INTERNATIONAL OFFICER/DIRECTOR CANDIDATE
BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Candidate's Name: J Randy Penn, DTM

Candidate's Office: International Director

Region Number: 1

Toastmasters member since: March 1987

Education:

Master of Business Administration, Bachelor of Arts Economics, Fellow National Tax Practice Institute

Employer and/or position: Financial Manager & Consultant for Not For Profit

Served as district governor of district number 26

Term of service: 2006-2007

In term as district governor, district achieved: ☐ Distinguished ☐ Select Distinguished ☐ President's Distinguished

Toastmasters offices held and terms of service (international and regional level):

District 26 Governor 2006-2007, Lt Governor Education & Training 2005-2006 Excellence Award, Lt Governor Marketing 2004-2005 Excellence Award, District Treasurer 2003-2004, Area Governor & Spring Conference Chair 1990-1991, Region 3 Distinguished Club & District Performance Reporting 2008-2010

Toastmasters honors and recognition (international level):

Distinguished Toastmaster, Lt Governor Education & Training 2005-2006 Excellence Award, Lt Governor Marketing 2004-2005 Excellence Award

Relevant work experience and how it relates to Toastmasters and your role as a Board member:

I have 30 years experience as a financial manager, director & analyst in nonprofit & corporate business. I also have extensive experience in strategic planning, financial, policy & procedures management, team building & facilitating change. With experience in creative problem solving in complex, ever-changing environments & creative data analysis & system design, I help improve results while supporting teamwork. I have served as a conference presenter for business, professional societies in tax, finance, & personnel development & media rep.

What experience do you have in strategic planning?

I serve a nonprofit retirement community as volunteer Trustee & Corporate Secretary, strategic planning & policy/operations review. In professional roles, I led the strategic planning function for a statewide professional society, large accounting office & national financial services provider. In the professional society, we supported four nonprofit, two for-profit corporations & a political action committee. In the national financial services provider, I helped define & create a new product line, recruit & train new associates & manage compliance nationwide.

What experience do you have in the area of finance?

I have 30 years professional finance experience in accounting, tax, financial services & financial management in corporate, nonprofit & consulting environments. I developed & managed revenue & expense budgets, capital budgets & project budgets both in money & time in large & small companies. I led or work with the finance committee for 3 fraternal & 1 professional nonprofit organizations.

What experience do you have in developing policies?

One of my most frequent & enjoyable roles is developing & adjusting policy and procedures to achieve the goals & mission of the organization. I have worked with marketing & communication, product development, information technology & human resources in additional to financial & fiscal policy. I serve a nonprofit retirement community as Trustee & Corporate Secretary including strategic planning & policy management oversight.

What lessons did you learn from previous leadership positions?

I enjoy helping individuals & teams grow & learn, to bring out their best & success. I describe Leadership as the visionary side of management. Leadership takes capability to performance, capacity to skills & character to championship. The best way to support volunteers is to treat them like employees using the best human resources skills: give them clear vision & direction, the tools to achieve & hold them accountable for success. Listen first & often.

What experience and key strengths would you bring to the Board of Directors?

I been an active Toastmaster since 1987, worked as a Convention volunteer & supported my region with Distinguished Program statistics. I work best in an environment with multiple, diverse projects, deadlines & varied constituencies. I have a unique skill set that includes years of finance, strategic planning, marketing, project management & compliance oversight. I work effectively with diverse leaders & the public to bring out the best results for individuals & the group.

Why do you want to serve as an international officer/director?

I enjoy supporting & working on the business side of fun. It takes hard work, dedication, interest & desire to look beyond program, personalities & histories making the current state of an organization. Toastmasters must evolve as an education organization to reach its worldwide potential, penetrate mature markets & retain members; the Board needs to explore nontraditional alternatives. I always enjoy looking for the new way while working with a great team.

What volunteer experience do you have outside of Toastmasters?

Colorado Society of Association Executives, Business Relations Committee. Eastern Star Masonic Retirement Center Board of Trustees, Secretary, Guidance (Chair), Strategic Planning & Finance Committee. Denver Scottish Rite Wise Master, Degree Director, Actor & Singer, Food Service & Finance Committees. Westminster Masonic Center Board Secretary. Church Property & Finance Committees Chair, Personnel & AV Committees. Conference Presenter.

Have you worked with other Boards of Directors outside of Toastmasters? If so, describe your experience.

Eastern Star Masonic Retirement Center Board of Trustees, Guidance, Strategic Planning Committees supports a 19 acre assisted living & independent living senior community. Westminster Masonic Center Board Secretary supports the facility needs of the men, women & children fraternal organizations NW Denver. Church Finance, Property Committee Chair, Personnel Committee to guide program development & delivery, facilities & human resources.

In your opinion, what are Toastmasters International's major objectives and how would you work to achieve them?

As an education organization, Toastmasters International teaches leadership & communication skills to willing & excited adults. Members want to change & grow; become better business people, parents, community & spiritual leaders. We give them easy access to a cost effective & successful program to start building their skills. The greatest challenge is keeping them engaged. By focusing on leadership skills we will help them improve their lives & satisfaction.

Additional information about candidate:

Hobbies: Trap shooting, Sports clays & Pistol Competition. Outdoor Sports, Non-Profit & Volunteer Management, Reading, Women's Collegiate & Professional Basketball. Honors/Recognition: Scottish Rite 32° Knight Commander Court of Honor, Past Master & District Lecturer Masonic Lodge, Central States Shriners Assoc Provost VP.