



District Director Luvenia Boyer, DTM <districtdirector@d40toastmasters.org>

DLC Report

1 message

Don DeHoff <d40dehoff@gmail.com>

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To: District Director D40 <districtdirector@d40toastmasters.org>, Luvenia Boyer <tm.luveniaboyer@gmail.com>

District Director,

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as chair of the District Leadership Committee. The role of the committee is to evaluate all candidates for District elected positions and nominate the best candidates to stand for election. My sincere thanks to the committee members for their hard work interviewing candidates, sharing their thoughts with the committee and submitting their votes. These are leaders who gave generously of their time to benefit the members of District 40.

The committee nominates the following candidates who have shown leadership and dedication to the District.

For District Director - Wendy Simmons, EC4
For Program Quality Director - Tracy Baker, DTM
For Club Growth Director - Renee Mitchell, PI3
For Club Growth Director- Jung Jing, DTM
For Division B Director - Lamar King, LD4
For Division C Director - Greg Ramsey, VC5
For Division D Director - Betsy Ervin, PM4
For Division E Director - Judy Smith, DTM

Thank you to each candidate who participated in this process and is willing to give their time to the members of District 40.

As the committee did not nominate at least one candidate for the position of Division A Director, the DLC report is incomplete. Qualified candidates may run from the floor for this position. Qualified candidates must notify the District Director of their intent to run from the floor at least 7 days prior to the Annual Business Meeting.

Madame District Director, that concludes my report.

Don DeHoff, DTM
District 40 Immediate Past Director
District Leadership Committee Chair
Member of ENCORE and AEP 1RP Toastmasters
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Candidate for District Director:

Wendy Simmons



My name is Wendy Simmons. I am the current Division C Director, serving my second year as Division Director. I joined Toastmasters in August 2016 when a peer within my organization said the words that would change my life: "You should join Toastmasters." With those words engrained in my brain, I attended my first Toastmasters meeting with the Chase corporate club "TEAM" Toastmasters. A month later I officially became a new member of TEAM Toastmasters. With support and mentoring from the club, I began my journey and found "my why" for joining Toastmasters.

My 3 whys for joining Toastmasters: Confidence, Fellowship and Support, and Communication and Leadership Skills.

I am an active member of Division C, belonging to 3 clubs - one corporate club, one community club, and one advanced club. Since 2016 I have served in multiple officer positions with my clubs. I have served two terms as an Area Director and served on the Club Growth Committee in 2021-2022 as the Liaison for PR. I was also a member of the District Education Training Committee (DETC) under the Program Quality Director in 2022-2023. In these capacities, I have had the pleasure of working with many members and officers across Division C and throughout District 40.

As District Director I will oversee the daily operations of the District while empowering district leadership to achieve the District mission. Together, we must seek to provide fun and engaging meeting experiences while providing solid educational opportunities and resources to meet club and individual expectations. I will bring my passion and commitment to Toastmasters and will support officers and members alike to meet their needs. I will call upon the leadership, organizational, and teamwork skills I have developed in my career and in Toastmasters to nurture the Toastmasters vision. I believe with open communication, strong interpersonal skills, and true collaboration, we can achieve common goals and success.

**Candidate for Program Quality Director:
Tracy Baker**



Candidate's Name: Tracy T. Baker, DTM

Candidate's Office: Program Quality Director

District Number: 40

Toastmasters member since: 1995

Education:

- M.A., Telecommunications Management, Webster University, St. Louis, Missouri
- B.S./A.S., Management/Human Resources, Park University, Parkville, Missouri
- A.A.S, Electronic Systems Technology, Community College of the Air Force

Toastmasters offices held and terms of service:

- District 40 Club Growth Director
- District 40 Club Extension Chair
- District 40 Conference Chair (2020)
- 2X Division A Director (2019-2020 and 2018-2019)
- 3X Area Director (C21 - 2021-2022, A6 - 2016-2017 and AI - 2001-2002)
- 4X Club Coach, 2X Club Mentor, 3X Club Sponsor

Toastmasters honors and recognition:

- 2020-2021 - Dayton United Communicators #1694
- District 40 Club of Year - 2019-2020
- Distinguished Division Director and Division Director of the Year, District 40 (Division A)
- 2018-2019 - President's Distinguished Division Director, Division A, District 40
- 2016-2017 - Select Distinguished Area Director and Area Director of the Year, District 40 (Division A, Area 6) - 2000-2001
- Distinguished Area Director (District 40, Area 1)

Relevant work experience and how it relates to Toastmasters and your role as a District leader:

I have expansive work experience which directly relates to my role as a District Leader. I discovered Toastmasters and the value this platform provides almost 30 years ago in Izmir, Turkey. I am a retired combat veteran with 20 years of dedicated service in the United States Air Force. I retired in the rank of Major and I spent a bulk of my time as a Communications Officer and Enlisted Wire Dawg supporting Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom. I've also spent time in US Special Ops Command in Florida and I've enjoyed worldwide assignments to Iraq, Afghanistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Alaska, Alabama, Mississippi, Colorado, Virginia, and Ohio. I have more than 20 years as a Teacher and Adjunct Professor in various locales. All of these experiences have me primed and ready to address quality needs and concerns as Program Quality Director in District 40.

