



<http://www.tmd55.org/flash.htm>

March 2006

Inside This Issue:

Fast Is Slow And Slow Is Fast 2

Spring Dues Renewal..... 5

So, How Many DCP Goals Has Your Club Met?..... 5

Who Shall Lead?..... 7

Who Has a Heart of Gold?..... 7

What Goes Around, Comes Around 8

Prospects, Prospects, Everywhere..... 9

District Conference and Business Matters 10

The Proxies Are Coming! 11

Candidates' Corner 12

 Candidate for Lieutenant Governor Education and Training 13

 Candidates for Lieutenant Governor Marketing 14

 Candidates for Division Governor 17

District Bylaw Updates 18

 Special Rules Of Order District 55 26

 District Travel, Training, and Trophy Reimbursement Policy 28

District 55 Proposed Realignment 2006-2007 29

Conference Registration Form..... 31

Conference Agenda..... 32

Fast Is Slow And Slow Is Fast

By Elizabeth Sprecher, District Governor

I sprained my ankle twice in the same month—twisting the same ankle, my left one, twice in a span of 22 days! I don't tell you that for sympathy (although my ankle is now shades of purple I have never seen in my daughter's deluxe box of Crayons!), but to tell you about a principle reapplied in my life...that is, that fast is slow and slow is fast....

I first heard this principal in an Area contest speech several years ago. The heart of the principle is when we hurry up to accomplish something we generally have to go back and do it again because we probably, in our haste, screwed something up. The other alternative is to take it slow and apply ourselves, avoiding any do-overs. Her speech intrigued me so much that I picked up Steven Covey's *Seven Habits of Highly Effective People* book from which the speaker borrowed her example.

So, about that ankle—I injured it the first time on my first day off from work in a long time—Presidents' Day 2006. I was in a hurry going out the door to enjoy a fun afternoon with my daughter. As we were getting everything packed in the car, she repeated over and over, “wa wa ... wa wa...wa wa...” For those of you who haven't had to guess the primitive languages of a two-year old, that meant she wasn't willing to leave the house agreeably without a sippy cup full of water. I knew she wouldn't stop her mantra until I got that cup for her, so I rushed grudgingly inside to get her water cup. On my way out the door as I stepped out of the house and off the first step I fell. I knew right away it was my ankle, in fact, to this day I can see and

feel in slow motion the whole accident scene.

I ask, “what would you do in this situation with a badly injured ankle?” Probably go back inside, take the shoe off, and rest for the afternoon, right? Well, not me. In fact, I never skipped a beat the entire three weeks, injured ankle and all. I would hear my co-workers say, “ooh, that ankle isn't looking so good,” even offering to run the office errands I usually take care of. But, oh no, not me! I believed I could take care of everything myself. I skipped the appointment to my family physician to assess my ankle because I knew what he'd say, “don't walk on it, ice it down, wear a brace.” Who's got time for any of that?

Let's fast-forward to yesterday. I was minding my own business at the office, walking along, when suddenly I found myself in the same position I was just three weeks ago: on the floor with the injured ankle. Only this time it hurt beyond any injury I've ever had! There was the shooting pain up my entire leg; in fact, I was teary-eyed in pain as a co-worker passed, asking me if I needed anything. “Oh no. I'm fine...just give me a minute.”

This injury required medical care right away. I knew it was not broken because I could stand on the ankle, but standing was beyond painful. The throbs continued and every now and then the tears would come back. Plain and simple, it hurt!

My family physician starts off our conversation by asking me why I didn't

come see him with the first ankle injury three weeks ago. You already know what I told him, besides, whose got time for a doctor appointment? He suggested that this ankle injury probably happened because the first one was not properly treated, and the first ankle injury was probably the cause of the second, much more serious one.

Had I taken time to rest that injury, ice it down, and wear that ugly black brace would I still be sitting in Dr. Johnson's office? Well, he didn't know that for sure, but I did realize in my haste to get what I wanted—a return to my “normal” life (pre-ankle injury)—I went too fast and ended up causing myself more time of rehabilitation and pain than if I had just taken it slowly, paced myself, and learned from my mistakes of hurrying through my days. Fast was definitely slow, and well, slow would have been less painful!

Our membership in Toastmasters is the same way. We all know the member in our club who finished a Competent Toastmaster designation in two months! Ten speeches in two months, is that even possible? I'll stop with the numerous examples of members rushing through speech assignments for fear of calling out some good friends, but we all know a handful of members who have rushed through manual after manual, or club office after club office only for the other members to think in the end, that person did not learn an absolute thing!

Much like I am recuperating with this ankle injury, taking it slow THIS time to save me injury and recovery the next time, I encourage all of us to take our Toastmasters memberships the same way. We can potentially be Toastmasters until the day we pass on, so why do we need to speed through 10

manuals in two years? Take time to read the challenges presented with each manual, chart out a course and plan your path, and go forward, making sure everything you do in Toastmasters has meaning and value and that you grow from it. There is no need to be a DTM two months after joining a club, and a carefully charted course with careful study of the manual objectives produces a much more prepared and polished DTM than the one who sped through just to check off assignments.

Fast is slow, and slow is fast, in the world of ankle injuries and in the world of Toastmasters communication and leadership. Enjoy being a member of your club, determine what goals you have for yourself short-term and long-term, and in what time frame, and set forth, slowly.

Make every step count for something along the way. As I sit here with my ankle propped up with ice every 20 minutes on the hour, I guarantee you there are lessons to learn when you take it slow. For me, in rehab and in Toastmasters, slow is the new fast!

Dost thou love life?
Then do not squander
time, for that's the stuff
life is made of.

—Benjamin Franklin

Celebration !!

**If you complete an Educational Goal
between November 5, 2005
...and May 6, 2006**

**You will be honored
at our**

Spring Conference Luncheon

May 6, 2006

T Bar M Ranch

**Also, L.O.T.T.O. (Lots Of Toastmasters Talking Openly) Drawing
will also be held during the Luncheon**

Hurry!

More details at our website www.tmd55.org
Submitted by Atheria Scott, DTM, Lt. Gov. Education & Training

ed Toastmaster.

They will be replaced with Competent Communicator and Advanced Communicator.

Spring Dues Renewal

By Jeff Stoddard, Lt. Governor Marketing

It springtime! The flowers are blooming, the birds are singing and it's time to renew your Toastmasters membership for the next six months. By July, the flowers will have wilted and the birds will be hiding from the scorching sun, but your Toastmasters membership will keep you progressing toward your personal goals in air-conditioned comfort.

Remember that dues need to be **paid by April 1st**. Club officers can assist the process by submitting renewals on-line. A club can officially renew as soon as six members have paid, so go ahead and submit the member payments you've receive by April 1st and add any late payments as you receive them.

If you have any questions about dues renewals, please contact your Area Governor.

So, How Many DCP Goals Has Your Club Met?

By Elizabeth Sprecher, District Governor

I must admit, I was surprised by the challenge presented to me by the Area Governor of one of the clubs I am a member of. We are more than halfway through the Toastmasters year, and my Area Governor had challenged me to answer a question I wasn't really sure of.

I am not currently an officer in this club, so I don't have my finger on the pulse of the Distinguished Club Plan for that specific club. My Area Governor's challenge was valid, and a reminder to me that whether we are new members just learning what DCP stands for or if we are the Club President, our Distinguished Club Plan (DCP) progress should be something we consistently talk about and assess within our clubs.

Why is the Distinguished Club Plan important? It is a measuring stick that we use to make sure each of our clubs is meeting our members' needs, both through communication and leadership.

