

**Toastmasters District 26 Annual Conference  
District Council Virtual Business Meeting Minutes  
May 2, 2020**

### **Call to Order and Meeting Opening**

At 9:30 am, the meeting was called to order by Mike Akins, DTM, District 26 Director, Council Meeting Chair, hereafter referred to as the "Council Meeting Chair".

### **Mission Statement**

The District mission statement was read by the Council Meeting Chair and all in attendance. **District Mission:** We build new clubs and support all clubs in achieving excellence.

### **Meeting Roles**

- Council Meeting Chair
  - Mike Akins, DTM, District 26 Director, Talking Ideas #9375 & Buffalo Club #2438
- Zoom Hosts
  - Diana Strong, ACG, ALB, Administration Manager, On Broadway #8491
  - Stephanie Borck, ACB, ALB, Foothills Division Director, Worldview #6104573
- Parliamentarian
  - Mark Entrekin, DTM, TLC Club #7028
- Timers
  - Luke Wall, TOP CLASS #1155833
  - Kaylin Cooper, TOP CLASS #1155833

### **General Instructions**

- Zoom hosts will mute and stop video for everyone
- Speaker will be allowed 10 extra seconds before being muted
- Conducting business
  - Follow Robert's Rules of Order
  - Parliamentarian rulings will stand
  - Only council members may debate, chat and vote
- Bringing Business to Council
  - In Zoom participant panel, click Raise hand and wait for recognition
  - Type your name, club name and question or motion in chat box
  - Debate will alternate between for and against

### **Proxies and Voting – Mark Entrekin**

- Per Bylaws Article X: e. Voting
- When the voting process is conducted virtually, no proxies were permitted. Each District Council member must cast their own vote. District Executive Committee members are entitled to one (1) vote and may cast up to two (2) additional votes as a Club President or Vice President Education. All other members of the District Council were limited to a maximum of two (2) votes.

### **Discussion Rules – Mark Entrekin**

- Once the agenda item has been opened for discussion, the voting members ask questions and share their points.

- The meeting chair holds discretion for debate length. Please limit your remarks to points of debate or discussion that have not yet been mentioned and are germane to the pending question.
- No member may speak more than once or longer than one minute. If the same points of discussion or debate are repeated by the speakers, I may end the discussion, stating that no new information is being presented.

### **Credentials Report – Beth Boaz**

- Beth Boaz, DTM, PDG, PID, Credentials Chair
  - Eligible clubs = 151
  - Required to achieve quorum = 101
  - Club Presidents and VP-Educations registered = 113
  - Therefore, quorum achieved
  - District Executive Committee (DEC) members registered = 34
  - Total District Council (DC) votes available = 147
  - Simple majority vote requires = 74
  - 2/3 vote requires = 98
- Administration Manager entered credentials report into the minutes

### **Adopt Agenda – Mike Akins**

- The agenda was posted on the conference webpage <https://www.d26toastmasters.org/annual-conference/>
- Agenda was emailed to all registered Council members
- Without objection, the agenda is adopted
- For reference, the agenda has been included at bottom of these minutes

### **Matt Kinsey, DTM, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President**

- Lessons from the Pocket - What a Coin Taught Me About Leadership: Leadership in the time of crisis is perhaps the most difficult aspect of leadership.  
My Toastmasters coin reminds me about some things. Our logo is superimposed over the globe, which reminds us that we're a global organization. Our core values on the back of integrity, respect, and service, excellence, help to guide us. A coin has structural integrity to maintain its shape and function under pressure. Our leaders and board of directors are under pressure. Under pressure, we're tested with heat, fire, and the ability to very easily make reactions, instead of responses to situations. Structural integrity holds you together as a leader. Your personal core values bind Toastmasters together with structural integrity. The coin is made of bronze. The understanding that melting metals together under heat and pressure create something stronger than the raw materials that went in. That's another aspect of leadership. It takes a team of different viewpoints of people who've been tested in different ways to come together and merge their ideas to make something stronger. A coin is not smooth, but instead has bumps and ridges. Leadership also has its bumps and tough times. The tough times show the true metal of your character and they show your true commitment. I know every single person on this call had other things that could have done this morning. I appreciate your ongoing commitment to the organization's values to our mission as a district, to our mission as a club, and to our members. Thank you very much for your continued commitment.

Finally, a coin is portable like the skills you develop in Toastmaster. They are not meant to be used solely within Toastmasters. It's not about being the best speaker or leader in Toastmasters. It's about taking those skills out where the magic really happens. Taking that spark in your hands and going out to change your community, business, or personal situation and making your piece of the world a little bit better.

Leadership is tough. What is the leader that you want to be remembered as this year? Do you want to be the leader who is only focused on goals or the leader who is focused on your team and members? I hope that it's the leader you want to be. That doesn't mean abandoning your goals, but instead putting people first. We're a relationship organization created for us to take care of people and help people develop their skills and self-confidence. If we focus on that the other goals will follow.

### **Approve Minutes – Mike Akins**

- May 4, 2019 minutes were posted on the conference webpage: <https://www.d26toastmasters.org/annual-conference/>
- Council members were asked to review beforehand
- Without objection, we will dispense with reading the minutes
- Are there any amendments to the minutes?
- Janice Haldi said Northern Division Director's report for last year was left out. The minutes were received by Diana Strong and will be inserted into last year's minutes and reposted.
- Without objection, the minutes are approved with the one amendment.

