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District 54 Dispatch

District News And Events



From the Desk of:

Anthony J. Koury, DTM
District 54
District Director
2018-2019

August 2018

Back in April 2003 I read a flyer that was posted on the bulletin board at the Caterpillar Mapleton Foundry in Mapleton, IL where I worked. It was a flyer advertising the Power Communicators Club and I decided to call the phone number on the flyer to talk to the club president. At the end of that phone conversation, I accepted his invitation to be a guest at the next club meeting. Little did I envision what was in store for me by accepting his invitation.

Four months later I joined the Power Communicators Club. Little did I envision how my life would be impacted as a result of joining Toastmasters.

After 15 1/2 years on my journey in Toastmasters little did I envision that I would be a District Director.

To this day, I still do not know who had the idea to advertise a club at the Caterpillar Mapleton Foundry, a club that met 30 miles away at the Caterpillar Mossville Facility in Mossville, IL and if that person ever truly realized how his/her idea specifically impacted my life.

My fellow Toastmasters, you see it is our ideas, it is our decisions, and it is our actions that can and will have an impact not only on our own life, but on the lives of everyone we touch whether we realize it or not.

Dr. Ralph Smedley, the founder of Toastmasters said, and I quote, "Ours is the only organization I know dedicated to the individual, we work together to bring out the best in each of us and then we apply these skills to help others."

My fellow Toastmasters, it is my vision that every member, current and future will become a better speaker, a better leader, and a more confident person as a result of our ideas, our decisions, and our actions. I ask you that my vision becomes your vision too.

Yes, my fellow Toastmasters, there will be many challenges facing us.

However, I believe that as a team we can defeat the challenges that will lie ahead of us. Each and every one of you is vitally important and can play an integral part in this team effort because each one of you possesses a distinct set of skills, talents, and knowledge and when we bind together and mold as a team we will then become an invincible force, an invincible force to be reckon with. We will then prevail over our challenges no matter how many or how big! It is then and only then that we will be able to succeed in realizing our vision. As a result, we will not only have impacted our own life, but the lives of everyone we touched.

Are you ready? Are you ready to join this invincible force? Are you ready to prevail over the challenges that lie ahead of us? Are you ready to succeed in realizing our vision? Are you ready to not only impact your own life, but the lives of everyone you touch?

Dr. Ralph Smedley said, and I quote, "While most of us may have entered Toastmasters to learn to make speeches, that benefit is but the beginning of the good which may come to us and the good which we may do

for mankind."

In the spirit of Dr. Ralph Smedley, let us then begin this journey together! Let us not only impact our own life, but let us impact the lives of everyone we touch.

**Meet the rest of the District Trio:
Program Quality Director, Chris Boyk and Club Growth Director, Matt Woyner**



Club Growth Director, Matt Woyner (L), District Director, Tony Koury (center),
and Program Quality Director, Chris Boyk (R)

Club Growth Director, Matt Woyner has been a toastmaster since 2013. Matt has been a member of several clubs serving different club officer roles, past area director, and last year serving as Division F director and currently is a member of the Joliet Jesters and Morris Area toastmasters clubs. He is currently employed by the Walgreen Boots Alliance company for the past 25 years. His vision is to assist the members grow and attain their personal and professional goals here in district 54.

Program Quality Director, Chris Boyk became a Toastmaster in 2013. After receiving some encouragement from his supervisor to improve his communication and leadership skills, Chris joined Joliet Jesters in March 2013. He has served as Division F Director, TLI North Dean, held several club officer roles over the years. Last fall, he co-chaired the Fall Conference with fellow toastmaster, Dick Poirier. He is currently a member of several clubs. Chris is a Distinguished Toastmaster and embraced the Pathways program when it rolled out in February 2018. He has since completed his first path of Dynamic Leadership and has embarked on his second path, Visionary Communications. Chris's words of wisdom for his fellow Toastmasters: Challenge yourself to go beyond your comfort zone as that is where you grow and become more than what you thought you could be.

