

District 35

2014–2015 DEC Reports



Officer Name: Craig Carpenter

Division / Area: District Governor

Report for Meeting: 2-21-15

We have now turned the corner and are headed for the home stretch. The numbers for the District, i.e. membership payments, total number of clubs, and distinguished clubs are looking good. Now is the time to start working on dues payments for April 1st. If we can continue in the same vein as we have been, we, in all likelihood will achieve Presidents Distinguished status.

What the numbers are telling us is that our clubs are delivering a quality experience to their members. As long as we concentrate on meeting the needs of our members, we will not fail. Members who are achieving their communication and leadership goals not only help create a positive environment within the club, but also in the Areas, Divisions, and District.

This type of achievement speaks volumes as to the efforts and work of our Area and Division Governors. Their attention to detail and club needs shows in the results. A special "Thank You" to our Area and Division Governors.

The Spring Convention is fast approaching. The committee is at work organizing and planning for a great event. We are fortunate, indeed, to be hosting Toastmasters International President-Elect, Jim Kokocki. I had the pleasure of meeting Jim in Kuala Lumpur and found him to be a most interesting person and a gifted conversationalist. Mark your calendar and plan to be in Marshfield, WI on May 1st and 2nd.

Respectfully submitted,
Craig W. Carpenter, DTM
Distinguished District 35 Governor

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Officer Name: Rhonda Williams

Division / Area: Lt. Governor Education & Training

Report for Meeting: 2-21-15

Update on District Events

February is a trifecta for the Lt. Gov. Education and Training. Three very important events overlap as we complete Toastmasters Leadership Institutes, are in the midst of Contest Season and begin planning for the Spring Convention. I'm grateful to have strong team leaders in all of these areas.

Toastmasters Leadership Institute

TLIs are winding down with two completed this week, one occurring today and a final session next week. Overall, you will have conducted 2 in Metro and Southeast, 3 in Eastern, and 4 each in Central and Northern. Thirteen total, meaning you located 13 presenters for the 4 core sessions, a total of 52 presenters. From what I have heard, they have all been excellent presentations – “the best TLI ever!” - has been overheard more than once. My gratitude goes to the 5 division governors and their great teams. Thank you.

Speech Contests

Area contests are underway with 2 concluded last night. The area season runs until March 14th. Division contests run from March 15th through April 11th, and our District Contests will be held at our Spring Convention. Remember that someone from District 35 will represent us in the semi-finals in Las Vegas next August.

Trophies are here today, so please make sure you take yours and help me get trophies to people who are unable to be here today. Judy Bauer has returned to provide additional education on conducting successful contests. If you have questions about contests, please ask.

The Spring Convention

Registration is open and people have registered already. This year there is a regular registration price that runs through April 16th (after the final division speech contests), and a small window for late registrations. There will be a registration “blackout” period prior to the convention; however, walk-ins will be accepted with no meal guarantees.

President-elect Jim Kokocki has decided to visit us during our convention. This is a great opportunity for our members to meet the man whose picture will be on the inside cover of Toastmasters magazine after August.

Information about the convention is being posted on the district website which will be updated as information is finalized.

Rhonda Williams
Lt. Gov. Education & Training, District 35

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Officer Name: Cindy Laatsch

Division / Area: Lt. Governor Marketing

Report for Meeting: 2-21-15

LGM STATUS SUMMARY

- As LGM – began holding monthly calls as follows
 - Club Coach Calls
 - Struggling Club Calls
 - New Club Development Calls
- Currently managing Club Coach duties – including completing paperwork for appointing coaches, as well as contacting Toastmasters when a coach/club relationship has ended
- Tracking clubs in need of support and attention as we enter dues April 1 dues period
- Beginning process of scheduling TM Dignitary visit for Spring Convention
- Contacting individuals who have contacted TM for details on forming new club. Discuss impact of Toastmasters, and the process of starting a club.

PROGRESS

- Created spreadsheet to track District 35 club membership, DCP goals, Net5 goals. In addition, spreadsheet shows trend of club member growth or decline.
- Defined HPL project for Spring, 2015
- Coached individual Toastmasters as it relates to “leading with your Strengths”
- Spoke at Workforce Development Council/Waukesha re: impact of Toastmasters

AREAS IN NEED OF ATTENTION FOR THE DISTRICT

- Seeking more Club Coaches for the 38 clubs that are currently qualified for a coach
- Beginning conversations about creating Chair positions to cover following areas:
 - DTM Chair
 - Club Coach Chair
 - New Club Chair
 - Membership Chair
 - Struggling Club Chair
- Seeking input from all Division Governors relative to new coaches for clubs in need, as well as new club development leads.



