

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 ®

TI Gift Certificates

GIFT CERTIFICATES ARE A GREAT WAY TO REWARD MEMBERS and/or clubs, but please be aware that there are some important guidelines for districts to consider when using them.

- ▶ Toastmasters strongly discourages using gift certificates at the district bookstore. Instead, members should use gift certificates to order directly from World Headquarters. WHQ cannot reimburse the district for TI-issued gift certificates.
- ▶ We suggest instead that districts make up their own gift certificates for use at their district bookstores.
- ▶ In order to simplify record-keeping, orders using gift certificates cannot be mixed with payments from the District Reserve.
- ▶ If a WHQ gift certificate is used for an order and the total order is less than the amount of the gift certificate, TI does not keep the difference on the account; it is refunded to the person who submitted the order.

Membership Contest Reports Available Online!

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP BUILDING, SMEDLEY, TALK UP TOASTMASTERS and Beat The Clock contest reports are now available on TI's Web site. To view these reports go to: members.toastmasters.org > **Officer Resources** > **District Officer Resources** > **Membership Building Contest Reports**. Use the reports' information to recognize clubs and individual members for their contributions to membership growth.

Need New Members?

VIRTUALLY ALL TOASTMASTERS CLUBS NEED NEW MEMBERS. Even a club enjoying healthy membership numbers should prepare for losses caused by members moving, obtaining new employment or reaching their objectives.

Clubs can push their numbers in the right direction by conducting a simple membership-building contest. Two complete club-based contest descriptions are available, free of charge, in *A Simple Membership Building Program* (Item 1621) and *Membership Building 101* (Item 1622). These can be downloaded and printed by visiting members.toastmasters.org > **Membership Building tab** > **Membership Drive** > **(Select either PDF link)**.

In addition to the membership contest information, you can use the Prospective Clubs report on TI's Web site to track prospective new clubs and to make contact with them to offer your support. Navigate to the report at: members.toastmasters.org > **Need Help With...Performance Reports** > **District Reports** > **"Start Here"** drop down menu [select a district] > **Change Reports** drop down menu [select "Prospective Clubs"].

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REMINDERS:

Alignments: It is not too early to start planning for next year. All district governors and Lt. governors should use the e-mail communication they received from WHQ to begin discussing and planning their alignment for next year.

Free District Resources: Don't forget that as district governors and Lt. governors, you have resources to track your district's progress. E-mail districts@toastmasters.org for a list of club officers, members by district, non-renewing members, district officers or for club directories. You can also visit the TI Web site for district and club reports.

Membership Building Contests: You can track your district's progress in the membership building contests on the TI Web site: members.toastmasters.org > **Officer Resources** > **District Officer Resources** > **Membership Building Contest Reports**.

Area Visits – Second Round: The deadline for submitting visit reports is May 31, but don't wait to submit your reports. Submitting reports well before the deadline allows time to check reports, make corrections and ensure credit is awarded accurately.

Inventory Schedule – Orders on Hold: As part of TI's inventory process, which is required by law, we will be unable to process the following transactions from December 19, 2007, through January 4, 2008, including all submissions online and/or by mail:

- Supply orders
- New member kits
- Charter kits
- Education award certificates (including free advanced manuals)

Is Your District Thinking About Midcourse Adjustments?

IS YOUR DISTRICT ON TRACK TO BECOMING a Distinguished District? Use this checklist to determine where your district is on its journey to distinguished status:

Have all clubs in your district paid dues for the current renewal period?

Has your district reached the number of active clubs needed to achieve its year-end goals? Remember, clubs must be paid on June 30 to be counted in the Distinguished District Program totals.

Has your district achieved at least 50% of its membership-payment goal?

If not, determine which clubs in your district have not paid dues and help them get their dues submitted. If most clubs have paid and the membership payment total is still not at 50% of the goal, implement midyear adjustments to build membership within existing clubs and charter new clubs.

Are CC and AC totals at 50% of your district goal?

If not, then it's time to get members' commitment to achieve these awards by the end of the year. Area governors can be instrumental in encouraging educational achievement. Spend some time reviewing the Area Report of Club Visit Forms for visits made during the first half of this program year. On the form, area governors are asked to list individuals who are committed to achieving a CC or an AC by the end of the program year. Partner with your area governors to ensure follow-up on these commitments during their second-round visits and throughout the remainder of the year.

Members First!

THE PUBLIC TOASTMASTERS Web site – toastmasters.org – is a great place for nonmembers to learn about our organization. But if you're an area or district officer, your first stop should be the Toastmasters Web site for members. To find it, simply put the members first... literally. This new site – members.toastmasters.org – is the place where area and district leaders go to pick up the latest member-specific information, see Convention photos, conduct Toastmasters business, and much more. Just remember, it's where *the members go first*. Add a dot, and you're there: **members.toastmasters.org**.