It is a tool we can use to gauge the health of our members and our club. There are ten goals in the DCP, and each club should strive to achieve the membership requirement of a net growth of five or a base of 20 members and at least five of the other requirements to be Distinguished. This is an accountability tool we all use to determine if our members are getting their money's worth from our programs.

So, I challenge you now—**do you know how many DCP goals has your club met?** If you do not know, you can easily find out by accessing the Toastmasters web site at www.toastmasters.org and finding the link on the left hand side of the page that says, "Club DCP Report." I encourage you to stop reading this article and go look now. Make sure you come back to finish the article once you have the report!

With only one more quarter in the Toastmasters year, which runs from July 1 to June 30, this is a good time to examine this report with your club members and set newer and higher goals for your club. For example, if you have already completed five goals, but haven't met the membership requirement of a net growth of five or a base of 20 members talk to your members about having a membership drive.

If you have four goals complete, but haven't completed the first two requirements for Competent Toastmaster designations, talk to your club's Vice President of Education to see who is close to completion and make sure those speakers make it on the schedule with enough time to complete their paperwork by June 30.

At the beginning of the Toastmasters year, my article addressed "mushrooms," and how many times clubs end up

Distinguished much to their surprise, as mushrooms suddenly appear in a yard after a hard rain. I encourage all of our clubs to stomp out the mushrooms and be aware of your club's status in the Distinguished Club Plan.

Not considering the membership requirement, we currently have 23 clubs who have achieved enough DCP goals to be Distinguished (5 or 6 goals), 11 clubs who have completed 7 or 8 goals to be Select Distinguished, and three clubs with 9-10 goals complete to be President's Distinguished

Is one of the above your club?

Of the 14 clubs with four goals complete, consider which one of the other six you can complete in three months to earn Distinguished! It is as easy as planning to be successful!

What if your club has only completed 1 to 3 goals or (gasp!) hasn't completed any goals? It isn't too late! Get your club members together, assess the situation, and set a plan to earn those points you need in the next few months! It is not too late to be Distinguished or better with a little goal setting and planning!

Be sure to remember the membership requirement when planning ahead for Distinguished. If your club's base (the total members on July 1, 2005) is at 20, you simply need to ensure you have 20

or more members by June 30 to be eligible. If your club base was below 20, your two options are to get to twenty members or to have a net growth of five (take the base

number on the report and add five).

Many clubs throughout our organization miss Distinguished, not because they were focusing on member goals, but because they missed the membership requirement. Plan a membership drive now within the club if your club foresees the membership requirement to be an issue.

The club my Area Governor was referring to has three goals to date. At our next meeting, I am sure our club officers will assess where we are and where we have to go by the end of the year. The clock is ticking, but it isn't midnight yet!

**Congratulations,
Williamson County Toastmasters,**
for already completing all 10 goals
& maintaining a base of 25
members to date!

Who Shall Lead?

by Atheria Scott, DTM, Lt. Governor Education Training

That is the question? The search for club officers should be underway in your club. Will you step up to serve because you want the opportunity to improve your leadership skills? Or, are you frustrated because of the current leadership in your club and you know you can do better?

This is the time to consider the opportunity to serve. Serving as a club officer should be taken as a serious commitment. When you accept to serve, you are saying to your club members, "I plan to fulfill the responsibilities of the role I have accepted." Serving as a club officer will provide you the opportunity to help achieve Club, Area, Division, and District goals!

To help you fulfill this role, you will be provided with agendas for the educational sessions at our upcoming **Toastmasters Leadership Institute**. The first one to be held is **June 10** (details will be available in a few weeks) and the next one to be held in **December**. Your term would be from July 1-December 31 or July 1-June 30 (check with your club for specific terms). Club elections should be held at the first meeting in May. Contact your Club President if you are interested in serving as an officer in your club. We are encouraging ALL members to carefully consider the persons they elect to serve as Club Officers because the future of the club will rest in these members' hands. You want members who will focus on activities to help move the club forward. So, the answer to the question, who shall lead is...



Arthur Storer on 77th birthday in a field of Texas bluebonnets. He died six weeks later.

Who Has a Heart of Gold?

By Lark Doley, DTM, PID

Send in your Nominee for the **Arthur Storer Heart of Gold Award NOW!** Since 1998, every year at the Spring District 55 Conference, the memory of the late Arthur Storer is honored. A commemorative plaque and \$1,000 toward attendance to the Toastmasters International Convention in August is awarded to a Toastmaster in District 55 who best exemplifies the qualities and spirit of the late Arthur Storer.

Arthur was a selfless man who participated enthusiastically in the Toastmasters program and mentored other members. He attended club, area, division, district, regional, and international events. This

year the Toastmasters International Convention will be held in Washington, D.C.

Previous winners have included: Margaret Cathey (read *What Goes Around, Comes Around*), Larry Waddy, Jan Waddy, Gypsy Ramsey, Mercedes Balli, Steve Sigrest, Anna Lopez, and Charles Clack.

Please e-mail the names of worthy Toastmasters, and why you recommend they receive this award, to **Roger Storer**, rstoror@austin.rr.com, by **April 30, 2006**.

What Goes Around, Comes Around

How many of you have heard this saying? How many of you believe this saying? Well I definitely believe the saying, because it happened to me in a good way... although I didn't realize it at the time.

I won the **Arthur Storer Heart of Gold Award** at the 2005 District 55 Spring conference. What you don't know is that I never thought I would be recognized that way. Here's my story (and I'm sticking to it)!

I first learned about the Award in 2002 when Gypsy Ramsey received it. I thought to myself... WOW, what a great award to receive. I didn't know Gypsy very well at the time, but I soon became friends with her. I saw how much she did for the District and realized that she really deserved the award. In subsequent years, the Waddy's won in 2003 and 2004. I don't know them personally, but I'm "assuming" they as well deserved the award.

I didn't think much about the award during the conference since I was busy working in the bookstore... and as a side note, we sold over \$1,400 that time... a record! Saturday evening started out as any conference dinner starts out... we ate, drank and were merry. The contest began and we all listened to some wonderful speeches. Next came some announcements and other things.

Everyone was waiting for the announcement of the winners of the International Speech contest. I looked over and saw Lark and Roger walking towards the stage and leaned over and said "Hey, I forgot about the Arthur Storer award" to none other than Gypsy

Ramsey who was sitting right next to me.

Roger took the microphone first and explained exactly who Arthur Storer was and why he and Lark have given this award each year since 1999. He then handed the microphone to Lark and she took over. I sat in anticipation of what Lark was going to say (not realizing WHAT she was saying).

She started out reading a nomination... Gypsy and I leaned over to each other and whispered "hmmmm... that sounds like a close friend of ours". Lark read another nomination and once again, Gypsy and I leaned over and whispered "hmmmm... that sounds like a close friend of ours". Lark read one more nomination and well, you know the drill.

At that point, Lark remarked that "well, now you know that it's a 'she'". She continued and said "I needed to introduce this person a while back and this is what she wrote"... "I first learned about Toastmasters in 1991 from a co-worker."

At that point, I realized that Lark was talking about ME. I bowed my head and started crying and have no idea what else was said. I do know that Lark was continuing to talk, but I never heard her words. I was so stunned and crying so hard, and Gypsy was patting me on the back and handing me a dinner napkin to wipe my eyes, I never heard what Lark was saying.

In retrospect, if I had known I was going to be crying during dinner, I would have put on waterproof mascara. I knew that I was going to have to go up on stage and at least I had the forethought to try

and wipe most of the mascara off of my eyes, so I wouldn't look like a raccoon.

When Lark announced my name, everyone stood and applauded and I stumbled to the stage shaking like a leaf. Roger hugged me first and then Lark. I was told later that when I hugged Roger everyone could hear my "wail" because my mouth was very close to his microphone... terrific!

