

the Northern Outlook

2011/2012 | Issue 2

October | 2011

Twelve in twelve

“You are out of your mind!”

I am used to hearing these words. I don't consider myself a dreamer, more of an optimist. I like to see the positive side of situations, rather than focus on the negative. I can always see the potential, even when situations look bleak.

So when I heard Alison Boyce, YACT Council Governor, state she was interested in aligning YACT to become a Provincial District (45 clubs), I said “We need to charter twelve clubs in twelve months.” Easy enough said, but how do we accomplish it?

Toastmasters International is about providing an opportunity for individuals to expand their leadership, presentation and speaking skills in a safe environment. I thought to myself, there has to be more individuals or corporations who could benefit from having these attributes. A list was started. Contacts were made. The process was in motion.

Today I am sitting behind a trade show booth at the Society of Human Resource Management Conference. I know nothing of what it takes to be a Human Resource Manager, but what I do know is that this is a hotbed for potential Toastmasters. As Lt. Governor Marketing, I invested in a trade show booth to promote Toastmasters to individuals and corporations. I am happy to report that the response has been overwhelming. We have had no less than seven corporations show HUGE interest in starting a new club at their place of business; we have had individuals who are interested in joining clubs and even individuals interested in starting community clubs.

Last week I contacted a fellow Toastmaster, Ricky Vahl. Ricky was in Toastmasters for several years prior to his job relocating him to Kodiak. Throwing a hailmary pass, I asked him if he was interested in resurrecting the Kodiak club. If you know Ricky, you know what his response was “Absolutely!” So without even having more than an idea of a club for Kodiak, I spoke with four individuals who now are going to help him rebuild that club on Kodiak. If they all invite five friends to join, they could possibly have a club going within a few weeks. How exciting is that? I have had the same enthusiasm for the community of Homer.

Work is being done outside this conference to promote building clubs. I have spoken with members of clubs in Fairbanks who wish to start an Advanced Club, rumor has it Juneau is looking at the same. A team has been put together to start Crowning Toastmasters, a club geared towards women wishing to advance their pageant careers, and a men's club with military backgrounds is also being discussed. Also, an executive club, which would be closed to only CEO's has also been discussed. Two clubs have just a few more members to go to charter – NANA and the Elk's Club. Clubs really are all around us.

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In order to support this endeavor, I need a foundation of individuals:

24 Club Sponsors

Each new club can have up to two club sponsors. Sponsors are responsible for marketing the new club idea to prospective members, help conduct meetings, assist with filling out the forms, and planning the charter presentation.

24 Club Mentors

Each new club may have up to two mentors appointed by the District Governor. Mentors should provide guidance during the first six months to one year of its existence, they are also experienced Toastmasters who may join the new club.

240 New Members

Each new club will need a minimum of twenty members. Up to three of

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All about the **convention**

It is all about convention – the 2011 Toastmaster International convention in Las Vegas, that is.

Toastmaster conventions are fun, a certain amount of “work” and an equal amount of responsibility.

The fun is being around thousands of Toastmasters in one location, and realizing that many of them have become friends. It’s rather amazing to look around and note how many people I recognize by name. Toastmasters are not just articulate people who often become leaders. Toastmasters are a friendly group of people who share smiles, laughter and stories. I am always fascinated by the number of nations that are represented at the conventions. One of my favorite events is the Opening Ceremonies when representatives of each nation parade in carrying their country’s flag. Some are dressed in the traditional dress of their nation – and that never fails to move me. I feel such pride to be standing among nations of the world in an atmosphere of communication, peace and family-hood (is that actually a word?). The contacts that I have made by attending the conventions are amazing, and the friendships that I have made are even more amazing.

