

1 Toastmasters International – District 28
2 District Business Meeting – April 24, 2021
3 Via Zoom

4 District Director LaShon Bowers, DTM Presiding
5 Administration Manager, Karen Smith, DTM
6

7 Meeting called to order at 1:30pm
8

9 The District Mission Statement was read by LaShon Bowers.
10

11 District Director LaShon Bowers made announcement that Von White will be stepping in
12 for Logistic Manager Shirley Thomas in her absent.
13

14 Welcome Announcements:

- 15 • LaShon Bowers, welcomed Presidents, VP of Educations, DEC, & members. Introduced
16 committee heads and district officers
 - 17 • Logistics Manager/Timer, Von White DTM
 - 18 • Credential Chair, Gloria Hamilton DTM, PDG
 - 19 • Technical Chair/Chat Master/Election Manager, Cathy Trudeau, DTM
 - 20 • CGD, Vera Johnson, DTM, PID
 - 21 • PQD, John Salalila, DTM PDG
 - 22 • Finance Manager, Steve Miller DTM
 - 23 • Admin Manger, Karen Smith DTM
 - 24 • PRM, Debra Lowery
 - 25 • Audit Chair, Paul Spicer, DTM
 - 26 • District Leadership Chair, Kim Purohit DTM, PDD
 - 27 • Parliamentarian, Artisha Lawson DTM
 - 28 • Speaker Bureau Co-Chair, Staci Irvin LD1
- 29

30 District Director, LaShon Bowers, asked if there were any changes to the agenda. The
31 agenda was adopted with one correction to replace Shirley Thomas name with Von
32 White.
33

34 Minutes of the previous business meeting, September 12, 2020, were reviewed and
35 accepted as presented.
36

37 Voting Procedures: District Director: LaShon Bowers, DTM, PDD

38 Rules for voting this meeting is as follow:

- 39 • Only voting members can participate in the vote and discussion.
- 40 • Voting members are the Presidents, VP Education, DEC members, no
41 other members can vote if not apart of the District Council Committee.

- 42 • Proxies are not allowed during virtual business meetings.
- 43 • Each voting member must be in good standing as stated in Protocol 2.0
- 44 • Do not chat non business issues to everyone during the business meeting.
- 45 All comments and questions should be directed to District Director who is
- 46 the chair of the meeting unless deferred to another member.
- 47 • District 28 Tech Chair will monitor the chat, and let chair knows who is next
- 48 to speak. Cheryl Wier will serve as assistant chat master.
- 49 • You must be recognized by the chair before speaking, please do not blur
- 50 out before recognized by the chair. Put your name in chat to be recognized
- 51 and then you can speak.
- 52 • All voting members sure ensure that their full name and position is
- 53 displayed on their screen. Turn your camera on when you speak.
- 54 • You must state your name, club, before you comment, ask questions, and
- 55 make a motion. State if you speaking for or against a motion.
- 56 • Voting members can speak on any issue up to 2 minutes, after 2 minutes
- 57 the District Sgt-at-Arm will mute your mic. Von White will serve as the Sgt-
- 58 at-arm, please pin timer because after 2 minutes you will be muted.

59
60

61 Credential Report: Gloria Hamilton, DTM, PDG

- 62 • Online business meetings have different rules. All voting members was sent out
- 63 an email and had to register by 10:30 am today in order to be eligible to vote
- 64 today.
- 65 • There are members in this meeting that did not register therefore you will not
- 66 receive an email from Cathy to vote.
 - 67 ○ Clubs eligible 90
 - 68 ○ Quorum, 1/3 of 90 = 30 X2 60
 - 69 ○ Presidents & VP of ED 47
 - 70 ○ District Executive Committee 28
 - 71 ○ Total Ballots 75
- 72 • Simple majority (50% of the total ballots available) 38
- 73 • Credential Report adopted as presented.

74

75 Election Process: Cathy Trudeau, DTM

- 76 • Election Runner will be used for voting this meeting.
- 77 • You will receive an email to vote, you will get an email for each vote you have (1
- 78 for 1 vote, 2 for 2 votes, and 3 for 3 votes).
- 79 • If you don't have ballot please send message to Cathy in chat, it will take time
- 80 before ballot get to your email.
- 81 • Your email address you provided to credential chair, if you checked in with
- 82 credential chair you will be able to vote.

