

DISTRICT 25
TOASTMASTERS

VOICES



Your December 2007 To Do List

Maurice Taitt, DTM - District 25 Governor



Fellow District 25 Toastmasters, the 2007-2008 District year is almost half over! Where has all the time gone?

As December begins, here is a list of items needing your attention:

- ✦ Conduct club officer Elections for the January – June 2008 term.
- ✦ Submit new club officer List to Toastmasters WHQ. Remember, clubs with annual terms beginning July 2007 still need to submit club officer lists now.
- ✦ Attend club officer training in December 2007 or January 2008.
- ✦ Don't forget, June 30, 2008 is the last date that you can receive credit for completing an Old Competent Leader award.
- ✦ You should be about half way towards achieving your education goals for this District year. This is an excellent time to plan any adjustments that you feel are warranted.

Voices is the official publication of District 25, serving Toastmasters throughout North Central Texas.

Inside this Issue:

Turn my hopes into a reality. Attend Officer Training	2
Is Your Club a Super 7 Club?	2
Naughty or Nice? Myths and Realities.	3
Absolutely Awesome Division A	4
Division B Believes	4
Why do I have to give a Manual Speech?	5
Division D Don't Hold Back	5
Goodwill Public Relations	6
Dear Gabby	6
Spring Contest Dates	8
Judge and Chief Judge Training	8
Get Ready for Club Elections	9
Club Anniversaries	9
Clubs Electing Officers Semiannually	9
District 25 Calendar	10
Calling 2008-2009 District Officers	10

Those thinking about running for Division Governor, Lieutenant Governor Marketing, Lieutenant Governor Education & Training or District Governor position for the 2008-2009 term need to begin drafting letters of intent to the Nomination Committee Chair, Distinguished Toastmaster, Earl Hill. More on this to follow. By the way, did you know that Toastmasters International letterhead is available on the Toastmasters WHW website? Yes, it's there and you can adapt it to show your name, address, etc.

Hopefully, you have all had an excellent Thanksgiving with your families. May the remainder of the holiday season and all of 2008 be all that you would like it to be and more.

Thanks a million for being a member of District 25 Toastmasters!!



**TOASTMASTERS
LEADERSHIP
SUMMIT**

REGISTE ONLINE NOW!

CLUB OFFICER TRAINING

All Sessions \$5

www.d25toastmasters.org/tls

December 1 - DFW Airport Marriott South, Ft. Worth - 8:00 a.m.

December 8 - Texas Christian University, Ft. Worth - 8:30 a.m.

January 11 - Texas Wesleyan, Ft. Worth - 6:30 p.m.

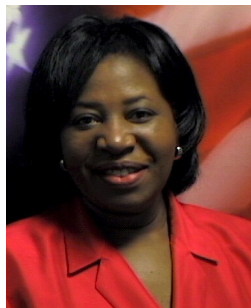
January 12 - Texas Wesleyan, Ft. Worth - 8:30 a.m.

January 18 - IBM, Coppell - 6:30 p.m.

January 19 - IBM, Coppell - 8:30 a.m.

February 9 - Baylor University, Waco - 8:30 a.m.

February 16 - Wayland College, Wichita Falls - 8:30 a.m.



Turn my Hopes Into A Reality! Attend Officer Training!

Peggy Holloway, DTM – Lieutenant Governor Education and Training

I hope you are reading this at the Fall 2007 District Conference. I also hope your club has elected Club Officers for the January 1 through June 30, 2008 term and your club officers were able to attend our first ever officer training at a District Conference which occurred on December 1. If not, I hope to see you at one of our upcoming Toastmaster Leadership Summits during the months of December, January, and February. **Remember, club officer training is one of the 10 goals in the Distinguished Club Plan. Every club must have a minimum of FOUR officers trained for both the fall and winter terms.** During this winter term, we are continuing our commitment to excellence by providing you with eight opportunities to attend **District Sponsored Training** so that the quality of training will be consistent for all officers, while at the same time, providing you an opportunity to make new friends and exchange ideas with Toastmasters from all over District 25. A few things to keep in mind as you prepare for this winter term:

