

District 45

Fall District Council Meeting



Hampton Beach, NH

November 5, 2011

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AGENDA – DISTRICT COUNCIL MEETING



District 45 Fall Business Meeting
2:30 pm – November 5, 2011
Hampton Beach, NH

Call to Order	Wayne Mercer, DTM District Governor
Inspirational Opening	Alexandra Barbehenn, ACS, CL Area 10 Governor
Reading of District Mission Statement	David Tucker, ACG, CL Area 6 Governor
Welcome & Opening Remarks	Wayne Mercer, DTM District Governor
Credentials Committee Report	Jim Kokocki, DTM, PID
Secretary's Report	Bernice Theriault, ACS, ALB District Secretary
Confirmation of Appointed Officers	Wayne Mercer, DTM District Governor
Report of 2009-2010 Audit Committee	Alexandra Barbehenn, ACS, CL Audit Committee Chairman
Adoption of District Budget	Heather Perkins, DTM District Treasurer
Treasurer's Report	Heather Perkins, DTM District Treasurer
Division Governor Reports	4 Divisions - 2 minutes each
Reports by Senior District Officers	Top 5 - 2 minutes each
Unfinished Business	
New Business	
Announcements	
Time & Place of Next DC Meeting	May 19, 2012, 2:30 pm Halifax, NS
Adjournment	

MINUTES OF SPRING 2010 DISTRICT COUNCIL MEETING

Call to Order	District Governor Susan Francesco, DTM, called the meeting to order at 2:45 PM on April 30, 2011 at the Common Man Inn & Spa in Plymouth, NH, USA.
Inspirational Opening	Andrea Woodward, ACB, ALB shared an inspirational quote from Helen Keller.
Reading of District Mission Statement	Valerie Cummings, ACB, ALB, read the District Mission Statement.
Welcome and Introductory Remarks	District Governor, Susan Francesco, DTM, welcomed everyone, and asked for a roll call of voting officers, including their name, club name and club number.
Credentials Committee Report	Jim Kokocki, DTM, past international director, reported that 87 presidents or VPs qualified to vote or carrying proxies and 19 district officers were present. A quorum was achieved.
Adoption of Agenda	The agenda for the meeting was adopted by unanimous consent and two timers were delegated: Alexandra Barbehenn, ACB club #7682 and Carrie???
District Alignment	Heather Perkins, DTM, PDG presented the alignment proposal, which had been posted on the district website 4/3/2011, printed and distributed at this meeting, and all clubs in the district had been informed. Hearing no objections or discussion, Heather Perkins, DTM, PDG moved that the alignment plan be approved. Wayne Mercer, DTM seconded. MOTION CARRIED
Secretary's Report	The minutes of the 2010 Fall District Executive Council Meeting held at the Samoset Resort in Rockport, Maine were circulated before the meeting. Brian Shanks, ACS, ALB, Division D Governor moved to adopt the minutes as written, and John Roy, ACB, Area 20 Governor seconded. MOTION CARRIED
Nominating Committee Report	Carl Duivenvoorden, DTM, PDG, presented the slate of officers suggested by the nominating committee.
Election of District Officers	Sue Francesco, DTM, went through the slate asking for the consent of each nominee and calling three times for nominations from the floor for each office before closing nominations. Nominees were as follows: District Governor- Wayne Mercer; no nominations from the floor. Dawn Knight, DTM, moved and Louise Bernier, DTM seconded a motion to close nominations. The secretary was instructed to cast a ballot of one and Wayne Mercer, DTM was elected. Lt. Governor of Education and Training- Louise Bernier, DTM; no nominations from the floor. John Roy club 5122 moved and Alex Barbahenn club 7673 seconded a motion to close nominations. The secretary was instructed to cast a ballot of one and Louise Bernier, DTM was elected. Lt. Governor of Marketing- Donna Tutty, ACS, ALB; ? Shane nomination withdrawn. Eric Jordan club 4592 moved and Karen Behan club 57-5 seconded a motion to close nominations. The secretary was instructed to cast a ballot of one and Donna Tutty was elected. Lt. Governor of Public Relations- Sharon Jacques, CC; no nominations from the floor. Brian Shanks club 7427 moved and Patricia MacNevin club 829453 seconded a motion to close nominations. The secretary was instructed to cast a ballot of one and Sharon Jacques was elected.

Division Governors	Divisions A, F and G had no nominations from the floor. Kristine Smith club 7268 moved and Carey Loukides club 2440 seconded a motion to close nominations for those divisions. Division A- Marcia Sprague was elected; Division B- deferred; Division C- Sandra Hachey and Patricia MacNevin both nominated were given 2 minutes for campaign speeches. Dawn Knight moved and Wayne Mercer seconded a motion to close nominations. Patricia MacNevin was elected. Division D- deferred. Division E- Doug Jones and Debra Steeves were nominated. Betsy Black club 6954 moved and Alex Barbehenn club 7682 seconded a motion to close nominations. Debra Steeves was elected. Division F- Jane Rafuse was elected; Division G- James Powers was elected.
Audit Committee Report	Alexandra Barbehenn, ACB club #7682 presented the printed Audit Report. District Treasurer, Candice Buell, DTM, presented a written report and recognized the audit committee: Alyson Cravens, Tri-City #7683, Alexandra Barbehenn, Ad Libs #7673 and Mark Zemgulis, Portsmouth #1094. The audit was conducted on January 30, 2011. Overall review showed all reimbursement forms to be in order. All reports were submitted and accepted by TI within the appropriate time allowed. All reimbursement forms had two signatures, as required. All financial records with the bank and reports for mid-year were submitted to TI by February 15, 2011 and accepted. One finding for future improvement was that not all travel reimbursements were accompanied by verification of mileage, but this has been correct since January 20, 2011. The narrative section on all reports could have more explanation, although the overall report was accepted by TI. The audit report will be available for review on the district 45 website. District 45 is in good standing with WHQ. There were no additional questions or discussion.
Treasurer's Report	District Treasurer, Candice Buell, DTM, distributed a written report and there was no additional discussion.
Division Governor Reports	District Governor Susan Francesco, DTM, asked that division governor reports be restricted to two minutes each. Full written reports are available in the booklet. A, B, C, E and F were represented in person.