As a YACT officer, I have attended training at the conventions these last two years. The convention begins on a Wednesday, but officers who attend training must be there by 8:00 am on the previous Monday morning. Training consists of a lot of work-shop style lessons. There is a lot of verbal

and hands-on participation. Each district (and the two lonely councils) had to prepare a presentation on Tuesday and present it to the groups we were assigned. Each group had about ten districts in it. It was interesting to hear about the various districts and to realize that they face many similar problems to what we have. These districts are concerned about member retention, clubs which might need coaches, how to boost membership, how to build new clubs, etc. The problems that YACT has are not local or even national – they are international issues. The key to our success is to continue to learn from others by going to the district web sites, meeting district leaders, and fine-tuning our communication within YACT. I learned a lot and hope to share that growth with the council as we progress through this year. The main thing that I learned is – we are not alone. We are never alone. We have Toastmaster International behind us. We have the support of Toastmaster International leadership. We have the support of district leaders all around the year. We are surrounded by Toastmaster friends.

Finally, there is responsibility for those council and club leaders who attend the convention. Many of us carry proxies out to the convention. Proxies allow us to vote on behalf of the clubs that we represent. Some clubs hand off the proxies with no concerns; other clubs want to know what we vote on and how

we determine how to cast their votes. First, I want to clarify that we do not vote on policy issues. For example, we had nothing to do with the rebranding of Toastmasters or the dues increase. We vote on International Directors. How do I choose an International Director? First, I determine if the candidate is aware of YACT and then I determine the level of support for our council. We discuss issues within the Yukon and Alaska, such as is it feasible for YACT to be part of a pilot program to develop more long distance clubs using technology as a meeting base. Currently, Toastmaster International does not have a formal platform to enable clubs that might require technology to conduct meetings. Will that change in the future? Is the candidate open to such change? Will the candidate support YACT if we do not meet the requirements to become a district in a “timely” manner? These are some of the questions that I asked prior to casting my votes. I feel secure in the fact that I voted wisely for each club that I represented.

Toastmaster Conventions are an expensive proposition for those YACT members who choose to attend. However, in my opinion, the money is well spent. I have learned a great deal by attending them and I have grown - as a Toastmaster, as a leader and as a woman.

Alison Boyce

Tech tips

prezi.com — Move over PowerPoint! You can create ZOOMING presentations online for free and store them online for free, or download your finished product to use in your presentations. Say goodbye to boring, simple slides. Use this great tool to GET YOUR IDEA into folks’ heads! Choose from several great themes and easily insert a structure designed to organize your presentation based by type. Try it, you’ll be glad you did!

Twelve in twelve

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those members can be dual members from another club (two will be the Club Mentors).

Two hundred eighty-eight people, that's all I need. How many people do you know? How many people do you know that could benefit from Toastmasters? If one of every four people who read this article invited someone to attend a Toastmasters meeting and signed them up for one of our twelve new clubs, our goal would be met.

Back to Twelve in Twelve. Are we really going to be able to charter twelve clubs in the next ten months? I don't know, I'll tell you on June 30, 2012, but I would be out of my mind to think it couldn't happen. Wait, I've heard that before somewhere...

Dawn Williams

Essential elements & other business

- Spring Conference can vote on realigning entire organization of YACT.
- All YACT members are invited to attend the monthly YACT Executive Conference Calls. Due to time constraints, the agenda will be strictly followed allowing for participation by Division Governors and YACT Leadership. Conference calls are held the first Thursday of each month (with the exception of November) from 7:00p - 8:00 p.

Call-in locations are BP Energy Center in Anchorage and First National Bank of Alaska (off Johansen Express) in Fairbanks.

Did you know??

Did you know that you can receive free brochures from TI when you submit an order? Click on Shop and type "free" in the Search TI Store box.

A number of brochures are listed. Click on a brochure and read the description. Many items show a nominal price. For example, 'Find Your Voice' lists the price at \$0.20 each. Not to worry – the description says that you can get 20 free brochures by using a coupon code at check-out. Write down the coupon code and keep shopping for freebies!

At the bottom of the list is a link to Free Materials. This link takes you to additional brochures and digital brochures you can print from home.

Once you've selected your items, click the checkout box. An "Apply Coupon" box will appear next to your items. Enter the coupon codes, update your order and presto – free items! You will still have to pay for shipping on these freebies, but it is well worth it!