### **Appointed Officers – Mike Akins**

- These District Officers were appointed after the Council meeting was held September 19, 2019:
  - U1 Area Director, Christopher Judge
  - N2 Area Director, MaryAnn Hoff
  - Northern Division Director, Janice Haldi
- <https://www.d26toastmasters.org/contacts-2019-2020/>
- Without objection, these officers are accepted

### **2020-21 Club Alignment Report – Mark Entrekin**

- Mark Entrekin, DTM, Alignment Chair
- Mark stepped down as parliamentarian to take on role of Alignment Chair. Mike took on role of parliamentarian, while Mark reviewed the alignment report.
  - Committee met weekly from February 12<sup>th</sup> until April 8<sup>th</sup>
  - Committee members were equally represented across District
  - Once again, we heavily utilized EasyMapMaker.com to visualize each Division
  - Significant changes were:
    - Golden/Lakewood clubs back to Foothills Division
    - Boulder clubs to Eastern Division
    - Western Division stops at Continental divide
  - Final adjustment made May 1<sup>st</sup> after clubs suspended by Toastmasters
- <https://www.d26toastmasters.org/alignment/>
- A motion to approve Proposal A was made by Jacqueline Smith, DTM, Aurorators Toastmasters Club #2136 ; Victoria Cox, DTM, S-Peak Leaders #4002183 seconded the motion.
- Mike opened for discussion.

- **Marcia Wood**, DTC Speaks #474209 asked a question about Western and 3 clubs in each of the 3 areas. Why is it ok for these clubs to have 3 clubs in these areas while the protocol is 4 to 6 clubs in each area? **Mark Entrekin** replied that this Division is working to increase their clubs and explained that there is a provision stating that as long as we are searching for additional club to fit into those areas, we can allow the 3 clubs. Marcia Wood said that would be ok.
- **AJ Herran**, Loquacious Lunch Bunch 7329; As a Boulder club, we are in favor of the move back to Eastern division.
- **Marica Wood**: How many clubs will end up in Eastern division Area 3? I'm looking at the website and it shows there are 2. Now with the switches, how many clubs will that area have. **Mark Entrekin stepped down as Alignment Chair and reassume Parliamentarian. Mike Akins** answered the question: Yesterday we realized we only had 2 clubs in E3, so they were rearranged. Rearranged Area E3 has 4 clubs, Area E2 has 4 clubs and Area E1 has 5 clubs to remedy the situation. Marica was satisfied with the rearranging of clubs.

### **Motion Voting Instructions – Mike Akins**

- District Council validated registrants received an email yesterday with voting instructions
- Links will take you to a Google Form
- Please vote on Proposal A motion by selecting appropriate bubble commensurate with your votes allowed.
- Only pick one option. If you select an incorrect response, please refresh page to clear. Multiple selections will be discarded.
- If you have problems, private chat Beth Boaz

**A 10 min Recess was taken, and voting took place during this time using the Google form.**

### **2020-21 Club Alignment Results presented by Mike Akins**

- Required for approval: 74
- Yes:113
- No: 2
- Invalid: 3
- Motion passed as presented.
- If we have new clubs that charter in the next few months, we'll have to align them, and that alignment will be discussed at the next business meeting.

### **Mid-Year Audit --Brenda Uitts. Report presented by Mike Akins**

- Brenda Uitts, CC, CL, Audit Chair
- Committee:
  - Diane Nuss
  - Katrina Johnson, DTM

- Tom Marrs, DTM
- Report is posted on conference page
- <https://www.d26toastmasters.org/annual-conference/>
- Mid-year financials all in order
- (Team loved working with Mike and JP this year!)

## Finance Report –JP Bachmann

1<sup>st</sup> page is Balance sheet:

- 2 Cash accounts: First Bank and PayPal with 55,579.41 as of March 31, 2020.
- Reserves Account used for expenditures: 92,330.95
- Reserve fund of 20,932.72
- Total Available funds of 126,977.84

### District 26 Available Funds (in USD) Month Ending 03/31/2020

Available Funds		
Cash & District Reserve		
Cash		
Cash - 1st Bank (3013)		55,564.50
Cash - Paypal (PP D26)		14.91
Total Cash		55,579.41
District Reserve		92,330.95
Total Cash & District Reserve		147,910.36
Minimum District Reserve Required at Year End		(20,932.72)
<b>Total Available Funds</b>		<b>126,977.64</b>

Page 2 is Profit and Loss Statement:

- We are down in membership revenue: (15,779.34)
- Expenses: Expenditures are down: (12,784.24)
- Net Loss (2995.10)
- We have Budgeted (13,139) as loss for whole year.
- One-half of the excess above 125% of our reserve requirement as of June 30, 2021, will be reclaimed by Toastmasters International. We must spend money on our members and clubs otherwise we stand to lose money as a district.
- As finance manager, I plead to find ways to use these funds for marketing and club building to support our clubs and members so that the funds stay with D26.

### District 26 Profit & Loss (Actual vs. Budget Summary) (in USD)

Month Ending 03/31/2020				07/01/2019 Through 03/31/2020			
Actual	Budget	Variance		Actual	Budget	Variance	
12,791.62	27,429.00	(14,637.38)	District Revenue	56,471.26	71,114.00	(14,642.74)	Membership Revenue
0.00	0.00	0.00	Conference Revenue	20.00	0.00	20.00	Conference Revenue
0.00	0.00	0.00	TLI Revenue	1,437.00	2,500.00	(1,063.00)	TLI Revenue
0.00	0.00	0.00	Other Revenue	(93.60)	0.00	(93.60)	Other Revenue
12,791.62	27,429.00	(14,637.38)	Total District Revenue	57,834.66	73,614.00	(15,779.34)	Total District Revenue
36.48	0.00	36.48	District Expenses	85.09	0.00	85.09	Conference Expenses
0.00	0.00	0.00	TLI Expenses	5,589.75	12,200.00	(6,610.25)	TLI Expenses
8,498.37	1,540.00	6,958.37	Marketing Expense	24,178.72	22,100.00	2,078.72	Marketing Expense
269.62	200.00	69.62	Communications & PR Expenses	1,835.02	2,400.00	(564.98)	Communications & PR Expenses
239.47	50.00	189.47	Education & Training Expense	3,612.38	3,650.00	(37.62)	Education & Training Expense
0.00	850.00	(850.00)	Speech Contest Expenses	4,345.69	4,850.00	(504.31)	Speech Contest Expenses
0.00	115.00	(115.00)	Administration Expenses	971.86	2,272.12	(1,300.26)	Administration Expenses
342.61	0.00	342.61	Travel Expense	15,657.31	21,701.98	(6,044.67)	Travel Expense
377.88	348.88	29.00	Other Expenses	3,253.96	3,139.92	114.04	Other Expenses
9,764.43	3,103.88	6,660.55	Total District Expenses	59,529.78	72,314.02	(12,784.24)	Total District Expenses
3,027.19	24,325.12	(21,297.93)	Total Net Income	1,695.12	1,299.98	(2,995.10)	Total Net Income

