



Toastmasters International District 84, Division H

Volume 1, Issue 1
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Let's Talk Tallahassee!

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Can We Talk?

Welcome to the first issue of *Let's Talk Tallahassee*, a newsletter for the Toastmasters in the Tallahassee area, which is otherwise known as Division H, District 84, in Region 8.

The information presented here is to help both the new and seasoned Toastmasters. You are invited to send articles or to request that a specific Toastmaster topic be covered in the newsletter.

Send any comments, questions, or concerns to Melissa Florioli, Division

H Governor at:
TMDivH@gmail.com

The purpose is to provide information from the district down to the members. The Area Governors and Division Governor often hear questions or get comments and realized that the answers would benefit the entire organization here in Tallahassee and vicinity.

Toastmasters is growing in Tallahassee. We currently have 20 clubs with over 300 paid members. Your leaders

have the desire to increase our clubs and membership, allowing more people to learn, grow, and have fun at their Toastmasters Club.

This is all about you. If things need to be fixed, start with your Club officers. If you still do not see improvement, check with your Area or Division Governor. If you have any questions about Toastmasters, please ask.

Your leadership is willing to work hard so that we all have clubs that we can enjoy.

District Executive Council and Area Governor Meetings

Did you ever wonder what happens at a DEC meeting? It's not all fun and games, as there is plenty of work to be done. Ask any former Area or Division Governor!

The first DEC meeting of the year was held at the Hospice of the Comforter in Altamont Springs, Florida on July 31, 2010.

Scott Hoehn, our current District Governor, presided. Upcoming visits, officer trainings, contests, and the conference are discussed. There are

reports given from each Division Governor, bragging about their respective divisions.

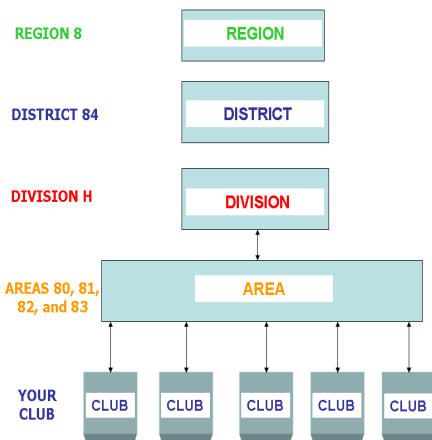
Here in Division H, on those months when no DEC meeting is held, the Area Governors meet at the Division Governor's house for dinner and discussion. (As was stated by our former District Governor, Ron Parpart, "Food rules!") The same types of topics are discussed, but at the Area level: officer trainings, area and division contests, and our

responsibilities at the next conference. Here is an opportunity to share information. Who has advanced TM's who would like to coach or mentor a club? Which clubs need those coaches or mentors? What possibilities or requests exist for a new club? How many visits to clubs have the Area Governors completed? What information needs to get out to the membership and what is the best way to do it? A meeting well worth the free meal!

Upcoming DEC Meetings:

- September 25, 2010
- November 14, 2010 on Sunday at the "Out of Africa" Fall Conference
- January 22, 2011 (Tentative)

The Toastmaster Organizational Structure



The smallest but most important organizational structure in Toastmasters is the CLUB. Each club should have at least 20 members, which is the number of members needed to charter a new club. The club exists to support its members.

The next level, which can consist of anywhere from 4 to 8 clubs, is the AREA. The Area Governor's job is to support the clubs and their members. This includes sending communication to and from the Division and District. We have 4 Areas in Division H, each with 5 clubs: Areas 80, 81, 82, and 83. There is no relationship here between the

geographical region and the Area, except that they are all within the 12 counties that make up our Division's geographical area.

The DIVISION consists of all of the Areas within a specific geographic region. All clubs within Leon, Gadsden, Liberty, Franklin, Wakulla, Jefferson, Madison, Taylor, Suwannee, Lafayette, Columbia, and Hamilton counties are part of Division H. The Division supports the Areas, and acts as a liaison between the Area and District.

Next, the Divisions roll up to the DISTRICT. We are

in District 84, which includes North and Central Florida, with Divisions A through I. A map of the district is on the District 84 webpage at:

<http://www.toastmastersd84.org/divmap.html>

Finally, there are now 14 Regions worldwide, and we are part of REGION 8, which includes Louisiana, Alabama, Georgia, Florida, South Carolina, and the Caribbean islands including Cuba, Puerto Rico, Haiti, and the Dominican Republic. You can see all of the regions on the TI website here:

<http://www.toastmasters.org/Members/MembersFunctionalCategories/AboutTI/Board/GovernanceReshaping/14RegionsandDirectors.aspx>

Tom Peters on Skills:

"Join Toastmasters. Oral communication skills count."

Area and Division Fall Contests

Every late summer into autumn, Toastmasters all over the world are competing in Humorous Speech and Evaluation contests.

The first level is the club contest. The club's winner goes on to compete at the **Area** contest. NOTE: The Second place winner should always be prepared! There are times when the first place person may get called away for work or a family emergency and the runner

up would be asked to step in and represent their club.

In Division H there are only four areas. Several years ago, the district leadership voted to allow areas with four or fewer clubs the ability to send two winners from each Area to the Division contest. This allows eight (rather than four) competitors at that level. More clubs are represented, and there is a larger base from which to

choose the winner who will compete at the District 84 competition.

