



District 40 Success Times

October 2007

District 40 Toastmasters in OH, KY, WV, IN

Vol 2007, Nr 4

E-mail: successtimes@d40toastmasters.org

Welcome to the D40 Family:

Nationwide Rings Road Club

Club # 1015118
At 5100 Rings Rd, Dublin, OH, 43017
PH: 614-435-1732
Meet: Noon, 2nd 4/4th Tue
Criteria: Contact Club
Charter Date: 9/11/2007

New DTMs:

Koti Sreekrishna

Miami Valley Innovation Center Club #9056
Cincinnati, OH
Area 35, Western Div
Sept 30, 2007

Keiderling, Sandra S.

Worthington Club #1028
Worthington, OH
Area 14, Central Div
Aug 24, 2007

October Dues Status:

As of 9/11 Clubs in District 40

127	Verified complete
17	Arrived not verified
18	Not Received
1	Suspended
1	Needs Addl Information

(Which group is YOUR club in?)

Toastmaster Magazines Online:

Did you know you can access back issues of this year's TM magazine? Go to the link at <http://www.toastmasters.org/Magazine.aspx> and click on **Login**. Enter your login id and password, then click on the link for **Archive**.

Act One; Part One

Bud Watkins, DTM, District Governor

The conference is upon us and we are EXCITED! We have as our special guest International Toastmaster President Chris Ford. He is the number one ambassador for Toastmasters and you can meet him at the conference in Fairborn, Ohio at the Holiday Inn on Presidential Drive. This last weekend in October will be jam packed with Fun and Learning opportunities.

Fellow Club members, Area Governors, Division Governors, and contestants we are prepared to show them how we do it in District 40!

Magic shows, educational sessions, and so much more. Contests the whole family can enjoy: Awards, rewards and more.

I believe that this is one conference you will say, "I am glad I came", or "Man I'm sorry I didn't." Don't miss the Fun.

The Contest have been fantastic, funny and interesting to say the least, I have learned more about our Toastmaster Family in the last few weeks than ever before I will see you at the next event and the Conference.

Learn what it takes to lead, instruct, and be part of the whole Toastmasters experience. If you would like to present at a conference to stand up in front of our group and teach us your insightful program then please get in contact with Merle Shinault, or Hal Walters for our spring conference in April.

Officer training is also right around the corner so look for more information on the District web site. Contests, open ho

use and fantastic thing out there for all to see.

I'll see **you** in the front row!



Bud Watkins DTM
District 40 Governor
bud_watkins@optibility.com



Chris Ford DTM
President, Toastmasters International



2008 District 40 Spring Conference Theme

Going for the Gold



in celebration of the upcoming Olympics Visit the special Fall Conference site for MORE detail: <http://www.bright.net/~123goto/grand%20lake%20Toastmasters%20Fall%20Conference%20Info.htm>

Come to the conference and bring your members and your proxies. You and your VP of Education will be allowed to vote in person, or by sending your proxies by a member-in-good-standing of your club. In either case, registration will be necessary at the credentials desk prior to the business meeting on Saturday afternoon, October 27.



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For New Officers and Toastmasters

Merle Shinault, DTM, Lt. Gov. of Education

Council and proxies. You don't have to wear that same look on YOUR face that I had back then. This message attempts to answer questions BEFORE many new officers and new Toastmasters -- except really extremely very alert ones! -- even realize that they have these questions:

- What is a proxy?
- Does my club need one?
- What is District Council?
- What happens at District Council that requires voting?

District Council proxy forms are used by Club Presidents and Vice Presidents of Education to designate another Club member to vote at the District Council meeting during each District 40 Conference (Proxy copy to be found at the end of this newsletter)

Who can vote at District Council Meetings?

All clubs in good standing (dues received by Toastmasters International) have two votes for District business requiring District membership majority approval. Normally, Club President and VP Education carry Club votes at the business meeting. District Officers are also voting members of the District Council.

Why is a quorum necessary?

In order for District business to be properly conducted, our Bylaws require that a quorum of the voting membership be present at the business meeting. A quorum for the District Council is defined as one-third of the Club Presidents, Club Vice Presidents of Education, or their proxies. A quorum is determined by the number of clubs x 2 divided by 1/3 rounded up, not the number of people.