Select Distinguished Goals – at least!

New Clubs needed by 6/30/15 – 4 additional clubs to achieve Selected Distinguished Status

2007 member payments (dues renewals) by 6/30/15

51 Distinguished clubs by 6/30/15

Clubs in pipeline

- American Transmission
- Rockwell Mequon
- NML Downtown
- NML Franklin
- MATC

District 35, with focus and drive by all members, Club Leadership and District Leadership can drive towards successful completion of our goal of **at least** Select Distinguished Status by 6/30/15.

Respectfully Submitted

Cindy Laatsch, LGM

District 35

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Officer Name: Sue Kohut

Division / Area: Treasurer

Report for Meeting: 2-21-15

Greetings District 35 Executive Council,

It is a requirement that our mid-year District Financial Records get audited and then sent to TI every year before the middle of February. Both of these tasks have been completed.

Our books were audited by Tom Rozga, Dennis Pinkowski, and Justin Gottfried.

I then sent the required documentation to TI and they confirmed receipt on February 11.

Next I will provide our balances:

At the end of January, there was \$17,416.34 in our checking account.

The balance in the holding account at TI as of the end of January was \$49,443.14.

Kudos to all of you for submitting your vouchers very timely within the past 6 months. I want to remind everyone to keep it up. Even though there is a 60 day requirement, it would throw off our monthly budget to submit a voucher so long after the expense.

Please keep in mind that if you submit your voucher as soon as possible, within a few days of your expense or following your event, it actually does work much, much better. So keep up the good work.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Kohut, ACG, ALB
2014-2015 District 35 Treasurer

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Officer Name: Jennifer Smith

Division / Area: IPDG / Realignment Report

Report for Meeting: 2-21-15

Dear Toastmasters,

As Realignment Chair for 2015, I am honored to serve the District in this most important role. With all the growth in the District has seen in the last 2 years, I have exciting news.... We need to expand.

Divisions looking at Expansion

- Southeast is looking forward to area M5
- Northern will split to create a new Division that is proposed as Western.

The new Western plans to split N1 & N2 to be together. N3 will be the UP MI that is currently in E3. We will keep a Northern Division with N3 & N4. We will adding in C5 clubs. This will reduce the Divisions in Central to 4 Areas.

The realignment is helping clubs to be geographically closer. It should provide an opportunity for Area and Division Governor's roles easier that leads to more effective leadership.

Please start communicating plans to change to your Area Governors. Find out if there are questions and concerns now.

At this time, I have already met with Metro, Southeast and Northern Division Governor. I still have two more Division Governors to work with, so our work is not complete.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Smith, DTM

District 35

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Officer Name: Peggy Lee Hanson

Division / Area: Central Division Governor

Report for Meeting: 2-21-15

Greetings Fellow Toastmasters, District Governor Carpenter, Lieutenant Governor of Education & Training Williams, Lieutenant Governor Marketing Laatsch, Immediate Past District Governor Smith, and Honored Guests.

We, in Central Division of District 35, enter the second half of the Toastmasters 2014-2015 fiscal year, with great progress and anticipation.

The second round of TLI sessions had been delivered with 42% of the total potential office positions held, with the follow-through that clubs had been asked to host each session. Three clubs had all seven officers trained, with six more clubs having trained at least five officer roles. The overall and general feedback from the evaluations had been very positive and encouraging. The two highly rated comments were: the training was well organized; and although five hours in length, the time went by very quickly. International and Tall Tales contests are being held currently at the club level, and all area and division contest dates have been secured.

The Area Governors of Central Division are busy visiting with their clubs and have done an outstanding job in reaching out to the clubs that need a hand up in continuing on. Three clubs have folded. But the good news is that there is a potential to add four clubs to Central Division, three of them by the end of June 2015, two of those being at UW-Madison—one in the School of Business, MBA (who plans on Chartering soon with only one member to go!), the other within the Veterinary School of Medicine (beginning to form)—and third being at Alliant Energy, The Watts Club, who currently have approximately 15 members.

I am pleased to announce a replacement has been for Area Governor in C4 with Aundrea Price. The leadership council of Central Division is also looking into a 2-year succession plan, especially for the division governor role, much like the one the district leadership has in place.