Lark asked me if I wanted to say anything and I just shook my head no. I was shaking so hard, I didn't know what to do. Pictures were taken (although the one I saw was horrendous with my raccoon eyes)... yikes! When I got back to my seat, everyone was hugging me and congratulating me and Debi Sigrest came up to me and said "congratulations... we got it all on tape". I'm truly thankful for that, because I really wanted to hear what was said while I was crying.

Once the conference was over, I emailed Lark and Roger my thanks. Lark sent me back WHO had nominated me. Come to find out, it was two "former" Toastmasters in my old club and one "new" Toastmaster friend I have only known for less than a year.

I truly am honored to have received this award and never in a million years, would have believed that someone would actually nominate me. I don't do the things I do for Toastmasters so I can be "rewarded"... I do the things for Toastmasters because I AM rewarded with the friendships and fun I have just being here.

The moral to this story is the same as my introduction... you never know who is watching you. The old saying, what goes around, comes around truly is something to believe in, because it happened to me... and it can happen to YOU!

Prospects, Prospects, Everywhere

By Jeff Stoddard, Lt. Governor Marketing

This year we have seen a veritable flood of people requesting information from Toastmasters International about forming new clubs in Central and South Texas. Just the other week, I had the pleasure of visiting KCI, US Funds, and Kraft in San Antonio to talk about forming clubs at those companies. Like the visits I made with Nance Starr-Cassidy in the fall, I was warmly received and left with the feeling that the people I'd met were ready to dive into Toastmasters.

Of course, the demand we've seen on the prospective

club end of the process has created a shortage of supply on the Club Sponsor and Club Mentor end. There are a lot of great Toastmasters in the District currently serving prospective and new clubs as Sponsors and Mentors and we could use several more.

So, you may ask, what does a Club Sponsor or Club Mentor do?

"Club Sponsors and Club Mentors work like a tag team to help get a new club on its feet"

Club Sponsor. Each new club may have up to two sponsors. The sponsors are responsible for organizing the new

club, including selling the new club idea

to prospective members, helping to set up regular meetings, completing paperwork, and planning the charter presentation. Sponsors receive a certificate and credit toward the Advanced Leader (or Advanced Leader Silver) award after they return the Get Credit form. Special recognition is given to those who repeatedly serve as club sponsors.

Club Mentor. Each new club may have up to two mentors who are appointed by the District Governor. Mentors should be experienced Toastmasters who actually join the new club, providing guidance during the first six months to one year of its existence. The mentors receive certificates and credit toward their Advanced Leader (or Advanced Leader Silver) awards after they return their Get Credit form.

In a nutshell, the Club Sponsors and Club Mentors work like a tag team to help get a new club on its feet. Where the Club Sponsors' work ends with the chartering of the new club, the Club Mentors' work begins. Together they work with a new club for at least seven months to ensure that the club has the benefit of a good start.

Working with new clubs and new Toastmasters can be one of the most rewarding parts of your Toastmasters experience. Seeing people come into the program and begin to reap the benefits makes every minute you've spent helping the new club worth it.

Having worked with several clubs from the first contact through the chartering process, I can tell you personally that I look forward to doing it again many times in the future. In fact, I'm currently working as the Club Sponsor for two prospective clubs in communities east of Austin. The benefits to me are too good to pass up.

If you would like to serve as a Club Sponsor or Club Mentor, or even help a Club Sponsor or Club Member as they assist a new club, please feel free to contact me. I can be reached at LGM@tmd55.org or you can call me at 512-321-3336 (home) or 512-718-8720 (cell).

Are you ready for the best experience Toastmasters offers?

District Conference and Business Matters

The following information covers information you need for the 2006 Spring Conference and the District 55 Business meeting:

- Proxies for Voting
- Candidate Information
- District Bylaw Updates
- Conference Registration and Agenda

The Proxies Are Coming!

By Donna Stefanov, Chair of the Proxy Committee

Every year we go through it. You may be saying, “Why do we have to do this?” Why, indeed?

Because you have a say! Yes, your club has voting rights FOUR times a year—at our Fall and Spring District Conferences, at our Region III Conference, and at our International Convention. Your Club President and Educational Vice President (EVP) each have a vote at the District, Regional, and International conferences. **They represent you as a member** of your Club.

District 55 Ballots/Proxies

The District 55 proxy form is printed in this issue of the *District 55 Flash*. This proxy form is only used if your President and/or EVP cannot attend the District Council Meeting at the:

District 55 Conference
(during the business meeting)
May 6, 2006
T-Bar-M Ranch
2549 Hwy 46 West
New Braunfels

It is important that your Club votes, therefore, please remind your President and EVP to fill out a proxy if they cannot attend. Whoever cannot attend should give the proxy to a member of your club who will be attending the District 55 Conference.

On May 6, 2006, your President and EVP need to arrive early to stop by the Credentials Desk to pick up your ballots. If both or one of them cannot attend, the designated member needs to present your President's and/or your EVP's proxy at the Credentials Desk. That member will then receive the ballot

which will be used during the business meeting. One delegate may carry both proxies, but the proxies must be properly filled out by both the President and the EVP.

Regional And International Proxies

On March 31, your Club President of record will be sent Regional and International proxies from Toastmasters International in a **BLUE envelope**. ***This is not junk mail!*** These proxies are needed in order for your Club to cast its votes to nominate International Director candidates at the Regional Conferences and to elect the International Officers and Directors at the Annual Business Meeting.

Watch for the Toastmasters International **BLUE envelope** with the words “IMPORTANT PROXY INFORMATION” printed on it. If your Club is sending a delegate to these meetings, your President and/or EVP need to complete the appropriate proxy and send it to the meeting with that delegate. If your Club is not sending a representative, your President and/or EVP need to complete the appropriate proxy and mail it to our District 55 Governor Elizabeth Sprecher, whose name and address appears on the reverse side of the proxy.

Should your Club not receive the proxy by the end of April, please check with your previous Club President, who may still be listed as President in your Club's records at World Headquarters.

If the proxies do not arrive, each Club or a District Officer may request a duplicate proxy. Only one duplicate

proxy will be provided for each Club, so it is important that up-to-date and correct Club President name and address information accompany the request. Proxies will be sent to the Club President **only**; they cannot be sent to District Officers or members of other Clubs. Only the original forms, properly completed and provided to the Credentials Desk at both of the meetings, are allowed. **Photocopies or facsimiles will not be honored.**

Should your Club require a duplicate proxy, please e-mail your request to duplicateproxies@toastmasters.org. Include the Club/District number and the name and address of the Club President.

Duplicate proxy requests will be honored beginning April 24.

The Difference Between District And International Proxies

ONLY club members can cast District Proxies and ONLY District Proxies CAN be facsimiles, printed off your computer or photo copied. Regional and International proxies must be ORIGINALS ONLY, any member of Toastmasters can cast them.

Your vote is important! It is your Club's right and duty to cast its votes. We hope to see all Clubs represented this year.

Candidates' Corner

Be an informed voter! Know the candidates by reading all about them. Listed below are **the candidates and the offices** up for election at the May conference. Unfortunately, at the time of publication, we did not have biographical profiles and photos for all candidates.

Executive Committee

District Governor: Atheria Scott
Lt. Governor Education & Training: Jeff Stoddard
Lt. Governor Marketing: Vondakaye Dashman, and Stan See

Division Governors

Division G: Vacant
Division H: Deborah Borden, and Clarence Mathis
Division I: Chuck Bush

Division J: Margaret Cathey
Division K: Steve Montgomery
Division L: Ken Estes
Division M: Howard Walsh

Atheria Scott

Candidate for District Governor

Born in Georgia and grew up in New Orleans, Atheria moved to San Antonio 5 years ago. However, before moving to San Antonio, Atheria and her beloved David were married 29 years ago. They have one son, Donovan who is a sophomore in college. Atheria attended the University of Georgia and received a Masters Degree in Speech & Language Pathology.