## Division Director Reports (2 minutes per presenter)

- Denver –David Johnson, DTM  
Current status

Clubs are doing a good job meeting on-line and members are supporting each other in this difficult time. The strong clubs are doing well with a slight reduction in membership and attendance to meeting. The end of the education program is near, and members are working on their education goals. Many public and corporate clubs are meeting online through Zoom and other meeting software. I have been to a few meetings where a concern is when two programs are being used Google Docs and Zoom. This is difficult when a member does not have split screens. Members need to do a better job of explaining roles to guest to get them to become a member. The marketing efforts need to be expanded to reach more potential new members for the clubs.

### **Numbers Denver Division**

Base 26 Paid 18 Distinguished Clubs 6 No Renewals 6 Clubs 2 Clubs closed on October 1.

### **Distinguished Club Program**

1 club **Downtowners Toastmasters Club 3801** has reached President's Distinguished for 3 years in a row!!

2 clubs **Leprino Foods Toastmasters**, and **Daybreak Toastmasters Club** have reached Select Distinguished because these clubs paid their dues. Stately Speakers has a chance to make Select Distinguished if they can get 2 more members to have 20 members in the club.

3 clubs **Lodo Toastmasters Club**, **Thrillspeakers Toastmasters Club**, and **Speakers in Action SIA Club** have reached Distinguished because these club paid their dues.

I would like to see more clubs make Distinguished Club Program due to COVID-19 the reality is that clubs have lost members due to financial hardships. Remember **Downtowners Toastmasters Club** is the only club to reach President's Distinguished.

The Denver Division International Speech Contest was held on April 4, 2020 at 1pm.to 4pm. The contest was conducted with 4 contestants and each did an outstanding job with their speech. Some issues resulted from having to change to a Login to prevent Zoom Bombing. Set up with a waiting room to prevent this from occurring. The winner Mike P will move onto the District Contest on April 25, 2020. I resent Mike his trophy he did well at the District Contest but did not place in the top 3!

### **Completed since last meeting 4-21-20**

Denver Area 6 had all 4 clubs paid their dues. All club visit reports for Denver Area 6 have been completed by Beth Steigerwalt Area 6 and Carolyn Conover. Area 2.

18 clubs have paid dues and are in good standing. Six clubs have qualified for the Distinguished Club Program. Denver Division is reaping up the year on a positive note.

### **Issues since last meeting 4-21-20**

The clubs have not been able to meet in person due to COVID-19. This has made the clubs change to an online format. The strong clubs do well in this method while the weak clubs are having issues with having a meeting with all the roles being filled. The priorities for most people have changed with the time related to COVID-19 and is not a reflection on the Denver Division 's leading the clubs.

The Denver Division is going to lose Toastmasters At VFW Post 1 this club can't reach the minimum payment of 8 members to pay dues. I received an e-mail from Alan Swartz on the issues of the future of the club.

The Denver Division has a few clubs which will not renew do to COVID-19 and the business is not focused on Toastmasters.

**KPMG Denver Toastmasters** will not renew membership for a few reasons because the founder of the is on a leave of absence. The Club not meeting because KPMG was in Tax Season and had to be focused on Taxes.

**The Encredible Toastmasters** have gone silent club has not been meeting.

**Aegon Toast** with Transamerica is not meeting because the club members based on company policy are not allowed to use Zoom. The office will not open until at July. The officers of the club do not want to collect dues because of the future of the office and the Transamerica will not pay the dues. **Slalom Toastmasters** did not renew dues. The club does not respond to e-mails.

**S & P Speakeasy** was paid by the employer and the employees got too busy and have not meet in over six months.

**IMA Speaker** has not paid their dues only a few members 10-12 regular attend the meeting before CONVIDO-19 and after only handful attended the meeting online. Everyone is working from home.

The Denver Division is seeing a reduction in renewals in membership. Clubs that do not have a method to pay on-line are having issues with collecting payments. I have seen that strong clubs are doing well while the weak clubs are at the potential to fail during this difficult time period. A few clubs have a major reduction in members renewing their membership to the club.

### **Priorities until next meeting**

The Denver Division must work on having a strong transition of officers from 2019-2020 to 2020 to 2021. The Denver Division Banner needs to be given to the new Denver Division Director. The communications of the Area Directors need to transfer contact info and inform the new Area Directors about the clubs in each Area.

The club visit reports are extremely important to complete to see where the clubs are and what the future of the some of these clubs. It is important to have the clubs meet online until the clubs can meet again in person.

The Area Directors in Denver 1,3, 4 & 5 need to complete the club visit report by talking on the phone or e-mail to the club the clubs are not meeting in person and the Denver Area Directors will not meet in person with the club members.