2018-2019 Program Quality/Club Growth Incentives

Program Quality Incentives

1. Club Success Plan

The first ten (10) District 54 clubs to submit their club success plan to their Area Director **by September 30, 2018** will receive a \$20.00 Toastmasters International gift certificate. The Area Director must send a copy of the original email thread with the attached club success plan to the Program Quality Director for verification. This will be paid out to clubs in the October 2018 timeframe.

2. Moments of Truth

The first fifteen (15) clubs to submit an agenda to their Area Director **by February 28, 2019** showing complete the successful club series presentation of Moments of Truth will receive a \$50.00 Toastmasters International gift certificate. The presentation must have been made **between July 1, 2018 and January 31, 2019**. The Area Director must send a copy of the agenda to the Program Quality Director for verification. This will be paid out to clubs in the March 2019 timeframe. ***

- **NOTE: The "Moments of Truth" MUST be the full program where the club analyzes the strengths and weaknesses of the club with full participation from the club members. This is not to be for example, a speech summarizing the main points of the program. The intent of the incentive is for the club to develop a strategy or strategies to fix their weaknesses so that they can have better quality meetings which will lead to membership growth and "Distinguished" status.**

Email Program Quality Director, Chris Boyk: pqdirector@d54toastmasters.com

Club Growth Incentives

1. Club Leadership Challenge #1

The first five (5) clubs that have a base membership between 15 and 19 and renew membership **by 10/01/18** and get to charter strength of twenty (20) members will receive a Toastmasters International gift certificate of \$10. Please have club president or VP of membership e-mail Matt Woyner, Club Growth Director by 10/15/18 for the incentive.

2. Club Leadership Challenge #2

The first 5 clubs that have a base membership between 10 and 15, renew membership **by 10/01/18** and get to charter strength of twenty (20) will receive Toastmasters International gift certificate of \$25. Please have club president or VP of membership e-mail Matt Woyner, Club Growth Director by 10/15/18 for the incentive.

3. Smedley Challenge

Toastmasters International Smedley award that runs from **8/1/18 to 9/30/18**. The first ten (10) clubs within the district that grow total paid membership by 5 members **by 9/30/18** will be awarded a \$25 Toastmasters International gift certificate for their club. Please have club president or VP of membership e-mail Club Growth Director, Matt Woyner by 10/15/18 for the incentive.

4. New Club Building

The first ten (10) toastmasters within the district who source a new lead for a potential club, participate in the demo meeting, and help the new club charter **within ninety (90) days from the demo meeting** will be awarded a \$50 Toastmasters International gift certificate. This incentive is individual based or can share the incentive if working together as a team. Sponsor or mentor to provide the actual date of demo meeting with printed agenda and incentive to be

awarded when new club charters. Please have sponsor or mentor get materials to Matt Woyner, club growth director after demo.

5. Crazy 8's Challenge

The first eight (8) clubs within the district to hold an open house from **8/15/18 to 6/30/19** will be reimbursed up to \$40 for expenses for holding the open house. These expenses can be for advertisement, welcome folders, refreshments for the meeting, or anything that would be beneficial to hold and attract guests. Please provide the date and a printed agenda and send to Matt Woyner, club growth director. The club president or VP education will have to complete, sign, provide receipts from the meeting and submit a reimbursement voucher form to club growth director, Matt Woyner.

6. Charter Me Soon

The first ten (10) leads submitted for a potential new club that successfully charters **by the end of the toastmaster's year 6/30/19**, will be awarded a \$25 Toastmasters International gift certificate. Please reach out to Matt Woyner, Club Growth Director when club officially charters.

7. Talk up Toastmasters incentive:

The first ten (10) clubs within the district **between 2/1/19 and 3/31/19** that add five (5) new, dual or reinstated members to your roster will be awarded a \$25 Toastmasters International gift certificate for their club. Please have club president or VP of membership e-mail Matt Woyner, district club growth director **by 4/15/19** for the incentive.

