

District 8 Executive Committee (DEC) Meeting
February 27, 2010 • 12:30 p.m.
Middendorf-Kredell Branch Library
2750 Highway K
O'Fallon, MO 63368-7859

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Dori Drummond at 12:32 p.m.

Reading of District Mission

John Barry, LGM, read the Mission of the District.

Quorum Report from IPDG

Dori Drummond reported that a quorum was present.

Executive Committee Members Present:

District Elected Officers:

- District 8 Governor – Dori Drummond
- Lt. Governor Education & Training – Tim Spezia
- Lt. Governor Marketing – John Barry
- Division B Governor – Kathryn Mokriakow
- Division C Governor – Randy Lanning
- Division E Governor, Awards & Recognition Chair – Curtis Scroggins
- Division F Governor – Thomas Ahillen

District Appointed Officers:

- Treasurer – Tom Coscia
- Secretary – Frank Yates
- Public Relations Officer – Jacquie Vick
- Sergeant-at-Arms, Resource Manual – David Mallory
- Area 1 Governor, Communic-8 – Joann York
- Area 4 Governor – Paul Cook
- Area 5 Governor – Karen Cupp
- Area 6 Governor – Samantha Schaefer
- Area 8 Governor – Dossie (D. J.) Randle
- Area 12 Governor – Jane Clark
- Area 13 Governor – Nadia LaFlam
- Area 15 Governor – Raymond Allen
- Area 19 Governor – Robin Anderson
- Area 20 Governor – Brenda English
- Area 21 Governor – Tom Houston

Committee Chairs:

- Contests Judging Chairs – Jerry & Cindy Hoeflein

Executive Committee Members Excused/Absent:

- Division A Governor – Carole Breckner
- Area 2 Governor – Sherri Rogers
- Area 3 Governor – William Levins
- Area 7 Governor – Margie Anglen
- Area 9 Governor – Eric Heng

Area 10 Governor – Anastasia Lingle
Area 14 Governor – vacant
Area 16 Governor – Lydia Pochedly
Area 18 Governor – Kristi Holsinger
Immediate Past District Governor, Credentials Chair, Nominating, Realignment –
Tony Gartner

Approval of Agenda

Paul Cook, Area 4 Governor, moved that the agenda be approved. Robin Anderson, Area 19 Governor, seconded the motion. The agenda of the day was approved.

Secretary Minutes

The minutes of the January 16, 2010 DEC Meeting were emailed to the Committee. The minutes as emailed last Tuesday were approved by consent.

Treasurer's Report

Tom Coscia presented the Treasurer's Report for January, 2010. Funds available are \$36,858. Expenses were Mastercard Recognition Plaque, answering service, contest awards, brochures, copies for the DEC meeting, contest materials, surveys using Survey Monkey, District Officer travel, and Top 3 mid-year training. We also paid for a TLI location, and bookstore purchases. Tom also reported income from the Fall Conference Store and the TLI Store. The report will be filed for audit.

Break for Divisions to caucus.

Officer Reports

Division A Governor – Carole Breckner

Paul Cook reported. Things are going fairly well in Division A. Clubs are continuing to build membership and earn educational awards. Area 2 will hold its contest on March 27 at 9 a.m. at Edward Jones North Campus. Area 4 will hold its contest on March 20 at 9 a.m. at Twin Rivers Worship Center. Area 5 will hold its contest on March 27 at 9 a.m. at Logan College. Area 9 will hold its contest on March 20 at noon, location to be announced. The Division A contest will be held on April 24 at 1 p.m. at Jefferson College, Arnold Campus. There are a couple of challenges in Area 2. Pfizer is undergoing layoffs which is impacting the club. West Wing Toastmasters is a corporate club in a corporation with several locations. Members from this club are being transferred to the other locations which also have Toastmasters clubs, which is affecting the membership of this club. In Area 5, the Parkland Area Toastmasters Club is on fire with getting educational awards. Southern Illinois Toastmasters has grown from just a few members to 19 members. In Area 4 one club will be President's Distinguished when they pay their dues. Jeffco Challengers is working with their club coaches and is planning a speechcraft in the spring.

