

DISTRICT LEADER BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION



Candidate's Name: **Craig Sprout**

Candidate's Office: **Area Director H-41** District Number: **55**

Toastmasters member since: **8/1/2016**

Education:

Toastmasters offices held and terms of service:
President, RAX Toastmasters: 3/30/2016 - 6/30/2017
VPE, RAX Toastmasters: 7/1/2017 - 6/30/2018
Secretary, RAX Toastmasters: 7/1/2017 - 6/30/2018
Treasurer, RAX Toastmasters: 7/1/2017 - 6/30/2018
Area Director, Area H-41: 7/1/2017 - 6/30/2018

Toastmasters honors and recognition:
University of Montana, 1988-1992, Major: English Education
Montana State University, 1994-1995, Major: English Education
Montana State University - Billings, 2003-2006 (part time), Management Information Technology

Relevant work experience and how it relates to Toastmasters and your role as a District officer:
I have been responsible for some of my company's largest enterprise clients. As such, I am often called upon to work in somewhat of a project manager role. I have to gather requirements from stakeholders, identify risks, and communicate to a disparate audience what actions should be taken, along with impact and scope.

What experience do you have in strategic planning?
Again, I have worked with my company's largest enterprise customers, which means we have to think beyond a 30/60/90 day plan, and determine what our desired state needs to be a year or 18 months from now. And from that end state, work back to the discrete goals that will move things forward.

What experience do you have in the area of finance?
I have a basic knowledge of GAAP.

What experience do you have in developing procedures?

As an engineer, my stock in trade is developing procedures. We always have to look for ways to make things predictable and repeatable. Often, this is an incremental process. The process is always iterative, and each cycle reveals opportunities to find efficiencies.

What lessons did you learn from previous leadership positions?

The biggest lesson I have learned in leadership is to delegate as necessary, and trust that the people you have delegated to will live up to expectations. Also, when delegating, you also have to take the position of a servant leader and clear roadblocks for the folks you have asked to take on tasks.

Why do you want to serve as a district officer?

I am of the firm belief that, as a leader, our job is to develop the next wave of leaders. There is nothing more satisfying than helping someone grow to exceed everyone's expectations.

In your opinion, what are the district mission's major objectives and how would you work to achieve them?

In the final analysis, we are here to serve our members. If we are serving our members, then all of the district goals will fall into line.

The major objectives are to build confident speakers and the next generations of leaders. I would work with area directors to get their clubs and club members to stretch themselves and get involved with activities outside the club, such as participating in contests as officials, or putting together a challenge for clubs to meet certain educational goals, even outside of DCP points. For example, first area to have 5 Ice Breakers gets an incentive.

Additional information about yourself:

Craig Sprout is a born Texan, it just took him 40 years to get here. His interests include music, photography, audio and video production, and whatever else crosses his mind at the time.