- The District Sponsored Training is open to ALL Toastmasters. In addition to Club Officer training, members can receive Contest Judge, Chief Judge, and Contest Quality training as well as other training geared toward new members and non-officers.
- Club Officer lists are due at World Headquarters no later than December 31, 2007. You can submit your officer lists online at www.toastmasters.org. Please contact Lieutenant Governor of Education and Training Peggy Holloway peggyholloway@d25toastmasters.org if you need any help or have questions about this important task.
- Next Club Officer Training is December 8 at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth, TX from 8:00am to 1:00 pm.
- All training has been scheduled for a Saturday morning or Friday evening. See the website for details on all officer training dates and times for December, January, and February.

I encourage you to attend the District Sponsored Training which allows you to meet, network, share ideas, and have fun with hundreds of other Toastmasters from District 25. If your club has not elected club officers for the January 1 through June 30, 2008 term, please do so as soon as possible and submit your officer lists by December 31.

Finally, this is how you can turn my hopes into a reality. If you are reading this at the Fall 2007 District Conference, look me up, I'd love to meet you. If your officers were able to attend the first ever officer training at a District Conference, send me an email to let me know what you thought; I'd love to hear from you. And, make plans to attend one or more of the seven remaining District Sponsored Training summits, register online to let me know you're coming; I'd love to see you there.

Is your Toastmasters Club a SUPER 7 Club?

Each club that have all seven officers trained in the Winter will achieve the Super 7 Award and receive a brown ribbon to proudly hang on the club banner. Club officers may attend any Toastmasters Leadership Summit held in December, January, or February.

Fine Print: Promotion runs December 1, 2007 through February 29, 2008. In order to qualify for the Super 7 Club award, all seven club officers must attend a District 25 sponsored training session held in December, January, or February. Club officers may also attend the Toastmasters Leadership Institute in District 44, 50, or 55 during the same time period.

In the event all seven officers do not attend district sponsored training sessions during the promotion period, the club will not be eligible for the Super 7 Club award. Open only to District 25 Toastmasters clubs in good standing. For more information, visit www.d25toastmasters.org/super7

**S
U
P
E
R
7**

All 7
Officers
Trained

Winter
2007-2008



Naughty or Nice...Myths and Realities

David McCallister, DTM - Lt. Governor Marketing 2007-2008

The answer should be nice if you are inviting guests to your club. Otherwise you are being naughty! People put off professional development for many reasons. If you have friends that avoided joining Toastmasters for any of the following reasons, they should reconsider. Toastmasters may not be what they think!

Myth: I don't need Toastmasters because I have been giving presentations for years.

Reality: ...and you are probably using the same techniques you started with years ago. For experienced speakers, Toastmasters is a way to expand and modernize your presentation style. You will get honest feedback about your style and good suggestions for alternative techniques.

Myth: I don't need Toastmasters because I don't give speeches.

Reality: What about when your boss asks for a status report on your project? What about when you talk to someone on the phone to ask a question or give information? What about when you present an idea at a staff meeting? The more you consider your business and personal conversations as "presentations", the more care you will give that conversation and the more professional it will be. Toastmasters will help you develop that professional edge.

Myth: I'm not smart enough. I'll be embarrassed. I can't think of anything to talk about.

Reality: Everyone is smart enough. Everyone has things that interest them and which they can share. You won't be any more embarrassed than you are about other things when with friends. Do you have a hobby? What is your job like? Do you have kids, a spouse, or other family? Have you ever fixed something? Where did you go on your last vacation? You have a lot to say!

Myth: The other members are already good speakers. I'd be nervous.

