

District Newsletter



T O A S T M A S T E R S I N T E R N A T I O N A L ®

Will Your Clubs Be Distinguished This Year? Use This Chart to Make it Happen!

GOALS ARE EASIER TO ACHIEVE when they are written down. That way, everyone on the team is aware of the objectives and progress can be seen. Encourage your clubs to use this 18" x 25" [Distinguished Club Program Goals Wall Chart](#) (Item **1111C**) to track their progress, while motivating members to be active participants in achieving Distinguished, Select Distinguished or better yet, President's Distinguished status.

Use in conjunction with the [Distinguished Club Program/Success Plan manual](#) (Item **1111**) to explain the program. This will ensure understanding of the program, cultivate club buy-in and lead to results-oriented success.

Order the [Distinguished Club Program Goals Wall Chart](#) or the [Distinguished Club Program/Success Plan manual](#) by clicking the blue bold titles and the link will take you directly to their page. You can also e-mail supplyorders@toastmasters.org, fax your order to 949-858-1207 or call our Member Services Department at 949-858-8255.

Club Officer Training: Don't Forget the Evaluation!

EVALUATION IS ONE OF THE KEY COMPONENTS of the Toastmasters educational method, so don't neglect this important element when you conduct your Club Officer Trainings. In the back of the [Training Club Leaders](#) manual (Item **217**) is a **Training Evaluation form**, which you can photocopy and distribute to participants. If you forgot to hand out these forms at the training session, you can still provide them to participants in person or via mail, fax, or e-mail. Once you have the participants' feedback, hold a meeting of the training staff to discuss the evaluation forms and suggest ways to improve future sessions.

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Reminders:

Area Visits – Second Round:

Are you looking for strategies to conduct an effective club visit? Begin planning now! Don't wait until two weeks before deadline learn how to conduct an effective visit and to submit your [Area Report of Club Visits](#) – allow time for error and correction.

Make Sure Credit is Given Where Credit is Due –

Check the [District Performance Reports](#) and the [Distinguished Club Program Reports](#) to make sure your clubs, areas, divisions, and district get your credits toward the distinguished goals! Make sure to get reports submitted on time. Clubs will be contacting you to get corrections made for their training before March 31.

Site Stuff –

Want to learn more about TI history? Check out the [About TI](#) section of the Web site or want to get your corporation involved? Learn how your corporation can be a sponsor of a [Toastmasters Corporate Club](#).

Renewal Notice Alert... Pay Dues Online!

THE DUES RENEWAL INVOICE for the period of April 1 through September 30, 2008, was mailed to club presidents of record the last week in February.

Clubs should be encouraged to pay dues online. Not only will the club receive a receipt confirmation, but the credit card and report will be processed immediately. Passwords will be included on the Dues Renewal Invoice.

As a reminder, clubs should submit their dues by one method only to avoid any delays. Clubs paying by check need to mail their renewals to WHQ. If a club has any questions they can send an email to renewals@toastmasters.org.

It is critical to have clubs in your area submit complete membership dues renewals by April 1, 2008, for your area to receive on-time credit in the Distinguished Area Program.

Club officers may pay dues online today at the [Conduct Club Business](#) Section of the TI Web site by clicking on the blue bold title that links directly to the login page. Enter your club number and password, then select **Pay dues for my club's members**.

The status of the April dues renewals is updated daily and reports are available by club, area and division, as well as by overall district performance. Visit [District Reports](#) by clicking the bold title and enter your district number; then choose **April Dues Renewal Status**.

SAVE THE DATE!

ATTEND A REGIONAL CONFERENCE in June. Listen to great speakers and see the contestant from your district compete at the regional level at the International Speech Contest. Listed below are the conference dates and locations for the conference in your region.