What are proxies for?

Proxies are only needed when both the President and VP Education are unable to attend the District Council meeting in person. (If either the President or the VP Education are present, that officer is allowed to carry both votes and no proxy is needed.) If the President's, VP Education's signatures or proxies are not available, a club will not have the opportunity to vote.

Who can carry your club proxy?

Any Club member in good standing may carry the Club's proxy. Members of other clubs may not carry a proxy for your club, even if they are a District officer.

Do the President and VP Education have to carry the proxy?

Proxies are needed only if the President and/or VP Education cannot attend. Registration at the credentials desk is required of the President or VP Education to acquire their voting ballots. Proxy holders must also check in at the credentials desk to receive ballots.

Can a member carry the proxy for both the President and VP Education?

Any Club member in good standing may carry the Club's proxy. Members of other clubs may not carry a proxy for your club, even if they are a District officer.

Do the President and VP Education have to carry the proxy?

Proxies are needed only if the President and/or VP Education cannot attend. Registration at the credentials desk is required of the President or VP Education to acquire their voting ballots. Proxy holders must also check in at the credentials desk to receive ballots.

Can a member carry the proxy for both the President and VP Education?

Yes, a single club member may carry both proxies. The form has spaces for both signatures.

What happens at District Council that requires voting?

The District Council must approve its agenda, the minutes, the budget, and work through any new or old business items requiring a vote. The main vote item is probably the review and approval of the district budget. The District Council is the place and time for conducting official business of the District. There are announcements and explanations and some Q/A about how the district is run.



Merle Shinault, DTM
District 40 Lt Gov Ed & Training
mshinaul@columbus.rr.com



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For New Officers and Toastmasters (Cont'd)

Merle Shinault, DTM, Lt. Gov. of Education

For many of us, large formal meetings are not a common experience. We can build some competency in communications and leadership when we become familiar with proven methods that allow large groups to work quickly and fairly, to hear out all sides of an issue (time limits apply), and determine will of the majority. Since many members of the Council may be new, the Fall session is helpful "practice," to ready us for the Spring session when Council votes on Realignment and District Officers.

When does the Council meet? When does registration close?

The District Council meeting will be Saturday, October 27, at 4:00 p.m. Usually, this means that the credentials table closes at 3:45 p.m. Clubs must obtain ballots before this registration table closes. **Save time:** Note that it is unnecessary for both President and VP-E to stand in line to register. One club officer (Pres or VP-E) can sign in and pick up both votes, or a proxy holder carrying both proxies to the table can get the two ballots. This tip can help shorten the lines at the credentials table.

For clubs whose President AND Vice-President of Education will not be in attendance, the proxy is mainly preparation work -- but it is a very important preparation so that clubs have a recognized voice and a power to act. If we stop and think about the whole process, we notice that each part of the process described is necessary for the sake of fairness and efficiency.

Is Your Club Worth Belonging To?

Jamey French, DTM, Lt. Gov. of Marketing

Do your club members look forward to the next Toastmasters meeting? Do most of your guests join? When they do join, do they stay long enough to obtain the Competent Communicator award? If you answered "no" to any of these questions then your club is not meeting the needs of its members. To sustain ongoing and long-term membership growth your club must be worth belonging to!

Over 80 years ago Dr. Smedley dreamed of an organization dedicated to helping people improve their communication and leadership skills in a supportive and friendly environment. His dream is alive and well throughout the world today and hundreds of thousands of individuals are benefiting from that dream. With that said, over those 80 plus years one single critical factor has been evident separating the clubs worth belonging to and those that are not; the ability to operate continuously at 20 or more members. Or in other words maintain "charter strength." If your club is not currently at charter strength then that means your club has experienced a net loss in members. Now it probably did not happen overnight, but over the years it has lost more members than it has gained.

