

CAN-AM LINK

Toastmasters—A Team Sport

Donna Tutty, DTM, Immediate Past District Governor



As I write this I am enjoying perhaps like many of you the thrill of the Olympic games. No matter which event you may fancy, hockey, skiing, skating or even curling, each one of these events is held together by a team. These teammates may be other athletes, coaches, family members or a wide variety of volunteers and fans. It is these individuals who encourage each athlete to do their best, give their all and finish the race.

As I watched the many cheering fan groups from around the world it made me stop and think, doesn't this remind you of Toastmasters? Each member of District 45 is part of a team. Whether you are part of an executive team in your club, area, division or a member giving your first icebreaker speech, working on an HPL or giving an evaluation, you have a cheering crowd behind you. You will find fellow Toastmasters encouraging you to step out of your comfort zone to take on new roles and to give that next speech. Believe it or not you have a large team of silent partners who are cheering for you from the sidelines and inwardly urging you to "go and give it your all".

Your team is anxiously waiting to give you their "high 5's" throughout each step on your Toastmaster journey. Former Chicago Bulls basketball coach, Phil Jackson once said, "The strength of the team is each individual member. The strength of each individual member is the team". Another way to put this is, we need each other to achieve success!

Please don't think that you have to take this Toastmaster journey by yourself. There are individuals throughout our entire District who will coach, mentor and cheer you on to success. We often forget that being part of a team requires a certain amount of responsibility. Being part of any team, hockey, baseball or Toastmasters means you need to show up for the game. There are others who depend on you to protect your line, guard your base and to do your role. Your team depends on you! Be the voice that motivates and inspires your members to achieve more and to learn more. Be active and commit to be part of each victory celebration that takes place in your club but most importantly, be ready to cheer your teammates to victory because Toastmasters truly is...a TEAM sport!

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Fall Conference 2014!

Shane Walsh, DTM, Public Relations Officer

There is a strong Olympic theme in this month's newsletter. Team effort and self determination are the keys to success in Toastmasters as well as for athletes.

TLIs, or Toastmaster Leadership Institute training sessions, were completed in January and February and now we are focused on Spring Contests. Club contests should be underway in March and April, while Area and Division Governors will be hosting contests in April and May, culminating in the District 45 Contest which will be held during our Spring Conference the weekend of May 23-25 in Portland.

In this issue, we have division and area reports and Jim Knox, CC is organizing a bus to travel from Halifax to Portland making stops in New Brunswick for Spring Conference. Our "Did You Know" column by Collette Saunders, DTM, is back and our Patricia MacNevin, DTM LGET is seeking presenters for Spring Conference.

I have also provided a report on the TI Revitalized Education and Leadership program which includes the Learning Masters program, and our Ambassadors. TI recognizes that ongoing improvements to our educational and leadership program are a vital to "empowering individuals to become more effective communicators and leaders."



Division B Area 14 & 6 News

Cali Crowley, ACG,/ALB, Asst. Division B Governor & Area Governor 14 and 6

Olympians from all over the world have just completed the 2014 Winter Olympics at Sochi, Russia. What a Phenomenal experience to observe the best of the best of our countrymen and women. Dedication, perseverance, excellence and integrity are a few words to describe the fortitude needed to keep on keeping on for this ultimate pinnacle of achievements.

The Toastmaster's experience is "Olympic" in its own right. We have our Bronze, our Silver, and our Gold achievements, leading to our Distinguished Toastmaster award.

This past month (January) Area 6 celebrated the Ceremonial Chartering of its latest club: Maine Fab. Their club site is within Texas Instruments of South Portland, ME. And the very next day, MaineFab played host to the January TLI!!! Toastmasters is where Leaders are Made. In my mind, the achievement of Chartering a new club, is so far above and beyond the Toastmasters experience for many, that its stand out there like a 'Golden Triple Crown', for all those whom have had a hand upon this act of Toastmasters Greatness. Current slate of officers are as follows: President/VPPR Crystal Nadeau, VPED Jeffrey Hebert, VPM Mitch Farrar, Sec David Tucker, and SAA Peter Dube.

Waterville Toastmaster's of Area 14, are not to be out shone nor undone. All is in readiness for the unveiling of their new charter, located at Thomas College, of Waterville. Though not yet chartered, they have played host to both TLI's and Division B Fall Speech contests. As a soon to be newly chartered club, they are but a handful of new members away from this momentous occasion. Current slated officers are: President Dog Wallace, VPED/SAA Bob Lichtenwalter, VPM Mike Fagan, VPPR Betty Ford, Sec/Treas Karen Lichtenwalter.

Our mission statement for District 45 Leadership: We build new clubs and support all clubs in achieving excellence.

