

The Transmitter

Volume 2 Issue 2

February-March 2005

Calendar of Events

February-March—Talk Up Toastmasters membership drive

February-April — Club, Area & Division Contests in Table Topics Contest and International Speech Contest

April 1 — Club Dues to Toastmasters International

May — Elect New Club Officers for 2005-2006

May 20 & 21 — District 19 Conference, Clear Lake, IA

June 30 — Club Officer List to Toastmasters International

June– August — Officer Training

Proposed Dues Increase by Toastmasters International

Dear Club President:

February 2005

During its February 2005 meeting, Toastmasters International's Board of Directors drafted several proposals for changes to the Bylaws of Toastmasters International, to be presented to the delegates for a vote at the 2005 Annual Business Meeting on August 27 in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. One of these proposals is to increase membership dues.

The Board of Directors drafted the proposal to increase members' fees only after careful study and consideration. In the years since the last dues increase in 1992, the organization has enjoyed significant growth in new clubs, membership and sales from the supply catalog, our three main sources of revenue. In spite of this, the increasing costs of supplies, materials, labor and postage have outpaced the organization's income growth.

In the past 13 years the organization has increased the level of service to members and clubs. New programs were introduced, such as *The Better Speaker Series*, *The Successful Club Series*, and *The Leadership Excellence Series*, as were three new advanced manuals. The *Communication and Leadership Program* manual was improved, along with five advanced manuals and several of the Success/Leadership and Success/Communication programs. The two-track educational system was introduced, and the Distinguished Club Program was improved. The TI Web site was developed, giving clubs and members the opportunity to do many of their administrative tasks online. During the next year a new leadership manual will debut and more features will be added to the Web site.

Under the proposed dues increase, each member would pay U.S. \$4.50 per month (\$3.50 for clubs not located in districts). This amounts to U.S. \$54 annually or \$27 every six months (U.S. \$42 annually or \$21 every six months for clubs not located in districts). The proposed new dues, while not insignificant, continues to be a value. It's difficult to think of any course or program that provides as many benefits for members for such a low price. I belong to several professional organizations, attend their meetings and pay hundreds of dollars in dues annually for each. I've also attended seminars on communication and leadership, some costing more than a thousand dollars. I've gained far more from my Toastmasters membership than I have from any of these other groups and programs.

In March we will be sending proxies to you so you can cast your vote. Our Board of Directors recommends that you vote **FOR** the dues increase. By voting for the increase, your club votes to continue the current level of quality educational programs and service.

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Diane Stone, DTM
District 19 Governor

On March 31st Toastmasters International will mail to the president of each club Regional and International proxy certificates. Please return your club's proxies to the District Governor. The District Governor is obligated to vote as your club wishes. If a member of your club is attending the Region IV Conference in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan in June or Toastmasters International Convention in Toronto, Ontario in August, the District Governor will give your club's proxy back to your club's representative. Every vote counts!

Learning from each Other



**Marvin Johnson,
ATMG**
Lt. Governor of
Education & Training

Toastmasters International has provided each member with an awesome opportunity to improve their speaking and leadership skills through the use of a variety of manuals – Communication and Leadership Program, Storytelling, Humorously Speaking, Speeches by Management, Technical Presentations, The Leadership Excellence Series, etc. I would consider this the “formal” educational program.

Toastmasters also provides each member with what I’ll call the “informal educational program.”

This would consist of your fellow Toastmaster members – not only those in your Club, but those in other Clubs.

We have a group of talented people in District 19 and we don’t take advantage of these wonderful resources!

When I was an Area Governor, I had the pleasure of visiting the eight clubs in what was then Area 13. Like its members, not every Club is the same. I learned something new at each Club, plus I was inspired by the speeches and evaluations I heard. I encourage each and every one of you to visit a Club in your area. I bet you learn something new!