- **Eastern –Cynthia Howard, LD1**

- **Current Status:**

- 21 of 24 Clubs have renewed. 2 additional are trying to get them in (I need to check with their corporate status)

- 15 of 24 Clubs are Distinguished or above

- 11 of 24 Area Club visits have been done

- Pathways adoption rate is: 75%

- Most clubs are meeting virtually (I don't know the statistic)

### **Completed Since Last Meeting:**

The Eastern Division Speech contestant won the District Speech contest and is moving on

4 more area club visits have been done

### **Issues:**

2 clubs in Greeley are in trouble. They will need a coach next year.

1 additional club has been suspended

### **To Be Completed:**

13 Area club visits need to be done

Attend the DEC Meeting and vote

Look for Area Director replacements

### **• Foothills –Stephane Borck, ACB, ALB**

#### **Status Summary**

Started the year with a base of 27 clubs, now have 20 paid clubs, 7 Distinguished clubs, 3 suspended clubs, and (hopefully) 3 clubs that will be submitting their dues past the deadline

Need 27 paid clubs and 11 Distinguished clubs to be a Distinguished Division

Currently at 20 paid clubs and 7 Distinguished clubs

#### **Progress**

Area Director Reports

- F2 has completed 75% of his reports
- F1, F3, F4, and F5 are 0% complete with second round of Club Visit Reports

Distinguished Club Program Status

- 3 clubs are Distinguished
- 0 clubs are Select Distinguished
- 4 clubs are President's Distinguished

Clubs in Good Standing

- 20 clubs in good standing
- 3 clubs are suspended, with 1 additional club that will be submitting their suspension paperwork, prior to the Annual Due renewal period
- 3 clubs missed their annual club due renewal

#### **Areas in Need of Attention**

Need to follow up with clubs that didn't submit their annual dues on time

Reach out to clubs who haven't reported doing their meetings online to see if they need help getting their club meetings started again using the Zoom online platform.

Area Director club visits may be more challenging this quarter due to a myriad of constraints. (i.e. AD time availability and infrequency of online club meetings or lack there-of)

Goals to close out the year

- Complete the Area Director Reports
- Get more clubs to Distinguished status



- Successfully transition to incoming Division Director – Stephanie (transition should be relatively easy -- luckily, she has the same name!)

### **Division Events**

- No Foothills Division events planned at this time

- **Metro –Jeff Ruiz, DTM**

#### **Current status**

Base Clubs: **28**

Current Clubs: **25**

Paid Clubs: **23**

Suspended Clubs: **3**

#### **Area Director Club Visits:**

M1: **2** reported

M2: **0** reported

M3: **3** reported

M4: **5** reported

M5: **2** reported

#### **Distinguished Club Report:**

Distinguished: **1**

Select Distinguished: **2**

President's Distinguished: **4**

**30%** of paid clubs have achieved Distinguished status.

Pathways adoption rate for officers: **96.7%**

Pathways adoption rate for club members: **79.5%**

#### **Comments**

Most Metro clubs have been meeting online, but some have not met in several weeks.

- **Northern –Janice Haldi, DTM**

#### **Current status:**

I was appointed Northern Division Director on April 20<sup>th</sup> after the passing of Division Director Dave Dawson. The last eleven days have kept me occupied figuring out the status of the division. I have found the current status of Northern Division is shaky. This not by any means Dave's fault as a leader in Wyoming, but a series of circumstances that has created problems. I have been working with the area directors to figure out what needs to be done to support the members in this division. Dick Sanders, who is running for Northern Division Director, has been immense help and support in these efforts. We can only look at where we are now and move forward.

Northern Division started the year with a base of 16 clubs. Since July 1, the following has occurred:

- True Companies in Casper chartered in January. This is the only corporate club in Wyoming.
- Pronghorn Pontificators in Rawlins was suspended March 31.
- Unpaid April dues: True Companies, Rock Springs Raconteurs, Platte County

- When True Companies has paid, the base will be 14. Platte County has stated none of their members will be renewing. Rock Springs has one member who has not paid dues but would like to remain a member.

**Current Northern Division base is 13 clubs.**

**Area Director club visit reports:**

- N1 - 4 club visits completed
- N2 - 3 out of 4 visits completed
- N3 – no visits completed
- N4 – no visits completed

**District Pathways report:**

All but one of the Northern Division clubs are participating in Pathways. The officers seem to overwhelmingly support participation as evidenced by the 100% officer enrollment in 10 of the 13 clubs. New Toastmasters are not always enrolled in Pathways when they become members.

**Area Contests:**

Areas N1 and N2 opted to not have a contest. Areas N3 and N4 held a combined virtual area contest on March 28<sup>th</sup>. The division contest was held virtually on April 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Online meetings:**

Eight clubs are now meeting online. Two clubs in Casper will begin meeting online next week. The status of the other four is unknown.

Known online meetings:

<b>N1</b>	<b>N2</b>	<b>N3</b>	<b>N4</b>
Cloud Peak	Pathfinder	Laramie Morning	Cheyenne
	Pioneer	High Plains	Roadmasters
	Morning Tour		Hear Me Roar
			High Noon

**Unknown status of online meetings:**

- Energy Capital
- True Companies
- Yellowstone
- Sweet Talkers

Currently not meeting: Rock Springs Raconteurs, Platte County

**Distinguished Club Status:**

- N1 – Cloud Peak Toastmasters is currently distinguished with six goals met
- N4 – Cheyenne 798 is currently presidents distinguished with ten goals met

**Priorities going forward:**

- Boost club membership in all clubs.
- Area Director reports submitted by May 31.
- Determining status of online meetings and facilitating ease of meeting in this manner.

- **Southern –Bonnie Ann Smith, DTM**

**Current status:**

- Clubs: Started 23. Currently 22.

