



Club Growth Director Report

District 54

21 Dec 2024

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Marketing Team

Club Growth Director – Estelle Foster
Club Extension Chair – Open
Club Retention Chair – Tom Willison, DTM, PDG
Corporate Relations Chair – Jon Greiner, DTM, PIP
Prison Club Manager – Jon Greiner, DTM, PIP

D54 is seeking a Club Extension Chair. This position, along with all the job description, is posted on the D54 website. Contact any member of the District Leadership team if you are interested in finding out more about the opportunity to improve your leadership skills in the coming year.

Club Extension Report

I want to encourage everyone to keep building new clubs top of mind throughout this Toastmasters' year.

Tom heard from Constellation Nuclear and it was very exciting news! Danyelle received the leadership go ahead to form the club and work on getting to 20 members. She already submitted the Application to Organize and the Charter fee. Currently, they have 8 employees ready to pay their membership dues. On Tue 07Jan2025, they will be hosting their Toastmasters International Kick-Off meeting, from 9-10am, in their Training Facility. We are requesting volunteers to help with the onsite Demonstration Meeting. We also need Sponsors and Mentors for the new club which will be an in person club only starting out.

The Rockford University group attended the very fun and exciting Rock On! Open House on 25Nov2024. They are already working on their Application to Organize and their Charter Application. They intend to be able to submit all the paperwork in January.

NSA invited members of D54 to attend two of their webinars, one was held Fri 13Dec2024 and the next one will be held Fri 10Jan2025. The topic for the Jan meeting is Conquer the Red Dot: Build Your TED-Worthy Idea and begins at 9am. Look for the registration link and coupon code in the next District Dispatch. After the NSA webinar, D54 will be providing a Demo meeting to show the members what a Toastmaster's meeting looks like and to discuss the benefits of being a Toastmaster. Since this is an online only meeting, we decided to record the Demo meeting in advance of the scheduled time and record it. We will be able to use the recording for other Demo meetings when the need arises.

The Toastmasters Lead Management, or TLM, on the TI website has been updated with relatively current leads. There are a few that are nonresponsive and will probably be closed before the December DEC meeting if I don't hear back from them.

Club Retention Report – Tom Willison, DTM, PDG

Area Director Visits

We want to thank all the Area Directors for taking the time to complete their Area Director Visits. These visits are essential for the District to understand how the clubs are doing and how we can help. D54 successfully completed and submitted 91.7% of our reports. Thank you all.

As of 18Dec2024, D54 has 45 paid clubs, which is 2 higher than last month! Our membership base is 1,575 and we currently have 824 member payments which is outstanding progress.

We have exciting news to share. District 54 has officially added 4 new club coaches in December;
Kashaun Parker and Cathy Wilhelmi for Joliet Jesters (membership at 7)

Dale Posont and Martha Sojka for Key City (membership at 8)

We want to thank the 4 club coaches and the clubs for taking on this partnership to get the clubs to Distinguished status or better.

We have even more exciting news as our very own fabulous District Director Gary Vaughn has succeeded in connecting with the current President of the Bolingbrook Area Chamber of Commerce Toastmasters Club. We're all excited for the opportunity to work with them again.

If your club has 12 or fewer members and is wanting a Club Coach, reach out to Tom at tomwillison3@gmail.com. Or if you are an experienced Toastmaster and you want to help out by being a Club Coach, again reach out to Tom. As Wendy shared with us last month, being a club coach is an option for one of the Requirements for earning a DTM Designation.

Prison Club Monthly Report Input---Jon R. Greiner, DTM, PIP - December 2024

Prison Club Report – Jon Greiner, DTM, PIP – Prison Club Manager

Initial discussions related to forming a new Toastmasters club at the Pekin Federal Correctional Institution were held on Thursday, 12 December with Pekin FCI educational staff members. Following those discussions, the staff received approval from their management team to proceed with forming a new Toastmasters club in the men's medium security side. A demo meeting is being planned for late January or early February depending on how soon security clearances for the demo team can be obtained. The demo meeting will be held in the "visitor's center" rather than the main cell block area of the facility. At least 50 inmates are expected to attend the demo meeting. D54 Toastmasters working toward their DTM can earn credit toward their DTM by serving as one of the new club sponsors or new club mentors. Please contact Jon R. Greiner, DTM, PIP at greinerjon@aol.com if you have questions, want to volunteer for the demo meeting, or want to serve as a new club sponsor or mentor.

Respectfully submitted,

Jon R. Greiner, DTM
International President, 2004-2005
Toastmasters International
D54 Prison Club Manager 2024-2025