



The Will Factor

A Newsletter from the District 58 Governor to the District Executive Committee (DEC)
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Is 8th Good Enough?

Through December 31st, Toastmasters International projects that District 58 will finish as the 8th Most Successful District in the World, and we'll be recognized in Atlanta at the International Conference as a Select Distinguished District.

However, a word of caution. 8th is only a projection based on what we have done as a District from July 1 through December 31.

If we do more of what we have already done, the District will rise into the Top 6, and we will receive recognition as a President's Distinguished District. Likewise, if our efforts fall short, our position will drop and we'll only be a Distinguished District.

Is 8th Good Enough? No! Why would anyone settle for less than can be achieved?

The key to our District's success is the success of the Area Governors. Each Area Governor that achieves recognition as a President's Distinguished Area will cause our position in TI's ranking to rise. If enough Area Governors engage in the pursuit of their Area's overall success, District 58 cannot help but achieve success!

If you are one of the District's Area Governors who is focused on being an outstanding Area Governor, then your focus must include the starting of a New Club in your Area. To maximize the impact of a New Club within the District, the New Club should be Chartered before March 31 to capture the double per caps (one per cap for joining and one per cap when the club submits their semiannual report with dues for the period April 1 through September 30).

Last Saturday I attended mid-year training with the other District Governors of Region 8 in Charlotte, North Carolina. During the training, this question was asked: *What 3 goals/tasks can the District implement to propel it beyond Distinguished?* My answer was:

1. Keep on keeping on
2. More, again
3. Offer the District's resources to assist those Area Governors who want to achieve as President's Distinguished Area Governor.

By "Keep on keeping on," I was referring to the fact that many in the District had already accepted responsibility for their own success as indicated by our current ranking.

When I said "More, again," I meant to do even more of what was already working and then do that again at every level—Member, Club, Area, Division, and District.

In offering District resources I was referring to the many Toastmasters who want to be a part of a successful District. No request from an Area Governor that is in support of them achieving President's Distinguished will be rejected with out careful consideration.

The Toastmasters of District 58 gave me the opportunity to serve as District Governor. I've learned through wise counsel of my mentors that I cannot drive others to achieve what I believe is ours to earn. The question on the table is:

Is 8th Good Enough?

If I want It Done Right . . .

During the mid-year training session I attended in Charlotte a statement was made by one Governor that. *"If I want to get it done right I have to do it myself."* I pity the person who believes this to be a true statement. The secret to our success is to develop a team of people who are working together to accomplish the vision / goals of the whole. A wise and rich man said he would rather have 10% of the efforts of 10 people than 100% of the efforts of one person.

If you are determined to do all that is asked of you as an Area/Division Governor yourself, you have already found out it is impossible. Without a team to assist you, tasks go undone and your Area/Division suffers. There will never be enough time to accomplish all that is needed of you at home, work, Toastmasters, etc. Short of cloning yourself, you must enlist others to serve with you.

Area Governors, it is not too late to read pages 11-12 in your *Area Leadership Handbook* and implement an Area Council. Do it for the good of your Members you serve and do it for your own good. Help is but a phone call away.

What if Every Club Had Two Attending

Another question from mid-year training last Saturday that got me to thinking was, *"How many people would you have at our conferences if each club sent at least two members?"* For District 58 the answer is 91 Clubs X 2 Members each = 182. WOW! Shouldn't that be our minimum goal? After all, the Club President and Vice President Education should attend for the District Council Meeting of which both are members.

The Spring Conference is shaping up nicely and promises to be an outstanding event. The Education Presenters all have excellent programs. The pre-conference seminar will be worth coming early for, and the contests will be terrific. Our District's Lieutenant Governor Education & Training (LGET) Bill May has as his vision to see District 58 produce the winner of the 2003 World Championship of Public Speaking. I guarantee the District 58 International Speech Contest will be a do-not-miss event.

What is, www.toastmasters-d58.org?

I hope there is no one who is a member of the District Council who isn't familiar with the address of the

District 58 Website—www.toastmasters-d58.org. The District's Website is our major way of communicating with Members about what is happening in District 58. Our District is blessed with the BEST Webmaster in all of Toastmasters, Tom Humphries (tom@tomhumphries.com). If you take a minute to look at the bottom of the Home Page you will see the awards the site has already deservedly won.

We must continue to encourage Members to visit the District's Website regularly and frequently. It is only when we are reaching ALL of our Members that we can be satisfied that everyone is getting the same information.

Members who are not computer savvy need help. Ideally, someone in their Club will print out the information for them and make sure they get it. If the Club isn't doing such, then the Area Governor should.

Way To Go, Division D

All reports from Toastmasters who attended the Club Officer Training in Greenville on Saturday, January 11, are super positive. The host Club was the Piedmont Executive Club #4035, John Kaiser, President, and the Training Chairman was Gary Wheeler. LGET Bill May attended the seminar and gave me terrific reviews on the quality of the training offered. Congratulations Piedmont Executives and Gary Wheeler for a task well done!

Division A This Saturday

Division A will hold Club Officer Training in the Lowcountry this weekend, January 25. Needed information is posted on the District's Website. Toastmasters from throughout the District, not just Division A are welcome. This training, just as that by Division D, and that that will be offered by Division B & C, counts towards meeting one of the objectives in the Distinguished Club Program. All Club Officers should attend Club Officer Training for the good of their Club that elected them to serve.

Division B & C, February 1

Division B & C will offer Club Officer Training in Columbia on Saturday, February 1. This will be the last opportunity for Club Officers to attend training. Toastmasters in the Midlands have an outstanding reputation for holding excellent training seminars. The training on February 1 will not be an exception!