Why is "Charter Strength" so important? When the club is able to maintain 20 plus members it is more beneficial to its members through:

- Better club programs
- More variety, experiences, and resources
- Depth of leadership
- More representation of Toastmasters throughout your community or organization
- More financial resources for club programming and projects
- More people served and helped by Toastmasters' programs
- More energy and excitement at club meetings

In order to attract new members and to keep existing members and ensure long-term success for your club there are 6 factors you must always keep in mind:

1. Keep club meetings fun and exciting and worthwhile for new and old members alike
2. Have ongoing promotions of Toastmasters throughout your community or organization
3. Follow the program. (80 plus years of success, no need to re-invent the wheel)
4. Retain current members
5. Get your club involved in area, division, and district activities
6. Recognize your members as they achieve educational milestones (CC, AC, DTM, etc)

Remember, in order for your club to serves its members and to help them achieve what they came to Toastmasters to achieve, it is critical that your club is worth belonging to. The best way to ensure that is to reach out and find new members and keep your membership at 20 or more members.



Jamey French, DTM
District 40 Lt Gov
Marketing
jamey_french@optibility.co



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Brewery District Toastmasters Membership Drive

Tammy Katz, VP Public Relations, BD Toastmasters

Successful New Member Drive at Brewery District Toastmasters – It Worked. Try It!

Brewery District Toastmasters Club, which meets at Grange Insurance, recruited 10 new members in one quarter. We did it by doing three things: 1) conducted an Open House; 2) worked with the host business (Grange Insurance) to develop an Employee Development incentive, and 3) publicized the Open House and the employee incentive. It worked very well and we wanted to share it with our fellow Toastmasters and encourage you to consider doing a similar program.

The Chapter conducted and promoted a 50+ person Open House at noon, with the irresistible lure of free food and Toastmaster speeches, including ones about 'what goes on at a typical Toastmasters meeting' and 'how I've benefited from becoming a Toastmaster,' and a special appearance by Mike Perez, who was the District 40 Governor at the time. Grange Management also introduced a surprise cash incentive! The event was well publicized in the company newsletter and signs in high traffic locations.

The program was developed by Grange associates Carol Paquette, President of the Chapter, and John McDermott, immediate past-president, developed the idea of offering a stipend. The Vice President of Human Resources and Chief Executive Officer enthusiastically supported it. They saw the opportunity for employee development and improved communications as consistent with the company's goals. They authorized a \$500 stipend for employees who earned a Toastmasters certifications on the communication or leadership track. Melissa Mitchell, VP Membership was vigilant about tracking, following up with, and closing every promising lead from the program.

We are temporarily a bit challenged by so many new members: heavy demand for limited speaking spots at meetings. However, we think it's a great "problem" to have. We will have one "all Ice Breakers" meeting in a few weeks to address the needs of our new members. "The program exceeded our expectations," said Carol Paquette, "and there's great positive energy in the Club from successfully attracting some terrific new members."

Trailblazer Program Update

Merle Shinault, DTM, Lt. Gov. of Education

Thank you to all who put forth so much effort to make this contest a success.

Congratulations, District 40, on a great Distinguished year!

As a result of your membership-building efforts, we will award a new Augusta Green blazer to one person in all five contest categories. The major goal of this program was to increase membership within the district, and we increased membership overall across the district. The winner of the Club Coach category increased membership of her club by eleven members, and brought the club performance up to Select Distinguished.

I just received the blazers, and they look SUPER!!! Even better than this picture! Come to the Fall Conference on October 26-28 and see who the winners are. We will post the winners on the D40 website after the Fall Conference



Once again, District 40, you have come through!!!

What's Missing Here?

YOUR article, YOUR news, that's what's missing! All it takes is a few minutes. Give credit where credit is due. Spread those warm and fuzzies. We are in the Communicating business. So... COMMUNICATE! There are lots of folks that deserve recognition that don't get it. Area and District Governors, Club Presidents and VPs PR, shine that spotlight where it belongs. Don't be late next time. Send it and it will appear. ☺



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Quick Directory:

Need some help with your club's statement?

statements@toastmasters.org

Want to submit club bylaw amendments or questions?

clubbylaws@toastmasters.org

Want to place an order?

supplyorders@toastmasters.org

Still not sure? Visit the Contact Us section of the TI Web site or e-mail

tininfo@toastmasters.org.

It's A Family Affair:

The Athenian Toastmasters Club #707357 kept it all in the family this year. Connie Romine, wife of Immediate Past President, Tom Romine was installed as President in July. The photo below shows Tom, as he "pins" his sweetheart of 37+ years as the newly installed President.



