

District 45 Toastmasters Newsletter

# CAN-AM LINK

## Earning Your Wings

Patricia MacNevin DTM, District Governor



Michael Jordan said, “*Earn your leadership every day*”. As we roll into the holidays and gear up for club officer training, there is a plethora of opportunity for you and I to earn our leadership wings. Club officers are the mainstream of quality meetings and your membership experience. Training of club officers is crucial for success of the club and its members.

The Training Leadership Institutes (TLI) provide every club officer new (or tried and true) techniques for communicating, delegating, inspiring and leading members in various aspects of their Toastmasters journey. Toastmasters is *Where Leaders Are Made* and going outside of the club environment allows each of us to tap into resources that we may not otherwise know exist.

I remember attending my first TLI. I wasn’t a club officer but had been a member for six months. I wanted to know more! I was amazed and impressed with the skills (communication and leadership) of the facilitators leading the training, as well as the wealth of information I garnered. I continue to attend TLIs and to learn from others.

While it is easy to be distracted by others and their needs, I encourage officers to be mindful of your goals and to stay the course. Ensure you have strategies established, because it is easy to get side-tracked, and implement those strategies. Don’t get distracted! Consciously choose the priorities; allow others to support individuals and other priorities. For example, your club determined that it will have 4 themed meetings/year; will recruit 10 new members; will achieve Select Distinguished by April 30, 2015. How do you stay on track? Stay focused on your goals.



I encourage every officer and member to attend a TLI between December and February. It will be time well spent. Where else can you go to develop your leadership and communication skills in a safe, supportive and learning environment? As a club officer or district officer, I quote Ray Bradbury, “Jump, and you will find out how to unfold your wings as you fall.” Leaders do earn wings!



WHERE LEADERS ARE MADE

[www.toastmasters.org](http://www.toastmasters.org)

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## Experience a TLI

*Sandra Hachey, DTM, Lt. Governor Education & Training*



I can't believe it but December is upon us. It's almost that time when to say goodbye to 2014 and ring in 2015.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah and all other season's greeting to each and every member of District 45.



In District 45, like other districts, we are busy planning the Toastmaster Leadership Institute (TLI) event. We have an exciting schedule which includes some new sessions recommended by HQ. Each Division Governor is working very hard to ensure that every officer has the chance to attend this event. Some are even offering two or three locations to accommodate the wishes and schedules of their members.

### What are the Benefits?

Club Officers learn from seasoned Toastmasters and share their experiences to benefit themselves and their Clubs. Get motivated among leaders with heart!

Meet, network, and have fun with other Toastmasters. Share ideas and resources. Many people say, "I wish I attended a TLI sooner!" Sooner is now.

Sharing of information and knowledge is one of the best attributes that District 45 has. Members are not only willing but are eager to become part of the support system and resources for others. I have yet to attend a session where I didn't learn something new and share information with others.

Our toastmaster's membership includes two best kept secret benefits: enriching our lives with life-long friends and expanding our support system. Do you remember the first time you attended a TLI? You weren't sure of everything that your role as a club officer entailed? That's why we have breakout sessions by club officer role; it's for attendees to learn, and more importantly to share issues and opportunities that they have experienced thus far in their officer positions.

When you have four officers attend each of the TLI sessions and you earn a point for your DCP. Have seven officers trained at each session and you earn the Lucky 7.

### What to bring to TLI?

- **Members:** A passion for excellence
- **Club officers:** Enthusiasm and commitment
- **Speakers:** Burning desire to share your vision
- **All:** An open mind and a desire to learn and share.



And most of all, enjoy!

## Leading Our Clubs to Success

Tom Goodwin, DTM, Lt. Governor Marketing

### What does it take to make your Toastmasters club successful?

There are many different answers to that question, but there is one common trait in all of the answers. A successful club cannot run by itself, it needs leaders who are willing to assume the roles as club officers. This month I would like acknowledge the efforts of all of the club officers in our district, you are truly the backbone of the Toastmasters organization.