I am proud to say that both Area's 6 and 14 members, have lit the Toastmasters "Olympic" Torch, in lighting the way for new and upcoming Toastmasters by building and developing their new clubs.

DUES NOTICE

Some important notes regarding membership payments

- There must be a minimum of *eight* members paying dues and three must be renewing.
- Renewals can be submitted online, by mail or by fax
- It is not advisable to submit renewals by email
- If paying by check, print the list with the renewing members indicated and mail it, along with payment. Checks must be made payable to Toastmasters International.

With 14,350 clubs paying dues online, clubs should pay early and avoid the rush.

Presenting – the Division C Players in – A Quality Speech Contest! Mark Dykeman, ACS/ALB, Division C Governor Governor

At the Division C TLI in January 2014, a brave and talented group of thespians debuted in front of a rapt (or perhaps captive) audience. Known as the Division C Players, this hardy group of souls banded together for the first time to talk about something important to all Toastmasters: Speech Contests!

Here's the back story:

All Divisions were asked to provide education on holding quality speech contests, given that the important International and Table Topics Speech Contests are coming up this spring. In Division C we decided to hold a mock speech contest to demonstrate how to use the official speech contest rules, in conjunction with the District 45 Speech Workbook, in order to hold a speech contest. We gathered Toastmasters from around the Division in order to demonstrate the Dos (and some of the Don'ts) of giving a speech contest.

But we also decided to have a little bit of fun.

Mark Dykeman, in his temporary role as the Big Kahuna (thanks Trish) was both Narrator and Contest Chair, assisted by Randall Levitt as the Chief Judge, Debra Steeves as one of the speech contestants, and other fine Toastmasters. As the "contest" moved along, the Big Kahuna used his magic wand, made equally of the 2014 Toastmasters Speech Contest Rulebook and the District 45 Speech Workbook, to reverse time using the magic word "Bazinga!" If an error was found or something needed to be redone, a cry of "Bazinga!" was heard throughout the TLI. This gave us the opportunity to pause throughout the educational session and discuss various details about holding speech contests. Some healthy discussion occurred over several fine points of speech rules, demonstrating that a Contest Chair and Chief Judge may have to deal with unusual and occasionally difficult circumstances during speech contests.

It was experimental, it was tricky but it was good fun and attendees seemed to enjoy this educational session. Here's hoping we have an excellent round of speech contests this spring!



Division C Winter TLI—Fun, Festive, Focussed Trish Smith, ACB/ALB Area 23 Governor

Aloha! TLI was a tropical paradise. Attendees were warmly welcomed by Area Governors wearing sunny smiles and Hawaiian shirts. The registration team ceremoniously adorned our guests with flower leis and tropical-themed nametags depicting their officer role. Club executives sipped pina colodas and networked with other district officers as lively Caribbean music played in the background. The Big Kahuna, Division C Governor Mark Dykeman, doled out swag and door prizes to attendees. The only thing missing was a limbo contest. It was a festive atmosphere for learning and networking.

Every Member Matters. Months ago when our Committee started planning the TLI, we wanted to know what mattered most to our front line leaders. Our strategy was simple. Invite our club officers to share with us, via an anonymous online survey, their greatest challenges, their leadership strengths, their club vision, and what they needed most from TLI. 35% of club officers participated in the survey and their valuable feedback became the building blocks for our focused-learning TLI.

Based on input received in the survey, TLI presentations were tailored to address the top three challenges: Not Enough Time, Member Motivation, and Member Recruitment. For example, club officers learned how to create “protected time” in order to conquer those time-task management challenges and how to prioritize tasks using a risk matrix handout. Member engagement was another interactive educational session where audience participants were rewarded with candy for sharing creative ideas with the group. Training was fun, festive, and focused. Until next TLI, Aloha!



(L) Joyce Smith, AG19; (R) Trish Smith, AG23

Spring Conference 2014 Call for Presenters Patricia MacNevin, DTM, D45 LGGET

It is time to seek presenters for our Spring Conference education sessions. Do you know individuals that have talents to share? Can they deliver with style and pizzazz? Here is an opportunity to nudge and encourage members in your clubs (or perhaps nudge yourself) to step up and provide an education session at our conference.

The three categories for the education sessions are:

- ◆ Leadership
- ◆ Communication and
- ◆ Club Excellence

For more information please go to:

<http://spring.district45conference.com/documents/2014/2014CallForPresenters.pdf>

The deadline for the submissions is March 22, 2014.

Please send your submission to me at: patricia.macnevin@gmail.com.

I'm excited about the potential – are you? I look forward to receiving many submissions and the challenge of selecting presenters and sessions.