District 40 Web Site Submission Guidelines:

Go to this web site page for information on how to submit

<http://www.d40toastmasters.org/profiles/webmaster.htm>

Send your emails to:

webmaster@d40toastmasters.org

It's All About Wiggle Room

Carol L. Kormelink DTM, Area 53 Governor and

John Humpert CTM/CL, ACE Advanced Communicators & Evaluators

What is the chance that an acorn with no "wiggle room" will become a mighty oak? Toastmasters in Area 53 are taking no chances to miss out on magnificent growth.

Focused on opportunities, realistic about challenges, and confident that a common vision points them in the right direction, their secret to success has much to do with wiggle room.

To understand what it's all about, consider the meaning of June 30 to some. *In Area 53, while it's true that June 30 is a deadline day, it's also just another ordinary and beautiful spring day to enjoy.* What about those Toastmasters goals? *Oh! You mean April 1!* A goal *not* met in Area 53 by April 1 is now a past due goal—with wiggle room to do something about it. Maybe you heard that October 10 was a deadline for semi-annual dues for International? In Area 53, the deadline was each club's final meeting in September. (wiggle room). It turns out that all semi-annual reports were in by end of September. Most Area 53 clubs sent in dues online this Fall: what a great time-saver!

New members and renewals keep coming—Area 53's excitement and camaraderie draws people in from far and wide. Take Geisla Bahr, for example. She drives 40 miles one way to attend the weekly meeting of Kenwood's **A Toast Of The Town, Kenwood Toastmasters Club #7780**. They have plenty of guests and 9 new members thus far.

ACE Advanced Communicators & Evaluators #8119—District 40's only club with 100% renewals to date—is already more than halfway toward locking up the goal of "net increase of 5 members" needed for a Distinguished Club. Its unique feature is "better faster" growth for communicators. A gardener might call it "Miracle-Gro for DTMs." Club membership is open to those having attained Competent Communicator or its equivalent, maintaining dual membership in this and a home club, and being voted in. Intense growth comes from "thicker, richer evaluations." Each prepared speech garners a thorough panel evaluation. The harvest is not just stored in the barn then; it gets back to the home clubs.

FTMT on Campus #907534 is Area 53's only corporate club. Members want it to be a Distinguished Club by November 1; "Select Distinguished" by January 5, and "President's Distinguished" with 10 of 10 goals by February 10. Toastmasters' communication competency program is now an element in the bank employees' ongoing training and development at this location. They expect 8 new CCs this year. Four more clubs in the Area 53 family also aim for "President's Distinguished"—two are passionate about 10 of 10. The sixth club plans to be Distinguished or better.

TV Toastmasters Club #9523 has at least two claims to fame. In District 40, it is the only club with Saturday meetings; and its activities are broadcast on three public cable channels. This advanced club offers members an opportunity to learn all about cable television broadcasting as they pursue their personal Toastmasters goals. Each new member receives the advanced manual "Communicating on Television" upon joining, and the three speakers featured in each meeting segment each receive a take-home copy of the recorded meeting. Come visit us!

The new president of **Seven Hills Club #1578**, Michael Washington, and fellow members are working to create the ideal environment for mastering the essential elements of communication: listening, thinking, and speaking. The club's ongoing leadership training is based in the Competent Leader manual. Club Secretary/Treasurer Janet Kassalen appreciates how members work up an appetite as they go; she is known to bring homemade refreshments. So there we have it: the incredible, edible Toastmaster meeting!

Cincinnati Club #472 is also growing leaders with an educational moment at every meeting, and plenty of guests. They have great participation outside the club at District events.

Editor Comment: *Thanks for a great article Carol! We can see that Area 53 is really Toastin' right along. How about the other Areas in the District? Let us know, send your input to the Editor at successtimes@d40toastmasters.org for inclusion in the NEXT issue of the ST. Let everyone know how well your clubs are doing.*



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Success Times Article Submission Guidelines:

Articles can be up to about a thousand words if there are no photos included. For each photo, deduct four hundred words. The goal is to keep articles on one page for ease in arranging layout.

The editor reserves the right to edit input to fit pages and for readability. The author will be notified of changes made and given opportunity to approve/modify same (minor grammatical and/or spelling changes will be made without notice). If no reply to such a change notice is received, consent is implied.