What experience do you have in strategic planning?

As a communications officer and plans and programs liaison for military units worldwide, part of my scope was to look at the long-term vision of the particular organization and help senior leaders identify, organize and execute long term plans. This is true of Toastmasters District 40. As a leader I would help this unit see the long term vision and help the leaders strategize to get there.

What experience do you have in the area of finance?

I have multiple years' experience with planning and executing million dollar budgets with the United States Air Force. Whether planning for new operations centers or making decisions about where to cut and trim finances, I've done it with excellent results. I've also made strides closer to home when it comes to being treasurer of my local club and streamlining dues collections and processing.

What experience do you have in developing procedures?

My military experience was full of procedure development. Closer to home, as Conference Chair and multiple year Division and Area Director, I developed procedures which helped streamline my operations. As a Division Director, I worked with the District Education folks to conduct my own Club Officer Training on successive weekends to give my officers a nearly 100 percent training rate.

What lessons did you learn from previous leadership positions?

I have learned plenty of lessons from my previous military, coaching, and Toastmasters positions. Most importantly is that no one can do this alone. I do not rely on titles or names for results, instead I look to build teams but while stressing trust and communication. I do not believe in secrecy, rather I believe that good leaders have to be transparent. Do not hide info from people you're working with.

Why do you want to serve as a District leader?

I want to serve as a District 40 leader because I desire to share my knowledge and passion for this program and I believe that we have a duty to serve as leaders to help model and demonstrate what leadership looks like for the next generation of leaders. In any organization, if the leadership is not consistently strong, then the organization has no vision or direction and everyone suffers.

In your opinion, what are the District mission's major objectives and how would you work to achieve them?

The District Mission is "We build new clubs and support all clubs in achieving excellence." I agree with this but as a Trio member, I want to maintain program quality to ensure our current clubs are strong and push them to excellence. I will work to ensure our clubs are supported by interfacing with the DTMs and Area/Division Directors to ensure everyone is living up to the basics - good meetings, good website presence, good training and contests and officer involvement. Basics = excellence. This is how we maintain clubs & start new ones and keep District 40 moving forward.

Additional information about yourself:

I'm a simple man who loves life and really started to live my life when I found my voice through Toastmasters. I am an avid music fan and I really like, basketball, movies, fishing and Sunshine! I've been in Toastmasters over half my life and I'm a 5-time Distinguished Toastmaster. My plan is to continue to speak and use my voice and inspire others to do the same.

Candidate for Club Growth Director:
Jung Jing



I joined a Toastmaster club, June 2009.

Through this 15 years journey.

I was Division H governor. I was awarded the Division Governor of the year.

I served area governor one time and area director one time. I am current area 12 director.

I served several club presidents, a lot club officer positions. My goal is always a president distinguished club.

I earned 9 successful club coach certificates; I know how to help a club to be distinguished.

I have 5 DTM awards.

I want to help the club growing and retention for the district 40 in 2024-2025 to be the Club Growth Director.

I will do my best to reach District 40 goals.

Candidate for Club Growth Director:
Renee Mitchell



Candidate's Name: Renee L. Mitchell

Candidate's Office: Club Growth Director

District Number: 40

Toastmasters member since: 2018

Education:

- Bachelor of Science, Computer Science, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI
- Master of Science, Management of Info Systems, University of Nebraska at Omaha, Omaha, NE

Toastmasters offices held and terms of service:

- Current Area Director (since 2021)
- Club Sponsor (Greater Cincinnati Water Works)
- Current Vice President of Education of Mason Speech Weavers (since 2022)

Toastmasters honors and recognition:

- 2021-2022 - President's Distinguished Club Award (Mason Speech Weavers) - I was club president during this time

Relevant work experience and how it relates to Toastmasters and your role as a District leader:

I served 20 years in the Air Force as a Cyber Operations Officer and had the privilege to lead groups of various sizes to accomplish short- and long-term goals. I have held multiple project manager roles at S&P Global and know I can effectively work with teams of different sizes and personalities.