Region I – June 13-14, 2008

*Seattle Airport Marriott –
Seattle, Washington*

Region II – June 6-7, 2008

*DoubleTree Hotel –
Orange, California*

Region III – June 13-14, 2008

*Wyndham Greenspoint Hotel –
Houston, Texas*

Region IV – June 27-28, 2008

*Rushmore Plaza Holiday Inn –
Rapid City, South Dakota*

Region V – June 20-21, 2008

*Kansas City Airport Marriott –
Kansas City, Missouri*

Region VI – June 6-7, 2008

*The Westin Ottawa –
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada*

Region VII – June 27-28, 2008

*Hilton Washington Executive Meeting
Center – Rockville, Maryland*

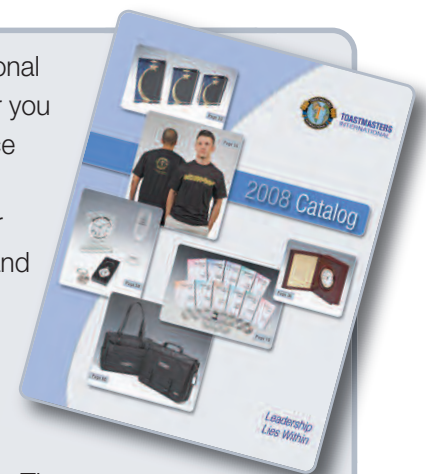
Region VIII – June 20-21, 2008

*Crowne Plaza Atlanta Airport –
Atlanta, Georgia*

Live. Learn. Shop.

Toastmasters International has a variety of educational materials to help you achieve your goals. Whether you want to improve your public speaking skills, enhance your leadership ability or hone your communication skills, everything you need to succeed is within your reach. From educational items to awards, apparel and gifts, Toastmasters offers an array of quality products. Request a copy of the catalog today and start working your way towards achieving your objectives.

If you prefer the online shopping experience, visit the TI store at www.toastmasters.org/shop. Here you can view each product and take advantage of the search feature to locate your items. Use in conjunction with the catalog for an even more effective shopping experience by simply typing the item number in the search box located within the store.



Is Your Contest a Challenge... in Geography?

AS FAR AS THE MAP GOES, NOT ALL DISTRICTS ARE CREATED EQUALLY. Some have dense populations with easy commutes to various activities. Other districts have far-flung clubs with members who must travel long distances to attend any event. Yet it's important to remember that all districts are limited to conducting only four types of contests per year. World Headquarters cannot grant permission for districts to conduct additional speech contests. So for some club, area and division leaders, it might seem like a good idea to combine contests in the hope of maximizing attendance at a contest. While it may be tempting, the official word is to try and avoid combining contests whenever possible.

There is no rule that specifically prohibits joint contests. However, many bad experiences have resulted from joint area and joint division contests. There have been cases where contestants competed in the wrong contests and audience members and judges became confused as well. The results were a lot of angry people. An argument could be made that people who will run these joint contests are experienced members who would not allow such things to happen. Experienced members ran those contests that ran into trouble. And trying to "conserve resources" by combining contests may sound like a good idea, but it does not benefit the contestants. Toastmasters International encourages club, area, division and district leaders to brainstorm ideas for other ways to beat the challenge of geography.

Need To Contact TI?

Please see the [Contact Us](#) page of members.toastmasters.org or e-mail: tinfo@toastmasters.org.

Do You Have the District Calendar?

You can download a copy of the [District Calendar](#) from the TI Web site by clicking on the blue bold title. The link will take you right to it.

Congratulations to the new corporate clubs in January 2008!

American Cancer Society, Austin, TX
Apple Computer Inc, Austin, TX
ASM Cendana, Medan, Indonesia
Black & Veatch Corp, Beijing, China
Brandywine, Wilmington, DE
Citizens Equity First Credit Union, Peoria, IL
Cognos Incorporated, Ottawa, QC, Canada
Comcast, Centennial, CO
Connell Wagner, Brisbane, QLD, Australia
Dawn Foods, Jackson, MI
Deloitte Consulting, San Francisco, CA
Deutsche Bank RC, Singapore, Singapore
Flantech Asia SDN BHD, Bukit Mertajam, PEN, Malaysia
Fluor Corporation, Port Of Spain, Trinidad And Tobago
Ford Motor Co., Henderson, NV
Hartford Life Private Placement, Florham Park, NJ
Housing Authority of the City of Austin, Austin, TX
ITT Aerospace, Rochester, NY
ITT Technical Institute, Liverpool, NY
Lawton School, Southfield, MI
Lenovo, Shenzhen, Guangdong, China
M5 Networks, New York, NY
Mayo Clinic Support Center, Rochester, MN
Pason Systems, Calgary, AB, Canada
Perpetual Limited, Sydney, NSW, Australia
Samsung Austin Semiconductor, Austin, TX
Standard Chartered Bank (China), Shanghai, China
Standard Insurance Co., Portland, OR
Sterling Jewelers, Akron, OH
StreamYX.com, Bintulu, SAR, Malaysia
Sun Trust Svc Corp, Richmond, VA
Suntrust Bank, Richmond, VA
United Way of Greater Houston, Houston, TX
URS, Houston, TX
VM Ware, Austin, TX
Vodafone, Newbury Berkshire, ENG, United Kingdom
Westgate Resorts, Kissimmee, FL
Yankee Candle, South Deerfield, MA