



General Comments

Tony Audreith, past Area Director has offered to step in as the Area 42 Area Director for the second half of the TM year. His email was forwarded to Dan and Gary.

I learned through the New Lenox Club members that the New Life Church, New Lenox Toastmasters Club meeting location, will likely be the site for the February 3rd TLI. J. R. Robles is working with Gary Vaughn on the logistics for the TLI.

Contests - All clubs are reminded to start planning for their club contests. Club contests in Division D must be completed by January 31st with their contestants for the combined area contest also submitted by that date.

Division D will hold a Virtual Combined Area Contest in Mid-February. We will be looking for volunteers to assist with the contest and to fill functionary roles. We had an outstanding response to our volunteer request last year and I hope for the same this year.

Division D – 3 Areas/Area Directors

- **Area 40 – Stacy Britt** (4 clubs) New Lenox, Lincolnway, Joliet Jesters and Key City Toastmasters
- **Area 41 – Dale Posont** (5 clubs) Bridge Builders, Morris Area, Confident Communicators, Bolingbrook Area Chamber of Commerce and Yes And Toastmasters
- **Area 42 – Tony Audreith (January 2024)** (4 clubs) McKinley, Toast of Champaign, Iroquois Early Risers (suspended) and Fireside Toastmasters

Vision for Division D

Division D will continue to promote the Toastmasters Mission by inviting guests and prospective members to club meetings, by engaging in community outreach and by spreading the Toastmasters Word which will in turn foster District (Division D) growth.

Report for Make a Difference (M.A.D.) – Division D is changing this month's acronym to **W.I.N. - What's Important Now!!** (Developed by Brian Willis - www.lifesmostpowerfulquestion.com)

W = WTF - Where's The Fun? - In our roles as Toastmaster leaders, part of our responsibility is to keep our members engaged. How do we do this? Add fun to your meetings. Add fun to your tasks. A happy club is a successful club!!

I = Identify - If your club, or a club that you are responsible for as an Area or Division director is struggling, the first step is to identify the problem or potential issues. Once identified, identify potential opportunities. Identify potential solutions.

N = Network - As leaders, it's important to nudge prospective members into joining as well as current members to actively participate in meetings and contests, volunteer for club and district leadership roles, etc. Many members need a push in the right direction to provide needed encouragement. Bridge Builders sent every recent guest an email urging them to think of themselves this holiday season by "Self-Gifting Membership Option". A great example of nudging those on "the fence" to not forget about themselves this upcoming year!

Area Shout-Outs

All area visits were complete prior to the November 30th deadline.

- **Area 40**

- New Lenox Toastmasters**

- Speech-a-thon** - New Lenox Toastmasters will be holding another speech-a-thon on Saturday December 30th. Again, this will be offered to the Area 40 clubs. A Pathways only event, participants will have the opportunity to move forward in their respective paths, complete with speech evaluations. **Joliet Jesters** had to unfortunately postpone their open house due to logistical issues. The current plan is to focus on the new year's resolution crowd and hold the open house the 2nd meeting in January.

- Key City**

- Charlezetta attended the "So, Your Club Needs More Members" Webinar and found it very helpful.
 - Charleszetta and Stacy conducted a workshop for Kankakee County CEO program students on November 7. They presented public speaking tips, focusing on creating an elevator speech and mastering the art of small talk in preparation for the students' upcoming Meet and Greet event, and gave them a chance to practice with a Table Topics activity.
 - Our December 20 meeting will include a coffee and cake potluck and a gift exchange that will provide the theme for Table Topics.
 - We're planning our Open House on January 17, 2024.

- **Area 41**

- Bridge Builders (*waiting for additional information from Sharon C.*)**

- *Monthly newsletter produced providing upcoming events, awards, and other tid-bits*

- Confident Communicators**

- *Quarterly newsletter produced providing upcoming events, awards, and testimonial*
 - New Member Round Table Discussion (Plainfield Library) – 12/2
 - It's A Wonderful Life (Live Radio Broadcast) at the Rialto (Joliet) – 12/8
 - Holiday Party (La Dolce Vita in Plainfield) – 12/14

- Morris Area Toastmasters**

- Christmas Cookies Exchange Meeting – 12/12
 - Open House – Feb. 2024

- Yes And Toastmasters**

- *Success plan submitted, reviewed, and revised – Dec. 2024*
 - Speech-Athon Nov. 30th and next January 4th
 - White Elephant Christmas Party (Fountaindale Public Library) – 12/14
 - Member's band outing – Jan. 2024
 - Bit Improv Show Aurora Social Outing – Feb. 2024

- All clubs have been notified of Combined Area Speech Contest tentatively scheduled 12/10/24.**

- **Area 42** - With no active Area Director, there is nothing to currently report for Area 42.