Have you attended an Area, Division, or District event? These, too, are very educational. District Conferences are packed full of learning opportunities – from the educational sessions, the contests, to the business meeting. The District Conferences take place twice a year – in the fall and the spring. Please plan to attend!

As I have indicated, Toastmasters isn’t limited to learning from your manuals. You can learn from one another and those outside of your club. Make plans to grow even more and step out of that comfort zone – visit other clubs and attend District sponsored events.

Let the World Know!



Ike Rayford, ATMB
Lt. Governor of Marketing

Are you looking to grow your club? There are many techniques to use. The easiest way is to simply ask your fellow club members to invite guests to a special meeting or event. Schedule experienced and inexperienced Toastmasters to speak at these events. This will highlight skills developed during Toastmaster meetings. You should also schedule Toastmasters who are exceptional at evaluation. Remember that this event is an opportunity to sell Toastmasters on your guests. Be sure to schedule the best for this meeting.

Give all participants of the meeting advanced preparation time. This will allow the appropriate amount of time needed to plan for a special meeting or event. Re-

mind the club members to be on the lookout for guests. Greet them as they arrive, thank them for coming, and explain all meeting roles as they transpire.

Your club may wish to conduct an organized membership building contest. These programs usually involve points for participation in the program and rewards for those achieving the objectives. “Toastmasters International has created sample programs of this type that you may wish to conduct in your club. They are *A Simple Membership Building Program* (Catalog No. 1621) and *Membership Building 101* (Catalog No. 1622). Printed versions are available free of charge from Toastmasters International when you place a supply order”. You may also download a copy of this program manual from WWW.Toastmasters.org free of charge.

If you are looking to start a brand new Toastmaster club, Toastmasters International can help you with that as well. They have created a manual entitled “Building New Clubs”. Let me know if you are interested in doing this. I can help you get started. Also, District 19 has specialized teams to help in this area as well (SMART Teams.)

Let me know how I can help you, either by building membership in a current club or by starting a new club. I’m just a phone call or email away!



(Quoted material provided by the Toastmaster International website.)

Not bad, eh?

Loren Toomsen,, ATMB
Public Relations Officer



A very important number lives near the top right hand corner of our District 19 website. You will find it immediately under our "Events Calendar". Seventy-five districts comprise our Toastmasters universe. That number is District 19's rank among all 75 districts. The formula for determining that number generates an even playing field regardless of district size. To me it's one of the most important numbers in Toastmasters. As I write this, District 19 is ranked in 23rd position, or District 19 is among the top 1/3 districts in the world. Not bad, eh?

The fact is, however, that number changes each time TI updates its report. Because the ranking makes all districts even that number is a true ba-

rometer of Team 19's effectiveness. It's our report card.

How do we move District 19 up the ladder to number 1?

There is an old Hungarian adage, "If each will sweep in front of his house, the village will be clean." It's all of us working together to see to it that each club in District 19 achieves a Distinguished Club Award. The rubber meets the road when a club achieves a Distinguished Club Award and we add new Toastmasters Clubs. This generates Distinguished Areas, Distinguished Divisions and a Distinguished District 19 and moves all of us closer to number 1.

Each success from attaining a CTM or CL, having our officers trained, adding a new club, getting our officer

lists and semi's in on time, etc..., the entire range of Toastmaster activity is reflected in that important number. Below the number is a button, "District 19 Status". Click that and you will find your club's current status within the Distinguished Club Program. That report changes each time TI updates its report. Team 19 has four months left in our current year; if we all focus upon meeting our goals before June 30, we can push that number all the way to, or at least very near, the top. What you do in Toastmasters is vitally important to the whole. Let's have a dynamic final one-third of our current year. With each of us focusing on task, District 19 will rock the Toastmasters world, and each of us will get more out of why we joined Toastmasters in the first place. <http://district19.us>.

Division "A" Measures UP!!!