She worked in public and private school settings. She opened her own business in speech therapy for several years before going home to home-school their son, Donovan. Atheria enjoys reading, listening to music, taking long walks and her growing plants. She works part time at her church in the Children’s Ministry. She is also a CASA (Child Appointed Special Advocate) since moving to San Antonio. During her spare time, she enjoys storytelling.

Atheria joined Toastmasters 8 years ago and served in various Club and District Officers positions. Once she moved to San Antonio, Atheria sat out for a year from Toastmasters. But she began to miss the fellowship of Toastmasters, so she searched the web and located Universal City Toastmasters. She joined in 2002 and began to immediately serve as Club President. She earned District 55 President of the Year award. She slowly moved forward to serve as Area Governor, District Public Relations Officer Lt. Gov. Marketing, and is now serving as Lt. Governor Education & Training.

She now seeks to lead District 55 members to a level of growth and development as a Toastmaster as seen through the eyes of Dr. Smedley.



Jeff Stoddard, DTM
Candidate for Lieutenant Governor Education and Training

As the spring conference rolls around each

year, Toastmasters districts around the world face the important task of choosing officers for the coming program year. These officers will set the tone and standard for their districts throughout their terms of service. When you consider the revolutionary effect that Toastmasters has on many people’s lives, this tone and standard can have more far-reaching effects than you may realize. It can determine who is served

by the Toastmasters program and who is not.

For the 2006 program year, I seek to serve as your District 55 Lieutenant Governor Education and Training. Although I love to build new clubs and recruit new Toastmasters, my passion, my training, and my experience are well suited to the tasks of the Toastmasters education and training programs.

Three periods of my life have specifically prepared me for the tasks at hand: a decade as an adult Boy Scouting leader, five years teaching English in Japan, and the last four years in Toastmasters.

My experience in Boy Scouting began with a request to serve as a Webelos Den Leader. As I began to work with the

boys in my charge, I saw them blossom. It inspired me to learn more about the program and I began to seek out greater challenges. Over the course of the next decade, I went on to serve as a trainer and training event chair, to work as a camp program director and a camp director, and to seek the highest level of achievement for myself as an adult leader.

In 1995, I took a job offer in Japan as an English teacher in a Japanese junior high school. If my work with young people in the United States had prepared me, my work in Japan stretched me. I learned how to interest students in a required subject that many of them only tolerated. After several months working with the students of Shinshushinmachi, the superintendent of schools asked me to take on the task of organizing the first international home stay exchange for the town. For the three years I was employed by the town, and for the year after as well, I conducted a home stay program that brought young people from a small mountain village in rural Japan

to Austin, Texas. Talk about an educational experience!

After returning from Japan, I looked around for a new outlet for my energies. I settled on Toastmasters, among several others. Toastmasters, however, has taken hold of me over the last four years. I've been to many clubs and talked to many people, and I've been impressed with the stories I've heard about the transformative effect Toastmasters has had on so many people's lives. In an attempt to provide that benefit to a greater number of people, I've taken on various roles in my clubs and in the District. It is my goal to personally offer the Toastmasters program to as many people as possible so they can benefit from it as I have.

As you consider who your District 55 officers will be for the 2006-2007 program year, remember that Jeff Stoddard, the candidate for Lieutenant Governor Education and Training, is passionate about both education and training!

Vondakaye Dashman, DTM

Candidate for Lieutenant Governor Marketing

The Toastmasters Promise

As a member of Toastmasters International and my Club, I promise...

- To attend Club meetings regularly;
- To prepare all of my speeches to the best of my ability, basing them on projects in the Communications and Leadership Program manual or the Advanced Communication and Leadership manuals;
- To willingly prepare for and fulfill meeting assignments;
- To provide fellow members with helpful, constructive evaluations;
- To help the Club maintain the positive, friendly environment necessary for all members to learn and grow;
- To willingly serve my Club as an officer when called upon to do so;
- To treat my fellow Club members and our guests with respect and courtesy;



- To bring guests to Club meetings so they can see the benefits Toastmasters membership offers;
- To adhere to the guidelines and rules for all Toastmasters educational and recognition programs;
- To maintain honest and highly ethical standards during the conduct of all Toastmasters activities.

- Largest number of members with individual educational achievements in District

Over 20 years experience as a volunteer following my passion for helping children through the Make a Wish Foundation, Special Olympics, Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation and many other non-profit organizations.

I promise to serve as your Lt. Governor Marketing with dedication, to focus on strengthening the clubs in our district, and to encourage every member to fulfill the Toastmasters Promise.

Owned and managed several successful businesses. Most importantly, being self-employed allows me the flexibility to devote plenty of time to the role of District 55 Lt. Governor Marketing

I believe in breaking records not promises. I believe in leading by example. I believe that if you are going to “talk the talk” then make sure you “walk the walk.”

I am excited to be a Toastmaster and look forward to a fun-filled year in District 55! My slogan for the year is “Aim and Achieve to Gain our Goals.” Aim to help our clubs gain strength and we will ALL achieve our goals.

Qualifications

- Earned DTM designation in 26 months
- Active member of 3 clubs: Charter member Austin CPA’s Williamson County Lone Star Leaders
- Served in several offices in each club 2005 President of Williamson County Club
- Obtained President’s Distinguished in 6 months
 - 10 out of 10 of the DCP points in 7 months
 - Increased active membership by 65%
 - Achieved President’s Distinguished Area Governor in 2004-2005
- Division K Governor 2005-2006
 - Over 50% of clubs had 100% of officers trained

My Goals as Lt. Governor Marketing

- Focus on GAIN: Growth And Increasing Number of members in existing clubs.
- Give recognition and rewards to the individual club members at District level
- Answer the question asked by most people “WIIFM – What’s in it for me?”
- Empower every club member with information on the ‘hidden benefits’ of being a Toastmaster
- Increase activities between clubs
- Ensure every club member knows about the available educational materials

Let’s join together to GAIN in 2006–07 to make it a successful year for ALL Toastmasters in District 55!

As I have served faithfully in my previous leadership roles, I pledge to serve with the same dedication in the role of Lt. Governor Marketing.

I ask for your vote for Lt. Governor Marketing to continue serving the clubs in District 55.



Stan See

Candidate for Lieutenant Governor Marketing

I believe I am well-qualified by the various positions I have held with District 55 Toastmasters the past 9 years. I have:

- Served in every club officer position (some more than once)
- Served as an area governor (President's Distinguished)
- Served as a division governor 2 times (Select Distinguished, President's Distinguished, Division Governor of the Year)
- Served as a Club Coach Club ended at Select Distinguished status after one year
- Served as Austin Marketing Captain Seven new clubs chartered in Austin area during the year

- Served as Golden Gavel chair for Toastmasters International conference in San Antonio

I have traveled all over the district the past couple of years meeting Toastmasters and helping in officer training, open houses, district conferences, new club demo meetings and speech contests. I strongly believe the best marketers for Toastmasters are the members and officers themselves. As each person works toward achievement of their individual goals, they also gain self-confidence and pride in their accomplishments.

While many times the changes are not evident to the member, they are visible to those they interact with on a regular basis. Let's all keep in mind the mission of the Toastmaster club: The mission of a Toastmasters club is to provide a mutually supportive and positive learning environment in which every member has the opportunity to develop communication and leadership skills, which in turn foster self confidence and personal growth.