Senior District Officer Reports	Dawn Knight, ACB, CL, public relations officer thanked the district for the honor, said she learned a lot working with and judging club newsletters. Louise Bernier, DTM, lt. gov. marketing said if you set goals and work for them, members are happy. Wayne Mercer, DTM, lt. gov. of ed. and training said the stats are good. The district met 160% of the goal for advanced communicators, 148% for leadership and only needs 30 competent communicator awards for the goal of distinguished district.
Candidates for International Director	Dan Bell, DTM, spoke on behalf of Wendy Harding. He said Wendy is a leader who listens. He referenced the paper balloon dreams exercise from last year's TLI and how that inspired leaders. She has a great smile, is an active member in four clubs, past district governor, committed to global growth and finding new members. She has been active in the district council for five years. She will focus on Toastmasters International being responsible, good at change management, process improvement, and strategic planning. She is the only candidate nominated from Region 9.
Other Matters	There were no other nominations, no unfinished business, no new business. Louise Bernier, DTM, awarded the "traveling gavel" to Division B's Mount Desert Island club.
Time and Place of Next Meeting	November 5, 2011 at 2:30 PM at fall conference to be held at Ashworth by the Sea, Hampton, New Hampshire.
Adjournment	Motion to adjourn by unanimous consent at 4:00 PM. MOTION CARRIED
Minutes recorded by Sheila Oranch, District 45 Secretary 2010-2011	
Minutes accepted and approved by: Susan Francesco, District 45 Governor 2010-2011	

BUDGET 2011 - 2012

REVENUE

Funds on hand at start of year	24,238
Amount in District Reserve	11,905
Membership Revenue	33,519
Conference Revenue	63,325
TLI Revenue	2,800
District Store Revenue	1,600
Total Revenue	\$136,387

EXPENSES

Marketing (includes conference and District Store expenses)	69,025
Education and Training (includes TLI expenses)	13,325
Communications & Public Relations	1,700
Speech Contests	800
Administration	3,150
Travel	34,015
Other Expenses	3,222
Total Expenses	\$125,236

Less Amount Required to be Left in District Reserve	8,380
District Net Income/(Loss)	\$2,771

REPORTS FROM DISTRICT OFFICERS

District Governor Wayne Mercer, DTM

I cannot believe we have arrived so quickly at our fall conference. Each and every day is a whirlwind of changing priorities. Some days just disappear before I know.

As a District we have definitely moved forward and our team of Area and Division Governors are quickly adapting to their roles and meeting with clubs and members on numerous issues. And we are finding ways to meet the needs of membership and clubs.

Since July 1 2011 our District Executive team has put together our District Success Plan and at the conference we will review the budget and plan with all.

During the International Convention District Treasurer, both Lt. Governors and I attended two days of intensive training received our training for our new roles. On the third day the District Treasurer and I received further training on the budget and expenditure process. As a Non-Profit organization we have strict set of guidelines we must follow to maintain our status with IRS. I want to thank Heather Perkins for stepping up and accepting the role of treasurer in the first year of the new accounting program.

The main focus of the convention was the launch of the new Toastmasters brand. As executive members we attended a special workshop that provided us with insight on why refreshing our brand was required. As a District we have put a plan in place to ensure our members are aware of the changes. Lt. Governor Louise Bernier will have a workshop on the rebranding for our winter TLI.

At the conference we will be launching our rebrand District website. PRO Sharon Jacques will provide more details.

District 45 was very visible at the International Convention.

- ✓ Joe Grondin our District Champion placed 3rd in his semi-finals; as expected Joe was fierce competitor.
- ✓ Jim Kokocki was on the final ballot in his bid for 2nd VP; I hope to see him run again next year
- ✓ PDG Wendy Harding was successful in quest for International Director. We will see International Director Harding at our fall conference.

Now what happens in Vegas stays in Vegas, however I need to tell you the most exciting moment was when many of us were witnesses for the wedding of Wendy Harding and Karl Stewart.

As you will see in the reports of the Lt Governors and the PRO all three have been very busy assisting members and club executive with their needs. We are already experiencing success with the chartering of new clubs and members achieving educational awards.

Last year, Immediate Past District Governor Sue Francesco set the ground work to guide this District back to distinguished status. As a District team we will follow through with that work to achieve success.

Lieutenant Governor Education and Training Louise Bernier, DTM

What are your goals? Are you achieving them? Are you seizing every opportunity you can and getting ready to step beyond your comfort zone? Hurray! That's what the Toastmaster's Educational program is all about.

In the first three months of this Toastmasters year many members from District 45 have been meeting their educational goals; 23 have achieved CCs while 19 achieved AC awards, 18 members have achieved CLs and 10 have achieved AL awards. Huge congratulations to all of you!! A special congratulation also goes out to Eric, Julie and Therese who have achieved their DTM this year.

This is an exciting year for our educational program. Toastmasters International recognizes that many of us prefer the ease and speed of the internet. As a result, the resources available at toastmasters.org have become more comprehensive and can assist you in meeting your goals. This year, Toastmasters has decided to make all contest materials free for download by Toastmasters members. The Better Speaker Series modules are now fully accessible online and both the Successful Club and Leadership Excellence Series will be offered soon. In addition, more training videos are posted regularly and Toastmasters International is currently piloting a web based TLI in Western Canada and the US.