By: LeAnn Blankenburg, DvG-A

I have been informed by our wonderful D19 Webmaster (Loren Toomsen) that Division A has 13 clubs qualifying for the "7 out of 7" officers training promotion. In the entire District 19, there were 31 such qualifications. This means that Division A has close to 50% of these promotion qualifications. Division A again measures up to the challenge of officer training. Club visits are almost complete for 100%.

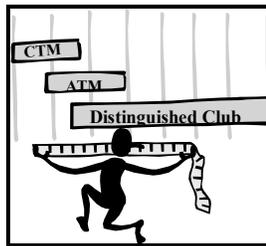
Area 11 Governor, Sherry Kjos, reports that Sweet Talkers Club #2382 will be celebrating their club's 4th Anniversary soon. Siouxland Ciceros (Marlyn Grimoskas) recently hosted a Speech Craft in South Sioux City with great success. The Area 11 Contest will be April 2, 2005 at the Western Iowa Tech Community College, Wells Fargo room. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. There

will be a \$3 registration fee.

Doug Nelson, Area 12 Governor, indicates that the Algona club has resolved their paperwork issues with Toastmasters International headquarters and is now able to participate in contests. Mason City will be hosting a Speech Craft in March. The Clarion club has jumped at the task of hosting the A12 Spring Contest. Mason City is also hosting the D19 Spring Conference on May 20th and 21st. Volunteers are more than welcome. Contact Conference Chair Susan Saltou at lincotower@thewebunwired.net if you can help. Doug has 2 clubs that are looking for a club coach. Anyone wanting to work on an Advanced Leader project should contact Doug at dlnelson@netins.net.

Area 13 Governor, Helen Jacobe, will be conducting a Speech Craft in March at the Western Iowa Tech Community College (\$19 fee). There

was a 35th Anniversary Celebration for Top O'Morning Toastmaster's on March 1, 2005. Also, the Toast O'Town Club held an anniversary celebration on April 11, 2005. The Area 13 contest will be April 9 at the Western Iowa Tech Community College, Wells Fargo Room. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. and there is a \$3 registration fee.



Fred Kekastadt, Area 14 Governor, has a large territory. However,

Fred is still working to increase the number of clubs in this area. He has made several visits to businesses to get the buzz going of what Toastmasters in new communities could mean. Watch for more activity and new clubs forming in this area. Ah Masters hosted a Speech Craft late last fall with all four participants joining the club. Tinsel Tongue Club held a birthday celebration March 5, 2005 in Sac City.

Division "B" Rocks

By: Diane Christiaansen, DvG-B

The Area Governors did a great job of getting club officers trained. Area 31 had 66% of its officers trained. Area 32 had 71% percent trained and Area 36 had 100% of their officers trained. Seven of the clubs in Division B qualified for the "7 Out of 7" Contest. Great Job Everyone!

Several Area contests are scheduled for this spring. Watch the District 19 website for details of these exciting events. The Division B Contest will be held April 30th at Kirkwood Community College in Cedar Rapids Cedar Hall in the little audi-



torium. Registration begins at 9:30am.

Barring any unforeseen circumstances, at least one of the Area 32 Clubs will be President's distinguished this year. Another Area 32 Club has set its sights on Select Distinguished.

Exciting things are happening in Area 36. A new club is in the process of forming in the Amanas, called the Amanas Toastmasters. The Club has 17 members and holding. We are hoping to convince a few more interested people to sign. As soon

as this happens, watch for a charter party, hopefully by the end of March or early April. It's exciting to see a new group of people so excited about forming a club. It gets us "old dogs" excited too. We are also currently talking with representatives from General Electric in Cedar Rapids about starting their own Corporate Club.

A Youth Leadership Program will begin for the Amana Girl Scout Troup on Wednesday, March 9th. It will begin at 5:30pm. Everyone is welcome to visit. Anyone available to help is welcome. Coordinator for this 8 week session is Jeff Christiaansen.