At the District 84 contest the Division H winner competes against eight Toastmasters from north/central Florida.

Areas 81 and 83 will hold their contests together on Thursday, September 16 at Fort Knox Exec. Center.

Areas 80 and 82 will hold their contests together on Thursday, September 23, at Fort Knox Exec. Center.

Hosting Time at the WFSU Fall Radio Pledge Drive

Division H has been invited to participate in the WFSU Fall Radio Pledge drive, which will be held from October 13 through October 25.

Have you ever listened to NPR in any city across the United States? If so, you may have heard their semi-annual pleas for pledges from their listeners. Locally there are two non-commercial, member-supported full-time radio stations: news

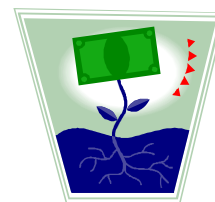
and information on 88.9FM and classical and jazz music on 91.5FM. Their broadcasts reach as far away as Apalachicola and Panama City.

Two Toastmasters will host the 2-hour slot, while four volunteers will answer phones and record pledges. (We'll "slip in" a plug or two for our local clubs.) In return, WFSU radio will distribute Toastmasters promotional items and literature, and

thank our group on the air.

Tune in on Monday, October 18, 2010, from Noon until 2 PM. Please call during that time, if possible, and make a pledge in support of public radio.

Save your annual pledge for our on-air slot, and request your name and Toastmasters club "shouted out" to all of Tallahassee!



Division H Governor – Melissa Florioli

Let me introduce myself: My name is Melissa Florioli and I am the new Division H Governor, taking over the job from Bobby Kimbro, who set high standards for us. I live in Southwood and work as a subcontractor for the Department of Revenue on the Child Support Enforcement project called CAMS.

In 2007 I joined Southwood Toastmasters, my home club. Why did I join? I had taken a Public

Speaking class in college (many years ago!) and knew then that I loved public speaking. I never felt ready to join, as I had promised myself (and my future audiences) that I would not speak until I had something important to say. In hindsight, I should have jumped right in to allow myself both practice time and to do something that I loved.

The Southwood TMs have always been a warm, fun, supportive, engaging, and

hard working group of individuals. The friendship and support of each member as we try new things and new wings with speeches, impromptu speaking, and leadership both inside and outside of the club warms your heart.

As Division Governor, my job is to support the Area Governors and ensure that each club achieves its mission and fulfills its responsibilities to its members.



Fund-Raising Activities – From Toastmasters International

Have you ever wondered why Toastmasters does not allow just any or all fund-raising activities? Basically, it is because we are an educational organization, and not a service club.

Check out the article at TI titled "Fundraising: Rules for fundraising activities in Toastmasters" at

<http://www.toastmasters.org/Members/OfficerResources/PoliciesandProcedures/Fundraising.aspx>

If you can answer 'yes' to all of the questions, then you can proceed with the allowed fundraising activities, which include: holding a Speechcraft or other training and charging a reasonable

entry fee; holding a raffle, auction, white elephant sale or bazaar of donated goods; accepting advertising in newsletters or on the Web site; or selling entertainment books or diner's club books. Pay close attention to those activities you cannot do to raise funds for your club.

Presenting the 2010 - 2011 Leadership Team

Our Area Governors represent their clubs at the DEC Meetings, and are the liaison between the clubs and the division. It's been said that "They do all the work!"

**TOASTMASTERS
INTERNATIONAL
REGION 8
DISTRICT 84,
DIVISION H**

Covering the following Florida counties:

Leon, Gadsden, Liberty, Franklin, Wakulla, Jefferson, Madison, Taylor, Suwannee, Lafayette, Columbia, and Hamilton

Email address

The District is on the Web!

See us at:

<http://www.toastmastersd84.org/>



Chantelle Pridgeon

AREA 80

[976](#)

[Capital City](#) [Website](#)

[5459](#)

[Southwood Club](#) [Website](#)

[5726](#)

[Fort Knox Toastmasters](#) [Website](#)

[6831](#)

[Garnet & Gold Toastmasters](#) [Website](#)

[651125](#)

[B.A.S.I.C. Stars Club](#) [Website](#)



Robin Collins

AREA 81

[1706](#)

[Stately Speaking Toastmasters](#)

[2492](#)

[Uptown Club](#) [Website](#)

[3651](#)

[Early Birds Club](#)

[5821](#)

[Highway Safety Club](#)

[692958](#)

[Leadership Toastmasters](#) [Website](#)



Jean Jeune

AREA 82

[1135](#)

[Tallahassee Toastmasters](#) [Website](#)

[5112](#)

[Tallahassee Real Talkers](#)

[8345](#)

[DFS Club](#) [Website](#)

[9625](#)

[FDLE Club](#) [Website](#)

[1351830](#)

[Suwannee River](#)



Stuart Williams

AREA 83

[3771](#)

[Seminole Toastmasters](#) [Website](#)

[4454](#)

[Northside Toastmasters](#) [Website](#)

[9241](#)

[Havana Toastmasters](#)

[9370](#)

[Night Owls Club](#) [Website](#)

[1062028](#)

[Professionally Speaking](#)