



Join Us On the Path To ToastMASTERY

DISTRICT 27 RE-FORMATION IS COMING!



Prepared by District Governor John Lesko, DTM, and the Alignment and Transition Committee (ATC) Chair Joe Jarzombek, DTM.

Having successfully built and sustained a growing network of clubs, District 27 is currently the 10th largest district in the world. We have grown to more than 220 clubs, making up 47 areas, and aligned into 10 divisions. Fact is twenty years ago our district was created as a separate district from the re-formation of District 36. Today we are carefully planning for our own split and re-formation.

Q: When will this occur?

A: It's going to take awhile.

Re-formation is a multi-year process. We will remain a single district through out the remainder of the current TM-year (today—June 30, 2010). We will continue to be a single district during the 2010-2011 TM-year.

Effective July 1, 2011 -- after a complete needs assessment and approval by both our district council and TI's executive committee / board of directors -- we'll officially divide and become two districts.

Q: How will this effect elections in the spring?

A: In the July 1, 2010 - June 30, 2011 TM-year (also called "the transition year") we will need to elect one District

Governor and four Lieutenant Governors to serve our members and clubs.

During the transition year there will be a LGET and LGM team to serve roughly half our clubs, and another LGET and LGM team serving the other half. We will have one public relations officer, one secretary, one treasurer, and one sergeant at arms. But there is likely to be twice the number of opportunities to volunteer to serve on district committees.

Q: How else will this affect my club?

A: Most likely you'll see an increase in service.

For example, you are likely to find future club officer training sessions (a.k.a. TLI), speech contests, and conferences offered closer to where your clubs meet.

Q: Where do I go to learn more?

A: We intend to inform all members via multiple modes of communication: the newsletter, our website, via e-mail, and of course during future training sessions and district officer meetings.

The Alignment and Transition Committee will maintain a special website found at the following URL:

<http://d27tm.bravocg.com>

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District 27 Governor
John Lesko, DTM

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Scheduled Events

- **Super Saturday/Super Sunday Coaching Clinics**
Keep an eye on the d27tm.org website, or the [D27 Blog](#) for more info!
- **South County TLI - First District-sponsored TLI in 2010**
January 16, South County Gov't Center, 8a-12p
- **Spring Conference**
May 8, 2010 - Location TBD

District 27 Officers

District Governor
John Lesko, DTM
DGov10@d27tm.org
LT. Governor Education & Training
Paul White, DTM
LGET10@d27tm.org
Lt. Governor Marketing
Julie Brown, ATMS
LGM10@d27tm.org

Public Relations Officer
Mo Hamilton, DTM
PRO10@d27tm.org
Treasurer
Greg Passes, CC/CL
Treasurer10@d27tm.org
Immediate Past District Governor
Lillian Cooke, DTM
DGov09@d27tm.org

EDUCATION & TRAINING TRAIL BLAZING

by LGET Paul E. White, DTM



Lt. Governor
of Education and Training
Paul E. White, DTM

Important Dates...

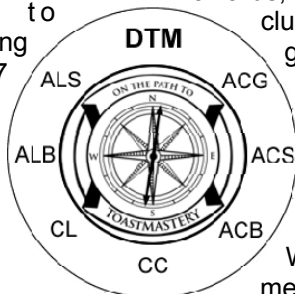
- > **January 31**
4 of 6 DCP Goals to qualify for Expedition Award
- > **January 12**
Super Saturday on Tuesday
Division J 12p-2p

TLI Training...

- > **January 16**
South County Gov't Center
8a-12p
- > **January 23**
Fairfax County Gov't Center
8a-12p
- > **January 27**
TLI w/ D36 (see [Blog site](#))
- > **February 4**
NRECA
6:30p-9p
- > **February 20**
Pender Church
8a-12p
- > **February 26 (TBD)**
Library of Congress
6p-8p

You are standing there with a tiny slip of paper from the "It's About Making Time" article (page 4) in your hands thinking, "Wow, and I still haven't torn off the time I spend in worship, the time I spend on Facebook, or the time I spend just being confused! Don't fret. As leaders we all have to manage our time and energy as we balance family, work, Toastmasters, and so many other responsibilities.