Toastmasters International—Revitalized Education Program

Shane Wash, DTM, D45 PRO

In 2010, Toastmasters International began the process of modernizing our education and leadership program. Armed with a new strategic Plan the goal is to provide members with greater access to education materials, expanded learning resources and an educational experience with real-world application. In short, the goal of the revitalized program is to meet the evolving needs of our members.

During the past four years, the current program has been reviewed and changes have been made to meet the expectations of each member. The new program, which will be implemented later in 2014, will rely on technology using online resources, smart phones and tablets. Although the intent is to modernize and enhance the existing education program Toastmasters core values will remain intact. Achievement and recognition will still be vital.

The new program will be centered around five key priorities: public speaking; leading and managing; interpersonal communication; leading strategically; and building confidence. These priorities stem from a need and desire to make our program more 'real world' relevant. A new on-line tool is being developed to enable members to determine their personal goals and interests. From that, a personal learning path will be developed. It will have five levels that build in complexity, with 12 projects at each level. Educational designations will be renamed, but there will be a transition period (18-24 months) between the old and the new program. For projects and activities in progress, a means of transferring credit from the old system to the new will be developed.

Toastmasters International has appointed volunteer Learning Masters and Ambassadors to assist in the design and rollout of the new education program. These members provide feedback and help communicate the benefits of the enhanced program. Learning Masters such as Patricia MacNevin, DTM and Debra Steeves, ACB/ALB have visited clubs in the district and reported their findings to TI.

The next step in the revitalization process is for volunteer Ambassadors to deliver the new program to our members. There are 1,500 in all of which twenty have been appointed in District 45. Led by Carl Duivenvoorden, Chief Ambassador, the ambassadors will

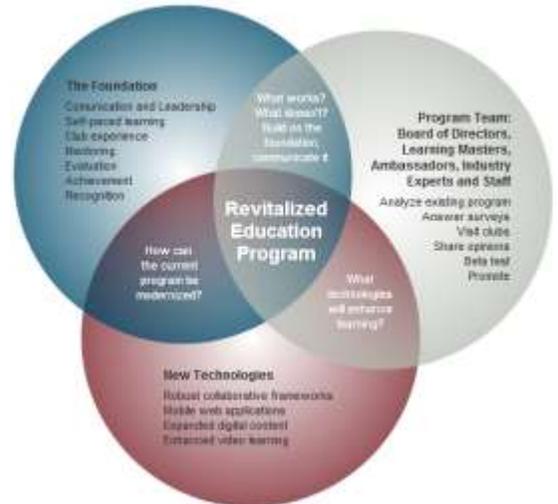
- Educate other members about the revitalized program
- Provide updates as the project progresses
- Explain the program's enhancements
- Spread the word about its benefits for Toastmasters
- Visit clubs and answer members' questions
- Work closely with the Chief Ambassador

Our Ambassadors are from all levels of education and leadership designations and will visit each club with a presentation that explains the new program, answer questions and provide feedback to the Chief Ambassador.

Information on the new program will be available through the Toastmaster Magazine, TI's website and through other communications to members. There will a transition period as the new program is rolled out so your work towards current awards and manuals will remain in place.

If you have any questions contact TI via email at: educationprogram@toastmasters.org.

