



**District 25 Fall 2004 Conference and Presidential Visit**

**“The Many Faces of Success”**

**November 19 & 20  
Holiday Inn Select  
4441 Hwy 114 at Esters Blvd.  
Irving TX 75063  
(972) 929-8181**



*Featuring*

*Jon Greiner, DTM  
President  
Toastmasters  
International*

***WHY DO YOU ATTEND DISTRICT CONFERENCES?***

I am always amazed at the conferences' quality. People grow and put on an event that is truly miraculous. It is the highest value for your education AND entertainment dollar.

David R. Hostler DTM IPDG

I attend conferences because it gives me a chance to meet people from District 25 that I would've never met otherwise. Truthfully, the conferences are just dang fun!

Kathy Hopkins, ATM-S/CL  
Division A Governor

To steal better ideas from other Toastmasters and their club reps. To network with other professionals and my friends. DeDe Rhodes DTM

In contests I see the creativity, the ideas for future speeches, pick up tips to be a better speaker, and meet people I haven't seen for awhile.  
David Watkins, DTM

*“The things I have learned and the friends I have made at the District 25 Conferences have helped me to achieve things in my life that I never thought I could do.”*

Dave Himmelstein, DTM - LGET

I attend conferences to remind me how much fun Toastmasters can be. The speech contests at this level are excellent. Being around the activities renews my commitment to growing as a speaker and a leader.

Scott McDowell, D25 Treasurer

I love to see the best in the District compete and the formality of Saturday nights and I enjoy the educational sessions and often take away a lot from them.

Shawn Sutherland ATM-B/CL  
Division C Governor

I attend District Conference first and foremost for camaraderie. I have been in this organization for a decade and a half and have friends from across North Texas. The conference has become a tradition for me to meet old friends and make new ones. The education sessions and information provided has been incredible. It keeps getting better. It has helped me in both Toastmasters and my professional life. Friday night events have proven to be hilarious. I really look forward to having some fun with old friends. The reasons for going to the Conference are endless. Dr. Jeff Johnson DTM

***EARLY BIRD DEADLINE EXTENDED TO NOVEMBER 7TH***

**PRESIDENT OF TOASTMASTERS INTERNATIONAL**  
**“CHANGING LIVES, ONE AT A TIME”**

## **Toastmasters** **Changing Lives, One at a Time**

RANCHO SANTA MARGARITA, CA – Jon R. Greiner of Dunlap, Illinois, has been elected President of Toastmasters International. He is the top officer of the world's leading organization devoted to teaching skills in public speaking and leadership.

Mr. Greiner was elected for a one-year term at the organization's 73rd Annual International Convention, held August 19-21 in Reno, Nevada, USA.

An active member for almost 30 years, Greiner firmly believes that good communication skills are essential to success in life. He says the skills he gained in Toastmasters have far exceeded his expectations and significantly benefited his career, personal life and advancement in Toastmasters. “Our organization helps people change their lives,” says Greiner, pointing out that this is true in his own life as well. “My Toastmasters experience has given me greater confidence and adapting to my rapidly changing personal and professional environment.”

Cont'd on page 4 ...

### **“IT SEEMS LIKE YESTERDAY”**

Fall 2004 Conference is almost here! It seems like just yesterday that we were together.

I remember my first District Conference. I was standing outside the luncheon banquet hall, nervously debating on whether I should go in or not. I had volunteered to serve as timer for Evaluation Contest. I was so nervous! Along came a fellow wanderer, nervously wringing his hands. It was his first conference and he was a contestant! We introduced ourselves, laughed, and opened the banquet hall doors. His name was Shawn Sutherland.

After the Conference, we made plans to attend Educational Sessions together and were in awe of all the marvelous people we met. We'd read their names in Newsletters and emails before but had never met these fine folks. They were so down to earth! They have since served as our formal and informal Mentors and Friends. Perhaps you've met them? Their names: Jennifer Johnson, Ron Smith, Ron Bland, Jeff Johnson and many, many more.

Cont on page 6 ...

### **In This Issue**

<b>2</b>	<b>Meet Jon Greiner</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>Division and Area Reports</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>The Key to Mentoring</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>On a Personal Note</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Seems Like Yesterday</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>District Calendar</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Top 10 Reasons</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>D25 Business Meeting Agenda</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>If That Wasn't Enough</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>Proxy</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>District 25's Newest Clubs</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>Educational Achievements</b>

***EARLY BIRD DEADLINE EXTENDED TO NOVEMBER 7<sup>TH</sup>***

## The Key to Mentoring



Do you remember your first Toastmaster club meeting? Can you see that smiling face walking towards you offering to answer any questions you may have? Did they sit next to you during the meeting? At TLI, did they offer to show you around and introduce you to others they knew? Whether it was TLI, your Area or Division Contests or even a District Conference, I know you were glad to see that friendly face offering to explain the ins and outs of any event.

Many successful business people have had mentors during their early career years. The same can be said of seasoned Toastmaster members within District 25. Because they have benefited from the Toastmaster program, they are now in a place where they want to “give back.” Whether they are asked formally to serve as mentor or not, they serve this role informally when a less experienced member simply turns to them for assistance, support or advice. Their wise counsel as a neutral, fair-minded sounding board

saves less experienced members from reinventing the wheel and repeating the same mistakes.