The timeline-tearing exercise puts this balancing act into clear perspective. It also makes what we have accomplished in the first half of the year all the more remarkable. Let's look at the milestones we have reached on the path to ToastMASTERY. Since embarking on our journey in July, D27 members have earned 85 CCs (27% of our annual target) and 48 ACs (53% of our annual target). D27 is first in Region VII in the category of ACs earned.



Review Your Goals

Do you remember District Governor Lesko's pitch about the odd DCP goals? How are we doing on those odd goals? Nineteen D27 clubs have achieved DCP Goal #1; 33 clubs have achieved DCP Goal #3, 46 clubs have achieved DCP Goal #5; 85 clubs have met DCP Goal #7; and 157 clubs had at least 4 officers trained in summer TLI, meeting part of Goal #9. Our clubs, Areas, Divisions, and the District are all on the path to an end-of-year Distinguished designation!

Congratulations to all D27 members! Your



2009 Fall Conference Volunteers with
Conference Chair Carolyn Buttolph (right)



2009 Fall Conference Table Topics Competitors

success rolls up to the other levels of our organization. Keep up the good work in education and training by earning education awards, programming and running strong club meetings, attending TLI, and gaining the skills and knowledge needed to manage your clubs and Toastmasters processes. Most of all, serve the member. By doing that, you assure success at all levels.

When people set goals, strive to meet those goals, and work together with others to move in tandem: great things happen. We have been doing those things and the results have been great. Richard Shroul and Jim Wilson, TLI co-Deans, put quality time and effort into planning and implementing the summer TLI program. The results—75% of our clubs had 4 or more officers trained. Richard and Jim are currently working on the winter TLI program.

Terrific Fall Conference

Under the outstanding leadership of Fall 2009 Conference Chair Carolyn Buttolph, Joanie Stancil (Registration Chair), Jay Brunkow (Logistics Chair), Betsy Orlando (Decorations Chair), Bill Malthouse and Mahesh Patil (co-AV Chairs), Jim Wilson (Education Chair) and so many other volunteers put quality time and effort into making the Fall Conference a success. More than 230 attendees enjoyed a trip to Oz and "Closed the Circle" by following the path of Leaders.

Congratulations to all contest contestants from the Club-level through the District, and to all who volunteered time to support them

(Continued on page 6)

EXPECT A YEAR OF GROWTH, EDUCATION, AND FUN!

By LGM Julie Brown, ACS, CL



Lt. Governor of Marketing
Julie Brown, ACS, CL

The marketing team is excited to be at the mid-year point of the 2009-2010 Toastmaster year. We have worked very hard these past six months, and we are full-steam-ahead to complete the year with club and member growth projects at hand.



D27 New Years Countdown Contest is Underway!

Midpoint Progress

Looking into the past, we completed 12 kick-off meetings, out of which, seven are meeting regularly. We have two additional clubs that were started last year that are continuing to meet and are close to charter strength. Three clubs have chartered, including: Toastmasters Means Business (August), DC Lottery (December), and Toast of ICF (December). The District has grown by 766 new members within existing clubs. We have assigned over ten club coaches to help our struggling clubs. There only appears to be a club loss of three as we move past the October dues renewal period.

Future Strategy

We have approximately ten club leads that need to be translated into new club kick-off meetings, as well as three completed kick-offs that are working to move into regularly scheduled club meetings. Although the dues are in, we have over 140 clubs in the District with less than 20 paid members, and we will work on building those. We have a District 27-sponsored New Years Countdown membership contest that is running from December 4th through January 29th. This will lead into Talk Up Toastmasters, a Toastmasters International membership contest that is beginning in February. With each contest we plan to have a 'webinar' to help positively motivate our club members on membership growth within these contest periods.