83

84 District Leadership Chair: Kim Purohit, DTM, PDD

85 Candidates for 2021-2022

86 Division I Director Ian Chalmers

87 Division H Director Larry Castleberry

88 Division G Director Jeanette Milliean

89 Division F Director Danielle Abrams

90 Division E Director Jerome Mabens

91 Division D Director Sherri-Ann Wynter

92 Division C Director Joel Book

93 Division C Director Gayle Lawson

94 Program Quality Director Ryan Morton

95 District Director Vera Johnson

96 Club Growth Director Marvin Pitts (running from the floor)

- 97
- 98 • We will have two ballots one with all the candidates and the second ballot for the floor runner.
 - 99 • Election runner was not used due to payment problems.
 - 100 • Karen Smith District 28 Administration Manager casted 1 vote for all candidates
 - 101 except floor runner.
 - 102 • Kim Purohit Leadership chair explained what a floor runner candidate is and how it
 - 103 works.
 - 104 • A motion was made and second for Club Growth election for Marvin Pitts, The
 - 105 question is to elect Marvin Pitts as Club Growth director for District 28. It was
 - 106 voted and the aye's won there were no nay. Marvin Pitts is the new Club Growth
 - 107 Director.

108 Realignment Report: Vera Johnson, DTM, PID

109 There were a lot of revamping last toastmaster year due to decrease in the number of

110 clubs in the district.

- 111 • The rule per Toastmaster International is to have 4 areas in each division and 4-6
- 112 clubs in each area. District 28 like to keep it at 4 clubs per area.
- 113 • There were some clubs from last toastmaster year that needed to drop but
- 114 Toastmaster International decided to keep them due to the pandemic, however
- 115 this upcoming toastmaster year these clubs and others will drop off.
- 116 • This report was voted on by the District Executive Committee as of April 10, 2021.
- 117 • Changes as follow:
 - 118 ○ Division A: Area 1 SSOE a new club was moved from Area 3 to Area 1;
 - 119 Toledo club was moved from Area 4 to Area 1. Area 2 Cooper Tires and
 - 120 Sunrise of Finley Toastmasters will be dropping off so Advance Articulators
 - 121 Toastmasters was moved from Area 4 to Area 2. Area 3 Trend-setters
 - 122 Toastmasters are showing they want to survive will watch this club and all
 - 123 the other clubs in Area 3 remains. Area 4 Maumee Valley Power Lunch and
 - 124 Talking Arrowheads was moved from Area 1 to Area 4 to balance the area.
 - 125 ○ Division C: Area 11 no changes. Area 12 Rivian and Wolverine
 - 126 Toastmasters will be dropped. Area 14 no changes.

- 127 ○ Division D: Area 16 Communicator and Molex Masters Toastmasters are
128 gone; Area 17 no change; Area 18 Acorn Toastmasters is struggling and
129 will watch this club; Area 19 Toastmasters at Lear is gone.
- 130 ○ Division E: All areas remained the same; with one struggling club in Area
131 25, St. Clair River Toastmasters.
- 132 ○ Division F: Area 26 no change; Area 28 BASF & City of Detroit
133 Toastmasters are gone, Mike Ilitch Business Club will be chartering and will
134 be in this area; Area 29 Detroit Bards is gone, Downriver Toastmaster a
135 new club will be chartering and will be add to this area. All other clubs
136 remain the same.
- 137 ○ Division G: Area 31 Harman Disruptors & Torque Talkers are gone and will
138 be replaced by ICT Toastmasters ; Area 32 GE Toastmaster is gone, all
139 other clubs remain the same ; Area 33 no changes; Area 34 Comerica
140 gone and no other changes.
- 141 ○ Division H: Area 36 Carhart Toastmasters is gone and all other clubs
142 remain the same; Area 37 no changes; Area 38 Toast of Dearborn Club-
143 Career Best Toastmasters is gone and all others remain the same.
- 144 ○ Division I: Area 41 no changes; Area 42 Tecumseh & Union Gas LDN
145 Toastmasters are struggling; Area 43 no changes.
- 146 ● Ryan Morton President Forefront 3481227, when report was presented to the
147 DEC on April 10, 2021, Leadership 28 has since changed its name to Forefront
148 Toastmaster. Ryan moved to amend Realignment Report to reference Forefront
149 Toastmaster Club 3481227 Division G Area 34 from formal club name to current
150 name.
- 151 ● Marilyn Albee VPE LOL club 694771, asked if Trendsetter Toastmaster is dropped
152 can you move a club from Area 3 to Area 4? Heather Lane club 1380 states there
153 is no clubs that can be moved. Gayle Lawson Division A Director, states Monroe
154 toastmaster is the only Michigan club and it can't be moved to Area 4 it will be too
155 far away.
- 156 ● It was motion by Robert Alan McKenzie Division I Director, Windsor Toastmaster
157 club 6416 to accept report with corrections, it was seconded by Heather Lane club
158 1380.
- 159 ● The realignment report is approved with corrections.