Reality: While the current Toastmaster membership does have good speakers, everyone starts at the same place. Even the most experienced speakers are nervous. Toastmasters won't be able to eliminate that. What we can do, however, is help you discover a way to use that adrenaline to your advantage. Many of the senior members continue to attend and give presentations because even though they have improved their speaking skills, there is always something new to learn from each other.

Myth: You have to attend every meeting every week.

Reality: You can attend as many meetings as you want. There is no minimum requirement. As a courtesy to the other members and to get all the good from the organization as possible, you should participate in meetings regularly either as a speaker or in one of the other functions but you choose how often you can attend. Just being there as an audience for the other speakers is vital!

Myth: Each speech is criticized.

Reality: Toastmasters is adamantly against criticism. The keyword is "evaluation" and we concentrate on helping each person understand what they are doing RIGHT and suggest alternatives for future presentations. This is not to make you change, but to help you build your speaking toolkit. The more tools you are experienced with, the more options you have in various communication situations.

Myth: Toastmasters is very time consuming.

Reality: The amount of time you give to Toastmasters depends on you and your needs. Giving presentations does require preparation, but you can use topics associated with work or home so content preparation is minimal. You can also space your presentations to meet your schedule. Other program functions such as evaluator and timer require no preparation. Table topics and Toastmaster require some very limited preparation, or none at all, if you think fast on your feet! You attend as many meetings as you can. There are no "musts."

Myth: I want to, but I don't have the time.

Reality: If you want to and need to, you can find the time. It's typically just one hour a week. All members are busy people with limited time, but most find the weekly hour of Toastmasters a positive way to spend lunch. You can come a little late and leave a little early if your schedule demands it. Finding time is a matter of need and commitment.



Absolutely Awsome Division A – Happy Holidays!

Diana Patton, ACB/CL – Division A Governor 2007-2008

Here we are in the midst of the holidays. Each of us probably has family traditions that make this time special. How about creating some ‘club’ traditions that would spark interest and encourage attendance that could be repeated from year to year?

If you’re an officer, how about working with your team to make at least one meeting extra special during this holiday season? You might come up with a special theme that would include different cultures or traditions. The speeches and table topics could go along with your theme. You might even have an abbreviated meeting and schedule something special such as a white elephant gift exchange.

Another idea would be to have a meeting of just table topics that perhaps would keep the holiday theme going in a story format. One person starts the story and each take a turn adding their twist. Someone could come up with the characters and setting to get the story started. Another idea might be questions about holiday movies, books, TV specials, etc.

Don’t become discouraged if attendance is low during the holiday season. Be ready in January for another special meeting to remind members it’s time to get back in the groove. Since it will be mid-year, it would be a good time for checking out progress against goals for individuals and the club.

I hope each of you have a wonderful holiday at home, work and Toastmasters!



Division B Believes in Building Better Communicators and Leaders

Diana Pittman, CTM/CL – Division B Governor 2007-2008

Club Officer Elections in November - The first date for Club Officer Training is December 1, so nominate and elect officers in November to take advantage of the club officer training is during the D25 Conference... training provided by past District Governors. Submit the Officer List to WHQ, too!

NEW Member Create an Account on WHQ website - Has your e-mail address been submitted to WHQ? Is it correct? You have to have a correct e-mail at International before you can login as a member to view your member record, which includes all offices held in a club, all members you have sponsored, all educational awards earned, etc.

Cultivate the Talent Pool with Inclusion - In a company, if you do not feel useful you move on... the same is true in Toastmasters. If one person is doing a marvelous job, and that one person is doing everything, then when do others have the chance to lead or learn to step-up? If you are doing everything, do not complain. You have to learn to delegate and share responsibilities and work as a team. Yes, growth is sometimes necessary during this activity, but everyone will have a chance grow, not just you. Share the wealth, the knowledge, and move on to other duties that stretch your talents into a growth and learning experience. Continue to evolve Toastmasters into the organization you want it to be. Everyone has a personal desire to succeed, and everyone wants a sense of belonging. This is who we are.

