



Teamwork & Leadership Turn Dreams into Possibilities For District 55 Toastmasters

By
Tonia N. Ramirez, DTM
District Governor

Each of us has dreams that we'd like to see come true. I dream that I will be promoted at work, lead District 55 to Distinguished District status this year, get my body into wonderful shape, and eventually celebrate a 50th wedding anniversary with my husband. Much of the effort necessary to turn our dreams into reality lies within us as individuals; our dreams won't come true without our personal commitment and a lot of hard work. However, turning our dreams into reality often requires the assistance of others. That's where teamwork and leadership play an important role.



As a member of my Toastmasters club, I help other members achieve their personal development goals – by serving as an effective evaluator, a supportive mentor, an attentive audience member, and a club officer. Each of these regular Toastmasters club roles is important in the development and achievement of our individual goals as Toastmasters. Without the support and encouragement of our fellow members, none of us would be able to benefit fully and effectively from the Toastmasters educational program. At the same time, by helping others achieve their dreams for improved communication and leadership skills, we are reaping the benefits of our efforts and honing our own skills. The beauty of the Toastmasters program is the synergy that's created every time we get together in our Toastmasters clubs and at Toastmasters events – we are truly a team working toward our common goal of self-improvement.

Teamwork requires a commitment on the part of each member of the team to work toward achieving a common objec-

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**Fulfilling the
Promise of
Toastmasters**

tive and to bring to the effort our individual skills, talents, and ideas. Leadership is developed and nurtured as we step forward to guide our team to success - by providing a clear vision of the goal, by helping members see and apply the skills they contribute to the team, and by celebrating our progress along the way.

Each of us can develop our leadership skills through Toastmasters. The Toastmasters program provides multiple opportunities for leadership development and I encourage every member to pursue as many of them as you can, whether you're a brand new member or a Distinguished Toastmaster. As mentioned earlier, you can serve as the Toastmaster or General Evaluator at your club meetings or provide guidance to a fellow member as a mentor. You can serve as a club officer and help your club achieve Distinguished Club status and ensure that the club is meeting its members' needs. You can take on a High Performance Leadership Program project and lead a team (within Toastmasters or in your community or workplace) to achieve a defined objective. You can help start a new club as a club sponsor or mentor or help another existing low-member club (besides your own) work toward Distinguished Club status as a club coach. And finally, you can serve all of the clubs in District 55 by stepping forward to serve as a District officer. (The nomination form and qualifications for the elected District officer positions can be found in this newsletter.)

Whatever dreams you have set for yourself – either personally, professionally, or as Toastmaster – take note that every endeavor provides opportunities to develop your leadership and teamwork skills. As you strive to achieve your goals, your own efforts and those of others who help you along the way will make all the difference in turning your dreams into possibilities.



Without the support and encouragement of our fellow members, none of us would be able to benefit fully and effectively from the Toastmasters

Why the Distinguished Club Plan

—Harry Truman, DTM, Lt. Governor Education and Training

I am certain all of you recognize the mission of a toastmasters Club is to provide a supportive and positive learning environment in which every member has the opportunity to develop communication and leadership skills, which in turn foster self-confidence and personal growth. That is right out of the manual and I believe most of us agree with and support that philosophy.

So what does that have to do with the Distinguished Club Plan? Lots. Break it down and you will see. There are 10 goals.

1. Two CTMs
2. Two more CTMs
3. One ATM.
4. One more ATM
5. One CL, AL, or DTM
6. One more CL, AL, or DTM
7. Four new members
8. Four more new members
9. Minimum of four club officers trained during each of two training periods
10. One semiannual membership report and one club officer list submitted on time.

You probably note that the goals to achieve Distinguished require only five of the 10 goals. Going to officer training, submitting required reports on time, a success leadership module, two CTMs and one ATM gets you to that goal. In charter strength 20 clubs, that is business as usual. In regards to membership, a strong TM program will attract new members.

What does it show if you achieve Distinguished club status? It shows your club members are getting the chance to improve. It shows that your club members are proud to belong to the club. It provides a degree of focus on goal setting. It offers recognition to the club members who achieved the goals. It shows the focus is the member needs and you grow exponentially through teamwork.

Years ago, we had a points system that was confusing and required a lot of understanding to interpret. Today it is simple and everything in the DCP relates to building and maintaining strong clubs working to provide a mutually supportive and positive learning environment in which every member has the opportunity to develop communication and leadership skills, which in turn foster self-confidence and personal growth. The DCP is built around the mission and the mission is built around the individual Toastmaster Member. What a plan. which in turn foster self-confidence and personal growth. The DCP is built around the mission and the mission is built around the individual Toastmaster Member. What a plan.