Core Elements at-a-Glance



Education Achievements, February 2014

<u>Award</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Club</u>	<u>Location</u>
CC	<u>Powers, Patricia L.S.</u>	<u>Dirigo Toastmasters Club</u>	<u>Belfast</u>
CC	<u>McMenemy, Erin M</u>	<u>Dartmouth Toastmasters Club</u>	<u>Dartmouth</u>
CC	<u>Maguire, Brian Francis</u>	<u>Bangor Toastmasters Club</u>	<u>Bangor</u>
CC	<u>Harris, Michael P.</u>	<u>Blueberry Hill Club</u>	<u>Portland</u>
CC	<u>Saulnier, Ginette</u>	<u>ComMunique Acadie</u>	<u>Tracadie-Sheila</u>
CC	<u>Fernie, Christine Anne</u>	<u>Annapolis Valley Toastmasters Club</u>	<u>Greenwood</u>
CC	<u>Hubley, Mark A.</u>	<u>Wolfville Toastmasters</u>	<u>Wolfville</u>
CL	<u>Milne, Judith A.</u>	<u>Wolfville Toastmasters</u>	<u>Wolfville</u>
CL	<u>Black, Betsy</u>	<u>Concord Toastmasters Club</u>	<u>Concord</u>
CL	<u>McIntosh, Maureen</u>	<u>Riverview Canusa Toastmasters Club</u>	<u>Riverview</u>
CL	<u>Draganov, Sergey G.</u>	<u>Greater Portland Toastmasters Club</u>	<u>South Portland</u>
CL	<u>Davidson, Janna</u>	<u>2211 Toastmasters</u>	<u>Portland</u>
CL	<u>Daigle, Amy C.</u>	<u>Granite Place Club</u>	<u>Concord</u>
CL	<u>Nelson, Cathy A.</u>	<u>2211 Toastmasters</u>	<u>Portland</u>
CL	<u>Caldwell, Karen D.</u>	<u>Sears-Halifax Club</u>	<u>Halifax</u>
CL	<u>Sardinha, Joel</u>	<u>Dal Toastmasters</u>	<u>Halifax</u>
ACB	<u>Green, Scott G.</u>	<u>Merrimasters Toastmasters Club</u>	<u>Nashua</u>
ACB	<u>Ryan, Maureen E</u>	<u>Successfully Speaking Women</u>	<u>Halifax</u>
ACS	<u>Savoy, John W.</u>	<u>Xerographically Speaking</u>	<u>Saint John</u>
ALB	<u>Pelkey, Anne L.</u>	<u>2211 Toastmasters</u>	<u>Portland</u>
ALB	<u>Sardinha, Joel</u>	<u>Dal Toastmasters</u>	<u>Halifax</u>
ALB	<u>Green, Scott G.</u>	<u>Merrimasters Toastmasters Club</u>	<u>Nashua</u>
ALS	<u>Wedler, Edward</u>	<u>Annapolis Valley Toastmasters Club</u>	<u>Greenwood</u>
DTM	<u>Wedler, Edward</u>	<u>Annapolis Valley Toastmasters Club</u>	<u>Greenwood</u>
PLE	<u>Elhatton, Laurie Ann</u>	<u>Successfully Speaking Women</u>	<u>Halifax</u>

Congratulations!



Club Anniversaries

<u>Club #</u>	<u>Club</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Anniversary</u>
1479	Saint John Club	1954	59
1741	Lewiston-Auburn TM Club	1957	57
5785	Souhegan Speakers and Leadership Club	1990	24
4921	Winning Spirit Club	1995	19
8518	Ecotasters Club	1999	15
4450	Sunrise Toastmasters Club	2003	11
2926638	Chaleur Toastmasters Chaleur Club	2013	1

Get on the Bus To Portland!

Sean Hurley, ACB/ALB Area 11 Governor

Why drive to Spring conference when you can relax and let a professional do the driving? Members of the Faithfully Speaking club, Jim Knox, ACB/ALB and Graziella Grbac along with Sean Hurley, ACB/ALB Area 11 Governor are organising bus transportation for our District 45 Spring Conference, May 23-25 in Portland Maine.

Jim is an experienced organizer of significant events. For example, Jim is founder of Main Street salute to Veterans Parade and Ceremony which is growing every year. Graziella is the Executive Director of Main Street Business Association and has extensive planning experience working with Immigration programs. She is also has connections to the bus company. Sean is responsible for communications on this project.

Similar to the 2008 Spring Conference in Vermont, the plan is to pick up members along the way. The approximate cost is \$120 per person return and we need 55 members. The plan is to leave Dartmouth on 8 am Thursday May 22. We expect to leave Portland on Sunday directly after closing ceremonies. If possible, we will plan a shopping day in Freeport on Friday. Stops will be made for meals. We will have fun and a schedule of events on our travel will follow after we know how many members plan on participating. Bring a friend or partner the more the merrier!

We MUST ask everyone considering traveling with us to send me an email to book your seat. We need a count within the week so that we can proceed with bus confirmations. Please send an email to jim@knoxknows.com to hold your seat or seats along with your full name, address and a contact phone number with area code. Payment will be by cash or money order and I will send further directions on this issue.

I hope to hear from you soon and I hope to be able to book more than one bus. For anyone that has not attended Toastmasters conferences, you will be truly inspired to continue your journey.

Did you know?

By Collette Saunders, DTM

Contest season is fast approaching, and club membership renewals will soon be due. Is a contestant "in good standing" if he or she has paid his dues to the club on time, but the club treasurer has not remitted them to TI in a timely fashion? According to TI, that member is *not* eligible to compete. To maintain eligibility, a member's dues must be received by TI before the expiry of the dues grace period (by November 30 for October renewals and May 30 for April renewals). For new members, transfers or reinstated members payment must be received by the date of the speech contest. Contestants may want to double-check that their dues have been forwarded to avoid unpleasant surprises!

2014 Spring Conference May 23-25 Double Tree by Hilton Portland, Maine



<http://spring.district45conference.com/>

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