While formal mentoring may involve frequent meetings between mentor and mentee, informal mentoring may be as simple as a quick email or phone call. There is no single right way to mentor. Each relationship evolves in its own way. The mentor learns as much from the mentee as that person learns from the mentor. It is a mutually satisfying activity that enables both to grow as individuals.

The next time someone new walks in to your club meeting remember how you felt walking into a room full of strangers. Personalize their visit. Make them feel welcome. Ask for their name and repeat it often. Ask what brings them to your meeting. Ask what you can do to help. Sit next to someone new at TLI or at the Conference. It’s a simple as that.

I have often stated that I joined for totally selfish reasons – I did it for me. Today, I am just as selfish – but I remain because of you, the Member. Seeing you each grow and step forward to accept different opportunities reaffirms my belief in the Toastmaster program; reaffirms my belief in you. Let me know what I, and the District Leadership, can do to make YOU a *Success*. – Lee Alviar, District 25 Governor - “Success with a Personal Touch”

### Continued from page two... **Changing Lives, One at a Time** by Jon Greiner DTM

Greiner works for Caterpillar Inc. as a global support executive for its Global Mining Division and travels extensively to ensure that Caterpillar’s customers across the globe receive the product and technical support they need.



He says he used to dread public speaking, but that overcoming that fear has led to increased self-confidence, which in turn spurred him on to conquer other obstacles. He is not alone. “Our organization is full of people who have achieved results beyond their wildest dreams,” Greiner says. “We help people gain the skills and confidence to be the best they can be in whatever they choose to do.” As a result, Greiner’s motto for his term in office is “Toastmasters: Changing Lives, One at a Time.” Learn more as you visit with him during the District 25 Fall Conference “Meet and Greet” 5 - 6PM Nov 19, 2004!

### From the Editor:

December’s Newsletter theme will be *Reflections and Forecasts*. It's hard to believe, but the year's slipping away and today's Election Day. With our District 25 year almost half over, I'd like you to reflect back on the last several months and talk about what you've gained from your experiences as a leader and mentor to your fellow Toastmasters, your club, your Area, your Division and the District as a whole.

Finally, what goals you want to achieve before the end of our District year in June.

Our appreciation remains for your continued great contributions to the newsletter -- without your articles all we'd have to offer would be the calendar! Please promote the Fall Conference to your members -- it's very important we get a good turnout -- the more our members participate in District 25 events -- and this one will be exceptional! -- the better off they'll be individually and the stronger the District will be. Maureen McDonald, DTM – D25 Newsletter Editor

## “Top Ten Reasons To Attend the District 25 Fall 2004 Conference”



10. Come meet **Toastmasters International President Jon Greiner!**

9. **HAVE SOME FUN. HAVE A LOT OF FUN.** – FRIDAY NIGHT IS 60'S NIGHT (MUSIC / DANCING / TWISTER / FACE PAINTING /

GONG SHOW / AND MUCH, MUCH MORE!)

8. **LAUGHTER IS THE BEST MEDICINE** – We have a **Tall Tales Contest** on Friday night and a **Humorous Speech Contest** on Saturday Night. Come hear some outstanding storytellers entertain you, surprise you, and make you laugh – what could be better??

7. **LEARN HOW TO MAKE YOUR TOASTMASTERS CLUB MORE SUCCESSFUL** –FOUR great sessions will help you get the most out of your Toastmasters membership. **Past Region III International Director Jennifer Johnson** will pose and answer the question **“Toastmasters: What Are You Doing to Bring Out the Best in Others?”**. **Ron Bland, Past District 25 Governor**, will show you how to help your club grow in his Session, **“Membership Building: If You Build It, They Will Come.”** If you are interested in making a lasting contribution in Toastmasters, **Sarfaraz Nazir, Alternate Contestant, 2000 World Championship of Public Speaking** will show you how as he tells the story of **“The Gift of the 3 Wise Ones: Sponsor, Mentor, and Coach”**. Finally learn **“How to get FREE PUBLICITY”** from someone who has written a book on that subject – award-winning reporter **Jeff Crilley**.

6. **LEARN HOW TO BECOME A MORE EFFECTIVE LEADER** – Everyone is a leader. Learn how to let your leadership skills help you

achieve your dreams. **Past International President Pauline Shirley** will show you how to take your God-given gifts **“From a Spark to a Flame”**. **Accredited Speaker Anne Barab** will teach you **“Six Tricks of Leadership Magic”**.

5. **LEARN HOW TO BECOME A BETTER SPEAKER** – Spend an hour with one of the **BEST SPEAKERS IN THE WORLD (2003 World Champion of Public Speaking Jim Key)** as he helps you dramatically improve your **“Communication Skills”**.

4. **MAKE SOMEONE FEEL SPECIAL** – Help us honor the outstanding club officers for Jan – June 2004 at the Saturday Awards Luncheon. Help us recognize those Toastmasters in District 25 who have earned the highest recognition Toastmasters International can bestow – the Distinguished Toastmaster (DTM) Award.

3. **MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD** – **Toastmasters International President Jon Greiner** will be live and in person at the District 25 Fall 2004 Conference! He will present the opening and closing key note addresses for our conference. Come learn from our President how Toastmasters is **“Changing Lives, One at a Time”** and learn about where Toastmasters is heading in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. But our President is not only here to speak; he is here to listen – to YOU. He wants to meet YOU and he wants to hear YOUR ideas on how we can make Toastmasters even better than it already is. Ps. We only receive a Presidential visit every 9 or 10 years! Don't pass up this priceless opportunity!