My Toastmaster Story

Clark Lyman, DTM

During 1988 I was unemployed, and I belonged to a Monday noon job search support group. One of my fellow job search support group members, Les Johnson, invited me to a Toastmasters meeting. I had never attended a Toastmasters meeting, and I didn't see its relevance for me. Les was persistent; Les was a bulldog, and after his fourth invitation I attended Get Up 'N Go Toastmasters at 6:45 a.m. on a Monday morning. It was the only way that I felt that I could get Les off my back.

Once I attended I immediately saw the benefits of Toastmasters to me. The table topics sounded much like job interview questions, and it was an opportunity to surround myself with positive people who were attempting to better themselves. I needed anything positive in my life at that point.

I joined Get Up 'N Go, settled into the speaker and role provider routine, was assigned a mentor, and I was on my way as a Toastmaster. I immediately set the goal of achieving my Competent Toastmaster because I wanted my department head to receive the letter from Toastmasters International stating in writing that I was a value-added employee, a Competent Toastmaster. Yes, I was employed by that time.

I had belonged to other service organizations in the past, and had "moved through the chairs" of Club Officers, so it felt natural for me to progress through Sergeant at Arms, Vice-president for Membership, Vice-president for Education, and eventually Get Up 'N Go Club President. I liked the combination of quality written officer materials and face-to-face Club Officer Training that District 55 and Toastmaster International provided, so I always made time to attend the face-to-face Club Officer training. That was my first experience with Toastmasters outside of Get Up 'N Go, and it "opened my eyes" to many great people and many great possibilities! When I was elected Club President I attended three Club President training sessions, District 55, Division K, and Division L, and I learned important things from each training session.

I enlisted the aid of my "master mind alliance," my wife, Cheryl Moczygemba, and we made it a family goal that I was going to earn the rank of Distinguished Toastmaster. I joined two Clubs, Armadillo Avenue Toastmasters and Morrow Street Irregulars Toastmasters because I wanted to get into the queue to give twice as many speeches. I became the Area L42 Governor because it was something I had to "mark off," "check off" on my way towards Distinguished Toastmaster. I was expected to be the coach and sponsor of five Area L42 Toastmaster Clubs. When I attended their meetings the Toastmasters treated me like I was the District 55 Governor, and that felt good! Also, they asked me to speak at the close of their meeting, and those were excellent speaking opportunities and growth opportunities for me.

The overall pattern for me has been that I "waded in" to each situation with a "what's in it for me" attitude, but I always came away from the situation, the circumstance with more than I was ever able to give.

With respect to service, "I have never been able to **give** more than what I **received**."

After one and a half terms as an Area Governor, I ran and was elected a Division Governor. Usually a Division Governor gets three good Area Governors and one not-so-good, but I was blessed with four "spark plug" Area Governors, and it was easier and more fulfilling to be a Division Governor than it was to be an Area Governor because of the quality of each of those Division L Area Governors. I can honestly say that year of being a Division Governor was the

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Practice Makes Perfect

—Harry Truman, DTM, Lt. Governor Education and Training

Basketball players practice shooting free throws and dribbling. Football players practice blocking and tackling. Why? Once you have the basics down well, it has become a habit and you are prepared to take your game to the next level. We have the opportunity to do that with our speaking abilities in Toastmasters.

How? Let's start with speaking. We all have a basic manual. It takes us step by step from standing up and talking about ourselves (the Ice Breaker) to using vocal variety, gestures, organization and inspiration in speeches culminating in the award of Competent Toastmaster. Then, if the individual Toastmaster is inclined, the opportunity for more focused, challenging speaking opportunities are offered through the advanced manuals. Complete two manuals and you are on your way to achieving Advanced Toastmaster. You have all heard the story and know the progression.

Once you have the basics down well, it has become a habit and you are prepared to take your game to the next level. We have the opportunity to do that with our speaking abilities in Toastmasters.

There is a missing link. We may find ourselves stuck at a speaking level and feel Toastmasters has done all it can for us. Not true! Consider going back to the basics and repeating the basic manual. The second (maybe third or more) time around, you have a good basic understanding of the design and purpose of the basic manual objectives. With your experience, you have the opportunity to discover your natural speaking style, to experiment and try new approaches and speaking techniques, and to reinforce good speaking habits.

Where can you practice? That is an easy question. Experiment in the club and practice on the job. I have known many Toastmasters who got the job, promotion or recognition because they could put a thought together and express it in a logical, comprehensible, polished manner. We don't speak to speak. We speak with a purpose and to offer value to the audience hearing what we have to say.