Division "C" Rules

By: Thomas Lindaman, DvG-C

The clubs in Division C have caught the passion of Toastmasters and are making great strides as we get closer to the end of the year. The combination of newer clubs like On Your Side and Crosswinds, and more experienced clubs like Mid City and Jasper Jawbreakers, showcases the talent and leadership Division C has to offer.

We are also seeing more new clubs catching the passion as well. A new storytelling club in Des Moines is getting off the ground, providing advanced Toastmasters an opportunity to work on manual speeches in a fun environment. A club starting up at Interstate Bat-

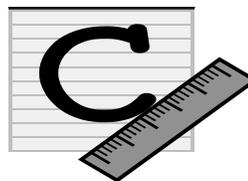
tery, on the other hand, is giving potential new members an opportunity to see what we have to offer.

But we mustn't overlook those clubs who have been in existence for years. Last fall the tenth anniversary celebration of Jasper Jawbreakers was well-attended by well-wishers from across District 19. This spring brings another celebration, this time for the Airport Club, which has been renamed the Sherman Hills Club. This gathering on March 10 promises to be a fun time for everyone.

Officer training has been well-attended, with many Division C

clubs taking advantage of the educational opportunities available. Opportunity Knocks was the first club in District 19 to train all 7 of its officers this spring, meaning

one of their members could be attending the District 19 Spring Conference in Clear Lake, Iowa, for free.



The Marshalltown club has been gracious enough to host the Area 51 Contest on March 19 and the Division C Contest on April 23. Both events will be at the Fisher Community Center and will have a \$3 registration fee. If the fall contest is any indication of the quality of speakers you can expect, the spring contest will be phenomenal.

Club Organization Tools

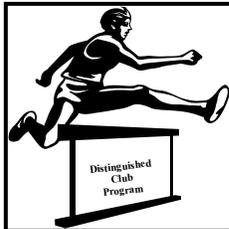
Do you need help organizing your club meetings? If you do, Toastmasters International has tools available for use. Tools include programs to help in scheduling members for meeting assignments, Agenda Builders, and Website Development. These tools can be found in the Member Information Section under Club Management Software. The web site for Toastmasters International is WWW.Toastmasters.org. Be sure to check out this website for valuable information and tools.

Division "D" is Over the Top!

By: Lois Chopard, DvG-D

Things are happening in Division D. Some special events include:

Hy-Vee Corporate Club is offering an aggressive CTM program for their interns this summer. They will give the opportunity to complete all 10 speeches in the Communication and Leadership manual in just the summer quarter. This has proven to be an effective way of keeping members interested in achieving better communication skills.



are promoting Toastmasters eating well. This provides a special opportunity for brainstorming!

President Randy Adams and club members of Los Oradores are very excited about their members using their Toastmaster skills through special events. One member is in Mexico doing an immersion experience in a Mexican village while she attends Spanish classes during the day. Another member is instrumental in furthering the education of businesses to help them integrate Hispanic workers into their companies. He is using his Toastmaster skills by giving presentations to many of

the large companies in Des Moines

Johnston Toastmasters and The John Deere Credit Toastmasters are achieving great success adding new members to their clubs. While adding new members they are achieving many/most of the requirements toward the Distinguished Club program.

April will be very busy with each of the Area Governors and the Division Governor holding their spring conferences. Specific information concerning dates and locations of the Area and Division contests can be found on the District 19 website at <http://district19.us>.

Coachmasters is having a "Lunch and Learn" meeting in March. They

Division "E" Excels!

By: Cliff Scherrer, Sr. DvG-E

Here's the challenge: highlight what is happening in Division-E in 400 words or less and submit it to the Editor by February 28. (Thank goodness she did not say what year it was due or I would have panicked!)

Where do I begin? Let's start with a quotation. "These are the best of times, these are the worst of times", sums up what is happening. A reality of Toastmasters is that membership is dynamic. New members join and experienced members leave. We relish "the best of times" welcoming new members into our clubs but hate the "worst of times" saying good-bye to those leaving.