Some key phrases: supportive and positive learning environment, develop communication and leadership skills, foster self-confidence and personal growth. Not every member will come out a speaking champion, but they should see changes, albeit subtle changes, in confidence and personal growth.

The key is the club needs to provide the supportive and positive environment. As Lt Governor of Marketing, I will work closely with the Lt Gov of Education and Training to help assure our members are indeed working toward and achieving goals. Truly, the best demonstration of the benefits of Toastmasters to others is when members

achieve their educational and leadership goals.

Let us also remember, part of the mission of the District is: to enhance the performance and extend the network of clubs, thereby offering greater numbers of people the opportunity to benefit from the Toastmasters educational program.

As Lieutenant Governor of Marketing, I will work closely with the district public relations officer, division governors, and club vice presidents of public relations to help spread the word about Toastmasters.

In Austin, we have a good concentration of Toastmaster clubs which can feed upon each other for the wealth of ideas for adding members and getting the word out to other companies and growing communities in the area about the many benefits Toastmasters has to offer their employees or citizens.

The San Antonio metro area has now outgrown the Dallas metro area in population and yet we don't have nearly the number of clubs. Working with the many experienced past and current district leaders in San Antonio, we will brainstorm, and identify opportunities for a Toastmasters club; and then

execute upon the leads and marketing ideas generated from these sessions.

The Valley is challenged in the fact it has a large populous spread out over a huge area and very few Toastmasters clubs. Even if someone in some communities were interested in Toastmasters, they would have to drive several miles one way just to visit.

We need to find ways to get the Toastmasters experience to them, as well as take advantage of special Valley events when people may come to a community where a Toastmaster club is. We also need to help existing Toastmasters clubs continue to focus on providing a supportive and positive environment for their members so they can grow and attract new members around them.

So how will we end the year as a Distinguished District? By utilizing the great spirit and enthusiasm and drive of Toastmasters throughout District 55.

Remembering the words of Jim Valvano: How do you go from where you are to where you want to be? I think you have to have an enthusiasm for life. You have to have a dream, a goal and you have to be willing to work for it.

Steve Montgomery

Candidate for Division Governor K

Steve Montgomery has been a Toastmaster since August 2003. He has earned ATM Bronze and Competent Leader awards in that time. He is currently serving as the Area Governor for Area K52.

He is the Immediate Past-President of Freescale Frontrunners, where he also served as VP of Education. He is a past member of Austin Toastmasters and a current member in the Arthur Storer Toastmasters and Freescale Frontrunners Clubs.

Steve works as a program manager at Freescale Semiconductor on Parmer Lane. His wife, Mary, is also a Toastmaster in the Arthur Storer Club. They have two daughters, one age 14 and in middle school and another age 20 and in college.

Even though Steve is an experienced manager and has held leadership roles in many endeavors in the past, he finds the leadership aspects of Toastmaster very worthwhile. He continues to learn new leadership techniques and refine his abilities through taking on ever-increasing responsibilities in the district.

Last December, Steve completed his High Performance Leadership project by leading the effort to put together an ambitious Toastmaster Leadership Institute in Austin. No less than 16 courses were offered. There were 80 participants including attendees and staff.

District Bylaw Updates

District Governor Elizabeth Sprecher, DTM, appointed David Estrada, DTM, to chair the District Bylaws Review Committee at the Fall 2005 Conference in Round Rock. This committee reviews the District policies and makes proposed changes for the upcoming year, to voted on at the Spring Conference by the District Council. This year, the District Business Meeting will be held **Saturday, May 6, New Braunfels.**

The proposed changes include grammatical corrections as well as changes to the reimbursement cycle for Region Conferences and the International Convention. Club Presidents and Club Vice Presidents Education—or their proxy holders—as well as other members of the District Council will vote to adopt these changes at the meeting.

The proposal is below, with the noted changes in **red text**.

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES OF DISTRICT 55

- I. **STATURE, PURPOSE, ADOPTION AND REVISION OF POLICIES:** Official policies of District 55, as adopted from time to time by the District Council, are set forth in this document. These policies supplement and cannot conflict with the Administrative Bylaws of the District and the Bylaws and Policies of Toastmasters International. They may be adopted and revised at any time by majority vote of the District Council upon recommendation of the District Executive Committee. It is the understanding that these policies and procedures will remain in effect from year to year, unless modified or canceled in whole or in part, by the District Council.

- II. **BOUNDARIES OF DISTRICT AND SUBDIVISIONS.**
 - A. The District boundaries are set forth in Article V of the District Administrative Bylaws and may not be changed without approval of the Board of Directors of Toastmasters International.

 - B. Area and Division club assignment and reassignment will be the responsibility of the District Council (District Administrative Bylaws, Article VI) as approved at the Annual Meeting. An Area may consist of four or more clubs, preferably contiguous. An Area having seven or more clubs may be further divided if deemed advisable to improve administration. A Division may have three or more Areas. A Division of seven or more areas may be further divided, if deemed advisable, to improve administration.

- III. **DISTRICT, DIVISION, AND AREA ORGANIZATION**
 - A. **CABINET:** The District Governor, Lt. Governor Education & Training, Lt. Governor Marketing, Division Governors, Immediate Past District Governor, Secretary, Treasurer, Public Relations Officer, District Bulletin Editor and others at the discretion of the District Governor, shall constitute the Governor's Cabinet.

 - B. **DIVISION OFFICERS AND COUNCIL**
 1. Where feasible, the Divisions shall be organized on a mini-District basis, with the Division Governors in charge of all Division activities and **with the** Executive District officers, providing educational and administrative support.

 2. Within 30 days after election, the Division Governor-Elect should appoint assistants: such as, Assistant Division Governor-Education and Training, Assistant Division Governor-Marketing, Speechcraft chair, Youth Leadership chair, Division Contest chair, etc. The Division assistants and chairs along with the Division's Area Governors shall constitute the Division Executive Committee. The Division Governor shall serve as chair of the Division Executive Committee.

3. The Division Executive Committee, together with the President, Vice Presidents Education, and Vice Presidents Membership of the Division's clubs shall constitute the Division Council. The Division Council should meet periodically at the call of the Division Governor to set Division goals and to plan and implement Division activities. The Division Governor shall serve as the chair of the Division Council.
4. The Division Governors-Elect shall plan and arrange training sessions for new club officers serving from July 1 through December 31 prior to August 31. The Division Governors shall plan and arrange training sessions for new club officers serving from January 2 through June 30 prior to February 28 or 29 in a leap year.
5. Training for Area and Division Governors shall be provided by the District. Follow-up training for Area Governors may also be conducted by Division Governors under the direction of the Lt. Governor Education and Training.
6. Division officers and Area Governors shall make monthly reports to the Division Governors for use in effecting corrective action where needed.

C. AREA OFFICERS AND COUNCIL: Area Governors shall be appointed by the District Governor. If more than one person is willing to serve as Governor for a particular Area, the respective Area Council will recommend to the District Governor, which one should be appointed. The Area Governor-Elect should appoint assistants, such as, Assistant Area Governor-Education and Training, Assistant Area Governor-Marketing, Speechcraft chair, Youth Leadership chair, Area Contest chair, etc. The Area's assistants and chairs along with the Presidents, Vice Presidents Education, and Vice Presidents Membership of Area clubs shall constitute the Area Council. The Area Council shall be chaired by the Area Governor. The Area Council should meet once a month or at the call of the Area Governor to plan and implement activities, to consider the condition of clubs, and to assist in corrective action where indicated.

IV. CALENDARS OF EVENTS: The District Governor, the Division Governors, and the Area Governors shall prepare in advance and distribute a calendar of events and important deadlines under their respective jurisdictions for the Toastmaster calendar year. The calendar should be distributed prior to July 1st.