Oprah Winfrey says "Surround yourself with only people who are going to lift you higher". Our members are surrounding themselves with mentors, coaches and cheerleaders who are supporting and inspiring them along their journey of personal growth. In addition to the above awards, I know members are meeting other goals too. Some members have joined their club executive for the first time, attended their first TLI, entered contests, or joined an advanced club; for some of you, perhaps this is your first conference. Others are making remarkable advancements at work or making changes in their personal lives that they may have never dreamed possible prior to joining Toastmasters. Remember to share your successes and to celebrate your achievements, one step at a time.

Look around you at the DTMs in our district. Why do you think they stay in Toastmasters? Perhaps they've discovered the secret: we need to keep challenging ourselves and Toastmasters can help us to do that. I earned my DTM in 2008 and would be remiss if I didn't share that this year I overcame some personal challenges that I know would not have been possible without all of your help.

Reach out and tell us about your goals. Let us help you when you are faced with challenges; whether it's writers block, choosing a manual, tackling one more pre-scripted module or understanding the program. Maybe you are having trouble deciding when or what to do for your HPL. Stop before you say no to your next TM opportunity and always look at these as invitations to grow. More than anything else, I hope you celebrate, celebrate, and celebrate some more. I look forward to seeing more educational awards and to hearing even more success stories as we continue to encourage one another this year. Whether you've taken a first step, you're half way there, or you've achieved a milestone, you are inspiring everyone around you, you are helping to lift us higher, and you are making us proud.

Lieutenant Governor Marketing Donna Tutty, DTM

I am excited and looking forward to the many great things that will happen this year in District 45. We have started the year with a bang with 2 new Chartered Clubs! 1) "Xstatically Speaking Toastmaster" is a corporate club at Xerox in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia which chartered on September 7th and is part of Division D, Area 18. 2) York County Toastmasters in Kennebunk Maine chartered on September 26th and is part of Division B, Area 6. Congratulations to our new clubs!

We have several potential clubs who have progressed passed the sample meeting stage and are receiving continuous support from many dedicated Toastmasters. Our goal this year for "Demo/Sample" meetings is at least 10. We have had 2 samples thus far and received very positive feedback from both organizations.

I am so pleased to announce that this year we have implemented the role of "Club Coach Chair" to District 45. The Club Coach Chair will provide support and guidance to all of our club coaches within the district. It gives me great pleasure to announce that Jim Kokocki, DTM will assume this role for the 2011-2012 Toastmaster year. Jim will be implementing club coach conference calls to help address any needs or concerns that our dedicated coaches may have. Within the District we have 22 clubs with 12 or fewer members thus requiring a coach however; we only have 8 clubs who currently have a club coach. We need Coaches! If you are interested or know a fellow Toastmaster who would step up and take on this role, please contact Jim Kokocki or me.

We had our first successful "Membership Dues" contest which resulted in 75% of clubs submitting their dues by the October 1st deadline and a total of 85% submitting by the grace date of October 10th. The winners of our contest were:

- 1) Winning Speakers Club 3608, Windham, N.H. - \$100.00 Toastmasters Gift Certificate
- 2) River Talkers Club 11217000, Bridgewater, NS - \$50.00 Toastmasters Gift Certificate
- 3) Civil Speakers Club 6423 Fredericton, NB - \$25.00 Toastmasters Gift Certificate

Our Region 9 Advisor, Joe Jarzombek has been a great resource to our team and has helped me better understand the needs of our district for which I am extremely grateful.

I wish each and every member the greatest success as they continue on this amazing journey that we call "Toastmasters"!

Public Relations Officer Sharon Jacques, CC

We have developed and are in the process of implementing a D45 PR and Communication Strategy. I have been participating in the Region 9 PRO Forum and have found this useful.

The focus areas for this year are:

- Newsletter
 - Newsletter Editor: Kristine Smith, Past Division B Governor
 - Modified format of newsletter
 - First edition sent to members and posted to website September
 - Second edition under development (as of Oct 15)

- Social Media
 - Social Media Master: Edward Wedler, Area Governor
 - Guidance with Rebrand (worked with rebrand committee)
 - Reviewing social media options for District (i.e. LinkedIn)
- D45 Website
 - Webmaster: Jean Dickson
 - Content update; expect to have complete by Fall Conference
 - Rebrand; expect to have complete by Fall Conference
 - Modifications such as addition of events: ongoing
- Support Club VP PR
 - Initial calls scheduled with Club VP PRs last week of Oct/ first week of Nov (approx. 90 CVPPR)
 - Cadence to be confirmed following calls

Over the balance of the year, we will also be focusing on PR training, District Speaker and Leadership Bureau, managing the awareness of events within D45 and providing guidance on Media and communications. We are also hoping each Division and Area will develop a newsletter. Currently, Divisions C and E have newsletters. These focus areas offer YOU an opportunity to be involved at the District level. Some of them could make great HPL projects. If you're interested in helping with any of these projects, please contact me.

Immediate Past District Governor Sue Francesco, DTM

Fellow District 45 Toastmasters, I am enjoying my role as Immediate Past District Governor as I enjoy the outer fringes of the ripples we all created last year. I thought I'd wonder what to do....but don't worry I'm plenty busy. I have found time to encourage the leadership at my work for the State of NH to promote quarterly Speechcrafter training program, I have more time to mentor new members, I have been able to attend advanced club meetings and I'm enjoying helping out the new Division Governor with contests. I had a wonderful summer with husband Pete as we cruised the lake in our antique boat, sipped wine from the deck, and watched the summer rain ripple across the lake and turn the earth green. Currently, I'm focused on mountain climbing – trying to reach the summit of all 48 New Hampshire 4000 footers. My toastmaster journey to IPDG has been exciting, rewarding, focused and yes a lot of hard work. I encourage all of you to get excited about your journey, to set your goals, make a plan, and work your plan. You too can find yourself completing your next Toastmaster goal – CC, your District officer year, your DTM or maybe standing atop a 4000 footer – rewarded by the view from the top. .