8. Beat the Clock incentive

The first ten (10) clubs within the district between **5/1/19 and 6/30/19** that add five (5) new, dual or reinstated members to their roster will be awarded a \$25 Toastmasters International gift certificate for their club. Toastmasters are taught to run meetings on time, finish speeches on time and reach membership goals on time. In that spirit, "Beat the Clock" is a great motivator for finishing the year on schedule—and with a bang. The goal for your club is to earn the "Beat the Clock" award! Make this a contest in your club to encourage every member to get involved. Please have club president or VP of membership e-mail district club growth director, Matt Woyner **by 7/1/19** for the incentive.

Email Club Growth Director, Matt Woyner: cgdirector@d54toastmasters.org

SAVE the DATES

September 8, 2018

District Council Meeting – This meeting will be conducted virtually. Watch your email for updated details.

October 13, 2018

October DEC Meeting, Hall of Fame Ceremony, DTM Ceremony, Training, Luncheon. Region 5 Advisor Farzana Chohan will lead the training. Club Presidents are to be invited. Uptown Grill, 601 1st Street, LaSalle, IL



Pathways arrived in Region 5 and District 54 on February 13, 2018. There were many excited Toastmasters who jumped into this new educational experience with two feet while others decided to complete their traditional education and leadership goals first. Both decisions are perfectly fine ... it is up to the individual Toastmaster to decide where their 2018-2019 goals will lead them.

A big Thank You to the Club Ambassadors and Pathways Guides who 'got the word out' about Pathways prior to the roll out last February. The Pathways Guides also had virtual training for Base Camp Managers, BCMS, in order to get them off to a running start with their individual club Base Camp activities.

District 54 has appointed a Pathways Support Coordinator who has a team of Pathways Support Team members who will answer questions about Pathways and will be able to help with Pathways presentations at TLIs, make-up training and the District 54 Spring Conference.

These individuals can be reached via the following e-mail addresses:

Pathways Support Coordinator:

Maryann Reichelt, DTM, PSC@d54toastmasters.com

Pathways Support Team:

Dick Poirier, DTM, PSTA@d54toastmasters.com

Pat Reisdorf, DTM, PSTB@d54toastmasters.com

Phil Daniel, ACB, ALB, PSTC@d54toastmasters.com

We heartily encourage all members to review the information on the Toastmasters International Pathways page as well as the District 54 web page.

Division D Director, Donna Gerig announces Toastmaster Hero at July DEC Meeting

Each month, Division D will highlight a 'Toastmaster Hero' – a club or member that exemplifies the Toastmaster core values – integrity, respect, service, and excellence.

The **State Farm Speakeasy Club** is the Toastmaster Hero for July!

After visiting their club, Donna saw these values in action first hand. The club exhibited excellence by recognizing member achievements with an awards ceremony. They presented a TM article on change as the tip of the day. This is very appropriate in today's corporate environment! The last meeting's percentage of member attendance was provided to promote positive change and improvement. Thank you to SF Speakeasy for being a role model for Toastmaster core values for Division D!

Do you know a Toastmaster individual or club that stands out and should be recognized? Submit a paragraph nominating the individual or club and why and email to prmgr@d54toastmasters.com.

Toastmasters Clubs in Prison---An Update

Over the last couple of years, several of our fellow Toastmasters have been working on a project to increase the number of prison clubs here in District 54. This project is linked to a broader project that was commissioned by the Toastmasters International Board of Directors. That project is nearing completion; the final project report was recently submitted to the Board of Directors for their implementation. Several major recommendations were included in that report that would make chartering and supporting prison clubs more achievable. We are waiting now for Board action on this project.

In the meantime, there is lots of prison club activity underway here in District 54. For starters, District 54 recently inherited a prison club from District 19, our Iowa neighbors. It is located in the Moline, Illinois, area, but was mistakenly assigned to District 19 when it was chartered many years ago. We now have two prison clubs to support, so we are focusing on raising funds to maintain those clubs. Any donations to our District 54 prison club trust account are fully tax deductible and can be made by going to the District 54 website. There, you will find a prison club drop down tab with instructions on how to submit a donation.