2. **Meet up with Old Friends! Make New Friends! A GREAT Networking Opportunity!**

*And the #1 reason for attending the District 25 Fall 2004 Conference.....*

1. **DO SOMETHING GREAT FOR YOURSELF** – Laugh, learn, make new friends, boost your confidence, and get fired up – about life and about Toastmasters! The District 25 Fall 2004 Conference is designed around YOU.

- Dave Himmelstein, DTM – District 25 Lt Governor, Education and Training [LGET@d25toastmasters.org](mailto:LGET@d25toastmasters.org)

**EARLY BIRD DEADLINE EXTENDED TO NOVEMBER 7<sup>TH</sup>**

**CONFERENCE-AT-A-GLANCE ON [WWW.D25TOASTMASTERS.ORG](http://WWW.D25TOASTMASTERS.ORG) NOW!!**

**“IF THAT WASN’T REASON ENOUGH TO ATTEND THE CONFERENCE, TRY THIS ...”**

**BY JENNIFER JOHNSON, DTM, PAST DISTRICT 25 GOVERNOR**

1) To talk with first timers because they provide an insight of how well or not a district is effectively communicating to all members. They may not have a great deal of information but a basic foundation in the following areas should be evident:

- The benefit of being a part of toastmasters and how the organization can help them enhance personal and professional skills/goals.
- Who their leaders are from club president to district governor and how each person contributes their toastmaster goals.
- The importance of presenting manual speeches and building on their educational goals.
- Knowledge of the leadership track.
- The feeling of belonging and importance.

2) To attend the business meeting for the state of the district, address and reports from the executive committee and their teams.

3) To fellowship, learn, share knowledge, and gain wisdom from educational sessions and keynotes. Also, contribute time and energy if asked to present.

3) To listen and encourage current leaders and members when the opportunity arises.

4) To help and be an example for fellow and prospective Toastmasters who aspire to serve in leadership.



In my opinion, attending a district conference in the Fall or Spring should be a highlight to current and potential Toastmasters. We should all leave with more knowledge and a sense of pride for our prospective districts. In the words of my mother, "never leaving the same way we came, always better."

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***DID YOU KNOW***

You can change your address or email right on our own District 25 website at [www.d25toastmasters.org](http://www.d25toastmasters.org). Click "Members" and there is a link for either address changes or just email changes.

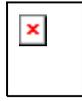
***Top 5 District Newsletter Contest***

**At** the convention in Reno, Nevada, Toastmasters International honored five districts with the Top 5 District Newsletter award. And they're doing it again in Toronto!

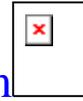
These newsletters should help achieve goals related to the district's mission, educational completions, officer training, membership growth and club building. Entries are judged for content, readability, layout and presentation and should be composed primarily of original material of educational value.

Send three issues of your newsletter—published between July 1, 2003, and April 25—with a cover letter to WHQ—Publications Department by the April 25, 2004, deadline.

A complete list of rules can be obtained by visiting the TI Web site.



# Greetings from the Marketing Team



## News Flash

September 21: **Club 676840-Angels in White.** Special thanks to Area 41 Governor, Phyllis Renfrow, and Marketing South Director, Don Ferris

September 27: **Club 707204-Autotrader.com** . Thanks to Sharlann Adams and Leonard Malley for their help with the demo presentation. Thanks to Maurice Taitt and Gayle Blair who serve as mentors.

October 20: **Club 706449-Burleson Toastmasters.** Thanks to Mae and Alex Hoover, Ginger Wiggins and Greg Solomon for their help in getting this club going. Thanks to Ginger for serving as a mentor.

October 20: **Club 727543-Westward Holt** chartered—Thanks to Brett Cornell of the Irving Holt Cat Communicators Club and on-site manager of the Holt Caterpillar unit in Fort Worth, Dan Dooley, for his assistance in

making this club a reality. A huge thank you goes to Maurice Taitt and Tim O'Connor who served as sponsors of this club.

October 20: **Club 727697-H. D. Vest Toastvesters** chartered—Thanks to Curtis Jacobs' on-site help, Thanks go as well to Area 22 governor, Cheryl Mason, and Jeanette Litherland who served as sponsors, and Maurice Taitt and Chuck Hansen for being part of the demo team. Chuck will serve as one of the mentors.

October 26: **Club 676852-Technically Speaking** at Texas State Technical College in Waco was chartered. Thanks to Todd Ewing and Theresa Park for all the work they did in bringing this club to fruition. This was a team effort by a great team in the Waco area. Thanks to all who participated.

Thanks for all that all of you do to help the Marketing Team contribute to the District 25's theme this year, "Success with a Personal Touch."



**For more information on Mentoring from Earl please visit [www.d25toastmasters.org](http://www.d25toastmasters.org). Press Marketing then Mentoring**

***It contains wonderfully detailed information that is of essential value to all clubs and Members. Thank you, Earl!!***



### Continued from page two: **It Seems Like Yesterday** by Lee Alviar DTM

We felt like old friends by the time we went to TLI Sessions. Seeing old friends, as well as making new friends along the way, at Contests and Conferences make it a joy to attend. It is like a family reunion! The wealth of knowledge we share! I still keep copies of documentation I find valuable at Conferences and TLI's.