***Before you are a leader, success is all about growing yourself. When you become a leader, success is all about growing others. —Jack Welch***

Club officers need to embrace this quote and understand that for their club to succeed, the club must help each of its members experience personal growth.

Each of us joined Toastmasters to improve ourselves in the areas of communication and leadership skills. When you become a club officer, you are acknowledging the benefits which Toastmasters has provided to you and your desire give back to the organization by helping extend these benefits to others. Toastmasters is a service organization and our club officers are on the front line of providing the service to member.

Each of the club officers plays a vital role in keeping a club vibrant, enjoyable and running smoothly. Without a dedicated team of club officers, it becomes difficult for a club to attract new members and to keep members actively working on developing their skills as speakers and leaders. These club leaders are giving hours of their time to help extend the Toastmasters benefits to all club members and they all deserve our gratitude for their time and service.

When clubs elect a new slate of officers this spring, I hope that every member would consider becoming a club officer. It is a great way of giving back to the club for all of the benefits of membership which we enjoy, and paying it forward to all future Toastmasters. Remember, Toastmasters is **“Where Leaders Are Made”**.

### CLUB MEMBERSHIP RETENTION INCENTIVES

- **April Dues Renewal:** \$25 incentive to each club renewing at least 80% of their existing membership (min 8) at least one week prior to the renewal deadline (March 23rd, 2015).
- **Club Building Incentive:** \$25 incentive to each club successfully adding 5 new members during a TI sponsored membership building contest
  - ⇒ **Talk Up Toastmasters contest** – Feb 1st to March 31st
  - ⇒ **Beat The Clock contest** – May 1st to June 30th

*All monetary incentives will be given in the form of gift certificates for TI materials.*

## *It's All About the Audience*

*Stephane Parent, ACG, ALB*

"It's all about the audience." I took that sentence to heart on Friday, November 21, when I spoke to 4-H club officers.

On that day, the 4-H organization was holding its Provincial Executive Training – the equivalent of our TLI. I was asked to speak on Parliamentary Procedures to sixty young men and women, from 9 to 19 years of age. If that was not daunting enough, I was following a visit to the Confederation House where they would see our Legislative Assembly in action. I was also the only thing standing between them and their lunch.

What do you convey to such an audience in an hour? How do you keep their attention? I chose to keep my message simple but interactive.

I focused on the principles: the meeting and the main motion. I asked questions to show the parallels between what I was sharing and what they saw at the House. I also facilitated two very motivated young persons through a main motion, from bringing it to the floor to voting for it and announcing the results and follow-up.

I was pleasantly surprised at the attention, involvement and motivation to learn. The kicker was being told by Kelly Mullaly, Administrative Director of the PEI 4-H Council, that "members [were] following your advice and using the terminology you had taught them in the morning during the 'mock meeting' we held in the afternoon."

High praise indeed coming from young men and women!



## *New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services Speechcraft*

Past District 45 Governor, Sue Francesco, DTM proposed the Speechcraft program to NHDES Commissioner Tom Burack 4 years ago, since that time the Karner Blue Toastmaster Club has sponsored 16 (4 each year) Speechcraft sessions. The photos below are of the last two graduating classes. Each class has 6 Speechcrafters, 6 experienced mentors and two Co-coordinators. NHDES has graduated 95 DES staff members from this program. Commissioner Burack attends every graduation and delivers the keynote address to the graduates. At the last graduation (11/21/14) Commissioner Burack proclaimed Speechcraft as one of the programs he is most proud of in his 8 year tenure at NHDES. Year five starts in January.



NHDES Speechcraft  
Graduates

(Quarter 3, 2014)

(Quarter 4, 2014)



## Pleasant Street Toastmasters Holds Charter Ceremony



The Pleasant Street Toastmasters Charter Party held on Monday, October 24, 2014 was a tremendous display of team work, communication and leadership!