V. FINANCES – REIMBURSEMENTS FOR EXPENSES: All District expenses must be supported by receipts or documentation and be submitted to their respective councils within 60 days of expense. Each check issued by the District must be assigned to a budget line item at the time the check is written. All reimbursements are subject to the availability of District Funds.

A. INCOME: All District income shall be that received from Toastmasters International in accordance with its rules and regulations. Neither the District nor any of its subdivisions or clubs shall assess or otherwise charge any

Toastmaster any amount other than to cover costs of activities, with override necessary to make such activities self-supporting. This article specifically prohibits, in accordance with Article IX (b) District Administrative Bylaws, the assessing of any club or individual Toastmaster by this District or any of its subdivisions (Division, Area or Club) for any business meetings.

B. ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

1. **DISTRICT, DIVISION AND AREA EXPENSES:** Reimbursement for expenses incurred in District, Division and Area activities shall be made only in accordance with the District budget and subject to availability of District funds.
2. **FINANCE CHAIR – DISTRICT EVENTS:** For all meetings of the District 55 Council, Executive Committee or any other District 55 sponsored event which requires an overnight stay in the town where such is held and any part of the agenda for associated events takes place over any portion of two consecutive days, all funds which are advanced by District 55 and all funds derived from the event(s), as well as all expenses associated therewith shall be handled through the District Treasurer. Otherwise a separate bank account in the name of the event shall be established and a specific treasurer or finance chair, who shall not be the event chair, shall be appointed by appropriate authority and shall have control over the account so set up. In no case will such funds be handled through any one individual's personal account. The provision of District 55 policy relating to final accounting shall apply. To implement this procedure:
 - a. Any advance funds or "seed money" from District 55 shall be deposited in such an account.
 - b. Any donations, contributions of a monetary nature, proceeds from advertising, raffles, or other events held at such District function shall be handled through such account.
 - c. All registration fees for attendance shall be handled through such account, and all remittances shall be made payable by the attendees to the designated event or to District 55 Toastmasters.
 - d. All disbursements associated with the event shall be made through such account, but this will not prevent anyone necessary for the working of the event from making a cash out-of-pocket disbursement and then later being reimbursed upon presentation of proper receipts or documents from such account.
 - e. The above does not apply to any meeting on the Area or Division level or any one-day District meeting other than a District Conference.
3. **RELEASE OF FUNDS TO GOVERNOR-ELECT:** The District Governor and District Treasurer shall release to the District Governor-elect, prior to

the latter's assumption of office on July 1, funds sufficient for the latter to prepare for administration. Effective July 1, 1997, Toastmasters International has issued the following requirement: "In order to ensure initial operating funds for the new elected District Officers in each succeeding administration, no requisition on the account of any District shall be honored which would reduce the balance in the District reserve during the period from April 1 to June 30 to a sum less than 25% of the District's per capita income for the prior year."

4. BUDGET REVIEW: The District Treasurer shall issue financial reports with recommendations as to revisions of the budget, where indicated as follows:
 - a. Monthly reports to the District Governor, Lt. Governor Education & Training, and Lt. Governor Marketing
 - b. Each District Executive Committee Meeting
 - c. Each District Council Meeting
 - d. Quarterly reports to World Headquarters for the quarters ending September and March.

All reports are due within 30 days of the end of the reporting period.

C. TRAVEL EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT (All District reimbursement is subject to availability of funds):

1. REGIONAL CONFERENCE: The District Governor-elect, Lt. Governor Education and Training-elect, Lt. Governor Marketing-elect and the Outgoing District Governor will be reimbursed for ~~50% full~~ registration fee and the Incoming District Treasurer and Incoming Public Relations Officer will be reimbursed 50% of registration fee. The District Governor-elect, Lt. Governor Education and Training-elect, Lt. Governor Marketing-elect and the Outgoing District Governor will be reimbursed The District Governor-elect, Lt. Governor Education and Training-elect, Lt. Governor Marketing-elect and the Outgoing District Governor will be reimbursed for ~~and~~ that part of coach class airfare to the Regional Conference not paid by Toastmasters International. Travel reimbursement will be based on a 21 day advanced purchase. The District Governor-elect, Lt. Governor Education and Training-elect, Lt. Governor Marketing-elect and the Outgoing District Governor will receive a \$30 per diem not to exceed \$90 per person. Advance funds may be provided with District Governor approval, if requested

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION: The Lt. Governor Education and Training, Lt. Governor Marketing will be reimbursed for 50% of the "Full Convention" registration fee. The District Governor shall be reimbursed for those "Full Convention registration fees" not covered by Toastmasters International. The District Governor, Lt. Governor Education and Training, and Lt. Governor Marketing will be reimbursed for that part of coach class air fare to the International Convention not paid by Toastmasters International. The Immediate Past District Governor will be reimbursed 50% of "Full Convention" registration fee and for that part of coach class airfare to the International Convention not paid by

Toastmasters International, only if the District achieves distinguished status or above during the Immediate Past District Governor's term of office as District Governor. The District Governor-elect, Lt. Governor Education and Training-elect, Lt. Governor Marketing-elect and the Outgoing District Governor will receive a ~~\$30~~ \$60 per diem not to exceed ~~\$120~~ 4 days per person. Advance funds may be provided with District Governor approval, if requested

2. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND CABINET: The members of the District Executive Committee shall be reimbursed for their travel to all District functions (if the distance totals 170 miles or more round trip) at which their presence is required by the District Governor and if the function is outside their home county subject to availability of funds. In the event any district officer or member of Executive Committee is required to travel to an official venue entailing an overnight stay, the committee member is entitled to a per diem of \$30 per day not to exceed \$60 total per member.
3. TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT RATE: Reimbursement shall be calculated at \$.14 mile. When carpooling reimbursement shall only be made for Executive Committee members driving. Request for reimbursement must document miles traveled and purpose. Reimbursement to one person may not exceed the current limit allowed by the IRS for business mileage.
4. TRAVEL TO MID-YEAR PLANNING CONFERENCE: The District Governor, Lt. Governor Education and Training, and Lt. Governor Marketing will be reimbursed for coach class airfare, registration, and \$30 per day per diem not to exceed \$60 total per officer to the Regional Mid-Year Planning Conference.
5. DISTRICT BUDGET STANDARDS: Effective July 1, 1995, Toastmasters International requires that District budget expenses cannot exceed the following limits: Membership and Club extension – no limit; Communication and PR – maximum 25% of total budget; Officer training – 30% of total budget, Speech contests and awards – maximum 10% of total budget; Administrative – maximum 20% of total budget, Travel – maximum 25% of total budget; Other – maximum 10% of total budget. These standards are designed to provide guidance during the budget development process so that the focus continues to be on extending the benefits of Toastmasters to others by establishing new Clubs and building membership in existing clubs.
6. FINANCIAL CONTROLS: It is essential to have in place some basic fiscal controls that can help the District Officers manage and account for the expenditures of Toastmasters International funds. The District will adhere to the financial controls listed in Toastmasters International policy.
7. SUMMARY OF EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENTS: See attached chart.