Do you remember YOUR first Conference? Will this be YOUR first? I can't wait to meet YOU there and add you to MY list of friends! - Lee Alviar DTM – District 25 Governor

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## **“You Are Never Too Old to Lead”**

**Division A Governor Kathy Hopkins**

This month District 25 is emphasizing mentoring. When I as a Toastmaster think of mentoring, I think of the program within my club where senior Toastmasters are assigned to new Toastmasters in order to help them with preparing their speeches, acclimating them to our club and Toastmasters in general.

While that describes the practical side of Toastmaster mentoring, there is a comprehensive concept behind the idea of mentoring. Mentoring is to serve as a trusted counselor or teacher. The definition sounds pretty straightforward, but the meaning is profound. The definition says a mentor must be trusted by the person being mentored. How is this accomplished? First the mentor must create an environment in which the mentee feels confident, safe, and secure. In a teaching situation it is vital that the mentor doesn't make the mentee “feel dumb”. Using Toastmaster jargon, talking in Toastmaster acronyms, tossing out program names, etc. can all overwhelm a new Toastmaster. A safe environment would be one in which the mentor explains the framework and slowly fills in the details. The second aspect of creating a trusted environment is also part of the definition – serve. The mentor has volunteered to serve which means that all of the glory and all of the success should be heaped upon the mentee. A good mentor will work, help, and encourage, and then fade into the background not taking any credit when the new Toastmaster accepts that first blue ribbon. Finally, a good mentor will know when to step back and let the mentee move on. We all love to give advice and as a mentor we get in the mode of doing so, but there comes a time when a new Toastmaster will want to “do it on their own” and develop his own speaking style. Mentoring creates a relationship that benefits both the mentor and the mentee. While the mentor gives support, guidance, and assistance, the mentee provides fresh ideas, new perspectives, and fun alternatives. Both parties will walk away with a rewarding experience.

## **“What Does All This Mean”**

**Area 14 Governor - Melissa Sager**

Do you remember your first Toastmasters meeting? Was it full of formalities that you didn't quite catch the first time? Attending Toastmasters for the first time can be overwhelming. You need someone to explain to you what the Ah/Grammarians do and what the timing lights mean. You need a mentor.

Mentors are an important part of the Toastmasters experience. A new member needs someone to guide them and orient them with the club operations so they understand what is expected of them. Many

Toastmasters think mentoring means helping a new member with their first few speeches, but a good mentor will also explain the meeting roles and responsibilities to a new member. A mentor should explain a bit about the Educational and Leadership levels, the club officer roles, and the club DCP plan. Mentoring doesn't stop there, though. A new evaluator may need some tips for his/her first evaluation. Helping a new member their first experience as Toastmaster may also be necessary so they can feel confident running a meeting.

Finally, mentoring is a wonderful way to share your enthusiasm with a new member. It can be a rewarding experience to see a Toastmaster improve as they progress through the program, especially when you've helped them become successful!

## **Way to go Becky!** Afterburner's (Club 6191) own

Vice President Public Relations, Becky Chapa, walked away with the gold at the Division A Humorous Speech Contest held October 9th at the Hurst Public Library. She had already proven her skills winning the Area 11 contest and now advances to the District 25 competition. Becky, is shown left holding her trophy along with with Contest Toastmaster Kristen Svajda, Division A Governor Kathy Hopkins and District 25 Governor Lee Alviar. She had the audience in an uproar with her "Portapot-aphobia" speech. Becky will compete at the District 25 Fall Conference held November 19 and 20 at the Holiday Inn Select on 114 and Esters in Irving.



## **“Mentoring – The first step is to ask!”**

**Division B Governor Tony Bieniosek ATM-B/CL**

Why do some people benefit by mentoring and others don't?

You probably have noticed some people dramatically improve their professional, personal and Toastmaster lives because of mentoring. But other people never had someone help them make that huge leap. Perhaps the biggest reason is that we don't ask for help.

Most successful people enjoy sharing their knowledge and helping others succeed. But they may be reluctant to offer guidance unless they believe it will be welcomed and applied.

If you know someone who demonstrates the level of skills you want to achieve, don't be afraid to ask them to coach you. Although they may politely decline, as everyone lives busy lives, chances are they will gladly help, especially within Toastmasters. Remember that you can have different people mentor you for different aspects or seasons of your life.

I have been very blessed in my life to receive excellent mentoring. Rather than trying to “reinvent the wheel” yourself, ask someone to mentor you or be receptive if someone offers you help. Be open to constructive criticism and ready to act on what you learn.

To continue on this theme, Mr. Bob Meyer, whom I love and admire as a mentor, shares his thoughts below on who can mentor and its benefits.

## **“Mentoring – A Natural Resource”**

**Div E, Area 54, Southlake Speakers, Bob Meyer ATM-B**

I think Mentoring is America's most underutilized natural resource. Most of us have the answer to someone else's dilemma, challenge or question but those who need mentoring do not ask for it, often do not know they need it and don't believe anyone would offer it. If you have completed 4 or 5 manual speeches you can be a big help to a new member. Toastmaster's is a laboratory where we learn and sharpen our skills while helping others. Not just in speaking, leading and evaluating; but in mentoring also. Mentoring fits perfectly in Toastmasters! It is a safe place to experiment.

When you mentor an appreciative member, you'll experience the joy of seeing another's self-esteem soar to new heights! And you will make a friend – perhaps for life. A club without a mentoring program is like a Rolls Royce with springs and shocks from a covered wagon. It may get you to your destination but it will be a rough ride.

