

Additional Candidate Showcase Questions

TRIO

1. Being Distinguished is an important goal for all District leaders. However, in the home stretch, some leaders resort to unethical practices in order to achieve Distinguished status. What should be done to prevent this from happening, how can this be monitored and what should the consequences be for those who engage in this activity?

Kathy: I am less interested in being “the police” and more interested in being “the teacher.” Just as children become good human beings by being taught by their parents, good Toastmasters become good leaders by what they are taught by their predecessors. We have spent a lot of time teaching members about the DCP, how to grow membership, how to have quality programs. Perhaps we should teach this coming year more classes on IRSE: Integrity, Respect, Service and Excellence.

2. Describe a successful team you led.

Kathy: The most recent example of a successful team I have led was this year’s training team. We trained 55% of our active clubs and we brought in games as a teaching tool. We did all this online through Zoom trainings that were highly effective. The team was diverse with all levels of experience, including some brand-new trainers, with a wide range of talents from social media to leadership to counseling. They did an exceptional job in my opinion.

3. Please provide a specific example of when you developed a strategic plan, and it was implemented successfully.

Kathy: We were well on our way to a successful strategic plan for Club Growth last year when Covid hit. This year my plan for Program Quality and instituting Training Tuesday has been extraordinarily successful. I get emails weekly from members who say how much they appreciate the classes and how much they have learned. Our YouTube subscriptions have more than doubled. People who attend the classes have fun. Goals for Distinguished Clubs are yet to be seen, and Pathways overall adoption has improved. We will continue to work on those two areas.

4. How will you go about executing the mission of the District?

Kathy: Same way I have the past two years: Finding the best people I possibly can to carry out support roles. (Most roles are already filled.) Putting a SMART plan in writing. Brainstorming and collaborating with the team. Having fun getting it done.

5. How can we ensure the long-term success of the District?

Kathy: Continuing to find and train great leaders is how we will ensure the long-term success of the district. In my opinion, Great leaders focus on the members, are servant-driven, build collaborative teams and lead by example.