- D. CLUB OFFICER EXPENSES: NONE PAID. No travel funds may be paid by the District to the Club Presidents and Vice Presidents Education or their representatives to attend the District Council meetings.
 - E. DISTRICT CONFERENCE FINANCIAL REPORTS: The District Conference Chair at the Fall and Spring District Conferences shall, within 45 days following the conclusion of the meetings, submit a written report of the collections and disbursements of funds with receipts documenting all transactions. The report must be submitted to the District Governor. The net proceeds from the conferences shall be deposited in the District Treasury.
- VI. HONORS AND AWARDS
- District awards programs shall be the responsibility of the District Governor. The District Governor shall present these programs to the Executive Committee members at the first meeting of the new administration.
- VII DISTRICT CONTESTS
- A. CONTEST ADMINISTRATION
 - 1. RULES: The contest rules shall be as given in the official Toastmasters International Contest Manual.
 - 2. DISTRICT CONTEST OFFICIALS: The Lt. Governor Education and Training will be the responsible officer for the contests with responsibility to select the contest chair. The Division and Area Governors will be responsible for the selection of their respective contest officials.
 - B. DISTRICT CONTESTS: During the Fall and Spring, the District shall conduct contests at the Club, Area, Division and District levels. The District Governor shall announce at the first Executive Committee meeting which contests will be held that year. The District level contests shall be held at the Fall or Spring Conference. The winner of the District International Speech Contest will compete at the Region III Conference.
- VIII. DISTRICT CONFERENCE SITES
- A. FALL: The site of the Fall Conference shall be rotated by Division and shall be chosen two years in advance by the District Council at its Fall meeting.
 - B. SPRING: The site of the Spring Conference shall be rotated by Division and shall be chosen two years in advance by the District Council at its Spring meeting.
- IX. PRESERVATION OF RECORDS: Only the following District records shall be preserved permanently by the District secretaries. All other items accumulated by the District Governor, District Secretary, and District Treasurer may be disposed of after one year following the end of their administration.

- A. Books of minutes of District Council and Executive Committee meetings, including Past District Governor's Advisory Committee (PDGAC), long-range Planning Committee (LRPC) reports and all committee reports adopted.
- B. File of District Bulletins.
- C. Annual reports of audit committee.
- D. June 30 Financial Statements.
- E. June 30 District Performance reports.
- F. Official copy of District Administrative Bylaws, including amendments adopted and reprints, and copy of transmittal letter to Toastmasters International regarding changes for Board of Directors approval and correspondence from Toastmasters International.

This does not address those records required by Toastmasters International to be submitted to World Headquarters for their records. The District shall send all financial records for the previous year to World Headquarters by November 30.

- X. **NEW BUSINESS-DISTRICT COUNCIL:** New business must be received by the District Governor at least forty-five (45) days prior to the Executive Committee Meeting. New business that has not first been considered by the Executive Committee will not be considered by the District Council except by a two-third (2/3) vote of the Council to amend the agenda.
- XI. **REFERENCE MATERIALS**
 - A. Toastmasters International Policy Bulletin No. G-17 – District Fiscal Management
 - B. Toastmasters International Policy Bulletin No. G – Political and Campaign Ethics
 - C. Toastmasters International Policy Bulletin No. 33 – Dues and Fees Established By the Board of Directors
 - D. District 55 Administrative Bylaws as amended by the District 55 Council at its annual meeting
- XII. **DISTRICT 55 ADMINISTRATIVE BYLAWS/DISTRICT 55 POLICIES AND PROCEDURES:** The District 55 Administrative Bylaws and the District 55 Policies and Procedures shall be updated immediately after the District Council Meeting at which amendments are approved by the District Council. The Minutes of the Council Meeting shall have attached a copy of such amendments and contain a proper quotation of the amendments as approved.

An updated copy of the District 55 Administrative Bylaws and the District 55 Policies and Procedures shall be furnished to members of the Executive Committee at the first meeting of the new administration.

SPECIAL RULES OF ORDER DISTRICT 55

1. Order of Precedence – All proceedings shall be conducted in accordance with the Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, and published Policies of Toastmasters International. Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, shall be the final authority in parliamentary procedure, insofar as it does not conflict with the Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, and published Policies of Toastmaster International.
2. Credentials Committee Report – The Credentials Committee shall report at the beginning of each Business Meeting the total number of delegates registered, in person and by proxies. During the Credentials Report, the Committee will confirm that the business meeting has a quorum as defined by the Bylaws of Toastmasters International.
3. Credentials Requirements – Each club in good standing with Toastmasters International at the time of each business meeting is entitled to two votes. These votes are carried by the Club's President and Vice President Education (Delegates). If only one of these two is present, that officer can carry both club votes without a proxy from the other officer. If neither of these club officers is present, a member in good standing of that club can carry the club votes by proxy (Alternative Delegates). In addition, Area Governors, Division Governors, District Lieutenant Governors Education & Training and Marketing, District Public Relations Officer, District Secretary, District Treasurer, District Governor, and the Immediate Past District Governor each carry one vote (Delegates-at-Large). No one else can carry these votes by proxy. Delegates at Large can carry up to three votes; all other voters are limited to two votes.
4. Participation Authority – Only Delegates, Alternative Delegates, and Delegates-at-Large may make motions or participate in discussions on motions. Before addressing the assembly, a delegate shall state his or her name, club name and number, and shall display a voting ballot.
5. Timer – The Chair shall appoint an official timer who shall stand and applaud when the time authorized has expired.
6. Resolutions – The Chair will call for discussion, pro and con, from interested delegates who will speak on an alternate basis.
7. Amendment to Toastmasters International Proposals – Toastmasters International proposals cannot be amended since the Bylaws of Toastmasters International set forth the requirements for presentation of proposals.
8. Time Limits for Agenda Items – Debate or discussion on any item on the agenda shall be limited to a maximum of ten minutes. Debate may be extended at the discretion of the Chair to allow additional discussion if fairness so requires.

9. Time Limits for Speakers – No delegate shall speak more than once on the same question or longer than two minutes. Debates may be extended at the discretion of the Chair to allow additional discussion if fairness so requires. This limitation does not apply to points of order and appeals.
10. Voting Method – Voting may be by ballot or by voice vote.
11. Enforcement of Rules and Appeals – The Chair will enforce the rules, but a member may appeal a ruling of the Chair. Following a brief statement by the challenging members and a response by the Chair, the Chair shall put the question, and a majority (or tie) vote shall uphold the ruling of the Chair. The Chair may vote on an appeal.
12. Motions – Any decision of the meeting is to be made by means of a motion offered by the Executive Committee or by a voting Delegate and seconded (if appropriate) by another voting Delegate, stated by the Chair, offered for debate, and then put to a vote by the Chair. Motions shall be stated in the positive, not the negative.

REVISION HISTORY

Adopted: July 1, 1997
Revised: July 1, 2001
Amended: May 17, 2003
Amended: November 17, 2004
Revised: April 16, 2005
Revised May _____, 2006

District Travel, Training, and Trophy Reimbursement Policy

	District Cabinet	District Executive Committee	District Council/ Conference	Mid-Year Training	Regional Conference	International Convention	Club Officer Training	Contest Trophies
District Governor	*Yes	*Yes	*Yes	Yes	Yes**	Yes***	None	None
Lt. Governor Education & Training	*Yes	*Yes	*Yes	Yes	Yes**	Yes***	None	None
Lt. Governor Marketing	*Yes	*Yes	*Yes	Yes	Yes**	Yes***	None	None
Immediate Past District Governor	*Yes	*Yes	*Yes	No	Yes**	Yes***	None	None
District Secretary	*Yes	*Yes	*Yes	No	No	No	None	None
District Treasurer	*Yes	*Yes	*Yes	No	No Yes**	No	None	None
Public Relations Officer	*Yes	*Yes	*Yes	No	No Yes**	No	None	None
Division Governors	*Yes	*Yes	*Yes	No	No	No	\$100 for the year	\$90 for the year
Area Governors	*Yes	*Yes	*Yes	No	No	No	None****	\$45 for the year

NOTES:

- * Only if at least 170 miles round trip(@14 cents per mile **(as allowed by IRS for Non-profit Organizations)**)and subject to availability of funds.
- ** International pays travel for DG-Elect, LGET-Elect, LGM-Elect to regional conference. District pays Travel for outgoing DG, **Incoming Treasurer and Incoming Public Relations Officer**
- *** International pays travel for DG, and ½ of LGET airfare. District pays for ½ LGET and all LGM airfare. District pays travel for outgoing DG if district achieved distinguished status during their year.
- **** Division Governors may designate all or part of their \$100 for use by their Area Governor

Revised 4/16/2005

District 55 Proposed Realignment 2006-2007

Current	Proposed
Division M	
Area 30	Area 30
1869 Get Up and Go Club	1869 Get Up and Go Club
3730 Highroller	3730 Highroller
6260 Exchange Park	6260 Exchange Park
7774 Arboretum Toastmasters	7774 Arboretum Toastmasters
4	4
Area 31	Area 31
8768 Iact Toastmasters	9174 Ni Toastmasters
9174 Ni Toastmasters	9804 IBM
9804 IBM	590635 Wavemakers
590635 Wavemakers	*****IBM FCU (new)
????? Lockhart	
4	4
Area 32	Area 32
3407 Balcones	3407 Balcones
672749 GTECH ATC	9987 Lone Star Leaders
712354 CyberToasters	712354 CyberToasters
743843 Austin Area Advanced	743843 Austin Area Advanced
4	4
Area 33	Area 33
6675 New Achievers	6675 New Achievers
9752 Lake Travis	9752 Lake Travis
9910 Cedar Park	707750 Freescale Frontrunners
	***** Lago Vista
707750 Freescale Frontrunners	
????? Lago Vista	***** Cedar Park
4	5

Division L

Area 40

3393 Lake Austin
Metropolitan
4256 Austin
7629 Today
9852 Fun Company

4**Area 40**

3393 Lake Austin
Metropolitan
4256 Austin
7629 Today
9852 Fun Company

4**Area 41**

5531 West Austin 1
6755 Armadillo Avenue
8667 Teletakers
9299 University of Texas

4**Area 41**

5531 West Austin 1
6755 Armadillo Avenue
8667 Teletakers
9299 University of Texas

4**Area 42**

423 Texas State Talkers
4952 Aim High
5345 Austin CPA
6486 Austin Bilingual

4**Area 42**

423 Texas State Talkers
4952 Aim High
5345 Austin CPA
6486 Austin Bilingual

4**Area 43**

4573 DPS
4786 Morrow St. Irregulars
8073 Central Austin

3**Area 43**

4573 DPS
4786 Morrow St. Irregulars
8073 Central Austin
*****Texas Dept. of Aging

4

Conference Registration Form

T-BAR-M RESORT
“Keeping in Step with Toastmasters”
2949 Hwy. 46 West New Braunfels, TX
May 5-6 2006



Mail registration and full payment (pay to: District 55 Toastmasters) to:

Tom Moeller, ATM-B
614-C S. Business Hwy 35
New Braunfels, Texas 78130
tmoeller@satx.rr.com 830-708-5037

Questions: Contact Lupe Roy, DTM @ 27811 Countryside Dr. – New Braunfels, TX 78132
830-625-2217 cell 830-214-5449 lroy@mail.ev1.net

_____ **\$99 Conference Full Registration** (all activities, educational sessions, meals)

Rate will be \$110.00 starting March 29, 2006

A La Carte cost per person:

- _____ \$25 Educational sessions only
- _____ \$20 Friday fun night and sack lunch
- _____ \$35 Saturday luncheon
- _____ \$10 Saturday Awards Gallery Seating only – NO Lunch
- _____ \$40 Saturday Dinner
- _____ \$10 Saturday Contests Gallery Seating – NO dinner

_____ **Total Amount A La Carte**

Complete for EACH person registering:

NAME _____ -TM, CTM, TM, DTM, GUEST

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____

E-MAIL

ADDRESS: _____

Club Name: _____ Club # _____ Area _____ Club

Office _____

Is this your FIRST District 55 Conference: [] YES [] NO

Meals: [] Vegetarian [] Regular

- **Deadline for registration to be ensured of meals: April 21, 2006** (*We cannot guarantee the availability of meals after that date, so please register early*)
- If you would like to help with the Conference please call Lupe Roy at 830-625-2217 or e-mail: lroy@mail.ev1.net.
- **Hotel Accommodations** through T-Bar-M Ranch: **\$99/night early registration; \$115 after April 5.** Call 830-625-7738 or 1-800-292-5469 or e-mail: www.tbarm.com
- Hotel rooms are Hill Country fashion: each room is furnished with handcrafted country furniture, cable TV, internet access, blow dryer, coffee maker, iron and ironing board (even have indoor plumbing!)
- **Group Room rates available through April 5, 2006**

Conference Agenda

Friday, May 5, 2006		
TIME	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
3:00 – 6:00 PM	Registration	TX Sage – Foyer
3:00 – 6:00 PM	Credentials	TX Sage – Foyer
4:00 – 6:00 PM	Bookstore	Primrose Room
4:00 – 6:30 PM	Hospitality Room	Firewheel
6:00 – 6:30 PM	First Timers' Reception	Gazebo
6:30 – 7:00 PM	Evaluation Contest Briefings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contestants Contest Officials Educational Session Presenters/ Helpers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Patio/Chuckwagon TX Sage Buckboard
6:00.– 7.30 PM	Reception / Cash Bar / Chuckwagon Special Sack Dinner	Chuckwagon
8:00 – 10:00 PM	Evaluation Contest	Chuckwagon
10:15 - ? PM	Entertainment	Patio
Saturday May 6, 2006		
7:00 – 8:00 AM	Executive Committee Meeting / Breakfast for	Chuckwagon
7:15 – 8 00 AM	Breakfast for all	Buckboard
7:00 – 800 AM	Credentials and Registration	TX Sage Foyer
8:30 – 9:30 AM	Opening Ceremonies: Featuring the Parade of Banners and the Keynote Speaker	TX Sage
9:45 – 1200	Credentials	TX Sage Foyer
9:45 – 1200	Registration	TX Sage Foyer
9:45 – 1200	Bookstore	Primrose
9:45 – 1200	Hospitality Room	Firewheel/porch Tx Sage
9:45 – 1045	Educational Sessions <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Lee Alviar David Borden TBA 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> TX Sage TX SAGE TBA
10:45 – 1145	Candidates Showcase	Chuckwagon
1200 – 1:45 PM	Awards Luncheon	TX Sage
1:00 – 2:15 PM	Credentials	TX Sage Foyer
3:00 - 7:30 PM	Registration	TX Sage Foyer
2:00 – 6:00 PM	Bookstore	Primrose
2:00 – 3:00PM	Educational Session <ol style="list-style-type: none"> John Moffitt Lee Moczygemba TBA 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> TX Sage TX Sage TBA
3:10 - 4:30 PM	DISTRICT COUNCIL MEETING – Delegates must have ballots to vote	Chuckwagon
5:30 – 6:00 PM	International Speech Contest Briefings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contestants Contest Officials 	Firewheel Chuckwagon
5:30 – 6:30 PM	Cash Bar	
6:00 – 7:30 PM	Dinner	TX Sage
8:00 – 1030 PM	International Speech Contest	TX Sage

**Toastmasters
District 55 Officers**

District Governor

Elizabeth Sprecher, DTM

**Lt.-Governor Education &
Training**

Atheria Scott, DTM

Lt.-Governor Marketing

Jeff Stoddard, DTM

Past District Governor

Harry Truman, DTM

District Secretary

Irma Blancas, CTM, CL

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District 55 serves about 2,500
members in more than 120 clubs
in South-Central Texas.

**Building on Our Successes,
Focusing on Our Dreams!**

From the Editor

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Copies of the *District 55 Flash* are available
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