And do not leave it at Toastmasters. You can make a difference in the world!

## **“IT'S A FAMILY AFFAIR”**

**Area 21 and Area 25 - Roger and Heidi Giddan**

How do you balance marriage, family, and Toastmasters? Roger and Heidi Giddan do it everyday. Not only are they husband and wife, but they are also Area Governors! Roger is the Area 21 governor and has been a Toastmaster since January of 1996. His home club is Lewisville and he is Immediate Past Assistant Area 52 Governor-contest and led Lewisville to President's Distinguished status in 2002-2003. “I

am looking forward to assisting area 21 members and clubs to successfully achieving their goals” says Roger. “I am glad that I introduced Heidi to Toastmasters 3 years ago! She has really excelled in her goals and I am glad to be working so closely

with my wife. How many men get to share responsibilities as governor with their wives?!! “Heidi has recently joined the ranks as Area Governor in August for Area 25. She has also taken the role as her home club's President, and if that were not enough on her plate, she is about to give birth to a little Toastmaster on December 31!!!She feels fortunate to have a husband as supportive as Roger. “He is such a great person!” she beams, “He has been so supportive in my Toastmaster career and in my pregnancy! This promises to be a challenging and rewarding year, both personally and professionally, for the Giddan duo, but they are ready, willing, and able to face it together!!!



The Giddan Family  
August 14, 2004

***EARLY BIRD DEADLINE EXTENDED TO NOVEMBER 7TH***

## The 10 Commandments of Networking

By Dr. Ivan Misner

Do you suffer from "butterfly-itis" at the very mention of networking at business functions? If you answered yes, you are not alone. Many entrepreneurs get a bit uncomfortable when it comes right down to walking up to someone and starting a conversation. Many others are concerned about getting effective results from the time they spend networking.

The process doesn't have to be traumatic, scary or a waste of time. When done properly, it can truly make a difference in the amount of business your company generates. With the right approach, you can use it to build a wealth of resources and contacts that will help make your business very successful.

Use the following Ten Commandments to help you network your way through your next business networking event:

1. Have the tools to network with you at all times. These include an informative name badge, business cards, brochures about your business, and a pocket-sized business card file containing cards of other professionals to whom you can refer new business.

2. Set a goal for the number of people you'll meet. Identify a reachable goal based on attendance and the type of group. If you feel inspired, set a goal to meet 15 to 20 people, and make sure you get all their cards. If you don't feel so hot, shoot for less. In either case, don't leave until you've met your goal.

3. Act like a host, not a guest. A host is expected to do things for others, while a guest sits back and relaxes. Volunteer to help greet people. If you see visitors sitting, introduce yourself and ask if they would like to meet others. Act as a conduit.

4. Listen and ask questions. Remember that a good networker has two ears and one mouth and uses them proportionately. After you've learned what another person does, tell them what you do. Be specific but brief. Don't assume they know your business.

5. Don't try to close a deal. These events are not meant to be a vehicle to hit on businesspeople to buy your products or services. Networking is about developing relationships with other professionals. Meeting people at events should be the beginning of that process, not the end of it.

6. Give referrals whenever possible. The best networkers believe in the "givers gain" philosophy (what goes around comes around). If I help you,

you'll help me and we'll both do better as a result of it. In other words, if you don't genuinely attempt to help the people you meet, then you are not networking effectively. If you can't give someone a bona fide referral, try to offer some information that might be of interest to them (such as details about an upcoming event).

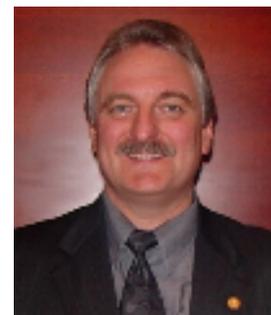
7. Exchange business cards. Ask each person you meet for two cards—one to pass on to someone else and one to keep. This sets the stage for networking to happen.

8. Manage your time efficiently. Spend 10 minutes or less with each person you meet, and don't linger with friends or associates. If your goal is to meet a given number of people, be careful not to spend too much time with any one person. When you meet someone interesting with whom you'd like to speak further, set up an appointment for a later date.

9. Write notes on the backs of business cards you collect. Record anything you think may be useful in remembering each person more clearly. This will come in handy when you follow up on each contact.

10. Follow up! You can obey the previous nine commandments religiously, but if you don't follow up effectively, you will have wasted your time. Drop a note or give a call to each person you've met. Be sure to fulfill any promises you've made.

\*Dr. Ivan Misner is a New York Times best selling author. He is also the Founder & CEO of BNI ([www.bni.com](http://www.bni.com)), the world's largest referral organization with over 3,300 chapters in 18 countries around the world. He teaches business at Cal Poly University, Pomona and resides in Southern California. Visit [www.MastersofSuccess.biz](http://www.MastersofSuccess.biz).



**In Touch** is the monthly newsletter of District 25 of Toastmasters International. Rebecca Harvey, DTM Public Relations Officer & Team Leader: [profficer@d25toastmasters.org](mailto:profficer@d25toastmasters.org)  
Maureen McDonald, DTM, District 25 Newsletter Editor: [newsletter@d25toastmasers.org](mailto:newsletter@d25toastmasers.org)

## CLUB OFFICE ELECTIONS BEGIN NOVEMBER 1<sup>st</sup>

**Club Officer Lists** due to World Headquarters by December 31, 2004. Submit ONLINE! You will need Club Password which can be found on Dues Report you received in September 2004.