High School - Legal at 18 takes on a entirely new meaning, when a Toastmaster says it. Legal, means they can join a club, and now is the time of the year our clubs can plan to visit local high schools to invest an hour to recruit graduating seniors, turning 18, to a club that holds talents to share and guide a younger person in need of interviewing for college and jobs. Think what we could accomplish if we joined at 18? Plus, you actually have the possibility of two members joining, since at this age their parents are still a large part of their lives.

Idea: When dues are paid, pay an entire year’s dues to avoid having to collect twice in a year! Share your ideas with other Toastmasters with the D25 Newsletter.

Enhance your contribution and enjoyment of Toastmasters and wake up the enthusiasm and appreciation when you realized what Toastmasters can do for you. Expect and contribute to invigorating and productive times, and extend a positive and high-level of energy towards your goals. Focus on membership self-improvement.

Thank you for all you do to help make Toastmasters a more enjoyable and productive place for all of us!



Why Do I Have to Give a Manual Speech?

Linda K. Morrison ACS/CL Division C Governor 2007-2008

As Division Governor, I have visited several clubs that do not give manual speeches. They are long-term clubs with long-term members. They are excellent well-organized experienced clubs, but no longer feel it is necessary to use manuals for their speeches. *If I have given speeches for decades, why do I need to use a manual? If I am a DTM, why do I need to adhere to a manual?*

First of all, do you realize that it is in the by-laws of Toastmasters? In Section VI of the Policies and Procedures, one of the minimum club standards is that members give oral “**Manual**” Speeches. Toastmasters International must think it is important enough to put in their by-laws.

Secondly, do you remember when you first joined Toastmasters? You took a promise that day that included many items. Look up that promise again. The second item in that promise is “I promise to prepare all my speeches to the best of my ability basing them on projects in the Communication and Leadership or the Advanced Communication and Leadership Manuals.” When you give a non-manual speech, you are breaking the promise you signed on your membership application.

Last, but most important is non-manual speeches are detrimental to members’ progress and clubs achieving their missions. Non-manual speeches have no guide or structure given for the speaker. They have no evaluation criteria for the evaluator. Finally they cheat clubs out of a manual speech, which could have been given in that time slot, and thus the advancement that another member could have made towards their CC or AC goal.

Non-manual speeches have no specific objectives on which an audience can focus and learn from and they encourage new and impressionable members to pay less attention to the professional and prepared manuals when planning and preparing their speeches. You could be keeping someone else from reaching his or her best potential because you did not think a manual speech was important. In conclusion, remember Toastmaster friends don’t let Toastmaster friends do non-manual speeches.



Dynamic Division D: Don’t Hold Back

D. Kirkland, CTM/CL– Division D Governor 2007-2008

The Distinguished Club Plan is a wonderful program to help clubs stay on track with their membership and educational goals. I hope that every club is using it to plan for successful growth every year. However, do not let the limitations of the plan hold you back from achieving as much as you can.

For many clubs, the most difficult goal is membership and there may be a tendency to feel less motivated to meet the other goals if a minimum membership goal is not met. Please let me encourage you to move ahead in submitting reports on time and meeting educational goals. The club and its members (however few) will always benefit from each competent and advanced communicator and leadership achievement. Keep working at spreading the word about Toastmasters and new motivated members will come your way.

For the clubs that have ample membership and many folks who are achieving educational goals, do not let the minimum numbers hold you back from **EXCEEDING** your goals. There is no need to calculate who can and who cannot earn awards during the year just to assure the DCP minimums. Let everyone earn as many awards as possible for a banner year! Next year will take care of itself with new members and new goals!

Bottom line, if every club keeps moving forward in a positive direction without letting a few setbacks get in their way, we will all be winners! Toastmasters’ programs work! We will enhance our communication and leadership skills every time we give a speech, fulfill a role, go to a training session, or submit a report on time. Don’t hold back!!!!