What can you do to take your speaking abilities to a higher level? I would suggest making a commitment to always offer speeches that offer value to your audience. Stretch yourself by getting in unfamiliar environments to build your self-confidence. Become your best critic and ask yourself "did I really do my best?" Listen to honest feedback and use it to improve. Who can do it? It is up to you. Innovate, practice the basics, challenge yourself, and you will realize your speaking potential. Mastering the basics. That is what it is all about. There is an old Chinese proverb - If you know and you do not act, you do not know. Now you know.

2004--2005 Nominations Open for District 55 Officers

District 55 District officer elections will take place on May 1, 2004. Names to be considered for nomination are being accepted for the following offices: DISTRICT GOVERNOR, LT. GOVERNOR EDUCATION & TRAINING, LT. GOVERNOR MARKETING, AND DIVISION GOVERNORS G THROUGH L. If you would like to be nominated for office or if you want to enter a person's name for nomination, please complete the form below and mail it to Tonia Ramirez, DTM, District Governor by January 31, 2004. In addition to surface mail, the form may also be submitted by fax or email. See the Nominating form for the District Governor's address and phone number. You may submit more than one person's name (including your own) for each position. To be nominated or elected, a person must be a member in good standing, meet the qualifications for the office, must consent to being nominated, and must sign an Officer Agreement and Release Statement.

District 55 Officer Nomination Form

I want to have the Nominating Committee consider the following person for the office of:

- District 55 Governor
- Lt. Governor Education & Training
- Lt. Governor Marketing
- Division Governor, Division

Name _____ q CTM q ATM q DTM
Address _____ State _____
City _____ Zip Code _____
Telephone (H) _____ (W) _____
(C) _____ FAX _____ E-mail _____
Home Club Name: _____ Club Number _____

List the Club and District offices in which this person has served and the dates of service. Describe this Toastmaster's qualifications for office and fitness to serve. Please attach any other information about this candidate that may be helpful in assisting the Nominating Committee. Also, please submit a photograph of the nominee with this form.

Submitted by: _____

MAIL TO: Tonia N. Ramirez, DTM **TELEPHONE:** (512) 693-4279 home
District Governor **TELEPHONE:** (512) 463-9957 work
615 Blackberry Drive **FAX:** (512) 463-9389 work
Austin, Texas 78745 **E-MAIL:** dg@tmd55.org

DEADLINE for submitting this form is January 31, 2004

Call for Nominations

District Officer Mission/Purpose and Qualifications

District 55 officer elections will be held at the District Conference on May 1, 2004 in Austin, Texas. The following officers will be elected: District Governor, Lt. Governor Education & Training, Lt. Governor Marketing, and Division Governors G through L.

THE MISSION OF THE DISTRICT

The mission of the District is to enhance the performance and extend the network of Clubs, thereby offering greater numbers of people the opportunity to benefit from the Toastmasters educational program by:

- o Focusing on the critical success factors as specified by the District educational and membership goals
- o Insuring that each Club effectively fulfills its responsibilities to its members
- o Providing effective training and leadership development opportunities for Club and District officers.

TOASTMASTERS INTERNATIONAL VISION

Toastmasters International empowers people to achieve their full potential and realize their dreams. Through our member Clubs, people throughout the world can improve their communication and leadership skills, giving them the courage to change.

The mission/purpose and qualifications of each elected officer follows:

DISTRICT GOVERNOR

Mission/Purpose

As the District's chief executive officer, directs the District in a way which fosters strong Clubs; produces maximum growth in educational completions, Clubs, and membership; and its consistent with the interests of members of Toastmasters International. Responsible for

motivating the District to achieve Distinguished District. Achieves the Mission of the District in a manner which motivates volunteer leaders and promotes a standard of excellence in all District activities.

Qualifications

At the time of taking office, the District Governor shall have served at least six (6) consecutive months as a Club President and at least twelve (12) consecutive months as a Lt. Governor or Division Governor or a combination thereof.

LT. GOVERNOR EDUCATION & TRAINING Mission/Purpose

Under the guidance of the District Governor, strives to have every Club and each member reap the benefits of the Toastmasters educational program and to have every Club become a Distinguished Club. Responsible for achieving Distinguished District goals for CTMs, ATMs, and Distinguished Clubs. Provides directions and counsel to Division Governors, Area Governors, and Club officers on the educational opportunities in Toastmasters. Responsible for the design and conduct of successful District training programs, conferences, and other District educational events.

Qualifications

The Lt. Governor Education & Training shall have served at least six (6) consecutive months as a Club President and at least twelve (12) consecutive months as a Lt. Governor, a Division Governor, or an Area Governor, or a combination thereof.

LT. GOVERNOR MARKETING

Mission/Purpose

Under guidance of the District Governor,

makes the benefits of Toastmasters membership available to greater numbers of people. Plans, develops, implements, and directs short-term and long-term District marketing objectives. Develops and directs programs for new Club development, Club rescue efforts, Club membership promotion, and membership retention. Responsible for achieving Distinguished District goals for membership and Club Growth. Promotes standards of service to the member and to the Club.