The past six months were an extraordinary time for me and my team. We traveled far, worked hard, and witnessed amazing growth. I thank all of the clubs, their officers, and all Toastmaster members who are dedicated to bringing in new members. All of you are helping others to experience the opportunities of communication and leadership that Toastmasters provides.

I look forward to seeing all of you at the Toastmasters Leadership Institute in January and February!

We Are Accepting Nominations for...

- Toastmaster of the Month
- Area Governor of the Month

Send nominations to
awards@d27tm.org

F27 Fall Conference Awards

Individual Awards

Mary Bowen	Toastmaster of the Year
Gerri Wallace	Club President of the Year
Sandra Rivera	Area Governor of the Year
Michelle St. Pierre	Division Governor of the Year

Toastmasters Month Winners

Division E	Maryland
Ashburn Toastmasters	Virginia
Naval Audit Service	D.C.

CONGRATULATIONS!



Have a Toastmasters question for...

- District Governor ◦
- Lt. Gov. Education ◦
- Lt. Gov. Marketing ◦

Please email:
Dist27PRO@gmail.com

TOASTIMONIALS

Courage—A Toastmasters Success Story

submitted by Area D3 Governor Gary McGinnis, DTM

Today I had the pleasure of formally installing the officers of the Pathfinders Toastmaster Club. I was not aware of it before hand but I was sitting next to a very special guest which was the first club president. It was a great opportunity to acknowledge her in a special moment she shared with the immediate past president in the passing of the gavel. After the meeting we managed to talk about other improving clubs at DOT and I invited her to get reconnected in Toastmasters by visiting at either or both clubs that meet here at DOT.

The Secretary of Transportation held another town meeting this afternoon and as always encouraged people from the audience to ask questions or make comments. I got up and thanked the Secretary for taking time earlier this year to address a joint meeting of the Toastmaster clubs at DOT HQ. At some point I

have to figure out how to get all four clubs together for a meeting with him but that is a separate item.

The last floor speaker was Kim who is a member of Federal Toastmasters as well. She got up to the microphone and also thanked the Secretary for his time to address the clubs. As I was leaving the meeting I heard a voice behind me calling my name. It was Kim and she was very excited, to say the least. She came up to me and gave me a big hug thanking me for helping her through Toastmasters have the courage to get up and ask the Secretary a question.

It's those little moments in life that make the hours spent in Toastmasters special and rewarding.



District 27
Toastmasters on TV!

Mastering
Business
Communication



Rebecca Bustamante of the new *VeriSign* club is the new *Executive Producer* of Mastering Business Communications!

Available from:

The Official MBC Website at

<http://www.igroups.com/members/tmtv>

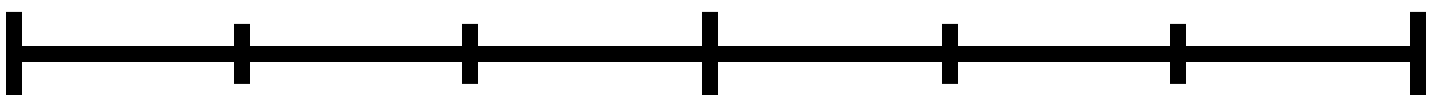
It's About Making Time (to Develop Talent)

submitted by District 27 Governor, John Lesko, DTM

While driving late at night, north-bound on I-95 from Savannah, GA...having packed the truck with plastic bins full of clothes, books, a computer and printer...accompanied by my daughter and her college friend, listening-in on their plans for all that they wanted to do during the winter break... It dawned on me that I had not yet written this article. Egads! I was (again) behind schedule in my Toastmasters-related duties! There always seems to be too much to do and not enough time available to get it done. So, consider the exercise that follows as a way to help focus your efforts so as to maximize your time and talents.

On page five you will see the months of the year and a few of the major Toastmaster events we enjoy. Immediately above is a timeline intended for your use as a visual aid, to be shared with your fellow club members.

(Continued on page 5)



What's Past is Past

Here and now.