Some Helpful Guidelines for Submitting Articles for Voices:

- It’s usually best to use the inverted pyramid style. Write the material from most significant to least significant so the editor (or the reader) can cut it off at any point (or any time) and know that the most important part has been covered.
- Try to stay under 500 words (but don’t worry about it).
- If possible, include pictures, along with information about who is in the picture and what is going on.
- If formatting is important, use Word, but plain email is fine too.
- If there are more than a couple of pictures, compress them and attach the compressed file.

Now get those articles in! **Deadline for submittals is the 25th of the month.** All articles are subject to editing.



Goodwill

Dodi Foster, DTM - District 25 Public Relations Officer 2007-2008

Did you know that once a year your club may present an honorary membership to a member or non-member for outstanding contributions to the community or to your club? An Honorary Club Membership Certificate (Item #508-A can be ordered from the Toastmasters International catalog.

This award can generate goodwill and publicity for your club. If you are a company club, make your manager or CEO an honorary member, and make sure the company newsletter or website gets the story. If you are a community club, how about the mayor, the police chief, the fire chief, a member of the city council? You get the idea. Even that member that has gone above and beyond for the club can be honored. It makes great goodwill news.



TOASTMASTERS IN THE PARK

Spring/Summer 2008

Fort Worth Trinity Park

Ready to step out of your comfort zone and speak before a non Toastmasters audience?

This public relations event for District 25 needs you! We will showcase the humorous speaking talents from all over District 25 in an event advertised to the general public. This is your opportunity to help us spread the word to the community about the benefits of membership in Toastmasters.

There are 10 speaking slots open for five to seven minute humorous speeches. If more than 10 members sign up, speakers will be selected by committee and final slate of speakers will be determined in late winter.

We also need volunteers to serve on the committee and help the day of the event.

Contact Dodi Foster, DTM via email dodifoster@d25toastmasters.org.

DEAR GABBY

Dear Gabby,

We know that there are seven club officer positions, but we are low in membership, and we have newer members that are not ready to take on a club office. How many officers do we have to have?

- Can count on one hand.

Dear calculator challenged:

You must have a minimum of three officers. The President, Vice President of Education, and a Secretary, or Secretary/Treasurer. Each of these offices must be held by a different person. I would encourage you to let your experienced members hold the three required club offices, and gently guide your newer members in to holding the remaining club offices. Holding a club officer position benefits both the member and the club. It is the first step in attaining leadership skills, and newer members may feel more ownership of the club as officers and prove to be a valuable resource in rebuilding the club. Make sure that all of the officers attend the District sponsored officer trainings to strengthen your leadership team and acquire the skills for all members to be successful in the club.

Ms. Gabby thanks all for their submissions. Keep sending those questions and comments, and remember, if you can't see the bright side of life, polish the dull side. Do you have a question about a meeting role, speech content or topic choice? Need ideas on attracting new members to your club? Are you contemplating starting your leadership track? If so, Gabby is here to help! Dear Gabby will provide down to earth-practical answers to all Toastmaster related questions. Like a good neighbor, disinterested friend, or "a second mother" she calls it as she sees it. All questions submitted will be answered. Check monthly to see if your questions and answers will be published in the District Newsletter.

Email your questions to deargabby@d25toastmasters.org.



Who Is My Area or Division Governor?

Since July 1, your Area Governor has visited your club at least once if not more. For those who don't know who your area or division governor is, check out the new feature online that allows you to locate your area governor. To find out more, visit us online at www.d25toastmasters.org/find_your_gov.htm

Training Twice is Nice!

Whether you're an amateur or adept, there's lots to learn at the second round of club officer training.

Newly elected officers have the opportunity to:

- ▶ earn the basic responsibilities of their new role
- ▶ meet district leaders who can help them during their terms
- ▶ discover and share ideas that can help them improve their clubs



Veteran or mid-term officers have the opportunity to:

- ▶ participate in training sessions to complement their core training
- ▶ discuss with district and other club officers the challenges their clubs may be facing
- ▶ share experiences and solutions for these challenges

District 25 will be conducting training for club officers between December 1 and February 29.

