to do a Northern before the end of my term.

Website and blog is going well. Remember up can subscribe to see the email reminder that the blog is up and have it delivered to your inbox or go online to see it.

Toastmaster on the Move and the Podcast went well at first but needs more promotion. This was similar to Social Media Spotlight which we did a few of those as well early on.

173 mailers went out this week to all VPPRS to remind them of the WOW factor and an effort to help push the PR Initiative of the Wow Factor. Also have reached out to all VPPRs and will reach them again soon if needed for visits. If any VPPR needs or wants me to come see them I will and help them out in person.

PR handled all PR, Promotions, PR across Social Media channels, PR also handled VPPR training for all TLLI and DOT areas minus one meeting at Denver TLI. Frank De Demonics handled it and the VPPRs were not happy as they did not feel like they got what they needed. Suggestion only PRM teach those to ensure VPPRs understand and truly know their job. It is online that is the PRM responsibility to train the VPPRs.

Media was always contacted for every and all events, posted on numerous event sites and Press Releases made and sent for each one.

All Press Releases for this year can be found under the PR tab on the website.

A VPPR Handbook was created and may need to be updated yearly for the VPPRs. Links and other tidbits are in the handbook for onboarding.

A task list for Networking events is in Asana.

All other tasks for PR this year were and will be used in Asana for the remainder of the year.

A Publicity Calendar has already been put together and can be used going forward if desired.

As a token of love a PR 2018-2019 Yearbook was made. Trio has a copy of what is done so far and are discussing next steps?

Action items:

- TRIO needs to get back to PR to decide how to move forward.

- Social Media Role and Responsibility handbook needs finished for incoming Social Media Chairs.

Committee Chair Reports

Conference Chair

Presented by Louise Watson, ACS, ALB

We're in the home stretch. My report is simple (then left the stage). Rounds of applause ensued thanking Louise for an outstanding conference.

Extension Chair

Presented by May Tran, DTM

As of May 4th, 2019, we have assigned 13 club mentors and 8 club sponsors.

The 2 clubs that are in the process of chartering as of May 4th, are:
CU Chip Chat and Zoom Communications

The 9 clubs that have been chartered as of May 4th, 2019, are:

C4hCO Collaborative Communications
TU Mile High Toasters
Platte County Toastmasters Club
Lookout Leaders
Suite Talkers
Webroot Toastmasters
Yellowstone Toastmasters
Elimator Toastmasters Club
HAvocado Toast

Retention Chair

Victoria Bard, EC1 – not present. No report provided.

Webmaster

Presented by Greg Harris, CC, CL

Presented statistics on web usage. Usage is very high. He isn't concerned yet and is continuing to monitor.

Unfinished and New Business

There was no unfinished business or new business.

Announcements Relevant to the Business of District 26

Dave Dawson, Pathfinders & Pioneer in Casper – Accuweather reported this morning that the wind speed in Denver is 5 mph. The wind speed in Casper is 3 mph. Just saying.

Council Meeting Chair – Remember the silent auction. Bidding ends 15 minutes after the Bu

Business Meeting concludes.

Esther Cook, Toast-a-matics – I thought Pathways was the most user unfriendly program. I talked with Toastmasters International and they said that getting credit for your project is the most difficult issue members are facing. I talked with a VP of Ed from another club who wasn't having any problems and saw how to take credit in Pathways. Pathways is easy! Proceeding in Pathways is easy

Pathways is easy.

Next Conference

To be determined

Meeting Adjourned

Adjourned at 5:15 pm