(Continued from page 4)

Step 1: Detach the timeline. This represents the Toastmasters year that runs from July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010.

Step 2: Tear away the left portion of the timeline to the "Here and Now". We're nearly one-half of the way through the current Toastmaster year. What's past is past. The left is history. Have you and your club accomplished half your goals?

Step 3: Center yourself in the "Here and Now". Realize that...

Time is the scarcenst resource, and unless it is managed, nothing else can be managed.
- Peter Drucker

Step 4: Ask yourself how much time each day you intend to spend on the routine. Note that most folks sleep between 6-8 hours per day. If you get by with less time resting, then add-in the time you spend completing routine daily chores such as cooking meals, reading newspaper headlines, or browsing the Internet. Tear away both the "Here and Now" and the "Sweet Dreams" portions of the timeline. Remind yourself that there are golden opportunities to share quality time performing simple tasks with others. Resolve to share current events as well as your favorite recipes through Table Topics and impromptu opportunities daily.

Step 5: Estimate the time you will actually spend with family and friends and other loved ones. Tear away the "Loved Ones" portion of the timeline, but remember...

If you judge people, you have no time to love them.
- Mother Teresa

Step 6: You've got to work to pay your bills. Tear away the "Time for Work" section.

Once you have mastered time, you will understand how true it is that most people overestimate what they can accomplish in a year—and underestimate what they can achieve in a decade!
- Tony Robbins

Step 7: Pause to reflect upon the actual time that is available for you to invest into improving your communication skills and leadership talents. Yes, the little piece of paper that remains in your fingers represents the time you have to work toward reaching your individual and club goals.

The time is now. Let's get busy. Join us on the path to ToastMASTERY!



July 2009 = Start of the Toastmasters Year

August = Summer TLI Season Ends

September = Time to Collect Dues

October = Fall Contest Season

November = Fall Conference

December = Happy Holidays!

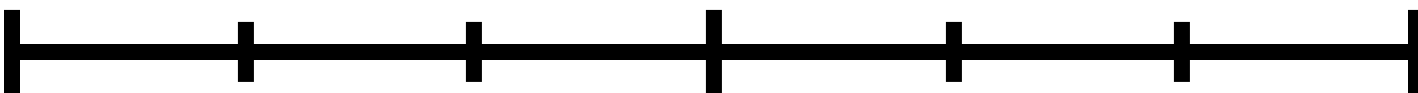


February 2010 = Winter TLI Season Ends

March = Time to Collect Dues

April = Spring Contest Season

May = Spring Conference



Sweet Dreams ... zzzz	Loved Ones	\$\$.. Time for work .. \$\$?????
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(Continued from page 2)

as contest volunteers and audience.

Humorous Speech

- 1st—Edmund Joe
- 2nd—Jim Morris
- 3rd—Kimberly Swords

Table Topics

- 1st—Dion Davis
- 2nd—Ruth Iverson
- 3rd—Jim Morris



CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL!

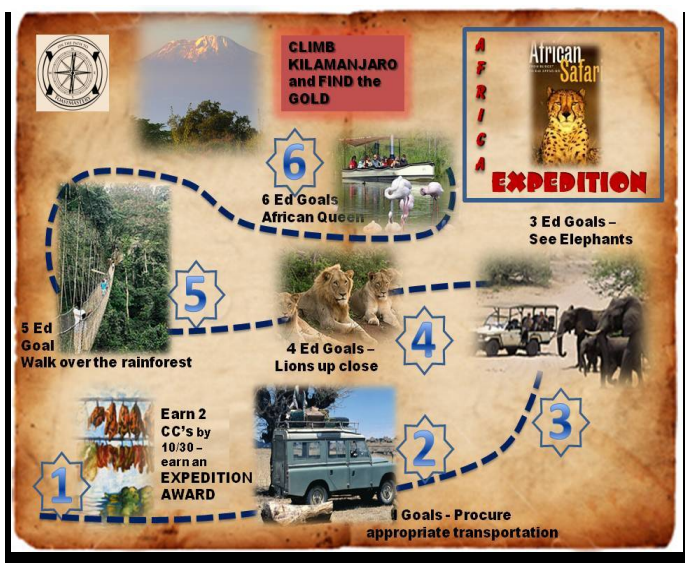
The conference co-Chairs for the Spring, Lynn Romano and Ralph Sierra, are working very hard to make the Spring Conference all you want it to be.