REPORTS FROM DIVISIONS AND AREAS

Division A – Kerry Barnsley, DTM

Division A is divided into 3 areas, a total of 15 clubs, with a membership base of about 345 members in New Hampshire.

There are currently one or more prospective clubs in Division A. One is corporate club in Manchester that has filed its application to organize and charter fee. The others include a potential club in Nashua and a possible club in Meredith, New Hampshire. There are two clubs in Area 12 that are at 40+ members.

Several clubs in Division A are challenged with membership growth. The Pine Island Club in Area 16 has 8 current members and will be holding regular meetings once again as of this month. North Country Toastmasters in Area 20 has resumed meeting regularly and held an open house meeting in September, attended by the area and division governors. The Karner Blue club in Area 12 is providing Speechcraft workshops to DES employees quarterly.

Eleven of the 15 clubs sent 4 or more officers to Summer TLI. Area 12 was at 100%. Area 20 and Area 16 each had 2 clubs unrepresented. The Division will strive to improve attendance at the Winter TLI program. Carey Loukides, Area 16 Governor will chair the Winter TLI as her HPL.

Fourteen of the 15 clubs paid dues on time. Lakes Region Toastmasters did not submit dues. Of 8 members, only 2 are willing to renew and only if the club is going to continue. Two of the 8 members were the Club Coaches assigned to the club. This historic club may suspend.

Division A has 17 educational awards to date, including 2 advanced educational awards.

The new, smaller, sleeker Division 'A' still has some challenges, but on the whole the Division is healthy, and providing some excellent Toastmaster education and growth!

Area 12 – Neil Billings, ATMB, CL

There are four community clubs, one corporate club and one advanced toastmaster club in Area 12 for a total of six clubs. All clubs are active. Area 12 boasts 100% (4 or more officers from each club) participation at the June TLI. All six clubs submitted dues to Toastmasters International prior to the October 1 due date. All clubs are working on their DCP program. Two clubs boast more than 40 members (Karner Blue and Concord Toastmasters). Karner Blue and Concord Toastmasters are actively supporting Speechcraft workshops this fall. Capital Toastmasters will be moving to an exciting, new location in downtown Concord next month.

The fall speech contests for Area 12 were held on October 8th with the Area 7 contests (Division G). All six Area 12 clubs were fully represented. Attendance beyond contestants and those filling supporting roles was very low and something to improve upon in the Spring. Area 12 provided support to the division contests on October 22, 2011. Members of the corporate club, Granite Place, placed 2nd in each of the division contests.

Area 12 is a robust area for toastmasters with 6 clubs all located in one, small city in central New Hampshire. The Horseshoe Pond Toastmasters club recently produced a beautiful, color newsletter using the TM rebrand color scheme and graphics.

Participation and membership in the advanced club, celebrating their one-year anniversary this month, remains a challenge. However, overall the Toastmasters Clubs in Area 12 are active and vital.

Area 16 – Carey Loukides, ACB, ALB

There are 4 community clubs and 1 corporate club in Area 16 for a total of 5. All clubs are active except Pine Island which is having their first meeting on Oct 19th in a while with their new slate of officers. The fall has gotten off to a busy start. The Top of the Town Toastmasters moved to a new location at the Manchester Community College in August and had an open house on September 23rd. All clubs are working on their DCP program. Area 16 was one of the few areas in the District to have all clubs dues submitted to Toastmasters International prior to the October 1 due date!

The Fall speech contest for Area 16 was held on October 1th. ABC , CORE and TM of Manchester participated in the humorous speech and evaluation contests. Attendance was ok and something to improve upon for the Spring. Winners from each of the contests will be participating in the upcoming Division A contest on October 22.

Membership retention and growth continues to be a central focus in each of the clubs. Membership drives are being held and new ideas to get more recognition and opportunities for membership are being tried.

Visits to the clubs are complete except for Pine Island which is having their first meeting on October 19th.

Overall, the Clubs are active and Area 16 is strong!

Area 20 – Valarie Cummings, ACB, ALB

Area 20 is made up of four clubs: White Mountain Toastmasters (WMTM), North Country Toastmasters(NCTM), Moultonboro Toastmasters(MTM), and Lakes Region Toastmasters(LRTM).

WMTM, NCTM, and MTM are all doing well. The clubs are enthusiastic and well-attended. We are planning an open house for NCTM on November 14th. They really need more members to strengthen the club. I have made a commitment to go to one of the two meetings per month to help them get on their feet. There are several other members of WMTM who regularly attend meetings in Littleton to support NCTM. I am pleased with the effort that is being put forth by all members involved.

LRTM is currently struggling, and has been for several years. I would like to do a similar open house event for this club as we are having for NCTM. My intention is to resurrect the LRTM club.

Three of the four clubs are on track with the DCP and had their dues submitted on time as well.

Division B – Sandra Hachey, ACB, ALB

Division B has areas consisting of 19 clubs. The division started this year with 18 clubs and York County Toastmasters in Area 6 chartered on September 26, 2011.

Seventeen of the 18 clubs submitted their dues on time in October. The remaining club has only had 5 member renewals, but we are working with them.

All 4 areas in the division held successful contests. The Division B contest will be held on Saturday October 22, 2011 in Belfast, Me hosted by Club Dirigo.

We are off to the races with our Educational and Leadership Awards. To date we have 13 Communication and 6 Leadership Awards. Two members have completed their Triple Crown-Congratulations to Mark Henkel and Candice Buell.