What experience do you have in strategic planning?

In my current job as Product Manager of Publishing at S&P Global Ratings, I set the strategic vision for the long-term enhancement of our systems. I have taken input from users and business owners and built out a product roadmap showing the path we will take to accomplish our vision.

What experience do you have in the area of finance?

As a project manager, funding is always something we plan for. I have had the opportunity to establish budgets and track finances in both my military and civilian positions. I understand the importance of staying within budget and can balance trade-offs to ensure we do not overspend.

What experience do you have in developing procedures?

During my time in the military, we established procedures for just about everything, including how to handle the outage of communication systems, the process for transporting and setting up communications at alternate locations, just to name a few. I feel very comfortable in this area.

What lessons did you learn from previous leadership positions?

I have learned how to work with people with different backgrounds and also how to motivate and encourage people who may not be onboard with a plan. I recognize how to change my leadership style based on personalities, yet still accomplish the goals set by the organization or team.

Why do you want to serve as a District leader?

I feel my background in leading makes me a strong candidate for a District Leader position. I would also love the opportunity to lead a group of people to make an impact at the District level, while also identifying those future leaders who can continue to take us forward.

In your opinion, what are the District mission's major objectives and how would you work to achieve them?

Our main objectives are to improve the strength of existing clubs and build new ones in unreached areas. I would assign strong mentors and coaches to those clubs struggling and/or give support on how to grow. For new clubs, I would identify underserved areas and work to build them out.

Additional information about yourself:

I have worked as the assistant Club Growth Director this year and have learned a lot! I have been able to run lead on some newer clubs and was selected as a sponsor for one of our newest clubs in the area. I know I can take what the current CGD has started and continue it forward in 2024-2025.

Candidate for Division Director B:
Lamar King



Lamar King has been a Toastmasters member off and on since April 1, 2012. He is currently a member of City of Columbus where he has honed in on his leadership skills. He took on roles as Secretary, Vice President of Education, Sergeant of Arms, and President. He currently is serving as the Area Director for Division C Area 25. He is also the chair for this year's District 40 Annual Conference. He enjoys spending time with his wife, going for walks, and going to his favorite coffee shop to have tea (extra hot chai tea, sugar free vanilla, and oak milk) aka the Lamar special :) He enjoys reading and has committed himself to being a life-long learner.

Candidate for Division Director C:
Greg Ramsey



Candidate's Name: **Gregory Ramsey**

Candidate's Office: **Division C Director** District Number: **40**

Toastmasters member since: **2019**

Education:

Bachelor Degree from the Ohio State University

Toastmasters offices held and terms of service:

**Area 25 Director - 2022-2023
AGOISSI President of AGOISSI - 2021-2022
AGOISSI VPE of AGOISSI - 2020-2021
AGOISSI Treasurer of AGOISSI - 2019-2020**

Toastmasters honors and recognition:

**Distinguished Area Director - 2022-2023
President of D40 Club of the Year - 2022-2023
PM5
VC5**

Relevant work experience and how it relates to Toastmasters and your role as a District officer:

**Senior Business Advisor for Defense Logistics Agency
Communication and leading meetings and briefings is critical.**

What experience do you have in strategic planning?

Experience as Area Director and in my professional career.

What experience do you have in the area of finance?

**I have been Treasurer and club President in Toastmasters.
I perform estimates and billing in my profession.**

What experience do you have in developing procedures?

I have experience with developing procedures as President of AGOISSI.
I also have this type of experience in my profession.

What lessons did you learn from previous leadership positions?

Relationships are key when working with volunteers.

Why do you want to serve as a district officer?

To serve and give back to Toastmaster as Toastmasters and other Toastmaster leaders/mentors have given so much to me.

In your opinion, what are the district mission's major objectives and how would you work to achieve them?

Increase membership and paid clubs. Help members reach their communication and leadership goals.
I am ready to lead Area Directors by motivating and providing Toastmaster experience and knowledge.

Additional information about yourself:

I am a husband and father of four children. My wife and I are both involved in Toastmasters. Toastmaster has helped me immensely in life, both personally and professionally and i would like to help others receive the same benefit.

