

Minutes of the
**77th Annual
Convention
Business Meeting**

The TELUS Convention Centre
Calgary, Alberta, Canada

August 13-15, 2008

TOASTMASTERS INTERNATIONAL
Rancho Santa Margarita, California

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The 77th Annual Convention and Business Meeting of Toastmasters International convened at 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, August 13, 2008, International President Chris Ford, DTM, presiding. International Director Suezy Proctor, DTM, gave the inspiration. Following the traditional Parade of Flags, and presentation of the flag of the United States, the presentation of the flag of Canada, and the playing of the National Anthems of the United States and Canada, the Board of Directors and Executive Director were introduced, followed by the 2008-2009 international officer and director candidates. District Governor Joan McAulay, DTM, welcomed all Toastmasters and their guests on behalf of District 42.

President Ford gave a report on his presidential travel and visits, including progress of Toastmasters International during the past year and projections concerning the organization's future.

Laurie Skreslet delivered the keynote address entitled: "Overcoming Adversity through Teamwork."

The meeting was called back to order by President and Convention Chairman Ford at 8:00 a.m. on Friday, August 15, 2008. Immediate Past International President Johnny Uy, DTM, gave the inspiration.

Chairman Ford announced that the minutes of the 76th Annual Business Meeting held in Phoenix, Arizona, August 15-17, 2007, were approved by unanimous electronic ballot by the Board of Directors in the form in which they were distributed.

Chairman Ford announced the following appointments: Past International Director Herb Nowlin, DTM, Parliamentarian; Past International Director Floy Westermeier, DTM, Chairman and Past International Directors Danie Hardie, DTM, and Art Nieto, DTM, Co-Chairmen of the Credentials Committee; International Director Dietmar Wagenknecht, DTM, Chairman, and Past International Director, Dee Dees, DTM, Co-Chairman, of Ballot Counters and Tellers; and Max Kane, DTM, from Club 4528-39, and Sandy Dawson, DTM, from Club 4707-61, Timers.

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Credentials Committee Chairman Floy Westermeier reported as follows: a total of 11,475 ballots were accredited, representing 5,668 of the 11,584 eligible clubs, with two votes each, and 139 of the 285 eligible delegates at large were present, each with one vote. The Chairman declared a quorum to be present.

Parliamentarian Nowlin explained the procedural rules prescribed by the Board of Directors for the election of four officers for the 2008-2009 term and of nine directors for the 2008-2010 term. Nowlin also provided directions for delegates on the casting of ballots.

Past International President Jon Greiner, DTM, Chairman of the 2007-2008 Nominating Committee, presented the report of the Nominating Committee. The following officer candidates were nominated: Jana Barnhill, DTM, AS, of Lubbock, Texas, for President; Gary Schmidt, DTM, of Clackamas, Oregon, for Senior Vice President; Pat Johnson, DTM, of Victoria, British Columbia, for Second Vice President; and two candidates for Third Vice President, in alphabetical order, John Lau, DTM, of Kuching, Malaysia and Michael Notaro, DTM, of Alameda, California. There being no further nominations from the floor for any of the four offices, the chairman declared the nominations for all offices closed. It was moved and seconded that a secret ballot be dispensed with for each of the three uncontested offices, and that the secretary be instructed to cast a single ballot for candidate Barnhill for President, a single ballot for candidate Schmidt for Senior Vice President, and a single ballot for candidate Johnson for Second Vice President. The motion carried, and Chairman Ford announced that Barnhill, Schmidt and Johnson had been elected President, Senior Vice President, and Second Vice President, respectively, for the 2008-2009 term.

Speeches of two minute each were made by the two candidates for Third Vice President.

Chairman Ford announced the names of 16 candidates for the Board of Directors, 13 of which were nominated from and by the eight regions and three candidates nominated from and by three of the districts not assigned to regions. Chairman Ford announced the withdrawal of Jorge Gamboa as a candidate from districts not assigned to regions. There being no further director nominations from the floor, the chairman declared the nominations for directors closed.