The club's new executive (left) are:

Beth Nagy, Secretary; John Hatten, Treasurer; Jillian Schenck, Sergeant-at-Arms; Michelle Rosenthal, Vice President Education; Vinod Brahmapuram, Vice President Public Relations; Heather Fairchild, President. (Missing Vice President Membership - Caroline Martin)

In a span of one month, the charter party blossomed from an idea to an event that symbolized celebration, learning and endearment. Attendees left the event rejuvenated with goals for personal growth.

D45 LGM, Tom Goodwin, DTM along with Division A Governor, Leslie Alcorn, ACB, ALB presented charter certificates to each charter member and presented the Charter to President Heather Fairchild. (*holding the Great Northern Gavel, right*) Presidents from area clubs presented the new club with gifts of ballots, ribbons and advanced manuals.



Photos by Angi Francesco Miller, ACS, ALB

**CONGRATULATIONS, PLEASANT STREET TOASTMASTERS  
&  
WELCOME TO DISTRICT 45!**

### CLUB BUILDING INCENTIVES

- **New Club Leads:** \$25 to member bringing new club lead to the District, then holds demonstration meeting (min. 12 non-TM attendees) within 45 days of identifying the lead.  
\*Advanced Clubs are not eligible for this incentive
- **Chartering of New Clubs:** The district will provide one incentive (*club banner, banner stand or TI lectern*) to newly chartered clubs as follows:
  - ⇒ Prospective clubs holding demonstration meeting between September 1st and February 28th which charter before March 31st
  - ⇒ Prospective clubs holding demonstration meeting between March 1st and June 30th which charter before June 30th
  - ⇒ Prospective clubs chartering within 30 days of their demonstration meeting will receive an additional incentive

## Faithfully Speaking Open House

Sheila Kelly, ACB, ALB



Faithfully Speaking has achieved Distinguished status every year since chartering in 2007. For the past few years, however, ensuring that we have a minimum of 20 members on June 30<sup>th</sup> has been a challenge.

To ensure we don't find ourselves panicking over membership next spring, we recently hosted an open house.

It takes a village to raise a child... and to ensure the success of an open house. As the VP of Public Relations and organizer of the event, I relied heavily on the whole tribe of Faithfully Speaking to get the word out about the open house, about our club, and about Toastmasters. The tribe came through beautifully. I prepared a professional-looking flyer using a Toastmasters International template. These were distributed to individuals via email, social media and by dropping off copies at local professional offices; also, notices were sent to local radio and print media for free advertising.

On the night of the event, we had 13 guests in attendance, about equal to the number of members! All guests attended because of a relationship with one of our members; thus, flyers and advertising in media did not attract guests.

Cameron Ells, our Area Governor, and Malinda Regimbal, District 45 Public Relations Officer, each spoke eloquently about the global Toastmasters community and gave high praise to our club for being so aligned with Toastmasters International values.



Something we could do better is to have a harder focus on the guests. For example, we could have foregone the business meeting to allow more time at the end for guest questions, comments, and to extend a very warm invitation to return.

Was the evening a success? The energy and buzz in the room, spreading the word about Toastmasters, and the yummy homemade apple crisp and ice cream all spell "success."

<http://d45toastmasters.com>

Like us on Facebook: [District 45 Toastmasters](#)

Follow us on Twitter: [@district45tm](#)

## District 45 Spring Conference 2015

The District 45 Spring Conference will be held in lovely Manchester, NH at the newly renovated Radisson in downtown on **15-17 May 2015**. Join us for an exciting weekend where you will learn to *Find Your Voice. Ignite Your Passion. Lead with Influence.*



**We are pleased to welcome Mike Storkey, First Vice President of Toastmasters International, as our keynote speaker!**

D45 members are encouraged to submit presentation proposals. Please visit the D45 website for instructions and forms: <http://d45toastmasters.com/archives/633>

A fantastically dynamic volunteer committee is busy working to bring you an exciting opening ceremony, great educational sessions, excellent International Speech and Table Topics contests, a fabulous Governor's banquet and fantastic networking opportunities. If you are interested in helping, please let us know.