We are also working on ways to increase our donations from corporations and interested individuals. If you have expertise in nonprofit fundraising and are interested in learning more about the prison club initiative, please let me know. We need your help to establish a more reliable stream of funds so that other prison clubs can be chartered.

Working to support prison club inmates is very rewarding. Other members of our prison club team are listed below. Please let any of us know if you have any questions regarding prison clubs---you will not regret helping out with this very worthwhile cause.

Jon R. Greiner, DTM
International President, 2004-2005
Toastmasters International
District 54 Prison Club Manager, 2018-2019
Email: greinerjon@aol.com
Mobile: 309-256-0201

Other team members:

Ray Termini, Prison Club Chair, 2018-2019
Carol Loser, Prison Club Administrator, 2018-2019
Martie Ogborn, PDG, Prison Club Fundraising Coordinator, 2018-2019

Let's Celebrate Our Accomplishments!



29 Clubs achieved Distinguished/Select Distinguished/President Distinguished Status!

<u>District</u>	<u>Division</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Club Number</u>	<u>Club Name</u>	<u>Status</u>
54	B	21	5765	Prairieland Toastmasters Club	D
54	B	22	822320	RLI Toastmasters Club	D
54	C	30	1045880	C.U. at Yappyhour	D
54	C	31	948429	Progressively Speaking Club	D
54	D	40	1481419	ADM Toastmasters	D
54	D	43	3736	Pioneer Club	D
54	A	10	611696	Rock On!	P
54	A	11	5568	Timely Talkers Toastmasters	P
54	A	11	1345083	Talk of the Town	P
54	C	30	612882	Riverfront Club	P
54	C	31	2134378	Tech It Easy	P
54	D	40	3265258	ADM City Center	P
54	D	41	3381	State Farm Talk of the South Club	P
54	E	50	3024	Delightful Greeters Advanced Club	P
54	E	50	9374	Four Seasons Toastmasters Club	P
54	E	51	7423	Toast of Champaign Club	P
54	F	61	124	Joliet Jesters Club	P
54	F	62	1944	Bridge Builders Club	P
54	A	11	5471100	AGWN Voices Toastmasters	S
54	A	12	1097297	Advanced Expressives	S
54	B	20	5647	John Deere Toastmasters Club	S
54	B	21	3687007	Forging Leaders	S
54	C	32	4873195	Mapleton Risers Toastmasters Club	S
54	D	41	8441	State Farm OAKS	S
54	D	42	9494	State Farm Twin Lakes Club	S
54	D	43	995	State Farm Windjammers Club	S
54	D	43	9312	State Farm Speakeasy Club	S
54	E	52	1711	Sunrise Speakers Club	S
54	F	61	1339001	New Lenox Toastmasters	S

2 New Clubs Chartered!

Change Districts: Change Reports:

Toastmasters International

New Clubs - District 54

Reports are uploaded daily - Updated: July 25, 2016 5:36 AM PT
 For questions regarding the information found on this report, please contact
newclubs@toastmasters.org.

Division	Area	Club	Charter_Date	Status	Name	Location
F	61	5251725	10/10/2017	ACTIVE	Bolingbrook Area Chamber of Commerce Toastmasters	Bolingbrook
E	51	6716054	10/03/2017	ACTIVE	Illini Toastmasters	Champaign

2017 – 2018 District 54 in Review:

Starting Paid Membership: 2916

Ending Paid Membership: 2688

Starting Clubs: 79

Ending Clubs: 72

Distinguished Clubs: 6

Select Distinguished Clubs: 11

President Distinguished Clubs: 12

Suspended Clubs: 5

Newly Chartered Clubs: 2

**Information provided by TI Distinguish Program Dashboard*