There being only one candidate for director from Regions IV, V and VI, it was moved and seconded that a secret ballot be dispensed with for the election of the directors from those regions, and that the secretary be instructed to cast a single ballot for Lyle Appleyard,, DTM, of Stonewall, Manitoba, as director from Region IV; for Mike Raffety, DTM, of Chicago, Illinois, as director from Region V; and for Kristal DiCarlo, DTM, of Westlake, Ohio, as director from Region VI. Chairman Ford announced that the motion carried and that Appleyard, Raffety and DiCarlo had been elected directors for a two-year term ending August 2010.

The counters reported balloting for the office of Third Vice President was: 5,564 for John Lau and 5,568 for Michael Notaro. Chairman Ford announced that Michael Notaro had been elected Third Vice President for the 2008-2009 term.

Speeches for the six contested directorships were made by the candidates. President Ford called for a recess while ballots were counted. Christine Al-Amin spoke on behalf of Janet Geisler, DTM, candidate from Region VIII, as she was unable to attend.

A motion was made by an accredited delegate to recount the ballots for Third Vice President.

Chairman Ford asked for an oral vote. Since the results of the oral vote were not clear, Chairman Ford called for a written ballot. Results for the written ballot were: 5,680 for a recount, 4,861 opposed. President Ford announced that a recount would be conducted for Third Vice President and called a recess.

President Ford reconvened the meeting and announced the International Director results.

Results of the balloting for the six contested directorships were:

Districts Not

Assigned to

Regions:	Poh Kim Siong, DTM	6,747
	Eric Renè, DTM	4,619
Region I	Billie Jones, DTM	1,582
	Earleen Norris, DTM	9,761
Region II	Joyce Persichilli, DTM	2,261
	Mary G. Russell, DTM	8,931
Region III	Max E. Rasquinha, DTM	1,842
	Tim Swearingen, DTM	9,237
Region VII	Nancy Holder, DTM	3,078
	Annelie Weber, DTM	8,196
Region VIII	Sal Asad, DTM	9,389
	Janet Geisler, DTM	1,457

President Ford announced that the following candidates had been elected as directors for the term 2008-2010: Poh Kim Siong, DTM from Singapore as director from districts not assigned to regions; Earleen Norris, DTM, from Truckee, California, as director from Region I; Mary G. Russell, DTM, from Temple City, California, as director from Region II; Tim Swearingen, DTM, from Chandler, Arizona, as director from Region III; Annelie Weber, DTM, from New Windsor, Maryland, as director from Region VII; Sal Asad, DTM, from Richmond, Virginia, as director from Region VIII.

President Ford recessed the meeting until 2:00 p.m.

At 2:00 p.m., President Ford reconvened the meeting and announced the results of the recount for Third Vice President. The counters reported the balloting as follows: 5,542 for John Lau and 5,590 for Michael Notaro. Chairman Ford reconfirmed that Michael Notaro had been elected Third Vice President for the 2008-2009 term.

The 2008-2009 Board of Directors were introduced and newly-elected International President Jana Barnhill, DTM, AS, and newly-elected Third Vice President Michael Notaro, DTM, were invited to say a few words to the delegates.

The Bylaws of Toastmasters International authorizes the submission of proposed Bylaws amendments by “at least one percent (1%) of all the votes held by the voting membership” (Article XIV, Section 1(b)(2)). Based on the total number of clubs eligible to vote at the 2008 Annual Business Meeting (11,584 votes), the 1% minimum requirement for any such proposal to be submitted for consideration at the 2009 Annual Business Meeting is 116, representing 58 clubs or 116 delegates at large, or any combination of those two memberships.

President Ford announced that the 78th Toastmasters International Convention and Annual Business Meeting will be held at the MGM Grand at Foxwoods in Mashantucket, Connecticut, USA, Friday, August 14, 2009.

There being no further business to come before the 77th Annual Business Meeting, it was adjourned sine die at 2:30 p.m.

Respectively Submitted,



Nancy Langton
Secretary-Treasurer

Distribution: Board of Directors
Past International Presidents
Past International Directors
District Governors
World Headquarters Staff
Nonprofit General Counsel