



Club Growth Director Report

District 54

22 Mar 2025

Estelle Foster

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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.

We held our fourth meeting at Constellation Nuclear Byron Generating Station's on Thursday 13Mar2025. I want to thank Tom Willison and Jim Dickson for their continued support of this new club to be. Permission has been given to open the club to the public, however progress has stalled due to an all employee project coming up in April.

The Rockford University group is in the process of filling out the paperwork to form a Gavel Club. It was decided that many of the prospective members would not be able to afford the membership dues.

A demonstration meeting was held at Christian Brothers Services, a charitable organization in Romeoville. I want to thank Wendy Pesavento, Kashaun Parker, Katie Jandeska, Brenden Cummings, Louis Kreppert, and Steve Vaccaro for their outstanding participation in the meeting. Steve and Kashaun have agreed to serve as Club Sponsors, while Steve will also be a Club Mentor. The new club could use another mentor.

A demonstration meeting is being planned with ALDI Inc in Batavia, on Tuesday 15Apr2025 at 4pm.

We are close to having opportunities for individuals to serve D54 in roles that will get them closer to a DTM. Roles such as Club Sponsor or Club Mentor. Please let me know if you are interested.

Club Retention Report – Tom Willison, DTM, PDG

Spring Membership Renewals

It's time for renewal payments to be submitted. Please encourage your clubs to get payments submitted on time, by 31Mar2025.

Area Director Club Visits

17% of the Area Director Club visits have been completed. Anne Warth completed all the Area 22 visit reports and Chris Kostelec has completed all but one of the visits and reports. The reports are due by 31May2025.

As of 20Mar2025, D54 still has 46 paid clubs.

Our membership base is 1,575. We currently have 1194 member payments which is outstanding progress, but we still need 397 payments. 198 of the payments are from new members! Please reach out to your clubs and remind them to encourage their members to renew the memberships before the due date of 31Mar2025.

Club Coach - Received an update this past weekend that Joliet Jesters got several new members at Saturday's meeting (I did not attend) and has a shot at 12 members depending on upcoming April renewals. Quad Cities Easy Speak had an Open House this past Monday (3/10) but no new members as of yet from that event. The trio of Patrick/Kary/Jana are working hard trying to get them to 12 and out of suspension. Bolingbrook Chamber of Commerce members and Gary will be meeting on 24Mar2025 to see if we can get their membership dues paid.

In mid April, as dues results come in, we'll be looking closely to see if other clubs need any help as well as to start pushing club coaches again with hopeful appointments to begin on 01Jul2025 and soon after so credit can be given in the 2025/2026 year as well as giving them and the club close to a full year to achieve distinguished or better.

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.

Prison Club Monthly Report Input – Jon R. Greiner, DTM, PIP

New club building activities are on hold at the Pekin Federal Correctional Institute until a supervisor to handle educational activities such as Toastmasters is hired and in place. Best estimate of when this will happen is in May 2025. We have assembled a demonstration team and are ready when everything is in place at the Pekin FCI.

At this point we have two volunteers for new Club Sponsor roles, but still need two volunteers for Club Mentor positions. One of those filling that role would need to work directly with the club and the newly hired supervisor to help the new club establish the correct habits and procedures to make the club successful in the long run.

The other club new Club Mentor position could essentially be a prison club liaison. That individual would serve as the primary external contact point for the prison club to manage and record the Pekin FCI club Pathways accomplishments----- manage semiannual dues renewals, new member applications, club officer training, etc.

Under this arrangement, both new Club Mentors could earn credit toward their DTM requirements.

If you are interested and want to know more about the time commitment, what is involved in making a prison club operate, any of the above roles, please contact Jon R. Greiner DTM, PIP at greinerjon@aol.com.

Jon R. Greiner, DTM, PIP
D54 Prison Club Manager