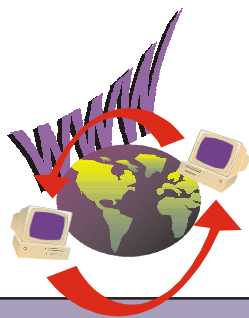
Qualifications

The Lt. Governor Marketing shall have served for at least six (6) consecutive months as a Club President and at least twelve (12) consecutive months as a Lt. Governor, a Division Governor, or an Area Governor, or a combination thereof.

DIVISION GOVERNOR

Mission/Purpose

Achieves the Mission of the District within the Division, accomplishing District goals in membership building and retention, Club extension, and educational accomplishments. Ensures that each Club realizes its Mission and fulfills its responsibilities to its members. Responsible for achieving Distinguished Division Program goals and for ensuring that Areas and Clubs within the Division achieve Distinguished status. Serves the Division Clubs by providing District support and resources



Web Address:
<http://www.tmd55.org>

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most fulfilling service organization work that I have ever done in my life.

About mid-term as Division Governor, I completed all of the requirements for Distinguished Toastmaster and Toastmasters International mailed me a great engraved plaque to hang in my study. It felt great to have Armadillo Avenue Toastmasters have a sheet cake and punch celebration for me and for all of the District 55 Governor and Lieutenant Governors personally attend my Distinguished Toastmaster celebration.

Toastmasters is a “blank check.” You can write a small check and get a small return, or you can write a million dollar check and get a million dollar return. It’s your choice. If I, Clark Lyman, can become a Distinguished Toastmaster, then YOU can become a Distinguished Toastmaster.

Clark Lyman, DTM
Armadillo Avenue Toastmasters Club No. 6755
Morrow Street Irregulars Toastmasters, Club No. 4786

A big thank you to all who have been contributing to the Flash. Your contributions have been most appreciated. I am seeking additional contributors. Do you have a story about the successes and goals of your club, area, or division? Has someone reached an important milestone in his or her club, professional or family life? Do you have some really cool photos you are just dying to show off? Why not send it to the Flash newsletter? Your contributions are happily welcomed. Don't delay. Send your response in today.

Please send written offerings in Word or plain, unformatted text. Photos can best be used if they are jpeg or tif format. Hard copies of photos are also fine. Remember to include details about the photo for a caption.

Thanks in advance for your contributions. Send to:

Don Brown
12802 Rampart
Austin, Tx. 78727

springap@texas.net

Educational Achievements - District 55

(through December 15, 2003)