Save the Date—May 8, 2010

The District 27 Spring Conference, Evaluation and International Speech contest dates have been set. Contact LGET Paul White (PEWhite@msn.com) or the conference co-Chairs Lynn Roman (jardiner@verizon.net) and Ralph Sierra (sierra.d27tm@gmail.com) to volunteer for one of the committees, to fill a staff job, or to offer specific suggestions about the conference.

Expedition Awards

Four clubs—Calvert, Smithsonian, Tech Talkers, and Capitol Hill earned District Dollars (\$25). Their names were drawn from the eighteen clubs that earned two CCs before the end of October. The other clubs were BAH, GUTS, TASC, CGI Fairfax, Kingstowne, Last Great Speakers, PWIWDC #01, New Southwest, IBM Fair



Lakes, SwanMasters, Sprint/Nextel, Ashburn, and Speak Your Mind.



New Expedition Award Program

A second LGET Expedition Map incentive program is now underway! A lottery drawing will be conducted to award four D27 clubs with \$25. The selection will be made from clubs that have met 4 of the six DCP Education goals (including Goals #1 and #2) by January 31, 2009.

When you are on a new path, it helps to have guides who have walked the trail before. I thank Lillian Cooke and Viki Kinsman for being always-helpful mentors, and I greatly appreciate the spirit of togetherness and cooperation found in the D27 leadership team and staff. I enjoy working with our Club, Area and Division leaders to accomplish D27 Education and Training goals. As it is doing for me, I hope that Toastmasters will continue to lead you in positive and fulfilling directions over the remaining days of 2009 and in the coming calendar year, which will be both a distinguished and historic time for our District.

"We learn best in moments of enjoyment."

— Dr. Ralph C. Smedley



Read

Visit the District 27 Web Site at <http://www.d27tm.org> and read the District 27 blog at <http://blog.d27tm.org>. For your convenience you can subscribe to the blog via RSS or email.

Collaborate!

React

You can ask questions about District 27, express an opinion, or share information on a number of social network sites:

Facebook

- <http://bit.ly/4dW6r>
- <http://bit.ly/ynNon> (Division A)
- <http://bit.ly/wt4DE> (VPPRs)

Linked In

<http://bit.ly/FmypyR>

Twitter

Search hashtag [#d27tm](https://twitter.com/d27tm)

Ning

<http://bit.ly/GqUdQ> (VPMs)

...DISTRICT 27 RE-FORMATION

(Continued from page 1)

During the needs assessment and transition this site will support the ATC's collaborative processes of sharing information, including means for uploading draft proposals for committee consideration, and supporting committee analyses by displaying maps, statistics, and club clustering. Relevant projects and committee reports and recommendations will be available for review by all before key decision meetings.

Q: Is there anything else?

A: Yes, plenty -- for example -- here's more background information for those who are interested in the details.

Consistent with the organization's policies and by-laws of Toastmasters International, the District Council annually determines the alignment of clubs within the District. The alignment of clubs within 10 Divisions is expected to serve the needs of District 27 at least through 2011. There may be a need to address both re-alignment of clubs and re-formation of the District this year to continue to serve the needs of our



members and volunteer leaders. This must be addressed in a manner conformant with the policies and bylaws of Toastmasters International. I do not envision the creation of any new divisions. There may be a need for minor changes in alignment of new clubs as they are added throughout the current and next year.