What can you get for free?

In my last order I received:

- Find Your Voice (20)
- Confidence. The Voice of Leadership (20)
- Expanding Your Horizons (5)
- Success 101 (3)
- From Prospect to Guest to Member (3) and
- Your Membership Provides Flier (25)

Why would you want to get these all these free brochures? Even if you don't personally leave brochures in your office break room or dentist office, your club can use them for membership drives or other special events.

For example, last year the Interior Clubs had a booth at "The Women's Affair," each of the interior clubs donated membership material. When we have free membership material available, it makes it easier to have these big events and it benefits multiple clubs. Plus, how easy was that?

A simple way to help your club. Freebies with Every Order!

Nanette Pineault

YACT Fall 2011 Conference

"A Sense of Humor is Part of the Art of Leadership"

The Art of Humorous Leadership by Dwight D. Eisenhower

November 4-6, 2011

Embassy Suites Hotel

Anchorage, Alaska

Yukon-Alaska Council of Toastmasters invites you to attend the Fall Conference in Anchorage, AK at Embassy Suites Hotel! Humorous Speech and Table Topics Contests, Workshops, and more!

Key Note Speaker

Ed Tate, 2000 World Champion of Public Speaking

Conference Rates & Registration:

The Registration Form is on the www.yact.org website.
http://www.yact.org/members/yact/files/download+public/2011_Fall_Conference_Registration_Form.doc

Please send the Registration form to Molly Payne (molly.payne@nana.com) when you make PayPal payment. If paying by check, please mail the check with your form to the address on the back of the form. You may also pay by credit card or PayPal from the YACT website link provided.

YACT 2011 Fall Conference Committee

Conference Co-Chairs:

- John Royce toastie308@gmail.com
- Peggy Hansen P.Hansen@alaskausa.org
- Program Chair: Jyl Swegle
- Facilities/Transportation: Michelle Bell

Hotel Reservations: Conference Rate

\$129.00/night for single or double occupancy. To receive the conference rate call 907-332-7000 and mention Toastmasters or the codename "YAC" This rate is only available until October 15, so make reservations early!

Hotel Information

Embassy Suites Hotel
 600 East Benson Blvd, Anchorage, AK 99503
 907-332-7000

And the keynote goes to...

We are thrilled to announce our keynote speaker and workshop presenter, Ed Tate, DTM and winner of the 2000 World Champion of Public Speaking.

Ed is a successful trainer, author, international keynote speaker and executive, known worldwide as "the speaker who energizes, educates and entertains". We've all been there...sitting through the PowerPoint that won't end, the statistics that drone on.

In addition to the key note and his workshop there is another opportunity to learn directly from Ed Tate. Contact Peggy Hansen (phansen9999@hotmail.com) for information on what is covered during a special presentation. An additional fee of \$25 applies to this track.

Agenda

Friday

Business Meeting
 Reception
 Entertainment

Sunday

Breakfast
 Officer's Training

Saturday

Breakfast
 Keynote Address
 Workshops
 Lunch
 Table Topics Contest
 Workshops
 Banquet
 Humorous Speech Contest

Jyl Swegle

Time is running out for early registration.

\$110.00 by 10/15; \$130 after 10/15.

*Flying? Look at the PFD sales on
 Alaska Air, ERA & PenAir!*

The game is on!

We are including a Mystery Game as part of the 2011 YACT Fall Conference. Clubs compete for a prize that will be awarded Saturday, November 5th. Game clues are announced on Monday of each week October 3rd - 24th on the YACT website: www.yact.org. Become familiar with the YACT website; you could help your club win!

Conference Speakers Presentations

The Story Finder: How to Create New Stories in 10 Minutes or Less!