| Club | Division | Area | Award | Date | Member Name | Location |
|-------------|-----------------|-------------|--------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| 6379 | J | 63 | AL | 9/1/03 | "Owen, David C." | West Austin II Club Austin |
| 7908 | K | 50 | AL | 9/1/03 | "Hoffman, Don R." | Toast Of Dell Club Austin |
| 1097 | J | 60 | ATMB | 10/1/03 | "Burris, Suzanne" | TEL USA Toastmasters Austin |
| 1722 | H | 80 | ATMB | 9/1/03 | "Roy, Lupe" | New Braunfels Club New Braunfels |
| 2048 | L | 41 | ATMB | 12/1/03 | "Cantara, Albert R." | Capital City Club Austin |
| 2845 | H | 80 | ATMB | 7/1/03 | "Sitterly, Joseph S." | Randolph AFB Club Randolph Air Force Base |
| 2845 | H | 80 | ATMB | 8/1/03 | "Houtman, George" | Randolph AFB Club Randolph Air Force Base |
| 4464 | L | 41 | ATMB | 12/1/03 | "Adams, Raymond S." | Money Talks-Austin Club Austin |
| 4601 | H | 81 | ATMB | 10/1/03 | "Thomas, Wayne S." | Talk Of The Tower Club San Antonio |
| 4601 | H | 81 | ATMB | 10/1/03 | "Huffman, Sherron" | Talk Of The Tower Club San Antonio |
| 4786 | K | 52 | ATMB | 11/1/03 | "Combs, Sharon Ann" | Morrow St Irregulars Club Austin |
| 4948 | I | 74 | ATMB | 10/1/03 | "Cano-Valenzuela, Jane C." | USAA Bank Club San Antonio |
| 4985 | J | 64 | ATMB | 9/1/03 | "Mucha, Betty J." | Motorola Club Austin |
| 6482 | G | 92 | ATMB | 8/1/03 | "Macon, Prince" | Highnoon Club Corpus Christi |
| 7908 | K | 50 | ATMB | 10/1/03 | "Hoffman, Don" | Toast Of Dell Club Austin |
| 1092 | G | 93 | ATMG | 9/1/03 | "Rogans, John" | UTB/TSC Club Brownsville |
| 2207 | H | 83 | ATMG | 9/1/03 | "Gallatin, Albert R." | Business-Professional Club San Antonio |
| 4994 | L | 41 | ATMG | 10/1/03 | "Ramsey, Lee Ann" | Austin Toastmasters Extraordinaire Club Austin |
| 6379 | J | 63 | ATMG | 8/1/03 | "Owen, David C." | West Austin II Club Austin |
| 827K | 50 | ATMS | 9/1/03 | "Rice, Marilyn K." | Dell Masters Club Round Rock | |
| 4994 | L | 41 | ATMS | 12/1/03 | "Keith-Thompson, Debra Ann" | Austin Toastmasters Extraordinaire Club Austin |
| 6379 | J | 63 | ATMS | 9/1/03 | "Spoor, Scott D." | West Austin II Club Austin |
| 6482 | G | 92 | ATMS | 8/1/03 | "Haley, Fred J." | Highnoon Club Corpus Christi |
| 8073 | K | 52 | ATMS | 9/1/03 | "Borrego, Raymond G." | Central Austin Club Austin |
| 1811 | 74 | CL | 9/1/03 | "Denehy, Deborah J." | USAA Club San Antonio | |
| 827K | 50 | CL | 12/1/03 | "Rice, Marilyn K." | Dell Masters Club Round Rock | |
| 966J | 64 | CL | 9/1/03 | "Shutter, John S." | Tejas Club Austin | |
| 1092 | G | 93 | CL | 9/1/03 | "Mercado, Vicky" | UTB/TSC Club Brownsville |
| 1097 | J | 60 | CL | 12/1/03 | "McCune, Ron" | TEL USA Toastmasters Austin |
| 1641 | I | 71 | CL | 12/1/03 | "Galloway, Michelle" | City Public Service Club San Antonio |
| 2048 | L | 41 | CL | 9/1/03 | "Reznik, Patrick L." | Capital City Club Austin |