160
161

162 Audit Report: Paul Spicer, DTM

- 163 ● Audit Committee consist of Paul Spicer, Chair, Kyle Johnson, and Kim
164 Faunamost, met virtually and reviewed the District Financial Record for the first
165 half of the toastmaster year, July 1-December 31, 2020.
- 166 ● In general, the district books were maintained and in good order. There were
167 fewer transactions then the previous years. There were 3 small one-time issues:
- 168 ○ One was missing invoice from July and Financial Manager, Steve Miller
169 went to Quality Inn and got the invoice. It is with the others now.

- 170 ○ Second was a charge of \$18.43 was in concur and not in the other one
- 171 intact. It was taken care of and now it is in both places.
- 172 ○ Lastly, there was an \$62.93 charge that was recorded and reverse from a
- 173 July reconciliation report. A memo was noted.
- 174 ● The committee found scanned receipts that were clear and legible.
- 175 ● The committee found everything processed promptly and correctly.
- 176 ● There were no questions, therefore, the Audit Report will be sent to TI
- 177 headquarters as reported.

178

179 Finance Manager: Steve Miller, DTM

180 Summary, from July 1, 2020 – December 31, 2021.

- 181 ● District Total Expenses: Spent Budget Profit/Loss
- 182 ○ 5,788.04 12,226.02 (6,437.98)
- 183 ● District Net Total:
- 184 ○ 10,946.62 3,908.98 7,037.64
- 185
- 186 ● Marilyn Albee VPE LOL Club 694771, Why is the budget only through December
- 187 31, 202 and not to the latest figure? We should have the budget to the latest figure
- 188 (last month) not to the end of the year.
- 189 ● Finance Manager Steve Miller reports he thought it was supposed to go to the end
- 190 of the year, and he does have the current figures.
- 191 ● District Director LaShon Bowers, reports the new report will include the budget to
- 192 the latest figures and it will be posted on the District 28 website as well as mailed
- 193 out to all the council members.
- 194 ● The Budget Report will be corrected before it is filed with Toastmaster
- 195 International and all District Council Members will receive a copy of the updated
- 196 report by the end of next week.
- 197 ● **See District 28 website for Complete budget report**

198

199 District Leadership reports:

200

201 DD, LaShon Bowers, DTM, PDD

- 202 ● WOW! It has been a very busy year; I knew it would be different but not this busy.
- 203 We started out this toastmaster year very strong.
- 204 ● Toastmaster International developed new awards due to the pandemic and in our
- 205 region, we received each award that was offered from 1st place to 3rd place.
- 206 ● When the trio and the quad met, for those who don't know what the quad is, it
- 207 encompasses the district director, program quality director, club growth director,
- 208 and public relations manager. We had 3 goals in mind:
 - 209 ○ To support the members and the clubs
 - 210 ○ To offer solutions and trainings as we were moving into a virtual
 - 211 meeting, and we had to do all contest online.

- 212 ○ To work as a team to ensure at the end of the toastmaster year
- 213 we were still standing.
- 214 ● And we are still standing believe it or not, although we have lost clubs, we are still
- 215 above average. We are working together to continue to grow afterwards. As you
- 216 Vera spoke on new prospective clubs coming and demo meetings, John spoke on
- 217 trainings and recognitions. We could not have done it without you.
- 218
- 219 ● My request is the members keep doing what they are doing to support the district,
- 220 because that is what we are doing supporting the district. Make sure you are
- 221 attending the district events monthly, which can be found on D28 website.
- 222 ● A different officer is invited to a DEC meeting each month. This gives you a
- 223 chance to sit with the leaders that are serving on the district level and learn about
- 224 something new you didn't know.
- 225 ● We encourage you to keep in contact with the district. On D28 website all district
- 226 officers contact is listed. If you have questions or just want to attend a district
- 227 meeting, please reach out to us.
- 228 ● Thank you D28 for everything you do.
- 229

