

**District Executive Committee Meeting
Toastmasters District 55
First Lutheran Church, 130 W. Holland St.
San Marcos, TX 78666
July 13, 2013**

Call to Order and Welcome Message: District Governor Bill Greenham, DTM called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. He welcomed everyone present to the 2013-2014 Toastmasters year and presided throughout the meeting.

Inspirational Message: DG Bill Greenham then called on Public Relations Officer John Hastie, CC to give the inspirational opening. PRO John Hastie delivered an inspiring message regarding service, encouragement and appreciation.

Reading of District Mission Statement: DG Bill Greenham read the District 55 mission statement: *"We build new clubs and we support all clubs in achieving excellence."*

Roll Call: Secretary Carol Davis called the roll of the 53 voting members of the District Executive Committee. The attendance of 40 greatly exceeded the quorum of 27. (Several members arrived after roll call and the final attendance count was 43.)

Adoption of Agenda: DG Bill Greenham asked for adoption of the July 13, 2013 meeting agenda as corrected. The agenda was unanimously adopted.

Secretary's Report: In the absence of the Secretary's report, approval of the May 18, 2013 minutes was tabled until the September DEC meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Judy Lackritz, ACS, CL gave the Treasurer's report for District 55 through March 2013. She reported that expenses have been under budget across the board. Her report will be filed on the District 55 website.

Approval of Appointed Officers: DG Bill Greenham announced that appointed officers are now confirmed in their appointed positions.

Installation Ceremony: A brief ceremony to install new District officers was conducted by PDG Linda Williams.

2013-2014 Contest Recommendations: DG Bill Greenham recommended that the fall contests in District 55 be Humorous Speech and Table Topics contests and that the spring contests be International Speech and Evaluation contests. He requested approval of his recommendations and Joe Jarrett, ACB, ALS moved that the recommendations be approved. The recommendations were confirmed unanimously.

Fall Conference Committee Report: Allen Avilla, CC, Co-Chair of the 2013 Fall Conference Committee reported the conference is scheduled for November 8-10, 2013 at the Holiday Inn, Northwest Arboretum in Austin. The theme of the conference is "Connect, Learn, Grow". It will offer participants many resources to take back to their clubs. Details are available on the District website. LGET Crystal Dyer, DTM presented

Allen with an HPL packet. Acting as co-chair of the conference committee is his High Performance Leadership project.

Reports by Senior District Officers:

- A. Public Relations Officer: PRO John Hastie, CC reported that he will be generating leads for the Division and Area Governors, will be keeping DEC members informed about these leads, and will be working with area governors and club PR officers to “tell the world” what we are doing in Toastmasters.
- B. Lt. Governor Marketing: LGM Marie-Pier Clarke, ACS, ALS reported that she has begun working on 16 leads: 6 in Austin, 6 in San Antonio, and 4 in the area between. She requested help from DEC members in developing these leads and in keeping our current clubs strong. She asked that we let her know of additional leads, and help her identify mentors and sponsors.
- C. Lt. Governor Education & Training: LGET Crystal Dyer, DTM reported that she is passionate about improving club retention and club strength by helping members achieve their goals. Her ten goals to achieve this are listed on the website; she asked DEC members to check it frequently. Crystal presented a gift to Linda Oliver, DTM (Division I Governor) for her efforts in organizing the Bulverde Training Leadership Institute of July 11th. She also recognized Laura Redfern for her efforts as assistant to Division M Governor, Khamphoy Sayavong, ACB.
- D. District Governor: DG Bill Greenham, DTM reported that, with 191 clubs, 97 of which are distinguished, District 55 came very close to achieving “Distinguished District” status in the past membership year. He stated that we *will* achieve this in the 2013-2014 membership year if we begin *now* to acquire new members. He recognized Area I-72 Governor Cristabell Reiche-West, DTM who has already visited all her clubs. He then challenged Area Governors to call each of their club presidents in the next two weeks to discuss goals and plans. He challenged Division Governors to contact all their clubs in August and to advise them that if there is not a member from their club who is attending the Annual Business Meeting in August in Ohio, the club may designate the 2013-2014 District Governor to carry the club’s proxy.

Conducting Quality Club Contests: District Webmaster Jerry Barrett, DTM conducted a PowerPoint presentation designed to help Governors promote excellent contests in their areas and divisions. He stressed the importance of training for staff and judges and said that the TI website offers the Training Presenter’s Guide (item 1190) and also has online training videos (speechcontests@toastmasters.org) Contest planning and management documents are available as free downloads on the District website, as are Chief Judge and Contest Chair briefing scripts.

District Recognition Program: Past District Governor Linda Williams, DTM gave an inspiring presentation on the District Recognition Program. Her talk stressed the importance of the Distinguished Club Program, Area Governor Club Visit reports, and the *Moments of Truth* program; it also included activities for Area and Division Governors that brought the Program to life.

Division/Area Governor Reports:

Division M: Khamphoy Sayavong, ACB reported that her Division (with 6 areas) has achieved President's status. She emphasized the importance of leadership by example.

Division L: Richard Starie, CC, ALB introduced his Area Governors, two of whom have previously been Division Governors.

Division K: Kenneth Estes, DTM introduced his Area Governors who each then reported on their work. He also mentioned that he has recently acquired two new Area Governors.

Division J: Joe Jarrett, ACB, ALS introduced his Area Governors and asked each of them to report.

Division I: Linda Oliver, DTM reported that the slogan for the Division is "I can = We can" and that she has introduced an incentive for participation in all club, area and division activities. The incentive is a chance to win a \$100.00 Target gift certificate. She introduced her Area Governors who described their activities.

Division H: Linda Stough, DTM stated that she is enthusiastic about the possibilities of the year ahead. She currently has three Area Governors and is looking for one more.

Division G: Humberto Vela, ACB, CL used PowerPoints to introduce his Area Governors for Area G-90—Brownsville; Area G-91—McAllen, Pharr, Harlingen, and Laredo; Area G-92—Corpus Christi, Aransas Pass, Kingsville; Area G-93—a newly-established area in Corpus Christi.

Division F: Rikkita Hughes, ACB, ALB reported that she had one Area Governor with her and said that she will have a full table at the next meeting.

New Business:

- 1) DG Bill Greenham, DTM reported that the District is in need of a Sgt.-at-Arms and asked for help in locating one.
- 2) DG Bill Greenham, DTM stated that the trio is emphasizing the DCP program throughout the District and will be doing everything possible to help clubs do well. They will be introducing a special badge for this purpose (details to follow soon).

Announcements:

- 1) LGET Crystal Dyer announced that she will be holding regular conference calls with her Education and Training committee to promote excellence and to support club VPE's.
- 2) DG Bill Greenham asked for volunteers to help with cleanup of the meeting room.

The next District Committee Meeting is scheduled for **September 14, 2013:** 9:00 a.m., First Lutheran Church, 130 W. Holland Street, San Marcos.

Adjournment: DG Bill Greenham, DTM adjourned the meeting at 3:15 p.m.

Submitted by Carol Davis, ACB, ALB
Past President, New Braunfels Toastmasters
District 55 Secretary