| 3393 | J | 62 | CL | 9/1/03 | "Fisher, Steven" | Lake Austin Metropolitan Club Austin |
| 4058 | I | 72 | CL | 9/1/03 | "Arnold, Amanda M." | Sabor Club San Antonio |
| 4638 | I | 74 | CL | 10/1/03 | "Heyn, Kurt H." | Upeeka Club San Antonio |
| 4952 | J | 61 | CL | 9/1/03 | "Burt, Chuck" | Aim High Toastmasters Austin |
| 5602 | I | 73 | CL | 9/1/03 | "Salazar, Johnny" | G.U.T.S. Club San Antonio |
| 6755 | L | 42 | CL | 9/1/03 | "Lyman, Clark E." | Armadillo Avenue Club Austin |
| 7002 | H | 83 | CL | 9/1/03 | "Johnston, Mary Jo" | Eaglemasters Toastmasters San Antonio |
| 7629 | J | 62 | CL | 9/1/03 | "Sosa, Guadalupe" | Today Club Austin |
| 7908 | K | 50 | CL | 9/1/03 | "Pirmantgen, Monica A." | Toast Of Dell Club Austin |
| 8737 | I | 74 | CL | 9/1/03 | "Correia, Lynette P." | Texas Tongue Twisters Club San Antonio |
| 9174 | L | 40 | CL | 12/1/03 | "Wright, Ryan C." | Ni Speechmeisters Club Austin |
| 9528 | J | 61 | CL | 12/1/03 | "Littlefield, Andrea" | THA Talkers Club Austin |
| 102L | 43 | CTM | 11/1/03 | "Garbee, Gregg R." | Speechmasters Club Austin | |
| 423J | 61 | CTM | 8/1/03 | "Sambasivan, Pona" | Texas State Talkers Club Austin | |
| 423J | 61 | CTM | 10/1/03 | "Thomas, Richard M." | Texas State Talkers Club Austin | |
| 827K | 50 | CTM | 11/1/03 | "Lee, Charlene" | Dell Masters Club Round Rock | |
| 860G | 93 | CTM | 12/1/03 | "Perez, Adriana" | Harlingen Club San Benito | |
| 1097 | J | 60 | CTM | 10/1/03 | "Bryant, Vicki" | TEL USA Toastmasters Austin |
| 1097 | J | 60 | CTM | 11/1/03 | "Kimbrough, Thomas M." | TEL USA Toastmasters Austin |
| 1097 | J | 60 | CTM | 12/1/03 | "White, Sarah" | TEL USA Toastmasters Austin |
| 1097 | J | 60 | CTM | 12/1/03 | "McCune, Ron" | TEL USA Toastmasters Austin |
| 1641 | I | 71 | CTM | 11/1/03 | "Waddy, Leon M." | City Public Service ClubSan Antonio |
| 1641 | I | 71 | CTM | 9/1/03 | "Lujan, Richard" | City Public Service ClubSan Antonio |
| 2048 | L | 41 | CTM | 11/1/03 | "Holman, Dwayne" | Capital City Club Austin |
| 2207 | H | 83 | CTM | 9/1/03 | "Meek, Jason B." | Business-Professional Club San Antonio |
| 2556 | G | 91 | CTM | 9/1/03 | "Maus, Ann" | Mid-Valley Club Weslaco |
| 2845 | H | 80 | CTM | 9/1/03 | "Watson, William G." | Randolph AFB Club Randolph Air Force Base |
| 2999 | J | 63 | CTM | 9/1/03 | "Moore, Bruce" | Town Lake Club Austin |
| 3393 | J | 62 | CTM | 8/1/03 | "O'Cleirigh, Declan" | Lake Austin Metropolitan Club Austin |
| 3393 | J | 62 | CTM | 12/1/03 | "Carmen, James" | Lake Austin Metropolitan Club Austin |
| 3407 | L | 40 | CTM | 8/1/03 | "Helmke, Steve Lee" | Balcones Club Austin |
| 3730 | K | 52 | CTM | 12/1/03 | "Nielsen, Glenn R." | Highroller Club Austin |
| 3730 | K | 52 | CTM | 9/1/03 | "Cartmell, Emma" | Highroller Club Austin |
| 3776 | H | 80 | CTM | 9/1/03 | "Cross, Cindy R." | Col Jack D Wallace Club Spring Branch |