Membership is the biggest challenge for Division B with 60% of the clubs below the 20-membership requirement. Area Governors will be working closely with the clubs to help them increase their membership

With hard work and dedication I know Division B will be “Where Leaders are Made”!!!

Area 5 – Vacant

Area 5 continues to have its challenges. Only two clubs competed in the Area contests. No one was willing to step forward and assume the role of Area Governor. Club visits are currently being handled by volunteers. There is a need to improve communication to, and among, the clubs and a need to develop a willingness to step outside of the club environment which means participating in speech contests, attending speech contests and taking on leadership roles.

Only two (MDI and Dirigo) of the five clubs have a membership of 20 or more. Dirigo was the only club to have four officers trained. The Area will need to continue to focus on membership retention and growth and leadership development over the coming year.

Area 6 – David Tucker, ACG, CL

Area 6 has great news, as we have just chartered our 6th club: York County Toastmasters! They have worked very hard for 18 months and recently achieved the 20 member criteria. The other 5 clubs are doing well, with a healthy mix of experienced and new members. All clubs had successful fall contests and were represented in the Area 6 contest which was attended by over 30 toastmasters.

We have a 7th club, cleverly named club 2211, which is a 2nd club at Unum Co. in South Portland. At this club we had a 2nd successful open house with over 25 people attending and a wonderful atmosphere.

Four of 6 club visits have been made by the area governor. Area 6 will also host the January Division B TLI.

Area 10 – Alexandra Barbehenn, ACS, CL

There are four community clubs in Area 10; total membership is 65 members as of October 12, 2011. All the clubs have a goal of increasing membership as membership has been down overall for the last year or so in Area 10.

In Area 10, we are working to get the word out that Toastmasters is a wonderful way to increase your communication skills and improve your leadership skills which helps develop confidence. Many members also experience personal growth. With the high cost of professional workshops and training, Toastmasters is a great return on investment.

Our Area 10 Contest was held on Oct 8th, 2011 at the Portsmouth Library. It was great fun! We will continue to the Division contest.

I am looking forward to working with Area 10 this year. I have noticed growth among our members. I am proud of their work and continue to look forward to celebrating more of their educational achievements and other triumphs in the future. Toastmasters is a vital and important organization. I am grateful to be a part of it.

Thank you to all who help and continued support from the Division and District is greatly appreciated.

Area 14 – Augie Schau, ACG, CL

Area 14 of Division B is off to a good start. All four clubs in the area submitted dues and officer lists on time. The Area Governor has completed the first visit to two of the four clubs, and the Area Contest was completed successfully with participation from all of the clubs in one form or another. Future plans include the remaining two club visits for the first round, and encouraging as many as can to attend TLI in January. We are all working at growing membership and keeping meetings exciting. I would recognize the Kennebec Valley Club that stepped up to coordinate the Area contest when I had to be out of the country. Each club is different but shares and enthusiasm for the Toastmasters program and spreading the word.

Division C – Patricia MacNevin, DTM

This Division covers the northwest and central areas of New Brunswick, from Sussex to Florenceville, and includes one club from Presque Isle, Maine. The members of the 18 clubs are mainly professionals that embrace the Toastmasters program, promoting and sharing with others to learn. All Area Governors are experienced and knowledgeable Toastmasters who are inspiring members and learning new skills in their role.

There have been several challenges for this Division so far in 2010-2011 – the resignation of one area governor (accepted a Division Governor role); a miscommunication about alignment of clubs from one Area to another; and a few clubs that were “eliminated” erroneously by Toastmasters International. Most of the challenges have been addressed and all of us are working diligently to ensure the Toastmasters learning experience continues to be vibrant and enjoyable. The increase in membership fees and the inability to resolve problems for one club have many of its members frustrated and District Officers working overtime with TI.

Division C produced its first newsletter – no feedback yet as it’s just “hot off the press”. The newsletter will capitalize on our Division’s members and clubs as well as provide quick updates and tools for members on a bi-monthly basis.

There are several potential clubs in Division C and efforts are ongoing to bring these clubs to charter.

Overall, members are progressing well in their Toastmasters journey. The Area Governors are helpful and motivating members of all their clubs. I’m confident that Division C will continue to ROCK in District 45.

Area 4 – Kathryn Hanson, DTM

The realigned Area 4 contains 4 clubs including the oldest club, [Saint John Toastmasters](#) chartered in March 1954 - 57 years ago and the newest club in New Brunswick - [JD Irving, Limited Toastmasters](#) chartered in April 2011. In 2011 [Harbourside](#) celebrated its 10th anniversary and [PLGS](#) its 11th. Three clubs are in up-town Saint John and one is in Pt. Lepreau. Three are daytime clubs and one is a night time club. Two of the clubs are corporate clubs.

Two AC awards have been earned as of Oct 11, 2011. Three of the clubs had contestants in the Humourous and Evaluation contests and the fourth club provided officials. Four clubs submitted their officer lists on time. Four clubs submitted the October dues on time. Two of the clubs trained 4 officers.

Only the newest club has renewed more than 20 in members in early October. The three clubs below charter strength have a committed core of people who are working to increase membership.

Brian Shanks is pursuing a new club in the St. Stephen area that if formed will fall into Area 4. As well, a new club is possible at Xerox. This may be included in Area 4 or in Area 23.

Area 13 – Carol Ann Hanley, ATMG

The Area 13 Clubs have had a staggered start due to the unique structure and protocols of each Club.

The Toastmasters Members of the four Area 13 Clubs, collectively and personally are respectful of the opportunities offered through Toastmasters International and implement the offerings in a positive and constructive manner through their meeting agendas and internal communication between meetings. The Area 13 Clubs are involved in the Executive Training obligations relative to their Club Positions. Club Executives have been contacted through emails, phone and visitation; the process of these mediums will be on-going throughout the year as requested by the Club Executive members above and beyond the required Toastmasters Reporting periods.