All entries should include the author name/email address, TI title (as in CL, ACB, CC, etc.), club officer position (if any), and club name/number.

Input cutoff dates: target dates are the 15th of January, March, August, and October. Publication will be as soon as possible after such dates (probably within two weeks). These dates are fluid and may vary depending on current circumstances.

The ST editor is seeking active and continuing editorial assistants. YOU can be part of creating the next Success Times!

Send inputs and comments to: successtimes@d40toastmasters.org.

Internal Public Relations

Susan Yago, VP Public Relations Athenian Toastmasters (#707357)

Is participation and excitement lagging in your club? Do you have the "burn out blues?" How do you keep your long term members pumped up and involved? Successful clubs cannot overlook the important tool of **Internal Public Relations**. That sounds like a bit of an oxymoron but building goodwill, camaraderie and excitement within your club is as important to retention, growth and member satisfaction as external public exposure.

Need some ideas?

1. Send out upbeat reviews of meetings to keep absent members informed and to recognize members' participation. Use names, punctuation (!), and positive language to make those who were present proud of what they did and make those who were absent wish they had been there! People love to see their names in print.
2. Award silly prizes at your business meetings. I have given awards for those with the most authenticated log-ins on our web site and members who updated their goals online. Prizes can be printed certificates, bubbles (which then makes the meeting interesting), candy, or other inexpensive, fun stuff. Let your imagination run wild.
3. Because our club meets during the lunch hour, we occasionally schedule an evening meeting. We get to have fun by spicing up the meeting with a theme and it allows for socializing prior to and after the meeting. We don't get much chance for that at lunch time as everyone has to rush back to work.
4. The Athenian Toastmasters Club has an annual Founders' Day Picnic honoring our chartering in September. It is sponsored by the Immediate Past President (held in his/her home or that of another member) and brings together all our members and their families for an afternoon of food, fun and companionship.

Keeping your members excited is the key to maintaining a healthy, growing and productive club.

The Success Times Needs YOU!



The Success Times is seeking those of a creative nature: one person per Division in District 40. Look for and/or create articles for publication. Be a part of the Team. Contact the editor at: successtimes@d40toastmasters.org

Toasters International

Check Our Website at <http://www.d40toastmasters.org> for the Latest Information

District 40 Success Times Editor

Steven Guenther

Cell: (614) 581-4289

E-mail: successtimes@d40toastmasters.org

Address: 1631 Minturn Drive
New Albany, OH, 43054



District 40 Success Times Publisher

Walter "Bud" Watkins

Home: (937) 599-4851

Cell: (937) 441-3613

E-mail: bud_watkins@optibility.com

Address: 3271 CR 130
Bellefontaine, OH, 43311

Please share the Success Times with your club by distributing via email and at your meetings!

Attention Presidents and VPs-Education
Toastmasters International District 40

Fall Conference Proxy

Business Meeting

Location: **Fairborn Holiday Inn, Fairborn Ohio** Date: **October 27, 2007**

Club Name: _____ **Club No:** _____

I hereby appoint:

to vote as my proxy at the Conference stated above.

Signed: _____ Title: (circle) **President** or **VP-Education**

Date _____

Either the Club President or the Club VP-Education may designate, in writing, (using this form or other written communication) any active member in good standing of the Club to act as a proxy or proxies, and cast one or both ballots of the Club at the District Council Meeting. In the event one of those Officers is not in attendance at the meeting and has not designated, in writing an active member of the Club to act as proxy or proxies of the Club at any Council meeting, the other Officer in attendance may cast two votes. No other proxies shall be valid in any such meeting. Each member of the District Council, or Club proxy for the Club President or VP-Education in attendance is entitled to one vote. Any active member who carries the proxies of both Club President and VP-Education from the Club is entitled to two votes; and any such Toastmaster who is also a member of the District Executive Committee is entitled to three votes. All other Toastmasters shall be limited to a maximum of two votes, regardless of the number of Clubs to which they belong. The maximum number of votes that any Toastmaster may cast is three regardless of the number of Clubs to which that Toastmaster belongs.

(Fill out, and give to member attending the D40 Fall Conference.)