For training dates and locations, visit www.d25toastmasters.org/tls.

Find A Club Updated Online!

In case you did not know, guests sometimes find your club by visiting the District 25 website. There you will find your club names listed by name, club number, city, and area/division. To experience the find a club feature on our district website, visit us online at www.d25toastmasters.org/findaclub

IMPACT YOUR CLUB

Marketing Workshop

Learn how to attract, recruit, and retain members for your club. Also leave with valuable materials, handouts, and resources to help build and sustain your club membership.

Saturday, December 8, 2007 (TLS)

Texas Christian University
Tucker Technology Center
2840 W. Bowie Street
Fort Worth, TX 76129

Open to all members - Seating is Limited! Attendees are asked to pre-register.
For more information or to register online, visit www.d25toastmasters.org/marketing/workshop

Spring Contest Dates Announced

Area	Governor	Day	Date	Briefing/ Contest	Area	Governor	Day	Date	Briefing/ Contest
11	Fisher	3/28	Fri	Evening	41	Mikeska	2/9	Sat	Afternoon
12	Ditto	2/16	Sat	Afternoon	42	Cross	2/9	Sat	Afternoon
13	Weatherholt	3/27	Thu	Evening	43	Vickers	2/9	Sat	Afternoon
14	White	2/29	Fri	Evening	44	Stokes	2/23	Sat	Afternoon
15	Leaseburg	3/14	Fri	Evening	45	Hrovat	2/23	Sat	Afternoon
21	Sparks	3/29	Sat	Afternoon	51	Schenk	3/7	Fri	Evening
22	Bryant	3/1	Sat	Evening	52	Covey	3/29	Sat	Morning
23	Gupta	2/16	Sat	Evening	53	Bayes	2/21	Thu	Evening
24	Brister	2/23	Sat	Morning	54	Randle	2/15	Fri	Evening
25	Samuelson	3/6	Thu	Evening	55	Barrett	2/28	Thu	Evening
31	Shaw	2/22	Fri	Evening	61	Stevens	2/23	Sat	Evening
32	Kincaid	3/29	Sat	Evening	62	Misquez	3/1	Sat	Morning
33	Perry	3/8	Sat	Morning	63	Fox	3/13	Thu	Evening
34	Bailey	2/14	Thu	Evening	64	Quigley	3/8	Sat	Evening
35	Ross	3/8	Sat	Afternoon	65	Misquez	3/1	Sat	Afternoon

DECEMBER CLUB ANNIVERSARIES



4109	Advancing Speakers
3055	Denton Toastmasters
5213	Ryan Plaza
760	T-Toasters
6031	Toast Of Texas
3692	Lakeside
593906	Skymasters
621025	Keller Communicators

2008 Speech Contest Rulebook Now Available!

Hot off the press! Toastmasters International has released the 2008 Speech Contest Rulebook. If you are a Club President, a copy has been sent to you in the U.S. Mail. Others that would like to download your own copy of the 2008 Contest Rulebook, visit this link online:

www.toastmasters.org/rules2008.aspx

Want to serve as a contest Judge or Chief Judge?

Members often ask how they can serve as a contest judge or chief judge at a club, area, or division contest. The answer is simple. Attend Judge or Chief Judge training at any of the Winter Toastmaster Leadership Summit Events in December, January and February. Judging can be quite a challenge, assessing the difference between a series of speakers in quick succession. If you accept the challenge of being a contest judge (and you should as soon as you have some Manual speeches behind you, then you know the basics. The next step is to attend judge training.

For more information, contact District Chief Judge Marcheta Gardner, DTM, email: marchetagardner@d25toastmasters.org.