NOTE: People are the heart of any organization! !

I have been given a gift this year, as Area 13 Governor, to share an experience of learning, giving and leading a collective group of people with high expectations for themselves and of me. It is my intent and purpose that each member or collective of members, of Area 13 will have a comfortable level to approach me on any matter or issue they choose to address.

I move forward with the impetus of energy with this challenge and from the intelligent minds and actions of a very diverse group of people.

Area 19 – Robert Van Oostwaard, ACS, ALB

Area 19 is composed of five clubs, four of which are corporate clubs. Most clubs in the area have struggled with membership in the last year. Recruitment efforts have begun to pay off as most clubs are already seeing a rise in attendance and membership. For all of my club visits the club attendance has been excellent. In all cases at least a dozen people were present. The growth at Golden Toastmasters has been good and the attendance and atmosphere in TAMC was also a very pleasant surprise.

Three out of the five clubs in this area had at least 4 club officers trained this summer. This is an area for improvement. The one issue that continues to cause concern is officer training. Most of the challenges I encounter are related to executives not being able to attend officer training.

Area 19 will do quite well in the educational area this year. We expect 17 CCs, 3 ACs, 4CLs, 2ALs and 1 DTM. All clubs have also expressed healthy interest in doing more of the Successful Club Series speeches.

At the time of this writing the Area Fall Contests have yet to be held. Organizing it has been a challenge. On the whole, I have been very pleased with the efforts being shown by all of the executives for all of the clubs.

Overall, Area 19 is an area on the rise. While problems still exist, all the executives are working hard to overcome them. And they are succeeding.

Area 23 – Janice MacLean, ACS, CL

Area 23 is a new Area, comprised of two corporate clubs and three community clubs from Sussex to Saint John. Membership recruitment and retention is an important topic of discussion with each Toastmasters Club and this is no different in Area 23. While members in Area 23 are eager and enthusiastic within their Club, personal and/or professional priorities prohibit active participation and eventually, meetings are not attended as fully as I hope for. There appears to be membership withdrawal. I have interacted with Club Officers to discuss and to help find solutions; this is ongoing since my tenure in September. I have conducted all my official club visits, and all reports will be completed by October 20, 2011.

Membership is a challenge for some of the clubs and this will need to be a focus for these clubs during the year. One of the clubs was chartered late last year. It's a corporate club whose membership is comprised of professional bankers who are a dynamic, well spoken, managerial group – and funny! They laugh, have lots of energy, and their meetings flow very well. They are a new club with members who are keen and energetic. I see several very good leaders here, particularly Yvonne Baxter (VP Education).

Areas 4 and 23 held combined Fall Humorous and Evaluation Contests on October 4, 2011, hosted by the Kennebecasis Club. It was a great success!

Area 23 clubs are *collectively* working on Distinguished Status, striving for President Distinguished. ☺ I am confident that each Club in Area 23 will achieve its goals and again indicate to the Toastmaster District 45 family that we are viable, strong, and enthusiastic.

Division D – Charley Vaughan, DTM

Division D is made up of clubs in the Halifax area as well as clubs in Truro and Cape Breton. It consists of Areas 1, 18 and 21. I am fortunate to be working with three experienced and enthusiastic Area Governors. They have completed most of their club visits and they have held successful speech contests. They have a good understanding of the issues facing the clubs in their areas. We are pleased to have chartered one new club this year, Xstatically Speaking Toastmasters. We also expect to charter a new club in Cape Breton soon. It looks like a very promising year in Division D.

Area 1 – Malinda Regimbal, ACB, ALB

Area 1, consisting of three community clubs and one corporate club, is off to a good start for the year. We held a successful Area Contest, with Spirit-Ed hosting the event at a local retirement home. Four contestants will be representing the Area at the Division Contest. During my Area visits, I have been stressing the importance to the executive and club members to push themselves outside of their comfort zones to achieve more in Toastmasters this year. I am confident that Spirit-Ed and Schooner will reach Distinguished Club status easily. Dal is off to a good, but late, start due to the school year just getting underway. I believe the executive at Dal are eager and interested in growing within Toastmasters and will hopefully help guide their club to Distinguished Club status again this year. Milquetoast is the corporate club in the Area and is hoping to expand their club via web-conferencing. I anticipate some challenges and many successes this year for Area 1.

Area 18 – Wayne Turner, ACB, CL

In presenting our Area 18 report I will simply state ... Thank you Wayne Mercer for asking me to consider taking on the role of Area Governor for our new Toastmaster Year. I visited our 4 clubs: Faithfully Speaking, J-Talkers, Speakeasy Toastmasters Truro and George Burton Toastmasters. I have 3 area governor visits in place and the fourth will follow shortly, along with the on-line visit postings

I feel good about the progress and commitment Area 18's clubs and members are making personally and as Toastmasters working towards the success of their clubs and Fellow Toastmasters. In visiting our clubs I've met many positive individuals, welcomed a number of new members as they begin their Toastmaster Journey.

I believe clubs with active-current and welcoming websites are sought out by guests-potential new members and grow. In July there were no Area 18 club websites. Today there are 2 with interest growing in the other 2 clubs. October has taken wings and a series of humorous speech and evaluation contests demonstrated to me the commitment of our Area 18 Clubs and their members to succeeding in achieving their goals and being an active force in District 45's success.

Speakeasy Toastmasters in Truro are working through some growing pains. However I felt good about the quality of their meeting and commitment of their members. Faithfully Speaking, J-Toasters and George Burton Toastmasters definitely have my eye and ear. Together we will be a success and an example for others to follow.

Area 21 – John Blumsum, CL

As Area Governor I have completed my fall club visits to all clubs in the area and the “prospect” Celtic Club in Sydney, NS.