**“Everything I needed to know about Toastmasters I learned myself, or why I needed a mentor!”**

**Division E Governor<sup>2</sup> David Watkins, DTM**

When I joined Toastmasters in 1988, it would have been very helpful to have had someone mentor me, to help explain the organization and how things “worked”. Having a mentor when I became area governor would have been even better – unfortunately aliens abducted my predecessor before his term was over (at least that is what I think happened). Since I didn’t have a mentor, much of what I learned in my early Toastmaster career came [slowly, very slowly] from learning on my own.

A mentor would have made my new Toastmaster life much easier. A mentor would have provided me with a wealth of information about the organization and could have helped me much more quickly take advantage of all that TM has to offer.

Having a mentor can be a terrific help for new and veteran Toastmasters. Whether a mentor is assigned to help with the first three speeches or to help an experienced Toastmaster complete a more difficult task the mentor can provide a wealth of experience and knowledge (I can’t imagine being a district governor without help from several mentors).

A mentor not only helps the “mentee”. Through the act of mentoring the mentor can not only feel good about helping someone grow but can also learn new things about Toastmasters or even themselves.



I’ve had the opportunity to officially mentor four people at my home club (though the first three left the club and company after their first speech – I swear it wasn’t because of me). I’ve also had occasion to unofficially mentor others when they have needed help. It’s always a great feeling when you see someone you’ve helped achieve their goals – whether it is to complete their CTM, compete in a speech contest, or get that fancy corner office at work (due to their improved communication and leadership skills).

If you don’t have a mentoring program at your club, get one started. If you do, and you feel that you can help someone, volunteer to be a mentor.

**“Success: Not a Solo Sport”**

**Area 52 Governor - Don Martone**

Is it not a great feeling to achieve our goals and bask in the sunshine of success? I can think of nothing more personally satisfying than to strive to accomplish something worthwhile and doing it! How many of us feel we achieved our particular level of success alone? If you said yes, I would challenge you to think again. Mentors are everywhere and successful people know we need them to not only achieve success but to ensure we do not become complacent once we get to a point where one would be considered successful.

Recall when you were a child. How did you learn to walk for the first time, to ride a bike or to throw a softball? We learned by watching and imitating others, initially our parents and others as we got older. It would be silly not to seek those who have successfully done what we have set out for ourselves. It is the path of least resistance and the best way to avoid painful mistakes and failures that create set backs in our lives. Mistakes and failure are a part of life; however, would you not want to know ahead of time how to avoid them if at all possible? Mentors help us visualize where we want to go and help us get there. Mentors provide those encouraging words of support that give us strength to continue down the road to success when we inevitably encounter that stretch of potholes.

As Area 52 Governor, a former Big Brother mentor and one who has used and continues to use mentors in my own life, I cannot imagine not having someone on my side to hold me accountable and to provide the direction and guidance needed for success. Toastmasters believe strongly in mentorship as well. We have mentors in our clubs and we should continue to encourage advanced speakers to give back to their clubs by mentoring those new members who are struggling with their first few speeches. If your club is struggling to keep members, try shoring up your mentoring program and give each member who wants one that personal touch.

Lakeside's club president, Patricia Feager, believes this at her core as well and we are lucky to have her in my home club. She is a very nurturing person at heart and this helps to cultivate a very supportive culture within Lakeside. Others including Becky Rankin, Grace Platon and Kim Alvarez are always willing to take time from their busy schedules to help those who ask and, believe me; the mentors want to help you. We can “feel” the support during our meetings and many a guest to Lakeside has also commented on it. I cannot encourage you enough to speak to your members and continually ask them what they want to achieve within Toastmasters and provide the mentorship to help them to succeed. District 25's theme this year is “Success with a Personal Touch” and I can think of no better way than to use mentors to live this theme within our clubs.

**EARLY BIRD DEADLINE EXTENDED TO NOVEMBER 7TH**

## “ON A PERSONAL NOTE”

### Richard Rhodes District 25 Sergeant at Arms



Date and place of birth:  
8/29/62 Alvarado, TX

Family: Lovely wife  
DeDe and sons, Josh 19,  
Robert 17 and Dustin 15.

Occupation: Fork Lift  
Driver for Wal-Mart DC

Guests at my fantasy  
dinner party would be: Sandra Bullock, Sitting Bull,  
and Geronimo

My favorite president is: John F. Kennedy

My favorite movie is: Monsters Inc.

The best advice I could give a 20 year old: Get a  
job.

My trademark cliché or expression: Life goes on.

My last meal would be: Steak, mashed potatoes with  
gravy and corn.

My best asset is: Muscles and a great body.

Current status in Toastmasters: TM working on  
speech #5 and District SAA

The best thing I like about Toastmasters is: Meeting  
interesting people.

How has Toastmasters helped me thus far? It has  
helped me communicate better.