"Mistakes are the portals of discovery."

James Joyce (1882-1941)

2008 Regional Conferences

Region I	D-32	June 13-14	Seattle Airport Marriott Seattle, Washington	Ellen Bradley-Mak E-mail: ebmak@ci.kent.wa.us
Region II	D-F	June 6-7	Double Tree Hotel Orange, California	Linda Northrop E-mail: linda.northrop@verizon.net
Region III	D-56	June 13-14	Wyndham Greenspoint Hotel Houston, Texas	Pamela McCown E-mail: pamelamccown@hotmail.com
Region IV	D-78	June 27-28	Rushmore Plaza Holiday Inn Rapid City, South Dakota	Joann Edstrom E-mail: joannedstrom@rushmore.com
Region V	D-22	June 20-21	Kansas City Airport Marriott Kansas City, Missouri	Lois Harger E-mail: loisdtm@aol.com
Region VI	D-61	June 6-7	The Westin Ottawa Ottawa, Ontario	Sue Dalati E-mail: adalat0464@rogers.com
Region VII	D-36	June 27-28	Hilton Washington Executive Meeting Center Rockville, Maryland	Michael Heney E-mail: mike@heney.net
Region VIII	D-14	June 20-21	Crowne Plaza Atlanta Airport Atlanta, Georgia	James Dawson E-mail: jrdawson@adiperformance.com

CORPORATE RECOGNITION PROGRAM

HOW CAN WE SHOW OUR APPRECIATION TO THE COMPANIES and organizations that support the Toastmasters program? As a district officer or international director, you can request a recognition plaque for organizations that actively support Toastmasters. This mirrored plaque is etched with: "Toastmasters International Recognizes [Corporation/Organization Name] For Creating Value and Enhancing Employee Engagement Through Continuing Support of the Toastmasters Communication and Leadership Program."

Two corporate recognition plaques are authorized per district visit to be awarded by an international director or the International President. You may request this token of appreciation by sending an e-mail with the organization's name and date of the corporate visit at least four weeks prior to the scheduled visit to Corporate Relations Coordinator Beverly Wallace at bwallace@toastmasters.org.

Read more about this program in the *Guide to Sponsor Acknowledgment Visits*. All top-three district officers and all current international directors received this PDF via e-mail several months ago. If you would like a copy, please request one from Beverly Wallace. This document is not available on the Web site or the online store at this time.

The purpose of the corporate recognition visit program is to recognize supportive organizations, to reinforce Toastmasters' relationship with the company and show we appreciate their sponsorship.

Featured Product

LOOKING FOR SOME NEW AWARDS? Look no further! Choose from beautiful Shooting Star Acrylics (Items 1956A-C), contemporary Mirage Acrylics (Items 1957A-C) or the attractive Midnight Acrylics (Items 1958A-B). Ranging from \$14-\$25, these affordable, quality awards are great for all occasions!

For more information or to view or purchase these awards, please visit TI's online store at www.toastmasters.org/shop.

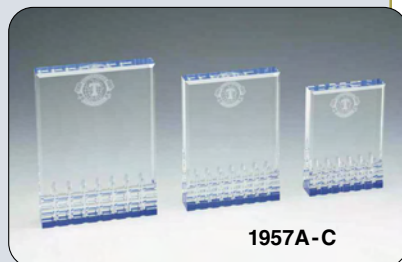
You may also order by contacting our Member Services Department at supplyorders@toastmasters.org or call 949-858-8255.



1956A-C



1958A-B



1957A-C

Congratulations to the 32 new corporate clubs in November 2007!

Aegon – Duluth, GA

Apotex – Toronto, ON, Canada (3)

Asian Compressor Technology Services – Taoyuan, Hsien, Taiwan

Arizona Office of the Auditor General – Phoenix, AZ

BEA Systems – San Francisco, CA

Boston College – Chestnut Hill, MA

Bureau of Internal Revenue – Cebu City, Philippines

CGI – Halifax, NS, Canada

Deloitte Consulting – Toronto, ON, Canada

Eaton Technologies – Pune, Maharashtra, India

EF Professional English – Beijing, China

Environ – Brentwood, TN

Erlanger – Chattanooga, TN

F5 Networks – Redmond, WA

Fisher-Rosemount Systems – Pasig, Metro Manila, Philippines

Gafsons Industries – Georgetown, Guyana

HKS – Dallas, TX

Intuit – San Diego, CA

Leake County School District – Walnut Grove, MS

Les Ailes – Paris, France

Lockheed Martin – Litchfield Park, AZ

National Money Mart – Victoria, BC, Canada

Norfolk Southern Corp. – Norfolk, VA

Strategic Systems Solutions – Hangzhou, China

Supervalu – Boise, ID (2)

Volkswagen Credit – Libertyville, IL

Wells Fargo – San Francisco, CA

Xoma – Berkeley, CA

Yahoo! – Santa Monica, CA

Word Search Puzzle: Eight Great Ways to Enjoy members.toastmasters.org

CLUES:

1. The second item listed under "News" where you'll find the latest messages from TI.
2. The Tips and District _____ are one click away from the home page.
3. Where are the International Convention photos?
4. To purchase a new manual, click this.
5. The *Toastmaster* magazine offers an online _____.
6. To read about the 2008 Convention, click first on the Member Experience _____.
7. The main page of the Web site.
8. The Web site where Toastmasters go first!