Suspended 3, Chartered 2.

Three clubs not paid on April 29<sup>th</sup> – although expected to pay.

Two clubs working to charter.

- Pathways Adoption Rate: 14 of 22 clubs have 80% adoption rate or better on April 29<sup>th</sup>.
- Distinguished Clubs potential: 4 Clubs show Presidents Distinguished. 13 clubs with 5+ DCP points.
- All Round 1 Club Visit Reports submitted. Round 2 in progress. Area 3 is Distinguished.
- Clubs with all 7 officers Trained: 21<sup>st</sup> Century, S-Peak Leaders, Top Class, and Pueblo Toastmasters.
- 80% or more Retention Rate as of April 29<sup>th</sup>:  
S-Peak Leaders plus Charter Clubs (Alamosa & CCM West)
- Rotary Partnership/Alliance promotion paused during Virus.
- Chamber of Commerce promotion paused during virus.
- Clubs Zooming during virus are 19 of 22 clubs.
- Speech Contest completed.

#### **Issues since last meeting (April 21<sup>st</sup>)**

- Membership Dues due to virus.

#### **Priorities until next meeting (June 16)**

- Supporting Clubs, Club membership, Officer Elections and Transitions.
- Southern Division PR: Facebook postings and sharing posts.
- Promoting Toastmaster Community Projects to clubs.
- **Urban –Marc April, DTM**
  - Base clubs: 30
  - Current clubs: 27
  - Paid Clubs: 16
  - Urban Division Pathway Adoption rate: 74.84%
  - Distinguished clubs: 5
  - Presidents Distinguished: 5
  - Select Distinguished: 0
  - Distinguished: 0
  - Area Director club visits status:
    - U1 - 0 complete
    - U2 - 0 complete
    - U3 - 3 complete
    - U4 - 0 complete
    - U5 - 1 complete / 2 incomplete
    - U6 - 3 incomplete
  - Distinguished clubs: 5
    - Presidents Distinguished: 5
    - Select Distinguished: 0
    - Distinguished: 0

- **Western –Greg Harris, CC, CL**

**Current Status:**

There is some light at the end of this Coronavirus tunnel for the Western Division

Most areas have lost members at this point, W5 is barely hanging on with 18 members. W3 however has gained members, new chartered club is the main explanation (Golden Keynotes). W1 also considered in jeopardy as its heavily tourism focused in an area with little tourism right now (ski resorts closed for some time).

Overall, we are down from 304 to 249 members, basically 1.5 club's worth.

Only one club suspended in this, Montrose Toastmasters.

We already have a few clubs ready for Select Distinguished (Dawn Yawn) and Presidents Distinguished (Grand Junction and Golden Speak)

**Clubs in Jeopardy:**

Western Slope Liberty Toastmasters

Summit Club (only really exists on paper at this point)

Montrose Toastmasters (likely suspended and gone)

Pathways Engagement is nominal. There appears to be a strong disparity in "healthy clubs, healthy engagement" or clubs that are doing well and are very engaged in pathways. Clubs that are below 15 members have very little pathways engagement.

Area visits: W-4 has seen zero engagement. We need to see if Angela Schebault is willing to engage area. Others are well visited.

**Recommendations/stuff to do until next meeting:**

With clubs that are in jeopardy, consider a graceful shut down, re-align the members into thriving clubs that are doing well in the virtual world (Grand Junction for example could consider absorbing Talk of the Town and Western Slope Liberty if they continue a decline)

Visit the last clubs in W-4.

- **Keith Horowitz**

This year we have gotten a lot done with keeping the website going and keeping information flowing. I look forward to having a transition where I can help the next person have a bigger team and get even more public relations going. Keith thanked his team for their tremendous help and support.

**Current status**

Supporting website, Facebook, LinkedIn, and twitter

**Completed since last meeting**

Updates on website and social media as needed

**Issues since last meeting**

Nothing notable

**Priorities until next meeting**

Working on putting together notes for whoever is the next term's D26 PRM

**Trio Reports (3 minutes per presenter)**

- **Club Growth – Victoria Cox, DTM**

Victoria thanked her team and all for their help and support.

**Current Status:**

- We have started off the year with 194 base clubs and as of 4/30/2020 we are at 151 - **down by 43 clubs**
- 24 clubs have been suspended

5452230 DaVita Toastmates Denver CO D 01
05540237 Speak UP REIT Denver CO D 02
01574648 Anadarko Rockies Toastmasters Denver CO D 03
5594678 Talking Feds Denver CO D 03
03734712 Front & Center Denver CO D 03
04462821 Janus Capital Group Denver CO D 06
00003989 High Nooners Club Greeley CO E 01
8379 Morgan County Club Ft. Morgan CO E 01
04800292 Wattenberg Toastmasters Producing Excellence Platteville CO E 04
6992459 Eliorators Toastmasters Club Boulder CO E 05
6639075 Lookout Leaders Boulder CO E 06
06793266 AdamSpeak Brighton CO F 02
06793526 Speak Up Adams Westminster CO F 02
1768130 OppTalk Centennial CO M 01
7112184 TU Mile High Toasters Greenwood Village CO M 03
05440430 Talkin' DISH Englewood CO M 05
06493247 Pronghorn Pontificators Rawlins WY N 03
06519767 Speaking Under Pressure Colorado Springs CO S 04
644254 Tenacious Toastmasters CO Springs CO S 03
813975 Quail Lake Toastmasters Club CO Springs CO S 04
07050094 SuiteTalkers Denver CO U 01
6354 Lowry Peak Speakers Club Denver CO U 06

3119927 MillerCoors Toast On Tap Golden Golden CO W 03
06902879 Montrose Toastmasters Montrose CO W 05

- 6 clubs have been added

S	5	Alamosa Toastmasters
W	3	Golden Keynotes
D	2	KPMG Denver Toastmasters
D	3	Denver Slalom Toastmasters
S	1	CCM West Toastmasters Club
N	2	True Companies

We have 8 news prospective clubs that are pending charter

We have received 77 leads for D26 and all have been followed up on.