## *EARLY BIRD DEADLINE EXTENDED TO NOVEMBER 7<sup>TH</sup>*

### *Calendar of Events*

#### November 2004

1-30 Hold Division Council Meetings  
Hold Area Council Meetings

#### Club Officer Elections

11 Veteran's Day

**19-20 Fall Conference – Irving TX –  
PRESIDENTIAL VISIT!**

(Counts as District Executive Council  
Meeting for Fall)

25 Thanksgiving

#### December 2004

1-31 Hold Division Council Meetings  
Hold Area Council Meetings

**4 District Staff Training –Spring Contest  
Dates Selections**

**Includes District Executive Committee  
Meeting**

7 Hanukkah

11 **TLI – Mayfield Baptist Church, Arlington TX**

25 Christmas

26 Kwanzaa

**31 Send in Club Officer Lists ONLINE– Last Chance!!**

#### January 2005

1 New Year's Day – Are you at least ½ way to your  
goals?

1-31 Hold Division Council Meetings

Hold Area Council Meetings

Encourage Clubs to review Club Success Plans

7-8 Mid-year Training for Top 3 Officers, Austin, TX

17 Martin Luther King Day

22 **TLI - DFW**

24 District Executive Committee Meeting

29 **TLI – Wichita Falls**

29 **Letter of Intent Deadline** for those seeking

Elective office for 2005-2006. Send to:

David Hostler, DTM, IPDG, 2000 San  
Jacinto, Arlington TX 76012

## TOASTMASTERS LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE COMING SOON!

The first of the DFW Winter TLI Sessions is scheduled for December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2004 at  
Mayfield Street Baptist Church. More information coming soon!

**District 25 Business Meeting**  
**November 20, 2004, 4:00 P.M.**  
**Holiday Inn Select, Irving Texas**

Call to Order.....Rosalie Alviar, DTM

Mission of the District.....Richard Rhodes, TM

Welcome ..... Rosalie Alviar, DTM

Introduce Parliamentarian ..... Leonard Malley, DTM

Introduce Secretary .....DeDe Rhodes, DTM

Credentials Committee Report ..... David Hostler, DTM

Adoption of Agenda .....Rosalie Alviar, DTM

Minutes of the Spring 2004 Conference ..... DeDe Rhodes, DTM

D25 Alignment 2004-2005.....David Hostler, DTM

Confirmation of 2004-2005 Appointed District Officers.....Rosalie Alviar, DTM

Audit Committee Report.....Harry Schneider, DTM

Presentation of 2004-2005 District Budget.....Scott McDowell, CTM

Treasurer Report.....Scott McDowell, CTM

Public Relations Report..... Rebecca Harvey, DTM

Marketing Report ..... Earl Hill, DTM

Education and Training Report ..... David Himmelstein, DTM

Spring 2005 Conference Update.....David Himmelstein, DTM

Select 2005 Fall Conference Host Club.....Rosalie Alviar, DTM

International Director Candidate Presentation.....John Moffit, DTM

International Director Candidate Presentation.....Ralph Wallace, DTM

Time and place of next meeting.....Rosalie Alviar, DTM  
(La Quinta Conference Center, Arlington TX - May 21, 2005)

Adjourn

**Don't forget to Sign In at CREDENTIALS DESK**  
**By 3:30 PM**  
**Saturday, November 20, 2004**

<b>PROXY</b>	<b>PROXY</b>
Toastmasters' District 25 Business Meeting  November 20, 2004  Holiday Inn Select Irving TX  I hereby authorize:	Toastmasters' District 25 Business Meeting  November 20, 2004  Holiday Inn Select Irving TX  I hereby authorize:
<hr/> (insert name here)	<hr/> (insert name here)
a member in good standing of Toastmasters Club number: _____ to cast my vote at the District 25 Business meeting in Irving TX on November 20, 2004.	a member in good standing of Toastmasters Club number: _____ to cast my vote at the District 25 Business meeting in Irving TX on November 20, 2004.
Signed by:	Signed by:
<hr/> (Please sign and print name)	<hr/> (Please sign and print name)
Club President	Club Vice President Education
This proxy is for one vote only.	This proxy is for one vote only.
You, as Club President, may designate (in writing) any other member of your club to vote in your place at the District 25 Business Meeting. Each club is entitled to two votes. One Toastmaster from your club may carry both proxies – yours and the one from the Vice President Education. District Officers entitled to one vote may cast a maximum of 3 votes. All other Toastmasters are limited to a maximum of 2 votes.	You, as Club Vice President Education, may designate (in writing) any other member of your club to vote in your place at the District 25 Business Meeting. Each club is entitled to two votes. One Toastmaster from your club may carry both proxies – yours and the one from the President. District Officers entitled to one vote may cast a maximum of 3 votes. All other Toastmasters are limited to a maximum of 2 votes.

**LET YOUR CLUBS' VOICE BE HEARD. PROXY YOUR VOTE TODAY!**  
**Sign in at Credentials Desk BEFORE 3:30 PM!**



### Need a Club Coach?

**S**o you're ready to build your club's membership and make it distinguished? Uncertain about how to get started? Help is on the way! Club coaches are assigned by district governors to assist clubs that want to be distinguished and are having difficulties building or maintaining membership. Assignments may be made at any time of the year. Contact your District Governor [D25Gov@d25toastmasters.org](mailto:D25Gov@d25toastmasters.org) now to request a club coach for your club.

If you'd like to get started building membership today go to [www..d25toastmasters.org](http://www.d25toastmasters.org). Click *Marketing* then *My Club Needs Help* for more information.