Division B Governor – Kathryn Mokriakow

Division B held its TLI make-up training on February 18, with 39 members present. The Division B Council meeting will be held on March 4. Area 3 will hold its contest on March

6; Area 13 will hold its contest on March 24; Area 16 will hold its contest on March 27; Area 18's contest is planned for the end of the month; and Area 20 will hold its contest on March 20. The Division B Contest will be held on April 10. Area 16 and Area 20 club visits are complete, with Area 3 having one visit remaining. In Area 3, Cent Louie Toastmasters is still a challenged club. They do have a good group and are hoping to become distinguished this year. Wry Toastmasters has a good chance of becoming distinguished this year. They now have 16 members. TEAM Talk has changed their meeting place. A person has agreed to serve as a club coach for them. In Area 13, Cable Talk Toastmasters is struggling, but they have an opportunity to expand into a corporation nearby. There is an opportunity for a new club at MedAssets. In Area 16, Earth City Tranemasters is in good shape to be Select Distinguished. Membership is the challenge. General Motor Mouths Toastmasters is rebuilding its membership following layoffs. Orator's Club Harrah's St. Louis Toastmasters is confident it will make Distinguished in its first year. Grace Church Toastmasters is struggling with attendance, but hopes to be President's Distinguished. SALT is a strong club and will be President's Distinguished this year. In Area 20, Alton Toastmasters has recruited three new members and needs one more new member to be Distinguished. Mastertoasters will be celebrating its 16th Anniversary.

Division C Governor — Randy Lanning

The Division C Satellite TLI was held on February 13. Areas 1 and 10 will hold a joint contest on March 27 in Springfield. Area 6 will hold its contest on March 27 at the Caseyville Town Hall. The Division C will be held on April 10 at the Best Western Hotel outside Carlinville. We have lost the Tri-County club. Its members have joined other clubs. The chartering UIS is not holding meetings at this time. There have been budget cutbacks at the University to the point where supporting the club is a challenge. A possible club at Memorial is still in the tentative stage. Springfield Parkway Point Toastmasters has changed to become a community club. McBrian Lincoln-Douglas is going strong with six goals. Capital City Toastmasters is struggling with membership, they are down to nine. Smedley Hometown Memorial is still looking for members and has a club coach. Toastmasters Business Professionals in Swansea was chartered on February 23. The Collinsville 30th Anniversary Dinner was held on February 16. Fairview Heights Toastmasters is preparing for its 30th Anniversary celebration.

Division E Governor — Curtis Scroggins

Everything enthusiastic in Division E. The Division E TLI was held on February 20, where 20 officers were trained. The prospective new club at Lincoln University has 10 members. The Area 7 Governor has made her club visits. Most of the clubs are doing well. Those clubs that have issues know what they are and are working hard to correct them. The Area 7 contest will be held on March 27. Two clubs have already held their contests, two other clubs have scheduled their contests. The Area 21 contest will be held on Thursday, March 25 at TALU. One club visit is completed, and one visit is scheduled. The Good Neighbor Toastmasters will hold an open house on April 11. The Division E contest will be held on April 17, hosted by the Downtown Toastmasters in Columbia. We are working with the Second Baptist Church National Congress on an event on April 24. Member churches sponsor speech contests and they are asking

Toastmasters to help train their judges and help judge their contests. We are hoping to get some speechcraft and youth leadership program from this. Toastmasters could gain new members in Columbia, in Missouri, and nationally. Area 14 is the challenge due to the lack of an area governor. The area contest will be organized by Curtis by the end of March. Curtis will also make sure that the club visits are done.

Division F Governor — Thomas Ahillen

Jane Clark reporting. Division F held two officer training sessions in one week. The Area 8 governor is working hard to contact all the clubs. One club in particular has been difficult. He will get help from Thomas. The area contest has not been scheduled. The Area 19 contest will be held on March 20 at the Mid-County Library. The Area 15 governor has made half of the club visits, and will complete the remaining visits this week. The Area 12 governor has completed two club visits, with three remaining. The Area 12 contest will be held on March 25 at the St. Louis University Doisy Hall Health Research Center.

Marketing Report — John Barry, LGM

Toastmasters Business Professionals sent in their Charter information this week. It took them 18 months to charter. We have several clubs in the pipeline, but we have some good news. Church on the Rock has collected 20 applications. We are ready to charter this club on Wednesday. State Farm Bank has 26 members and is ready to charter. They sent the paperwork through headquarters in Bloomington, IL. State Farm is the biggest supporter of Toastmasters nationally, with 60 clubs. The City of St. Peters has come to life, with 18 at the last meeting. They need just a nudge to get to 20. We have 17 potential clubs which have held a demo meeting or are in process. West Plains has 15–16 meeting at the Chamber of Commerce. This club will be assigned to Area 14 in Division E. We have 13 corporate leads including Ameren, Horace Mann, and ADM in Decatur. The Talk Up Toastmasters campaign is on from February 1 to March 31. Any club that signs up five or more members will get a ribbon, plus some additional prizes from the District. Dues are due on April 1. Club presidents are encouraged to call members who have not attended recently. Half of these members will renew if called personally. The Ascension Health prospective club has 14–15 members.