**Issues Since Last Meeting:**

- Lack of renewals due to the COVID breakout, we are missing 25 clubs with no payments but not reported as closed or suspended.

**Priorities Until Next Meeting**

- Get more clubs trained on Zoom so they can re-engage their members.

Victoria requested that you email her at [vcox.tm@gmail.com](mailto:vcox.tm@gmail.com) with your requests.

• **Program Quality – Jacqueline Smith, DTM**  
**Current status**

- Thank you to all who served on the PQD Team: Logistics Manager, A.J. Herran; Pathways Advisor, Susie Overton (and the entire Pathways Team); TLI Advisor, Tom Ludlow; Chief Judge Advisor/Chief Judge Mentor, Carolyn Conover; and Contest Chair Advisor/Conference Chair, Mark Krekeler.
- Thank you to all the Division Directors and Area Directors
- Thank you to all of those on the 20219-20 District team
- Special thanks to Club Growth Director, Victoria Cox

- Special thanks to District Director, Mike Akins
- Special thanks to Immediate Past District Director, Marcia Wood
- Special thanks to my mentors
- District Business Meeting
- District Election for 2020-21
- Continuing to receive emails regarding which clubs are currently meeting online and which are not
- Following up with Division and Area Directors to ensure that all club officers have received their credit for their respective club officer roles. PQD has until 05/31/2020 to ensure that credit is awarded.

### **Completed since July 2019**

- District Officer Training held in June 2019. All 8 Division Directors attended and several Area Directors who were appointed at the time, also attended. Training topics included duties and expectations for roles, TLIs, club officer trainings, submitting area club visit reports and a segment on Pathways. All training material was emailed to all attendees, those who indicated that they could not attend and to those later appointees. Later appointees, specifically ADs, were advised to meet with their DiviD to go over the material and expectations and notify so that I could ensure all received training credit. 85% of the District officers (DivDs and ADs) were trained by the September 30 deadline.
- Four TLIs occurred during round 1 of club officer training, one TLI in June 2019 and three in July 2019. Club officer training began immediately after the four major TLIs, with many Divisions and/or Areas combining efforts to ensure that there were enough training opportunities available. Assistance was provided by TLI Advisor, Tom Ludlow for both rounds of training.
- Beginning in August 2019, the Pathways team began hosting in-person and online trainings to clubs and club officers, and specifically for BaseCamp managers. Most of the training was led by Pathways Advisor, Susie Overton. However, some training was conducted by other members of the team or as a panel.
- In late July 2019/August 2019, work started on a proposal to allow virtual club officer training within remote areas in the district and was approved in early August 2019. This has allowed for more club officers to be trained without having to travel significant distances to meet at a location. The proposal was drafted by Area Director; Gina Homer.
- Club officer training credit for Round 1 was completed by the November 30 deadline.
- On October 12, District 26 held its first stand-alone Hall of Fame event that was not attached to a conference. The Hall of Fame event took place at The Comedy Works in Greenwood Village, CO and honored the 2018-19 accomplishments of Toastmasters within the District.
- Four TLIs occurred in January 2020 for club officer training. Club officer trainings began immediately after the four major TLIs, with many Divisions and/or Areas

combining efforts to ensure that there were enough training opportunities available.

- Club officer training credit for Round 2 was completed by the February 29 deadline.
- In December 2019, the venue for the Annual Conference was secured by Logistics Manager, A.J. Herran.
- In November 2019, the chair, Mark Krekeler, for the Annual Conference was secured.
- In January 2020, conference planning meetings started.
- In January 2020, conference website updates started, including registration and payment.
- In January 2020, keynote speaker, Paul Artale, was identified for the conference.
- In February 2020, keynote speaker #2, Matt Kinzey, Second Vice President, was identified for conference.
- In February 2020, Chief Judge Advisor, Carolyn Conover, provided Zoom training for contest judges.
- Amid growing concerns due to the spread of COVID19, the DEC met in early March 2020 and decided to proceed with online contests, as approved by TI. The DEC decided to proceed with only the International Speech Contest in an online format
- The remaining areas that had not already conducted in-person contests, had online International Speech Contests on March 28, 2020.
- The online International Speech contests proceeded with four divisions on April 4, 2020 and four divisions on April 11.
- The online International Speech contest was held April 25, 2020.
- November 2019 trophies and other materials were prepared for distribution to DivDs and ADs.
- December 2019 second round District Officer training. Primary attention was focused on contests and contest planning. Attention also on what had been learned during the first half of the year.

### **Issues since last meeting**

- On-going, increasing Pathways enrollment and engagement within clubs.
- Becoming Distinguished (clubs) while dealing with lockdown issues.

### **Priorities until next meeting**

- Working with Division Directors to find the road to Distinguished for clubs
- Transitioning work to incoming PQD
- Putting district officer and club officer training on the calendar for next year's team
- Ensuring that Division Directors assist Area Directors in accurately completing Area Visit Reports
- Continuing list of clubs that are meeting online and assessing how we may assist



- **District – Mike Akins, DTM**

What a year it has been! Last May, I described my focus to 'Have Fun. Get Better.' Little did I know that we would be learning so much while adjusting to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Some District 26 facts:

- Clubs: base 194; paid today 151; down 22%
- Members: base 3715; paid today 2624; down 29%
- D26 is the largest District within Region 4
- 3 Trio members
- 8 Division Directors
- 41 Area Directors
- 4 Managers
- 21 other support roles
- My thanks go out to these 77 volunteers supporting our vast District!