| Club | Division | Area | Award | Date | Member Name | Location |
|-------------|-----------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|---------------------------|--|
| 3776 | H | 80 | CTM | 9/1/03 | "Styles, Tom B." | Col Jack D Wallace Club Spring Branch |
| 3776 | H | 80 | CTM | 11/1/03 | "Borden, Deborah L." | Col Jack D Wallace Club Spring Branch |
| 4256 | J | 62 | CTM | 11/1/03 | "Wolff, Stephen A." | Austin Club Austin |
| 4256 | J | 62 | CTM | 10/1/03 | "Hall, James H." | Austin Club Austin |
| 4418 | L | 41 | CTM | 10/1/03 | "Janysek, Cheryl A." | Trav Talk Club Austin |
| 4573 | J | 61 | CTM | 9/1/03 | "Krueger, Cindy" | DPS Club Austin |
| 4573 | J | 61 | CTM | 8/1/03 | "Mcfarlin, Donna L." | DPS Club Austin |
| 4786 | K | 52 | CTM | 9/1/03 | "Lyman, Clark" | Morrow St Irregulars Club Austin |
| 4948 | I | 74 | CTM | 10/1/03 | "Gant, Allison M." | USAA Bank Club San Antonio |
| 4952 | J | 61 | CTM | 12/1/03 | "Kerr, Katherine" | Aim High Toastmasters Austin |
| 5068 | I | 72 | CTM | 9/1/03 | "Orduna, Paty" | Laredo Club Laredo |
| 5094 | L | 43 | CTM | 9/1/03 | "Latham, Pam" | Lost Pines Club Bastrop |
| 5166 | H | 82 | CTM | 8/1/03 | "Davis, Mary P." | North San Antonio Club San Antonio |
| 5166 | H | 82 | CTM | 10/1/03 | "Vaughn, Lasalle R." | North San Antonio Club San Antonio |
| 5166 | H | 82 | CTM | 10/1/03 | "Vickers, Kathryn R." | North San Antonio Club San Antonio |
| 5400 | L | 43 | CTM | 11/1/03 | "Bell, Sherald" | Brenham Club Brenham |
| 5615 | K | 50 | CTM | 11/1/03 | "Ravi, Akhilesh" | Dell Master Speakers Club Round Rock |
| 5741 | K | 51 | CTM | 10/1/03 | "Apokremioti, Vasi" | Williamson County Club Round Rock |
| 6058 | H | 84 | CTM | 11/1/03 | "Dodson, Ronald J." | Northwest Club San Antonio |
| 6260 | L | 44 | CTM | 11/1/03 | "Henry, Pamela K." | Exchange Park Club Austin |
| 6369 | H | 83 | CTM | 9/1/03 | "Carlin, Carl J." | Frost & Sullivan Club San Antonio |
| 6369 | H | 83 | CTM | 9/1/03 | "Hart, Louis E." | Frost & Sullivan Club San Antonio |
| 7167 | K | 53 | CTM | 11/1/03 | "Aguilar, Jesse M." | Good Neighbor Club Austin |
| 7167 | K | 53 | CTM | 9/1/03 | "Cuervo, Leonor" | Good Neighbor Club Austin |
| 7480 | H | 84 | CTM | 8/1/03 | "Ayala, Milton" | Audie's Orators Club San Antonio |
| 7774 | L | 44 | CTM | 10/1/03 | "Madipadga, Reddy V." | Arboretum Club Austin |
| 7774 | L | 44 | CTM | 12/1/03 | "Breidenstein, Diane E." | Arboretum Club Austin |
| 7838 | K | 54 | CTM | 12/1/03 | "Santos, Juan S." | Ercot Club Taylor |
| 7908 | K | 50 | CTM | 12/1/03 | "Spencer, Dennis" | Toast Of Dell Club Austin |
| 7908 | K | 50 | CTM | 12/1/03 | "Xu, Xinwei" | Toast Of Dell Club Austin |
| 7947 | L | 43 | CTM | 11/1/03 | "Pleasant, Peggy Lee" | Barton Springs Club Austin |
| 7947 | L | 43 | CTM | 11/1/03 | "Malik, Brenda" | Barton Springs Club Austin |
| 8073 | K | 52 | CTM | 9/1/03 | "Poole, Laurie Ann" | Central Austin Club Austin |
| 8737 | I | 74 | CTM | 9/1/03 | "Shilgalis, Stefan" | Texas Tongue Twisters Club San Antonio |
| 8737 | I | 74 | CTM | 10/1/03 | "Ballou, Geoffrey Tho" | Texas Tongue Twisters Club San Antonio |
| 8737 | I | 74 | CTM | 12/1/03 | "Wascom, Carol D." | Texas Tongue Twisters Club San Antonio |
| 9082 | I | 71 | CTM | 8/1/03 | "Hensley, Bill" | Downtown Professional Club San Antonio |
| 9082 | I | 71 | CTM | 9/1/03 | "Ferguson, Pamela J." | Downtown Professional Club San Antonio |
| 9082 | I | 71 | CTM | 11/1/03 | "Present, David L." | Downtown Professional Club San Antonio |
| 9141 | J | 60 | CTM | 10/1/03 | "Lam, Glen K." | TMD Club Austin |
| 9174 | L | 40 | CTM | 11/1/03 | "Wilkinson, Jayson" | Speechmeisters Club Austin |
| 9174 | L | 40 | CTM | 9/1/03 | "Wells, Steven C."Ni | Ni Speechmeisters Club Austin |
| 9174 | L | 40 | CTM | 9/1/03 | "Reffett, Eric M." | Ni Speechmeisters Club Austin |
| 9174 | L | 40 | CTM | 9/1/03 | "Cheij, Dany" | Ni Speechmeisters Club Austin |
| 9174 | L | 40 | CTM | 12/1/03 | "Trimborn, Michael J." | Ni Speechmeisters Club Austin |
| 9528 | J | 61 | CTM | 10/1/03 | "Rodriguez, Trish" | THA Talkers Club Austin |
| 9752 | J | 64 | CTM | 11/1/03 | "Needham, Jason D." | Lake Travis Club Lakeway |
| 9761 | H | 81 | CTM | 10/1/03 | "Robinson, Samuel" | Universal City Club Universal City |
| 9761 | H | 81 | CTM | 9/1/03 | "Hershfield, Norman A." | Universal City Club Universal City |
| 9804 | L | 40 | CTM | 8/1/03 | "Lampitt, Joseph V." | IBM Club Austin |
| 9852 | J | 62 | CTM | 9/1/03 | "Bhattacharya, Aparajita" | Fun Company Club Austin |
| 2207 | H | 83 | DTM | 9/1/03 | "Gallatin, Albert R." | Business-Professional Club San Antonio |
| 6379 | J | 63 | DTM | 9/1/03 | "Owen, David C." | West Austin II Club Austin |
| 5294 | H | 80 | PATMG | 11/1/03 | "Tristan, Tommie" | Seguin Premier Club Seguin |
| 9528 | J | 61 | PCL | 7/1/03 | "Littlefield, Andrea" | THA Talkers Club Austin |
| 6675 | K | 53 | PCTM | 9/1/03 | "Black, Ja'Nese B." | New Achievers Club Austin |