Contest Judge and Chief Judge Training will be offered at the following TLS:

December 8 - Texas Christian University, Ft. Worth
 January 11 - Texas Wesleyan, Ft. Worth
 January 12 - Texas Wesleyan, Ft. Worth
 January 18 - IBM, Coppell
 January 19 - IBM, Coppell
 February 9 - Baylor University, Waco
 February 16 - Wayland College, Wichita Falls

JUDGES STAY ON THE LIST!

In the effort to stay committed to excellence in District 25, those members wanting to remain on the Spring 2008 Judge and Chief Judge list must attend a session of the Judge or Chief Judge training in December, January, or February and select contest dates in which you would like to participate during the Spring 2008 contest season. Those who do not sign up to serve as a judge or chief judge during the Spring 2008. Contest season will not be on the list distributed in January 2008 and ineligible to judge or chief judge during the Spring 08 contest season.

For more information, contact:
 District 25 Chief Judge Marcheta Gardner, DTM
 email: marchetagardner@d25toastmasters.org.

Get Ready For Club Elections

If your club elects officers semiannually, it's not too early to think about upcoming elections. Here's a helpful timetable:

- ▶ **Before September 30:** Appoint a nominating committee (see Club Bylaws). The committee is to be run by the immediate past president or the most recent past president available.
- ▶ **Last Meeting in October:** The nominating committee reports to the club.
- ▶ **First Meeting in November:** Call for the nominating committee report. (If the nominating committee does not have a report at the last meeting in October, postpone the election until one week after the meeting at which the report is given.)
- ▶ **Call for nominations from the floor:** Nominations begin with the last president and proceed in descending order. Remember, a quorum is 51 percent of active members.
- ▶ **Announce the results:** All clubs must be on a July 1– June 30 annual term, or on July 1– December 31 and January 1– June 30 semiannual terms. (Please note: Clubs that meet weekly have the option of electing officers for either a semiannual term or an annual term. Clubs that meet less frequently must elect officers for annual terms.) Holding elections at any other time is in direct conflict with the Club Constitution. If your club elections are not in compliance with the timetable, now is the time to change and meet constitution standards.

Once the officers have been elected, go to the TI Web site, access the Club Business section and add your club's officers online! Remember to order club officer pins and plaques of appreciation for your officer installation ceremony. Check your Supply Catalog for a complete list of items and prices or place your order online at toastmasters.org > **Shop**.



Find a Mistake?

It is our policy to include something for everyone. Since some people like to find errors, we regularly include a few in our publications to meet this need. **Please email: newsletter@d25toastmasters.org**

If Your Club Elects Its Officers Semiannually

...it's time to submit a list of your club's officers for the January 2008 through June 2008 term. The fastest, most efficient way to notify WHQ is to submit the information online.

You can enter the club business section of the Web site at members.toastmasters.org > **Club Officers > Conduct Club Business > {Club Log In} > Change my club's meeting and/or club officer information**.

To get on-time credit in the Distinguished Club Program, the information must be entered online by December 31, 2007, or if mailed, postmarked December 31, 2007, and received at WHQ by January 7, 2008.

Newly-elected officers: be sure to attend club-officer training offered by your district team. It will help you have a successful term of office. Check your district's Web site for information. Also be sure your club officer information is up-to-date so your club won't miss any mailings or information from WHQ.

Club officer manuals (one for each office) were mailed to each club last June. If you are just taking office, be sure to get these manuals from the outgoing club officers. Additional copies can be purchased online members.toastmasters.org > **Shop**. You can also view the content of each manual online. Navigate to members.toastmasters.org > **Officer Resources > Club Officer Resources > Club Officer Roles**. Select the appropriate officer position then scroll to the bottom of the page for the link to the PDF

District 25 Calendar of Events

December 2007

- 1** Fall Conference – DFW Marriott South – Fort Worth, Texas
- 1-31** Hold Area and Division Council Meetings
- 8** **Toastmasters Leadership Summit – Texas Christian University, Ft. Worth, TX**
- 10** District Steering Committee Meeting
- 24** Christmas Eve
- 25** Christmas Day
- 31** Last day to submit Club Officer List ONLINE for DCP Credit!