Some calendar highlights:

- June - District Officer Training
- July - Richard Peck, President Elect, was our July Toastmasters Leadership Institute (TLI) speaker
- August - Toastmasters International Convention, Denver's first in 50 years!
- September - Our virtual District Council meeting
- October - Hall of Fame event in a new venue and format to recognize achievements
- December - District Officer Training supported by Kim Myers, Region 4 Advisor
- January - Trio mid-year training in Denver
- February - Speech contests began
- March - COVID-19 required adjustments to meetings and contests
- April - Speech contests concluded
- May - This annual conference, supported by Matt Kinsey, 2nd Vice President
- June - Start over with new leadership team

Regarding my 'Have Fun. Get Better.' focus this year, below is reprinted from my July blog article:

*Sometimes in all the Toastmasters protocols, procedures and pomp and circumstances, we forget the primary reason to join and stay in a club, are similar. If members are not having fun, gaining confidence and strengthening their presentation skills, many won't stick around.*

*Let's embrace Ralph Smedley's quote this year, "We learn best in moments of enjoyment."*

Don't tell my wife, but I was wrong. I'm reminded this year that those that stick around are the servant leaders. Maybe Toastmasters will consider updating the tagline from 'Where leaders are made' to 'Where servant leaders thrive'. From my vantage point, they hold clubs and Districts together. Thanks everyone for learning, supporting and growing this year!

### **2020-21 District Leadership Committee – Marcia Wood**

- Marcia Wood, DTM, DLC Chair
- Two committee representatives from each Division
- Committee worked from December 6<sup>th</sup> through April 25<sup>th</sup>
- New Toastmasters protocols this year
- No floor candidates allowed during business meeting
- All details are posted here:
- <https://www.d26toastmasters.org/elected-officer-nominations/>

Mister District Director, members of the District Council, fellow Toastmasters and guests. The District Leadership Committee began its work on December 6, 2019 and finished on April 25, 2020. The committee members who deserve recognition for accomplishing an enormous assignment are as follows:

Representing Denver Division:

- Deborah Frauenfelder, DTM
- Terry Ploski, DTM

Representing Eastern Division:

- James Owiny, SR3
- Tod Shook, DTM

Representing Foothills Division

- Sarah Beasley, DTM
- Gretchen Vaughn, DTM

Representing Metro Division

- Mary Armstrong, MS2
- Bobby Olsen, ACB, ALB

Representing Northern Division

- Dick Sanders, DTM
- Janice Haldi, ACB, CL

Representing Southern Division

- Hae Bolduc, DTM
- Glenn Knight, VC4, PM2

Representing Urban Division

- Beth Boaz, DTM, PDG, PID
- Mitch Krayton, DTM

Representing Western Division

- Clare Kennelley, DTM
- Nancy Winston, DTM

It is my privilege to present the following nominations for the 2020-2021 elected district officer positions:

District Director:

- Jacqueline Smith, DTM, club: 2136 Aurorators Toastmasters Club

Program Quality Director:

- Victoria Cox, DTM, club: 4002183 S-Peak Leaders

Club Growth Director:

- No nominated candidates

Denver Division Director:

- Cynthia Schuller, DTM, club: 747209 DTC Speaks

Eastern Division Director:

- Hugh Curley, DTM, clubs: 4553 Loveland Toastmasters Club,  
1588571 Liberty Toastmasters-North

Foothills Division Director:

- Stephanie Prochaska, CC, CL, club: 3028571 Dam Good Speakers

Metro Division Director:

- Mark Krekeler, ACG, ALB, club: 8491 On Broadway Toastmasters Club

Northern Division Director:

- No nominated candidates

Southern Division Director:

- Nominated candidate withdrew

Urban Division Director:

- JP Bachmann, DTM, club: 677476 Simply Speaking Toastmasters Club

Western Division Director:

- Marianne Delany, LD5, club: 1671 Grand Junction Toastmasters Club

Please note that the District Leadership Committee is not responsible for interviewing floor candidates to determine their eligibility. The DLC Chair is responsible for ensuring that the floor candidate meets the qualifications required to hold the office.

Email Marcia if you wish to volunteer for an appointed role next year or with questions on the changes to Protocol 9.0 this year at [tm.marciawood@gmail.com](mailto:tm.marciawood@gmail.com).

### **2020-21 District Officer Elections – Mike Akins**

- D26 has one nominated and one qualified floor candidate for each elected office

- Therefore, since all candidates are unopposed, and without objection, the Administration Manager will cast a single vote for the slate of candidates.
- Mike asked all to **unlock their videos** to welcome next year's leaders with 'jazz hands' as I introduce them!

### **Nominations**

- **District Director:** Jacqueline Smith, DTM
- **Program Quality Director:** Victoria Cox, DTM
- **Floor candidate for Club Growth Director:** Jeff Ruiz, DTM
- **Denver Division Director:** Cynthia Schuller, DTM
- **Eastern Division Director:** Hugh Curley, DTM
- **Foothills Division Director:** Stephanie Prochaska, CC, CL
- **Metro Division Director:** Mark Krekeler, ACG, ALB
- **Floor candidate for Northern Division Director:** Richard Sanders, DTM
- **Floor candidate for Southern Division Director:** AstaStar, ACS, ALB
- **Urban Division Director:** JP Bachmann, DTM
- **Western Division Director:** Marianne Delaney, LD5

### **New Business**

No new business was brought forth.