Area 21 as at October 14 has a membership of 76, one below the July base. Only one Club (Sears 1555) is currently above charter strength. TIC Talkers (9307) has had an influx of new members and is likely to exceed twenty members by year’s end. Steel (3285) and East Coast Raconteurs (4505) have 11 and 13 members respectively and continue to work to build membership.

The prospect “Celtic” club in Sydney, NS has 14-16 committed members and 10-12 prospects; they await 20 committed before Toastmasters International will accept their membership payments.

Participation in the fall humorous speech and evaluation contests was dismal in Area 21. Only one area club (Sears 1555) held a contest and it was only the Sears contestants who participated in the Area 21 contest. I will focus over the winter to encourage wider participation in the spring for the International Speech and Evaluation contests.

From the club visits and conversation with the various clubs it seems that geography is a factor in limiting participation in Area and Division events. There is a 4-1/2 to 5 hour drive between the three clubs in metro Halifax and the two clubs in Sydney and North Sydney. With contests and training held almost exclusively in metro Halifax area the Cape Breton clubs are isolated.

Area 21 does benefit from a small but dedicated membership in the clubs below charter strength. Each of the clubs visited have unique traits and all differ in their delivery but do deliver a viable Toastmasters experience and product to their members.

Division E – Debra Steeves, ACS, ALB

As we roll into the half-way point of a Toastmasters year in Division E, there's a flurry of activity happening! As the only bilingual division in District 45, we face unique challenges, and along with that, unique opportunities.

Training was provided in both English and French at our summer TLI, allowing each member to fully understand their part in the leadership of their club. A special thanks to Area Governors Nadia Arteria and Ray Savoie for presenting every module in French, and to Stephane Parent for organizing the facilities and presenters for the English portion – it was a great learning day!

A division E newsletter has been published in both official languages, allowing us to connect with our members in a meaningful way, and for areas that are geographically distant to stay close.

At time of writing, club contests have been held around the division and the winners will be competing at district conference.

Our focus this year is to encourage the use of the CL manual at every TM event – to get credit where credit due, and complete a CL award.

All is well in "E" and looking forward to finishing the year strong!

Area 2 – Nadia Artieri, CC

As the 2011-2012 Area 2 Governor, with the support of surrounding areas, the Division Governor, and the District Governor, I have launched an initiative to ensure open and bilingual communication among my clubs. It was brought to the leadership team's attention during summer training that clubs situated in northern New Brunswick felt somewhat disconnected during training due to a language barrier. Powered by this information, the leadership team organized and delivered French training for two clubs in August. Members who attended the French training stated that they felt empowered and better informed. In addition, the leadership team has developed French resources for clubs, such as a French Distinguished Club Plan poster. Since the beginning of my term as Area 2 Governor, I have ensured that all e-mail communication is written in both English and French to make certain that all members have a complete understanding of what is taking place at an area level, division level, district level, and International level.

At present, I am looking forward to completing my area club visits, which are scheduled to take place before the end of October. During these visits, my goals are to inspire club members to be as active as possible during meetings, playing diverse meeting roles and recording their successes in their leadership manuals. I am also looking forward to working with all executive teams to ensure that club goals are reached.

Area 3 – Raymond Savoie, ACG, ALB

During the summer hiatus months of July and August, True Blue Toastmasters VP Education, Pattie Abrams, scheduled extra meetings for club members who wanted to get a jump start on their year. An invitation was extended to other clubs in Area 3 and achieved a fair representation from clubs in the greater Moncton area.

In August, Area 3 was proudly represented by Joe Grondin at the Toastmasters International Speech Contest in Las Vegas. This was Joe's second consecutive trip to the international stage.

Each of the area's 5 clubs has been scheduled for visits and well on their way to be complete before the Area Governor club visit deadline.

On October 15th, Area 3 Humorous Speech and Evaluation contests were held in collaboration with Area 2. Shelaine Clasper of the Riverview Canusa club was the winner for both the Humorous Speech Contest and the Speech Evaluation Contest.

On October 26th the Bagtown Babblers club of Sackville, NB will hold its Club Charter Ceremony.

Area 3 is off to a great start and looks to carry that initial momentum forward to a successful year. We will look for the opportunity to include special activities to showcase our area's talent.

Area 17 – Stephane Parent, ACS, ALB

As Prince Edward Island trees turn from greens to reds and yellows, the Area's four clubs are progressing in their success plans. All clubs are showing potential growth in their membership. The club executives of Confederation, Speak-Easy, Premiere and Spotlight are working hard to provide their members with leadership and communication opportunities.

Area 17 club executives attended the Moncton TLI in June and the Emerald TLI in August. We were privileged and honoured to welcome our district governor, district public relations officer, and division E governor on the Island for the August TLI.

The Area 17 contests were held on October 15. We are happy to have two of PEI's finest attending the division E contests on October 22, held in Emerald, PEI.

Division F – Jane Rafuse, DTM

Division F is comprised of Areas 9, 11 and 22 with a total of 11 clubs. The Division is extremely fortunate to have three very capable Area Governors who have taken a great interest in completing their responsibilities to a high degree of excellence. This is demonstrated by their genuine knowledge and experience, and of course, their leadership skills.

Division F is growing with the potential of a new club in Wolfville comprised of both university students from Acadia University and community members

Membership is a challenge with most clubs below 20 members and only a total of 10 new members among the 11 clubs. In several cases, the under 20 number will change as the remainder of the October dues are collected.

To date, there have been no CCs and only 2 ACs and 4 leadership designations. We will continue to work with the clubs to promote educational and leadership achievements. All but two of the clubs had four or more officers trained and all had their dues and officer lists submitted on time.