Saying good-bye is "the best of times" when Toastmasters makes us better communicators and lead-

ers. This is the case with Area-93 Governor Stephen Highfill. A recent promotion with Monsanto takes him to world headquarters in St. Louis, Missouri. Stephen is proof that Toastmasters works.

Soon we will share more "best of times" saying hello to a new club in Area-92. The Keokuk Club is just one member shy of chartering. Thanks to many individuals this club will charter in the near future. Area -94 is experiencing the "best of times" as the Executive Club is just shy of chartering. Area-94 Governor Vern Harvey is exploring the possibility of starting a second club at the Rock Island Arsenal in Rock Island, Illinois.

As Division-E Governor, I experience the "best of times" during club visits. This year I quickly learned that Division-E is unique because it has two

prison clubs – one in Fort Madison, Iowa #9592 (Area-92) and the other in East Moline, Illinois #7889 (Area-94). The only appropriate word to describe their meetings and speeches is, "AWESOME!"

Since I started this article with a quotation, let me finish with a question. "Who is Kenneth Fry?" I'm not sure that I spelled his last name correctly.



Mr. Fry was the first Division Governor I remember meeting. He drove almost three hours to attend a meeting at my home club – twice! This was one of those "best of times"

events, but I did not realize it at the time. I became a Division Governor because he had the courage to be one before me. Are you ready to experience the "best of times"? Just say "Yes" to become a club or district officer when asked this spring

Pay Club Dues Online by going to the Toastmasters International website. Access the Club Business section and then enter your club number and password. The Online Submission/Club Business page will display. Click on the Pay Membership Dues listing and then follow the directions that are displayed.

Leadership That Leads

Conference Registration Form

District 19 Spring Conference 2005

May 20 - 21, 2005

Holiday Motor Lodge Clear Lake, Iowa

Saturday Communication & Leadership

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, ST, ZIP: _____

E-mail address _____

Are you a guest? (circle): Y / N

(Circle) Your club office? Pres., VP Ed., VP Mem., VP PR, Sec., Treas., Sgt@Arms

CLUB Name & Number _____

TM level(s) Achieved _____

Phone number (____) _____

Your first District 19 conference? (circle): Y / N

Special Dietary Needs? _____

Six Conference Packages:

1 **The Entire Package** through Tuesday May 17, 2005 \$75.00
(All events including meals through Saturday banquet) (Not Sunday)

2 **Registration only** no meals \$20.00

3 **Friday Night** *includes meal* \$20.00

4 **Friday Night & Saturday Morning** *breakfast, all events* \$35.00

5 **All events Saturday** includes breakfast & lunch \$40.00

All events Saturday includes breakfast, lunch & banquet \$65.00

6 **Sunday "Breakfast of Champions"** \$15.00

Featuring Jim Key, David Okerlund and a bountiful brunch

Full Conference after May 18 & at the door (all events) \$80.00

Luncheon (*IMPORTANT*: circle your choice)

* Vegetarian Lasagna

* Meat Lasagna

Saturday Eve Awards Banquet:

(*IMPORTANT*: circle your choice)

* Chicken Supreme

* Grilled Salmon

* Garlic Roasted Prime Rib

* Vegetarian

Sunday (elective)

"Breakfast of Champions"

Featuring:

Jim Key & David Okerlund

A one-on-one Q & A focused upon

"Professional and Contest Speaking"

-- over a bountiful brunch.