## Toastmasters International Educational Achievements - District 25

For education award applications received through October 1, 2004

Club	Division	Area	Award	Date	Member	Name	Location
3055	E	51	ATMB	10/1/2004	Okur, Haili I.	Denton Toastmasters Club	Denton
4225	B	22	ATMG	10/1/2004	Litherland, Jeannette I.	Shining Stars Club	Irving
633	E	54	CL	10/1/2004	Kensing, Cheryl	Tech Talkers Club	Southlake
3536	D	42	CL	10/1/2004	Harris, Shawneequa M.	Young Street Yappers Club	Dallas
9544	B	22	CL	10/1/2004	Khan, Saleem M.	Primetime Communicators Club	Irving
2971	C	32	CTM	10/1/2004	Shannon, Greg D.	Reveille Club	Fort Worth
6810	A	14	CTM	10/1/2004	Novak, Mark Stephen	Bell Helicopter Club	Hurst
9646	A	15	CTM	10/1/2004	Cram, Tim	Aegonizers Club	Bedford
9672	B	21	CTM	10/1/2004	Swanson, Aurora Kay	ACE Club	Irving
6810	A	14	DTM	10/1/2004	Cozby, Oliver Ray	Bell Helicopter Club	Hurst
4225	B	22	LDREXC	10/1/2004	Litherland, Jeannette I.	Shining Stars Club	Irving
989	A	15	DTM	9/1/2004	Wong, Alex C.	Mid Cities Evening Toastmasters Club	Bedford
4225	B	22	DTM	9/1/2004	Brooks, Marceta	Shining Stars Club	Irving
9984	B	23	CTM	9/1/2004	Gentry, Rachele Evette	Show Stoppers Club	Irving
9672	B	21	CTM	9/1/2004	Prakash, Samit	ACE Club	Irving
586423	D	46	CTM	9/1/2004	Clark, Gary	Masonic Family Club	Waco
6411	E	53	CTM	9/1/2004	Denehie, Glen P.	Inner Voice Club	Irving
9646	A	15	CTM	9/1/2004	Kyles, Lisa L.	Aegonizers Club	Bedford
3084	C	32	CTM	9/1/2004	Fory, Ronald P.	Christian Speakers Club	Fort Worth
5148	B	25	CTM	9/1/2004	Romero, Mel	Effective Mortgage Communicators Club	Irving
5148	B	25	CTM	9/1/2004	Albright, Joan D.	Effective Mortgage Communicators Club	Irving
5537	E	54	CTM	9/1/2004	Lackey, David A.	Airport Club	Grapevine
6130	E	55	CTM	9/1/2004	Hernandez, Greg	Northeast Earlybirds Toastmasters Club	Fort Worth
6191	A	11	CTM	9/1/2004	Newhouse, Sue L.	Afterburners Club	Fort Worth
3546	D	46	CL	9/1/2004	Garcia, Doneva A	Waco - Early Birds Club	Waco
5555	C	33	CL	9/1/2004	Benson, James R.	TCU Toastmasters Club	Fort Worth
5558	A	12	CL	9/1/2004	Cozby, Oliver Ray	Waylands Speechmasters Club	Wichita Falls
9646	A	15	ATMS	9/1/2004	Morris, Barbara	Aegonizers Club	Bedford
2476	A	14	CL	9/1/2004	Gilman, Sidney L.	Mid-Cities Noon-Time Club	North Richland Hills

Club	Division	Area	Award	Date	Member	Name	Location
4225	B	22	ATMG	9/1/2004	Brooks, Marceta	Shining Stars Club	Irving
6411	E	53	ATMB	9/1/2004	Magee, Charlene	Inner Voice Club	Irving
6810	A	14	ATMG	9/1/2004	Cozby, Oliver Ray	Bell Helicopter Club	Hurst
3178	C	34	ATMB	9/1/2004	Saint, Rod E.	Longhorn Toastmasters Club	Fort Worth
3655	D	42	ATMB	9/1/2004	Whitesides, Teri	McMasters Club	Carrollton
989	A	15	AL	9/1/2004	Wong, Alex C.	Mid Cities Evening Toastmasters Club	Bedford
6810	A	14	AL	9/1/2004	Cozby, Oliver Ray	Bell Helicopter Club	Hurst
4538	D	44	ATMB	9/1/2004	Cooper, Shirley K.	Power Communicators Club	Grand Prairie
5718	A	14	ATMB	9/1/2004	Thian, Christy	Motorola Club	Fort Worth
6040	A	12	ATMB	9/1/2004	Swierenga, Kimberly M.	Eyeopeners Club	Wichita Falls

### Submit Report of Club Visit Forms ONLINE

Area governors now can submit their Area Report of Club Visit forms online through the TI Web site. Click on **District Business**, then on **Area Report of Club Visit**. Type the club number, hit the TAB key, then click **select**. The form will appear. Simply type your responses to the questions in the spaces provided. After completing the form, click **submit**. Copies automatically will be sent to the district governor, lieutenant governors and club president. Online reports must be received at WHQ by midnight November 30 for credit in the Distinguished Area Program.

Area governors still have the option to submit their reports by mail. Area governors must mail their reports to their district governor by October 31 ONLY if they did not submit the report online. District governors must then forward a copy to WHQ. To be credited in the Distinguished Area Program, forms must be postmarked on or before November 30 and received at WHQ by 5 p.m. December 10.

## District 25 Membership Drive 2004

See [www.d25toastmasters.org](http://www.d25toastmasters.org)

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