Congratulations! Thanks for your fine effort in achieving your Educational Goals..

Toastmasters Enjoy Weekend by the Bay

--By Atheria Scott, DTM, DPRO

As the sun began to set in the west, Toastmasters throughout District 55 began gathering in Corpus Christi at the Holiday Inn-Emerald Beach for our 2003 Fall Conference.

After our lovely *Friday evening* reception, we loaded the bus that transported us to dock where we slowly filed onto the boat for our Moonlight Cruise around Corpus Christi Bay. We were entertained by several Toastmasters and their family members during the Lip Sync Showcase. Our MC for the evening was the “dynamic”, District 55 bookstore manager, **Margaret Cathey**. The winners were - everyone who participated. These “brave” entertainers received a sparkling hat, eyeglasses, and a bow tie (to wear as they further their careers as singers).

Saturday morning began early with an Executive Committee breakfast meeting. Our District Governor **Tonia Ramirez** promptly called our meeting to order at 7:30 am.

Throughout the day, attendees were given opportunities to select educational sessions presented by professional Toastmasters. Comments made were “*excellent*” “*really good*” “*I enjoyed that very much*”. Hats off to the presenters. Our Opening Keynote speaker was **Carol A. Scott, APR**. Carol serves as the chair of the Corpus Christi Chamber of Commerce. She shared the success story about how Corpus Christi was selected and named as “All American City”.

Our *Luncheon* Keynote speaker, **Lark Doley**, DTM received a standing “congratulations and welcome home” ovation. Lark Doley serves as our International Director. In her usual elegant and charming manner, Lark shared President Ted Corcoran’s theme with us, “Your Dreams Are Your Possibilities”. Many awards were given during our luncheon. These included clubs’ recognition, DTM ceremony conducted by **Harry Truman**. Past District Governor, **Gloria Williams** presented awards to *Toastmaster of the Year*, **Clark Lyman, DTM**, *Division of the Year*, **Elizabeth Sprecher, DTM** and *Area Governor*, **Dipak Bhatka, ATM-B**.

The *afternoon* business meeting got underway with a quorum! (Thanks for sending your votes.) The District Council adopted the 2003-2004 proposed budget and confirmed all appointments of officers and staff. We modified the host division for the Spring 2005 district conference (now it’s Division I) and selected Division J to host the Fall 2005 conference. Finally, we reviewed and accepted the treasurer’s report and the Audit Committee’s year-end report for the 2002-2003 TI year.

As we headed into the “*evening home stretch*”, everyone prepared for our wonderful buffet dinner (and ALL the meals were delicious and plentiful). Contestants, judges, and other officials were ushered quietly to their rooms for briefings by our District Chair Judge **Michael Hargrove** and District Contest Chair **Betty Smiley Gibson**.



Lip Sync Participants

Caught on Camera...at the District 55 Fall 2003 Conference



Roger Kew accepts his trophy for 1st place in the District 55 Table Topics Contest from Lark Doley, DTM, International Director.



David Estrada as the Fonz, Gypsy Ramsey as Marion Cunningham, Harry Truman as Howard Cunningham, Margaret Cathey as Joanie Cunningham, and Ken Estes as Richie Cunningham, present a taste of the fun to be had at the Spring 2004 Conference in Austin, April 30-May 2.



Thomas Saulsberry accepts his trophy for 1st place in the District 55 Humorous Speech Contest from Lark Doley, DTM, International Director.



District Governor, Tonia Ramirez, DTM, presents the Communication and Leadership Award to Carol A. Scott.



New DTMs, Tonia Ramirez and Albert Gallatin.

January-June 2004 District Calendar

Saturday, January 10, 2004 – Region III Mid-Year District Leadership Training, Albuquerque, New Mexico
Saturday, January 17, 2004 - Executive Committee Meeting, Austin
Saturday, January 31, 2004 - RGV TLI
Saturday, January 31, 2004 - Corpus Christi TLI

February, 2004 - Club Contests (Evaluation & International Speech)

March, 2004 - Area Contests

Saturday, March 6, 2004 - Executive Committee Meeting, Victoria
Saturday, March 27, 2004 – Division K Contests, Austin (pm)
Saturday, March 27, 2004 – Division G Contests, Corpus Christi (pm)

Friday, April 2, 2004 - Division I Contests, San Antonio (pm)
Saturday, April 3, 2004 – Division H Contests, San Antonio (am)
Saturday, April 3, 2004 – Division L Contests, Austin (pm)
Saturday, April 17, 2004 – Division J Contests, Austin (am)

Friday, April 30, 2004 - Spring District 55 Conference, Austin

Saturday, May 1, 2004 - Executive Committee Meeting/District Council Meeting/Spring District 55 Conference, Austin

Sunday, May 2, 2004 - Spring District 55 Conference, Austin

Saturday, June 5, 2004 - Joint Executive Committee Meeting with 2004-2005 team, San Antonio

Saturday, June 12, 2004 - Austin/San Antonio TLI

June 17-18, 2004 - Region III Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico



Toastmasters International



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