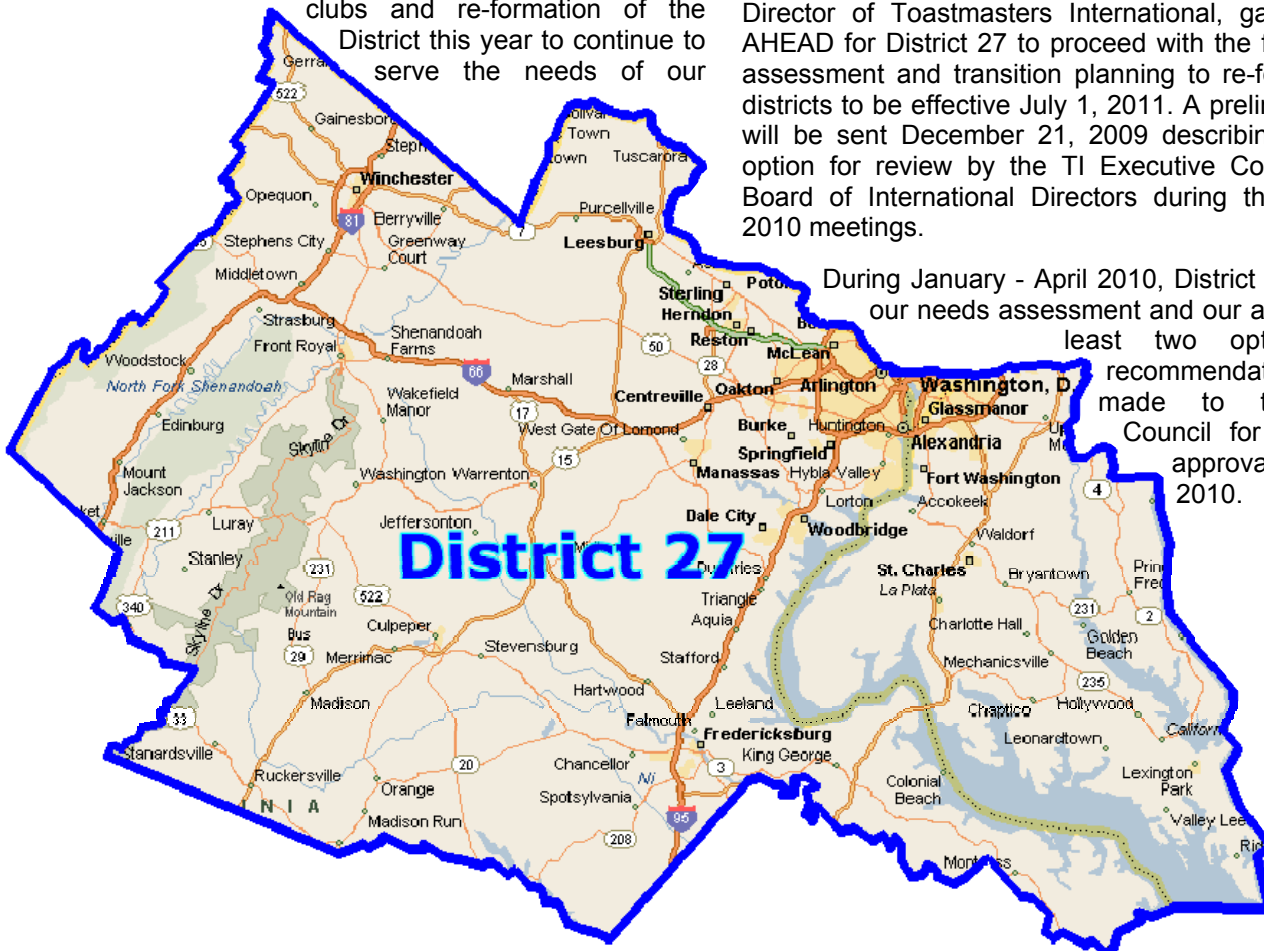
Q: What decisions have already been made?