Full Registration is only \$130 before April 2015. You can reserve your hotel room (\$129/night) Radisson Hotel Manchester Downtown by calling 1-800-333-3333, indicate "Toastmasters District 45 Conference" or online at [www.radisson.com/manchesternh](http://www.radisson.com/manchesternh), PROMOTIONAL CODE: TM2015

Our conference goals are:

- GOAL #1– Best-of-the-best showcase
  - Hear incredible contestants (for free)
- GOAL #2 – Fiscally responsible
  - Raise more than \$5,000 to keep registration costs low
- GOAL #3 – Fun educational sessions
  - Hear from fantastic local speakers
  - Hear from a World Champion
- GOAL #4 – Non-member attendance
  - Have at least 10% non-members in attendance

As you know, sponsorships are critical to a successful conference. If you introduce us to a company, business or group decision maker whom we may contact for sponsorship, you will receive a \$5 refund for each referral provided (no matter whether they become a sponsor or not). As you know, Toastmasters International is a non-profit organization so all donations are tax-deductible. Please contact [nita.patel@ieee.org](mailto:nita.patel@ieee.org) with any referrals.

Additional details will be soon posted to the conference website.



## Club Anniversaries—November, 2014

Club Number	Club Name	Charter Date	# of Years
3608	Winning Speakers Club	11/16/2001	13
947592	Dynamic Speakers Club	11/1/2006	8
1042034	CGI Atlantic Toastmasters	11/15/2007	7
1936399	BURNDY Toastmasters	11/23/2011	3
3207240	Maine Fab Toastmasters	11/25/2013	1

## Educational Achievements

AWARD	NAME	CLUB	LOCATION
CC	Bilodeau, Alain Guy	Kennebecasis Club	Quispamsis
CC	MacNeil, Angela	Xerographically Speaking	Saint John
CC	Shoesmith, Eric Robert	Dal Toastmasters	Halifax
CC	Wilson, Daniel R.	Winning Speakers Club	Windham
CC	Allen Simpson, Julie Ann	Concord Toastmasters Club	Concord
CC	Shaver, Brian	Keene Toastmasters Club	Keene
CC	Ferguson, Nicole Marie	Successfully Speaking Women	Halifax
CC	Wimme, Jack W.	Nashua-Hudson Club	Nashua
CC	Kokocki, James B.	Saint John Club	Saint John
CC	Fraser, David J.	Saint John Club	Saint John
ACB	Perlinska, Agnieszka K.	Toastmasters of Greater Burlington	South Burlington
ACB	Tracey, Nancy Lee	River Talkers Toastmasters	Mahone Bay
ACS	Alberstat, Barbara D.	George Burton Club	Halifax
CL	Young, Holly C	Kennebecasis Club	Quispamsis
CL	Ketcheson, Felicia Lynn	Dal Toastmasters	Halifax
CL	Robichaud, Joline	Hub City Toastmasters Club	Moncton
CL	Tasker, Donna M.	Blueberry Hill Club	Portland
CL	Dobson, Jennifer	NoonTalkers Toastmasters Club	Saint John
CL	La Forest, Ileana del Carmen	McCain Toastmasters	Florenceville-Bristol
CL	Taylor, Sarah A.	McCain Toastmasters	Florenceville-Bristol
CL	Green, Scott G.	Winning Speakers Club	Windham
ALB	Saunders, Debbie	Successfully Speaking Women	Halifax
ALB	Pinelle, Sandra R.	Nashua-Hudson Club	Nashua
ALS	Bird, Sally C.	Horseshoe Pond Toastmasters Club	Concord
LDREXC	Tucker, David S.	Blueberry Hill Club	Portland
LDREXC	Turner, Wayne	George Burton Club	Halifax

**Congratulations to all award recipients for November!**