Education and Training Report — Tim Spezia, LGET

The TLIs have gone well, with the final one taking place today. We currently have 51 percent of all clubs completing officer training. When a club is short of getting four officers trained, it is eligible to receive one-on-one training to get to four officers trained. We are at 75 percent of the CC goal. This is good news for this early in the year. Some members may be earning two or more CCs in the same year. These awards need to be spread among the several clubs of which the person is a member. A Club cannot receive credit for two CC awards from the same member in the same year. Members who gave speeches at two clubs to earn the CC award can choose the more deserving club to earn the credit. The District 8 Spring Conference will be held May 7–8 at the Route 66 Hotel in Springfield, IL. We are looking for presenters for workshops from all divisions, not just Division C. The conference treasurer will be from the Springfield, IL area. The flyer is being prepared. Room costs will be \$69 per night, and registration will

be in the \$80–85 range. We have a chairperson but not a location for the June 19 TLI. The District 8 Fall Conference will be at Harrah's Casino on November 12–13.

District Governor's Report — Dori Drummond

Dori reported that 38 clubs had three or more DCP points in January. Now 55 clubs have three or more DCP points. Sixteen clubs have already earned the yellow Goal Getter ribbon for membership. April dues renewals will be critical to the success of the District. Clubs need to have 20 members renew or a net growth of five members to become distinguished. Dori will send Margaret Walker's August membership retention training presentation to DEC members and it will be posted on the website. Dori challenges the District to achieve 85 percent retention in membership. The Talk Up Toastmasters contest continues until March 31. Clubs should collect seven months dues for every member who joins in March. Dual club membership is a good way for members to expand their horizons. Dori has bundles of brochures that can be taken back to clubs for distribution at open houses. Open houses are a great way to bring in new members. We will probably be making another push for members during Toastmasters Week the first week of May. Video resources are available on the website. Jacquie Vick did "PR Talk" in the fall. Dan Darnall did one on leadership. A new video is being produced today on how community and corporate clubs can become President's Distinguished in challenging economic times. On balance, our district is doing well.

Other Committee Reports

Dori reported for Long Range Planning, Nominations, and Realignment. Tony Gartner is in Wichita, KS celebrating his twin grandsons' twelfth birthdays. Dori will talk with Tony when he gets back, and will address these committee issues at the District 8 Staff meeting. A presentation will be made at the April DEC meeting.

Dori reported for Speakers Bureau. Kevin Desrosiers is still trying to get more people to serve on this committee.

Jacquie Vick for Public Relations. District 8 has, for the first time, an opportunity to participate in the St. Louis St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 13. Communications have gone out to division and area governors. This information needs to be forwarded to the clubs. A conference call was held with four persons to help plan the parade entry. A second conference call will take place on Monday. She is planning a parade of club banners. A float, at \$500, is too expensive. We may decorate a truck. The parade starts at Market and 18th, and follows Market to Broadway. We will hand out candy and pass out brochures. A suggestion was to hand out Mardi Gras beads with Toastmaster labels.

Dori Drummond reported for Policy Committee. The District Resource Manual came back from TI. Dori will be working with David Mallory to review the markup. TI has ruled that districts cannot have policies or procedures.

Dori Drummond reported for FreeToastHost. Every club needs a website.

Dori Drummond reported for Hotline. The district is spending \$1,400 per year, with little use. Dori will continue the Hotline until after the St. Patrick's Day parade, then consider options.

Dori Drummond reported for Club Coaching. There are clubs that need coaches. please help Club Coach Chair Wayne Allen to identify coaches. The coach needs a CC at minimum.

Dori Drummond reported for prison clubs. The district received approval from TI pursuant to a motion from the last DEC meeting.

Unfinished Business

none

New Business

none

Announcements

Three area governors have completed their official club visits for the spring. The first person to complete both unofficial and official visits will receive \$15 towards purchases from the TI catalog. It is important for area governors to be available to clubs so that the clubs can become distinguished.

David Mallory was recognized for his work on the District 8 Directory, which was sent to DEC members.

The St. Louis Speech and Debate Tournament will be held March 9–11 at the Ferguson Church of the Nazarene in Ferguson, MO. If anyone is interested in judging, see Dori after the meeting. Over 200 judges are needed.

The next District 8 Staff Meeting will be held on March 20; location to be determined. The next DEC will be held on April 10, expected to be in the afternoon. Important discussions will include nominations, realignment, and policy. A special guest will be Ron Kirchgessner, International Director for Region V, from Greenwood, IN. Ron will be visiting prospective clubs with John Barry.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 2:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Frank Yates, District Secretary