Contest participation expected to be low as some clubs did not feel ready to participate. Membership recruitment and retention remains a challenge for most clubs. However, club meetings are interesting and varied. Club executives are committed to the DCP. Although not ready to compete, clubs are sending officials for Area and Division contests.

I have been active in supporting the potential new club in Wolfville and helping out with club and Area speech contests. I am planning to hold a Division Council Meeting the last week in October to devise action plan for Areas Performance Plans.

It is an honour to be serving as part of the District 45 team, and we are committed to achieving our goals.

Area 9 – Joanne Fraser, ACB, ALB

There are four clubs in the Area – one Advanced club, one corporate club and two community clubs. Membership is a challenge for two of the clubs as is participation above the club level. Only two clubs sent contestants to the Area contests although all four clubs had members in attendance.

All four clubs are currently under 20 members but it expected that two of them will be back to 20 or more fairly soon. All the clubs had four or more officers trained at the June TLI. Educationals have been slow to come in with no CCs and only AC. There have been 3 leadership designations including Eric Jordan of Toast of the Coast achieving his DTM.

Area 11 – Edward Wedler, ACS, ALB

Area 11 has three existing clubs (Annapolis Valley Toastmasters, Sackville Toastmasters, Successfully Speaking Toastmasters) and one chartering club (L'Acadie Linguists). While all clubs conduct meetings very well, two have problems with membership – one having low membership and the other having poor member retention.

The third club felt they needed to improve their leadership skills. For the chartering club, we are seeking a stronger community base to maintain continuity considering the high

annual university student turnover. One business student at Acadia University has had the Business School recognize Toastmasters as an accredited credit.

Area 11 is working to be the first in Division F to have all clubs on easySpeak. Three clubs currently use easySpeak to track communication and leadership roles of members.

In addition to the Area Governor visits, Area meetings have been held via Skype – one with all Area Presidents and another with all Area VPs Education. An Area Council Skype meeting is planned within the next two months including Presidents and VPs Education.

Area 11 and Area 22 cooperated in holding their Humorous Speech and Evaluation contests jointly – two contests at one venue. While this proved to be a successful event with about 40 in attendance, competitor numbers were low. The contest was well promoted but more needs to be done to encourage attendance at these events. Toastmasters shouldn't end when members exit the meeting door.

Despite the geographic challenge of Area 11, communication is strong and is building.

Area 22 – Janet Glennie, ACS

I have made the official visits to Dartmouth, Harbourview, Sunrise, and Yarmouth Clubs. The reports have not yet been submitted on-line, but will be submitted before the end of October. The speeches I gave at each club related to the theme of communication. I have also attended Sunrise's 200th meeting and will attend Yarmouth Club's 10th anniversary celebration in December. My focus in September-October was to increase awareness of, and participation in, the Humorous Speech and Evaluation contests. I was pleased that my efforts resulted in Yarmouth Club forwarding an Evaluation Contestant to the Area Contest this year.

I regret that I will be unable to attend the District 45 conference in New Hampshire.

Division G – James Powers, CTM

With the split of Division A this year, Division G was created consisting of Areas 7, 8 and 15. All Areas have clubs with membership challenges but Area 15 has the most significant challenges of the three. Because there are no strong clubs in the Area, there is no one to rely on as a support for the other clubs. Strategies need to be explored with the District to help support Area 15. As a Division, we also need to find ways to encourage attendance at TLIs. Only six of the 15 clubs, had four or more officers trained in the June TLI.

Area 7 – Lydia Harman, CC, CL

Keene is struggling with membership. Brattlemaster is very strong and they want to start a Speakers Bureau. I would like to connect Keene and Brattleboro with that project. I haven't been able to contact the Merrimasters as I've received no response from them. Milford wants to work on Membership. Nashua-Hudson is having me visit for their inductions next week. Winning Speakers had a nice sweep at the contest on Saturday.

There have been 3 CCs, 2 ACs and 2 educational achievements to date. Three clubs had 4 or more officers trained and all clubs submitted their dues on time. Unfortunately, only two clubs submitted their club officer lists on time. Nashua-Hudson has already achieved 6 goals in the Distinguished Club Plan.

Area 8 – Leora Dowling, ACB, CL

Greater Burlington continues to thrive and do most everything in the area. 40+ members and hosting area contest this week. They are working toward president's distinguished.

Big Blue is sending a humorous contestant for the first time. They are also having an open house. They seem to finally be getting going in this, year 3.

I am going to Savvy Speakers next week. The club had a Booth at a local event and is rebuilding. They have a strong core but need to continue their rebuilding efforts.

Speak-Easies has said yes to the offer of club coach. AG will be going to their meeting next week to discuss the situation. They may want to consider changing to an evening club in the community. Although they are open, the venue, National Life, doesn't make it easy for people to wander in. They need an advertising budget.

Dynamic Speakers struggles because the members are so overworked. They have a couple of potential 'guest speakers' that they can avail themselves of.

Area 15 – Scott Graham, DTM

To be Distinguished, our area needs any FOUR of the following five goals:

1 more club to pay October renewals by November 15

3 clubs to pay April renewals by May 15

6 more CCs (really just 5 because I don't believe that the new CC in Rutland is reflected in this report – congratulations Laurie!)

2 more ACs (I will be one of them with 2 more speeches to go)

2 more Distinguished clubs (to learn more about how your club can be distinguished, read this: <http://www.toastmasters.org/1111dcp>)

Following clubs do not have reported fall visits (due by Nov. 30):

693873 - River View Community Speakers (I am going there tonight!)

1304869-Interstate Speakers has only 11 members, needs a coach (none assigned)!

Interstate really has 9 members – 2 are in “grace” but are clearly not renewing.

693873-River View Community Speakers has only 11 members, needs a coach (none assigned)!

6205-Rutland Area has only 9 members, needs a coach (none assigned)!

NOTES