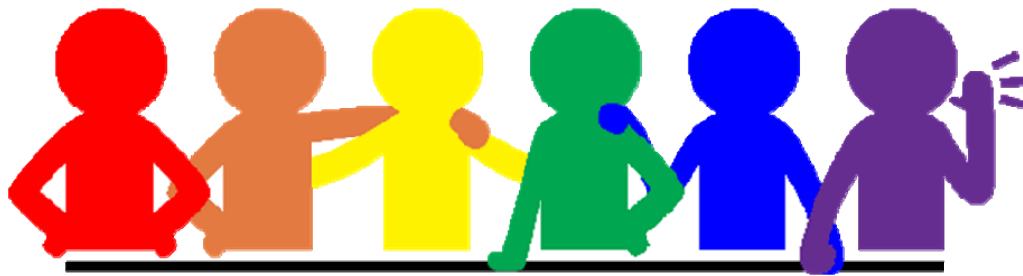
A: Having submitted a Letter of Inquiry to TI about the possibility of District 27 Re-formation, and received tentative approval to proceed with planning, District 27 Governor John Lesko appointed Past International Director Joe Jarzombek

to serve as Chairman of the District 27 Alignment Committee with a dual focus to consider the 2010-2011 alignment of clubs and the longer term transition for re-formation of the District. Our district council approved this appointment at the Fall Conference held on November 14, 2009.

On Saturday, December 5, 2009, Dan Rex, Executive Director of Toastmasters International, gave the GO-AHEAD for District 27 to proceed with the formal needs assessment and transition planning to re-form into two districts to be effective July 1, 2011. A preliminary report will be sent December 21, 2009 describing a feasible option for review by the TI Executive Committee and Board of International Directors during their February 2010 meetings.

During January - April 2010, District 27 will refine our needs assessment and our analyses of at least two options. Final recommendations will be made to the District Council for review and approval on May 8, 2010.





Join Us!

SPEAKER'S BUREAU

Sign up for information by joining the group or sending an email to: shu1@cox.net

DISTRICT 27 NEWSLETTER TEAM

Editor-in-Chief
Jacqueline Rogers, DTM

Editor
Monica Cutchember, DTM

Editor
Mike Kerr, TM

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The Director

UNITED STATES OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT
Washington, DC 20415

JUL 13 2009

Mr. Daniel Rex
Executive Director
Toastmasters International
P.O. Box 9052
Mission Viejo, CA 92690-9052

Dear Mr. Rex:

This is in response to your letter of May 27, 2009, regarding the work of Toastmasters International. The U.S. Office of Personnel Management recognizes the accomplishments of Toastmasters International and its history of service to federal employees and managers. In fact, OPM itself has its own Toastmasters Club which holds periodic on-site meetings.

OPM supports on-site clubs and organizations that promote the professional development of federal employees, including Toastmasters International, under the following guidelines:

1. Managers have the discretion to pay for the charter fee and for an organization's membership fee, as a condition for obtaining the training an employee needs to improve his/her performance. After the employee masters the skills promoted by the organization (public speaking and leadership in the case of Toastmasters), the membership fee must become the employee's personal responsibility.
2. Managers have the discretion to allow an employee to attend meetings during working hours, even if the employee bears the cost of membership, so long as the manager concludes that attendance serves the interests of the government in employee development.

We appreciate the opportunity to respond to your letter and wish Toastmasters International continued success.

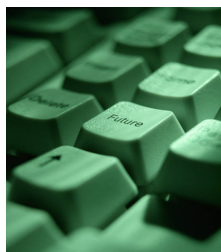
Sincerely,

John Berry
Director

www.opm.gov Our mission is to ensure the Federal Government has an effective civilian workforce www.usajobs.gov

"The U.S. Office of Personnel Management recognizes the accomplishments of Toastmasters International...and wish Toastmasters International continued success."

- John Berry, Director



Upcoming Issues...

Spring
Envision the Future

Year-End (June)
Push the Edge

The District 27 Toastmasters Newsletter is produced by and for members of the District.

The Newsletter Team welcomes your contributions. Please submit your article, photos, or any questions to the editor.

D27Newsletter@gmail.com