- ◆ **Jim Key:** World Champion of Public Speaking, "Hitting the Mark: The Quest for Excellence"
- ◆ **Dave Okerlund:** Professional Public Speaker, "Seven Traits of Dynamic Communicators in Leadership Roles"
- ◆ **Clyde Eisenbeis:** "A'maze'ing Rules of Robert"

◆ **Tall Tales Fun Folk Festival, International Speech Competition, Table Topics Contest**

◆ **Saturday Evening Karaoke by Star Dog**

Sign Me Up for the Tall Tales Friday Fun Folk Festival

____ (Use check mark) I've got a great tall tale to share. Contact Doug Nelson: dnelsons@netins.net. Conference web address: <http://district19.us/conferences/2005Spring/>

Make check payable to **District 19 Toastmasters**. Mail with registration form to: Loren Toomsen, Spring Conference Registration, 1200 Ninth Avenue North, Clear Lake, IA 50428-2125.

Conference Questions? susansaltou@mchsi.com (641-420-7274) or pafways@netins.net (641-357-6247)

Accommodations: Blocks of rooms have been reserved at the Best Western Holiday Motor Lodge(641-357-5253) (800-606-3552). Toastmaster rates \$75.00 + 10% tax. Your credit card is not charged until you check in.

Awards/ Recognition

Educational Awards

CTM

386 Susan Saltou
625 Walter Phillips
1529 James Meeks-Johnson
2670 Doneen Conaway
3193 Stacy Kimball
3193 Devin Olsen
3250 Tom Bueckers
4804 Douglas Biere
5819 Dennis Ingle
6787 Beth Steenhoek
7858 Jamie Brown
9211 Linda Cluney

CL

3193 Brenda Speth
7515 Joan Masover

ATM- Bronze

9513 Steven Frasier-Bey

7 Out of 7

District 19 conducted a contest to encourage officer training during the second training period of the Toastmaster year. Simply put, if a club had 7 out of 7 officers trained during this time frame they qualified to potentially receive one free registration to the District 19 Spring Conference. Congratulations to the 31 District 19 clubs who qualified. They are:

Division A

1336 Professionally Speaking
2382 Sweet Talkers
2670 Siouxland Ciceros
2316 Clarion
2791 "Ah" Masters
2904 Toast O'Town
3060 St. Lukes
3522 Tinsel Tongues
4996 Red Oak
6443 Toastmasters of Carroll
7229 Algona
7542 We Excel
7978 WIT Masters

Division B

164 Old Capitol
617 Hawkeye
685 Downtowners Watts of Talk
1209 Affirmationists
1443 Crossroads Storytellers
5654 River City
9284 Hospital Talk

Division C

3298 Diplomats
7813 Opportunity Knocks
9047 Mid City

Division D

625 Action
1765 Health Care
4605 Johnston Toastmasters

Division E

663 Washington
685 Muscatine
1951 Monsanto
4737 Bandag
9513 CONscious Communicators

Marvin Johnson, Lt. Governor of Education & Training, will draw the winning clubs in March. One registration will be awarded per Division.

Congratulations to Roger Polt, Martha Tinker, Jim Herteen and Tom Stockebrand on the successful launch of a new Toastmasters club January 31st. "Interstate Battery All" is the current working name -- subject to change. The new club meets Thursdays at noon. Interstate Battery now brings to six the number of new clubs in District 19 that are meeting and closing in on charter strength.



Toastmasters Region IV Conference

Saskatoon Saskatchewan—June 9-11 2005

The 2005 Region IV conference will provide you great opportunities to learn from the best. We are privileged to have a great line up of speakers for two full days of exciting, educational and inspirational programs. You will have access to David Brooks (1990 World Champion of Public Speaking), Bob Hooey (Toastmasters Accredited Speaker) and Jon Greiner (President of Toastmasters International). There will also be 15 additional educational sessions covering topics of personal growth, speaking, leadership, professional speaking, and club success. Watch for details of this exciting event at WWW.RegionIV.net/conference2005.htm.

**TOASTMASTERS INTERNATIONAL
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New Club Members

Be sure to have the Vice Presidents of Membership send in the contact information for new club members to the Transmitter editor. The editor will add this new Toastmaster to the Transmitter mailing list. If a new member would like a copy of a past Transmitter issue, one can be obtained from the District 19 website at <http://district19.us>.