Ed Tate, DTM & Keynote speaker

Avoid the biggest mistake speakers make: Being Boring! In this workshop, you will: • Hear and diagnose Ed's award winning remarkable stories • Discover & Practice Ed's 4 Elements of Effective Story Telling • Using a story creation framework, participants will create new material immediately! • Learn 10 different ways to creatively open and close any presentation • Have lots of Fun in this interactive accelerated learning program

The Leadership Side of ToastMasters

Diana Straub, BOS, ACB, CL

Find out "WWIFM" What's in it for Me? And what's in it for your club. All of the great things you need to know about the Competent Leader Program, along with tips and tricks for retaining membership.

Mentorship "The Shadow Knows"

Keith Baldwin, DTM

Mentoring is one of the most powerful tools we have. Find out how to build and maintain a mentor program that creates amazing clubs, grows new leaders and keeps your club strong and growing.

Workshops

New Members

Duane Epton, DTM; Dawn Williams, DTM

How to find 'em, get 'em and keep 'em. Secrets to growing your club and keeping it strong.

Leading the Team and Not the Pack? Characteristics of an Effective Leader

Shelby Wilson, ACB, ACL

Silent Auction & the sugar rush...

Gather up items to donate to the silent auction. Please bring your items to the conference Friday evening or Saturday morning. Clubs or individuals may donate items. All proceeds go toward YACT expenses. This fund raising averages about \$1200.

The club basket with the highest bid earns the club a \$100.00 award. Put your heads together and come up with a great basket.

The dessert auction happens Saturday; bring a sweet goody to donate. We're having a live auction. Goodies may be homemade or purchased from your favorite bakery.

November 4th will be here before we know it! Start putting items aside to donate.

Karen Bishop

Silent Auction Chairperson

Toastmasters: an abundance of Learning Opportunities

I was involved with Toastmasters for over six years in three Canadian cities, in two provinces, in three districts when I decided to take a hiatus. I craved something new and different. I felt I accomplished everything I could in Toastmasters; it was time to move on. The time away from Toastmasters was good for me: I realized the many learning opportunities I walked away from.

Since moving to Whitehorse, Yukon in January 2011, I rediscovered the abundance of skill-building learning adventures Toastmasters provides. Shortly after arriving in Whitehorse, I joined the evening Whitehorse Toastmasters club. My goal? Achieve DTM by June 2012. Since rejoining Toastmasters, I organized a parliamentary procedures workshop; became Area Governor; coordinated {and currently lead} a Youth Leadership Program; became club coach for the Northern Voices Toastmasters club which meets in the mornings. Now I am the conference chair for the spring 2012 Toastmasters convention to be held in Whitehorse.

I have added a new city, a territory and an international council to my Toastmasters experience. I am excited to be part of Toastmasters again! I encourage those Toastmasters who feel they have done it all to take a closer look at the learning opportunities available. There is always something new to learn.

Marta Keller
Area 2 Governor

More than one way to serve!

Join a HPL Guidance Committee

When was the last time you had the opportunity to contribute to someone's leadership growth? You're probably familiar with the leadership track and its awards (CL, ALB, ALS), which have a few built-in opportunities for feedback. I'd like to introduce to you another way to provide a meaningful contribution to a fellow Toastmaster's leadership skills. Many of you have heard of it, but for others it may still be a nebulous concept. I'm talking about the High Performance Leadership project, or HPL for short.

The HPL is one of the requirements on the path to becoming a Distinguished Toastmaster (DTM). I've completed my own HPL project and benefitted from the guidance that my HPL Guidance Committee gave me along the way. However, what I've found to be even more rewarding than completing my own project has been the opportunity to serve on guidance committees for other members.

Serving on a guidance committee is a simple process, but it provides invaluable benefits for the Toastmaster working on an HPL project. The "work" consists of meeting with the Toastmaster and other committee members a few times during the project to discuss progress and provide written and verbal feedback at each step along the way. As with most Toastmasters activities, a committee member manual outlines the steps for completing the HPL and provides discussion questions for each of the meetings. These steps focus on the Toastmaster's self-assessment and personal development, rather than the specifics of the project, thereby allowing for leadership development rather than technical development.