Find the answers to the clues hidden both horizontally and vertically.

PUZZLE:

Q	W	E	R	T	Y	U	G	I	O	P	L	K
L	Z	X	C	V	B	N	A	B	N	N	N	T
K	M	K	O	N	J	I	L	B	H	U	E	V
H	V	G	Y	C	F	T	L	R	D	C	W	Z
G	R	E	W	L	K	J	E	H	H	F	S	D
F	W	D	S	R	T	A	R	M	O	G	L	B
T	S	H	H	D	F	R	I	E	M	H	E	J
A	N	N	O	U	N	C	E	M	E	N	T	S
B	J	K	P	M	T	H	S	B	Z	M	T	L
M	X	N	C	N	M	I	P	E	D	R	E	T
N	G	T	M	P	Q	V	L	R	J	K	R	P
B	E	F	K	L	D	E	H	S	M	N	S	D
V	Z	T	A	L	H	P	Y	I	E	S	D	T

For the solution, please go to members.toastmasters.org and click on the "Newsletters" link.

You are invited to a Board Meeting at World Headquarters

TOASTMASTERS INTERNATIONAL'S Board of Directors is meeting at Toastmasters' World Headquarters on February 16, 2008, at 1 p.m. All members are invited to attend the meeting at 23182 Arroyo Vista, Rancho Santa Margarita, CA 92688.

2008 Catalog

WATCH FOR TOASTMASTERS International's 2008 Catalog coming in January! You'll find exciting new awards, books, promotional items, t-shirts and gifts. Whether you want to enhance your communication skills, leadership abilities or build your confidence, everything you need to achieve these goals is right there. Request your copy and start taking advantage of all Toastmasters has to offer!

Make Mid-Year Training Second to None

SOMETIMES OFFICERS OF CLUBS electing annually don't believe attending training a second time is necessary. They may attend only so their club can receive credit toward one of the goals in the Distinguished Club Program. Give them a reason to look forward to training. Offer quality programs that present solutions they can use to meet the unique challenges of being a club officer. For example:

- ▶ If clubs need help attracting new members, conduct *The Successful Club Series* modules Finding New Members for Your Club and Closing the Sale.
- ▶ Are clubs experiencing conflict among members? Conduct *The Leadership Excellence Series* program Resolving Conflict so officers can learn how to handle such problems.
- ▶ Make sure a successful club continues to thrive by ensuring a smooth transition when new officers take over. Offer training on strategies to prepare officers' successors to keep the club's momentum intact.

Furnish innovative learning opportunities to give your clubs' officers a second wind on their way to their most successful year so far.

Do You Want District Success? Try This To-Do List:

AS DISTRICT LEADERS, you know that success is achieved by working together; that district success is achieved only through successful clubs, areas and divisions. The following To-Do list will help ensure that this will happen:

JANUARY

Checklist:

- District governor to appoint nominating committee
- Publish the call for candidates if not yet published
- Mid-year review – check DPR and make sure your district is at least at 50% of your goals – If not, restructure a new plan
- Complete mid-year audit
- Complete the second training for club officers
- Area governors - second-round club visits may begin
- Prepare for proxy/credentials
- Prepare for district and International Speech Contests

Deadlines / Important Dates:

January 15:

- Treasurer's report (July 1 – November 30) due to District Trio

FEBRUARY

Checklist:

- Train club, area and division officers
- Prepare for proxy/credentials
- Complete area governor second-round club visits
- Order awards for speech contests (to order, e-mail: supplyorders@toastmasters.org)

Deadlines / Important Dates:

February 15:

- Mid-year audit due to WHQ
- Monthly treasurer's report (July 1 – December 31) due to District Trio

February 29:

- Last day to complete club-officer training

E-MAIL DIRECTORY

New clubs:

newclubs@toastmasters.org

Orders:

supplyorders@toastmasters.org

District questions:

districts@toastmasters.org

District reserve statements:

statements@toastmasters.org

District budget, audit or treasurer's reports:

districtfinancialquestions@toastmasters.org

Speech contests:

speechcontests@toastmasters.org

Disciplinary matters:

districts@toastmasters.org

Duplicate proxies or other proxy questions:

duplicateproxies@toastmasters.org

Other questions:

See the Contact Us section of members.toastmasters.org or e-mail: tminfo@toastmasters.org