230 PQD, John Salalila, DTM, PDG

- 231 ● We have had challenges this toastmaster year. To ensure program quality it has
- 232 been a much different path meeting via zoom. Most clubs have been making it as
- 233 we meet virtually.
- 234 ● The first thrust of Program Quality we have been making sure that all clubs have
- 235 the necessary support they need to meet online. We started at the beginning of
- 236 the year with a weekly help desk and Sunday Social sessions to help members
- 237 get more hours in on zoom and to also feel more comfortable in a friendly
- 238 environment. We have since transition; our Sunday Socials still meet on Sundays
- 239 at 4pm but we have moved our weekly technical sessions to 2nd Saturday's
- 240 seminars. Next month May will be our 6th month hosting these workshops. Our
- 241 topic varies from speech presentations to hybrids meeting. The topics are
- 242 Pathway driven and is from feedback we receive and the district team. The May
- 243 seminar will have the Past International President Pat Johnson. This workshop will
- 244 talk about corporate clubs and not only how it fits in corporate environment but in
- 245 the community and learned lessons.
- 246 ● We are continuously striving as you saw in recognition pre roll, there are 54
- 247 individual triple crowns. There are 3 distinguished clubs, 3 select distinguished
- 248 clubs, and 7 president distinguished clubs so far this year.
- 249 ● We continue to work with our clubs to make sure they are well supported in the
- 250 Pathway learning experience and that club officers receive the support they need
- 251 through training and one on one advise from the Educational Training Team and
- 252 the rest of the district members.
- 253 ● We have done our best to make sure the Division and Area Directors have the
- 254 tools they need to serve the club.

255
256
257
258
259
260
261
262
263
264
265
266
267
268
269
270
271
272
273
274
275
276
277
278
279
280
281
282
283
284
285
286
287
288
289
290
291
292
293
294
295
296
297

CGD Vera Johnson, DTM, PID

- Since January 2021, District 28 has increased. We chartered our first virtual club SSOE Toastmasters thanks to the help of Heather Lane. This club is in Ohio.
- We recently chartered ICT Toastmasters which is an engineering club thanks to Ray R. and Novi Toastmasters. ICT Toastmasters is now sponsoring another club.
- STAND which is a group Sherri-Ann Wynter is working with, a group out of FCA.
- We have Downriver Toastmasters in which is a community club in a credit union, that Gayle Lawson and Jerome Mabens is working with to get chartered.
- Wayne State Mike Ilitch School of Business is being chartered with the help of Jeanette Millean and a member of Tech Talk Toastmasters.
- There 2 other clubs that we are working with as well. There is a lot of opportunity for the district to grow. We try to balance the corporate and community clubs because you need a balance of the two memberships.
- We are doing better as a District then we think.
- The committee provides opportunity for to work with clubs and district leaders as well as help you finish your higher-level paths (4 & 5).
- If anyone is interested and have a passion to train, and have finished level 2 send your name, email address, and telephone number to Ray Rivero and a committee member will contact you.

District 28 Public Relation Manager, Debra Lowery

District 28 has a team that has been brainstorming trying to find ways to communicate within the district. We are thoughtful in our ways to make the transition to the incoming leadership easy.

- We are looking at our tools to see if there is a better way to do things. We discussed the pros and cons of our tools and we have adopted new tools.
- We are looking at the D28 website to see if we can make it easier. There has been a creation of the D28 event calendar.
- A D28 content calendar isa tool to use to help with themes or topics for content development.
- We made changes to the GEO map so you don't go outside the D28 clubs with social media platform.
- We have done an inventory and updated all the passwords so it will be easy for the incoming team. We will be meeting with the incoming team as soon as they are installed.
- We have purchased a new social media engagement tool called Buffer; this tool allows for prescheduling social media posting on multiple platforms all in one place. We will be able to analysis the effectiveness of the post, which will be a big understanding in what works and what does not work.

298 Speakers Bureau Co-Chair, Staci Irvin, LD1

299 Due to the pandemic, there was only one qualifier hybrid.

- 300 • The next qualifying event will be tentatively Oct 2021. We will inform you if it
- 301 will be hybrid or virtually only.
- 302 • Reminder the Speaker Bureau is available for your specialize speaking needs,
- 303 example if your club is having an open house and want someone to speak, or
- 304 your club wants a specialize workshop.
- 305 • The Speaker Bureau can be of assistance to your club.

306 .

307

308