Central Division certainly has its challenges; however, as I talk with members, they are enthusiastic, energized, and excited to be part of a wonderful organization and evangelize all the good Toastmasters has to offer new and potential members.

I continue to be extremely proud of—and grateful for—every single individual member within this division and district; and, especially, my team of Area Governors, for the leadership they've exuded and exemplified, and for their commitment to have the most outstanding achievements this year that which Central Division has ever seen.

To our success, yours in Toastmasters, and respectfully submitted,
Peggy Lee Hanson
District 35 Central Division Governor

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Officer Name: Peggy Lee Hanson

Division / Area: Central Division Governor

Report for Meeting: 2-21-15

Metro Division once again teamed with Southeast Division to conduct joint **club officer training** – January 24 and February 10. Between the two sessions, we had 212 unique attendees with 209 club officers trained (115 Metro Division officers or 61%). 24 of 27 clubs sent the minimum 4 officers to achieve a DCP goal, while three clubs (Manpower Riverview, Menomonee Falls and Speak Up Milwaukee) sent all seven club officers. Feedback is still being analyzed and will be summarized and shared with our successor Division Directors. We ran a surplus from these two events and will be distributing these funds to the area governors for use in their upcoming contests or area councils.

Club visits have begun, but most are being scheduled for the period *after* the area contests (March/April). The area governors' focus in these first six weeks of 2015 have been organizing their **area contests**. Having gone through this at least once before, they are all on top of these. Contests are running from Monday, February 23 through Saturday, March 14. There are a few members who are stepping up to serve as Contest Master and Chief Judge for the first time, which is very encouraging. At this point, and with the exception of Area M4, there is very high participation amongst clubs ... possibly the TLI topic, Competent Contests, inspired them? Neither of the two new(er) Harley Davidson clubs are sending a contestant to the International Speech Contest.

There are four **Deputy Area Governors** acting in some capacity. This is proving to be a great training ground for them. In some cases, we are determining that they are not right for the job while others are building experience and will be quite capable of performing as area governors in the future. The current area governors are continuing to vet candidates for next year. I am confident that we will have five qualified candidates to serve as area governors next year.

Six clubs are eligible to accept **Club Coaches**. Ozaukee has recently received one and Spectacle City two. These relationships are just beginning. Walworth County had a coach, but was removed by mutual agreement ... we are currently searching for another coach there, have a strong and willing candidate, but one with some history with this club. More discussion required on this point within the next few days. Professionales Bilingues had two coaches, one of which has recently been removed, but we have a recommendation on a replacement. The Breakfast Club and Marq our Words both are eligible, but have not requested a coach. Irv Snider (M5) and I are going to meet with Marq Our Words soon and we have a recommendation on a potential coach there, if the club is open to accepting coaching. Upon recommendation of my area governors, I have provided a list of over a dozen members that I feel are capable of serving as club coaches. However, finding the right combination of club and qualified coach is not always easy. We are addressing each on a case-by-case basis.

Of all the struggling clubs, The Breakfast Club is in the most danger of folding. The club president has checked out and not maintained the level of commitment required. The VPE is unresponsive and often absent from meetings. No other members, and the number is down to 12 before the April dues renewal period, are willing to either say something or step up and take on the role instead. The two members who are most involved are members of other clubs, and would most likely not miss the experience. I will be meeting with the area governor to discuss a mitigation plan, calling upon District resources as required.

Several **Special Events** have occurred in the past month or are being planned. Menomonee Falls is hosting a Speakathon. Manpower and Profesionales Bilingues have cohosted a Speechcraft with one session remaining. Manpower is a corporate club, so any new members joining as a result of the Speechcraft would join Profesionales Bilingues ... 4 new members would give them Net5 growth for a year. They are also hosting an Open House March 4. Manpower is having an internal (corporate) membership drive and needs 4 new members to be Select Distinguished! Southwest held an open house on January 21, Walworth County is planning a membership drive for April and Toast of Milwaukee held an open house/membership drive on February 12.

After an initial good start, The Metro Division Marketing and Membership committee led by Sam Vamos has lost a little momentum after the holidays. I will reassess progress after the February 21 scheduled teleconference.

As of February 19, over 70 educational awards have been earned within Metro Division, including 15 in the past month.

Planning has begun for **Division International Speech and Tall Tales contest** March 27. Time and venue have been set.

Metro Division is tracking well to be **Presidents Distinguished** this year.

Keith H. Cumiskey, DTM
Metro Division Governor