January 2008

- 1** Second Round of Area Visits Begin
- 5** Mid-Year Training for Area/Division Governors and Dist. Staff
- 15** Letter of intent due for those seeking 2008/2009 District elective office
- 11** **Toastmasters Leadership Summit (light) - Texas Wesleyan, Ft. Worth, TX**
- 12** **Toastmasters Leadership Summit - Texas Wesleyan, Ft. Worth, TX**
- 18** **Toastmasters Leadership Summit (light) - IBM, Coppell, TX**
- 19** **Toastmasters Leadership Summit - IBM, Coppell, TX**

February 2008

- 1-29** Hold Area and Division Council Meetings
- 1-14** Club Table Topics and International Speech Contests
- 9** **Toastmasters Leadership Summit - Baylor University, Waco, TX**
- 11** District Steering Committee Meeting
- 15** Area Table Topics and International Speech Contests begin
- 16** **Toastmasters Leadership Summit - Wichita Falls, TX**
- 29** Last Day to have Club Officers trained and receive credit toward 2007-2008 DCP Goal

Voices Staff

Newsletter Editor

Shawn Kornegay, CTM/CL
shawnkornegay@d25toastmasters.org

Publisher

Maurice Taitt, DTM
mauricetaitt@d25toastmasters.org

Public Relations Officer

Dodi Foster, DTM
dodifoster@d25toastmasters.org

Photographer

Mark Novak, DTM
marknovak@d25toastmasters.org

Voices is published monthly and is available to the members of District 25 Toastmasters and clubs. Subscription available for one year at the price of \$36 for those wishing to receive their newsletter delivered via postal mail. Back issues are available online at www.d25toastmasters.org/newsletter.

DISTRICT OFFICER ELECTIONS 2008-2009

If you or someone you know would like the opportunity to serve as a District Officer, please read on. The deadline for submitting Letters of Intent is **January 15, 2008**. Letters of Intent do not have to be elaborate; they only need to inform the Nominating Committee of your intent to run for office. Please send your Letter of Intent to Nominations Committee Chair, Earl Hill, DTM, PDG at earlhill@d25toastmasters.org.

The Nominations Committee is accepting Letters of intent for the following ELECTED offices:

- District Governor
- Lieutenant Governor Education & Training
- Lieutenant Governor Marketing
- Division A Governor
- Division B Governor
- Division C Governor
- Division D Governor
- Division E Governor
- Division F Governor

ELIGIBILITY

Qualifications for District Governor: At the time of taking office, the District Governor shall have served:

- at least six (6) consecutive months as a Club President; AND
- at least twelve (12) consecutive months as a Lieutenant Governor or Division Governor or a combination thereof.

Qualifications for Lieutenant Governor: At the time of taking office, both the Lieutenant Governor Education and Training (LGET) and the Lieutenant Governor of Marketing (LGM) shall have served:

- at least six (6) consecutive months as a Club President; AND
- at least twelve (12) consecutive months as a Lieutenant Governor or Division Governor or a combination thereof.

Qualifications for Division Governor: At the time of taking Office, the Division Governors shall have served:

- at least six (6) consecutive months as a member of the District Council.

If you are qualified and do NOT submit a Letter of Intent, you can still run for office. It does, however, prevent the District from being allowed to print your article regarding your campaign in the District newsletter. You will be what is termed 'running from the floor'.

Serving as a District Officer is among the most beneficial and rewarding experiences you will ever have in the world of Toastmasters. Please take advantage of this opportunity to Help your fellow Toastmasters Reach for Success.

For more information, please contact Earl Hill, DTM, PDG, by e-mail at earlhill@d25toastmasters.org or by phone at (817) 454-3784. Thank you for your dedication to Toastmasters and to the members of District 25.