I encourage all of you to seek out the opportunity to participate as a guidance committee member. It's a rewarding process that will allow you to contribute meaningfully to someone's leadership growth.

Mike Fisher

Recycled club?

Fairbanks' Advanced Club is restarting; join the fun Saturday, Nov. 12 in the afternoon. For more information email Stephen Anderson (stephena@alaska.net), or Mary Parsons or Maryanne Allan.

Get to know the new clubs!

Elmendorf and Ft. Richardson folks meet each Wednesday at noon in the Elmendorf Hospital. Our "standard" meeting room is the Radiology Conference Room. Periodically we get bumped and then meet in a conference room off of the cafeteria. You are more than welcome to attend. If you don't have access to the base, then we have to jump through a few extra hoops to have you signed in by an appropriately-badged person. So, if anyone wants to visit the club, they'll need to contact: Jane Thomas (907) 350-8929 or Tami Estep (907) 580-6805 (w) or 726-0981 (h)

The Elks TM meet downstairs at noon on Tuesdays at the American Legion Post One, contact Janice Bruchhauser at 350-5554 or jbruchhauser@gci.net for directions.

The Elks TM Club's mission is to step out into our community by providing a space for a TM club that provides a supportive and positive learning environment, where every member has the opportunity to develop better communication and leadership skills that fosters self-confidence and personal growth.

This club offers a unique opportunity. Not everyday can you make such a contribution. I hold in my hand the TM pledge that says, "I pledge to support you in your quest for self-development... to provide you with positive, helpful evaluation... to maintain a friendly, supportive atmosphere... to give you opportunities to help others..."

I am here, to give you an opportunity to help. Let me share my vision: I recently joined a new chartered Elks lodge. The Elks is a non-profit organization that does good charitable works in our community by: honoring Mother's day, Flag day, Veteran's Day, holiday food and clothing drives, sends kids to summer camps, creates pool tournaments and the list is as extensive as they are creative. They too believe in having fun, meeting new friends, all while giving back to the community.

Janice Bruchhauser

Learn more about the Elks TM club in the December Northern Outlook.

If you're ready for a challenge, this is a great proving ground!

Our world is going to change! **How cool is that?**

The following materials were submitted by Alison Boyce. After reading it, I hope you will see why she is excited to share this quote from the Toastmasters International Policies and Procedures manual:

3. Provisional Districts
 - A. A territorial council may apply to the Executive Director for provisional district status when the following requirements are met:
 - I. The council has 45 or more clubs in good standing for two consecutive semiannual reporting periods.
 - II. Clubs which are council members acknowledge by written resolution an annual dues increase from the undistricted to the districted amount.
 - B. Once granted provisional district status by the Board, a provisional district is entitled to administrative support from World Headquarters; official participation in the Distinguished District Program; a district reserve account; applicable membership dues income; participation in the International Speech Contest; assignment to a region; visits from international officers, directors, and/or region advisors; and travel reimbursement to official district leader training and to the International Convention.
 - C. A past provisional district governor is eligible to be nominated for election to the Board.
 - D. Within three years after granting provisional district status, the Board reviews the progress of the provisional district. Performance in the Distinguished District Program is considered in the decision to grant full district status.
 - E. After reviewing district progress, the Board either allows the provisional district to continue to function as a district or takes such action as it considers in the best interest of Toastmasters International.
 - F. When a provisional district reaches 60 or more clubs in good standing, it may apply to the Board for district status.
 - G. Before becoming eligible for full district status, each newly created provisional district is required to be in operation for a minimum of nine months ending on June 30, during which time it must adopt the District Administrative Bylaws; elect officers, establish an organizational structure, and subdivide itself into areas; and operate district programs in alignment with Toastmasters International's governing documents.
 - H. Any authorization to operate as a provisional district continues until full district status is granted or until it is otherwise terminated by the Board.

Toastmasters International Policy and Procedures Protocol 7.0
3 Provisional Districts pp 178 & 179

Alison Boyce