### **Nominated candidates for Region 4 International Director**

- **Robert Christeson, DTM**  
I'm running for National Director to serve and listen to our members worldwide to serve and listen to you. For 22 years I served in the United States Air Force implementing the needs and ideas of our service men and women through senior leadership. I've served as district director, 4 years as chief ambassador and 2 years as region advisor. I am running to serve you. Visit my **website Rob4id.org** and tell me what's going well and what needs to improve. I ask you vote for region 4 International Director.
- **Harold Osmundson, DTM**  
During challenging times, no matter what your role and times we are in, we can always put people 1<sup>st</sup>, listen to members needs and how to fill those needs. While we can't control things, we can put people 1<sup>st</sup> and serve our members. I'm here to make things easier for our members. I want to support your efforts and success by serving on your board to listen, understand and serve. Please contact me through my **website Harold4id.com**. Thanks for the opportunity.
- **Linda Rhea, DTM**  
There's so much that we're able to do in Toastmasters I want to continue to serve you, not as your past district director and as past region advisor, but as your International Director, so I can listen to your needs and your hopes for the future. Send me your questions at Facebook, LindaRay4ID or at my **website**

**LindaRhea4ID.com.** I asked for your vote. Assign your proxy to vote for Linda Rhea at the International Convention.

### **2020-21 District Officer Installment – Matt Kinsey**

- Please welcome our 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Distinguished Toastmaster Matt Kinsey, to induct our newly elected District Officers:
- Matt congratulated the new incoming officers and thanked the current officers. All nominated members were inducted.
  - Division Directors as group – your responsibility is to lead and support area directors to support clubs, to grow clubs and to achieve excellence. Will you commit to doing your best to support your area directors and to help the district fulfill its mission. So please say, “I will”. All responded, “I will”. Matt congratulated the Division Directors.
  - Club Growth Director – Jeff Ruiz has been elected as Growth Director. It’s a big goal for the District and as a role that needs support. Your mission is to support the division directors and starting new clubs. Will you promise to fulfill the role of Club Growth Director, to the best of your ability in the coming year. Please say “I will”. Jeff responded, “I will”.
  - Program Quality Director – Victoria Cox, you will be responsible for training and leadership development, both at the club and the district level as well as putting on the district conference next April or May. Do you accept the duties of the officer Program Quality Director and pledge to do your best to carry them out in accordance with the district mission. If so, say, “I will”. Victoria responded, “I will”.
  - District Director – Jacqueline Smith, your job is to conduct yourself in a way that embodies the Toastmasters value of integrity respect service and excellence. You will become the district’s Chief Executive Officer leading members to foster strong clubs achieve their goals and fulfill the district and Toastmasters International missions. Whatever comes up next year you have ownership of. If you accept these responsibilities freely and commit to doing the best everything to the best of your ability, please respond, “I Will”. Jacqueline responded, “I will”.
  - Immediate Past District Director - Mike Akins, your job is to support Jacqueline. Your job is to support her to make sure that she is successful. Do you accept this responsibility? Is so, please say “I Will”. Mike responded, “I will”.

Members of the district council, more than ever the district leaders need your support. What that means is a you provide positive and supportive feedback to

your district leaders in the same manner and tone that you provide positive vertically feedback to members of your club, who are struggling with their speaking development. They need your support they need your guidance. And they need you to be positive and supportive so that they can accomplish this. I ask all of you to commit to supporting the members of the district in a positive and supportive manner it.

### **Announcements**

- Our next virtual District Council meeting will be held in the fall, estimated in September.
- Victoria extended a thank you to Mike Akins for a near flawless meeting and thanked Matt Kinsey too.

### **Meeting Adjourned**

Adjourned 11:31 am.



# District 26 District Council Meeting

Saturday, May 2, 2020, 9:30 am via Zoom

## District Director

Mike Akins, DTM

## Program Quality Director

Jacqueline Smith, DTM

## Club Growth Director

Victoria Cox, DTM

## Public Relations Manager

Keith Horowitz, DTM

## Administration Manager

Diana Strong, ACG, ALB

## Finance Manager

JP Bachmann, DTM

## Logistics Manager

A.J. Herran, IP4

## Division D Director

David Johnson, DTM

## Division E Director

Cynthia Howard, LD1

## Division F Director

Stephane Borck, ACB, ALB

## Division M Director

Jeff Ruiz, DTM

## Division N Director

Janice Haldi, DTM

## Division S Director

Bonnie Ann Smith, DTM

## Division U Director

Marc April, DTM

## Division W Director

Creg Harris, CC, CL

## District Mission

We build new clubs and support all clubs in achieving excellence.

## Call to Order and Welcome

- District Mission
- Meeting Assignments
- Credentials Report
- General Instructions
- Adopt Agenda

Mike Akins, DTM  
Mike Akins, DTM  
Mike Akins, DTM  
Beth Boaz, DTM  
Christopher Judge, SR3  
Mike Akins, DTM

## Lessons from the Pocket:

### What a Coin Taught Me About Leadership

Matt Kinsey, DTM

## Approve Council Minutes

### Approve Appointments since 9/19/19

Mike Akins, DTM  
Mike Akins, DTM

## 2020-21 Club Alignment

- Committee Report
- Proposal A

Mark Entekin, DTM  
Mike Akins, DTM

## Recess (10 min)

## Reports

- Mid-Year Audit
- Finance
- Divisions
- Public Relations
- Club Growth
- Program Quality
- District

Brenda Uitts, CC, CL  
JP Bachmann, DTM  
Directors  
Keith Horowitz, DTM  
Victoria Cox, DTM  
Jacqueline Smith, DTM  
Mike Akins, DTM

## 2020-21 District Officer Elections

- Leadership Committee Report
- Officer Elections

Marcia Wood, DTM  
Mike Akins, DTM

## New Business

## Region 4 International Director Candidates

## Officer Installment

Matt Kinsey, DTM

## Announcements

## Adjourn

Next District 26 Council Meeting is TBA but expect in September