Candidate for Division Director D:
Betsy Ervin



Candidate's Name: **Elizabeth Ann Ervin**

Candidate's Office: **Vice President Education** District Number: **40**

Toastmasters member since: **2016**

Education:

Ph. D. Mechanical Engineering, University of Michigan, 1993

Toastmasters offices held and terms of service:

Vice President Education - Springboro Toastmasters 2021-2022,2022-2023,2023-2024
Vice President Education - Wright Way Toastmasters 2022-2023,2023-2024
President - Springboro Toastmasters 2020/2021
President - Wright Way Toastmasters 2021/2022
Area Director - Cincinnati, Division D (formerly Division F) 2021/2022,2022/2023
Also served as Vice President Public Relations 2019-2020 and Secretary 2017-2018,2018-2019 Springboro Toastmasters

Toastmasters honors and recognition:

2021 - 2022 Club President of The Year Award (District 40)
District 40 Area Director to represent a Distinguished Area 2021-2022
Triple Crown 2023, 2022, 2019
Path Completion (2) 2022-2023

Relevant work experience and how it relates to Toastmasters and your role as a District leader:

I have been working as a contractor at Wright Patterson AFB most of the time that I have been a Toastmaster. I think that being a Toastmaster has helped me to not only speak out but to take on leadership roles and be a key contributor to the Program Office. I am also an adjunct professor at the University of Dayton, likewise since 2016 and Toastmasters has helped with speaking.

What experience do you have in strategic planning?

Running the A/V Sub-Committee for the District 40 Annual Conference
3+ years as an HOA officer

What experience do you have in the area of finance?

Work experience in evaluating proposals
Monitored finances for HOA

What experience do you have in developing procedures?

N/A

What lessons did you learn from previous leadership positions?

Communication is key. Sometimes you have to be persistent and repetitive. Some things are just hard for people to change like going from Zoom to in-person for speech contests. You have to be an active listener and meet people where they are at.

Why do you want to serve as a District leader?

I want to do what I can to help Division A grow, not just new clubs but also strengthen existing clubs. strengthening Division A will help the District.

In your opinion, what are the District mission's major objectives and how would you work to achieve them?

Membership retention and growth - To achieve success: make a plan, identify specific actions, delegate and follow up.

Additional information about yourself:

I am also a volunteer for dog rescue. So please come to my Dog Rescue Luncheon on April 20th!

Candidate for Division Director E: Judy Smith

Candidate's Name: Judith A. Smith

Candidate's Office: Division E Director

District Number: 40

Toastmasters member since: May, 1990

Education:

B.A. in Math w/ Computer Science, Management, and Finance from Walsh University

Toastmasters offices held and terms of service:

Served as all club officer roles except Secretary over my 34-year Toastmasters career. Most recently, Articulate Revenuers V.P. Education, 2014-2024, Triangle/Newport Toastmasters Treasurer, 2022-2024, Area 31 Governor, 2010-2011, and Area 41 (and 42) Director, 2023-2024.

Toastmasters honors and recognition:

DTM, 2017, and President's Distinguished Area 31 Governor, 2010-2011.

Relevant work experience and how it relates to Toastmasters and your role as a District leader:

I've been a team leader and acting manager, helping employees not only utilize their strengths but also work on developing other areas of expertise and soft skills. This willingness to help others develop has proven to be a great asset to my fellow Toastmasters over and over.

What experience do you have in strategic planning?

I have re-built my Toastmasters club from behind-the-scenes as the V.P. Education by setting a new goal each year and getting buy-in from club members that the goals were reasonable. Once the goals were accepted by members, they actively supported them.

What experience do you have in the area of finance?

I have maintained a personal budget for years.

What experience do you have in developing procedures?

As an Information Technology specialist, team leader, and acting manager, I often developed job aids and procedure documents to assist myself and others in repeating tasks successfully with consistent results.

What lessons did you learn from previous leadership positions?

Refrain from projecting one's own expectations upon other Toastmasters. Allow other members to progress at their own pace while still challenging them to strive for and achieve their own personal and/or professional public speaking, listening, and leadership goals. Practice active listening to determine others' needs and work diligently to help them obtain the benefits Toastmasters offers.

Why do you want to serve as a District leader?

I believe clubs appreciate feeling connected to the District. One simple way to achieve this is to be an active and visible leader, at whatever leadership level or role we are serving. As an Area Director, I thoroughly enjoyed getting to know and networking with the members of my clubs. I look forward to broadening my leadership experience by serving as Division Director.

In your opinion, what are the District mission's major objectives and how would you work to achieve them?

To attract new Toastmasters members as well as assist current members in achieving their individual personal and professional goals resulting in strong vibrant clubs which then foster the camaraderie and sense of family which in and of itself helps clubs retain long-time members. Leading by example by being an active Division Director within the Division exhibits these values.

Additional information about yourself:

I am an avid Toastmaster. I have belonged to two corporate clubs and am now a member of a community club as well. I bring a wealth of hands-on knowledge and expertise to the Division E Director position. I have competed in all of the speech contests available to members and served as a club officer every year except for the year I served as Area 31 Governor. I enjoy visiting Toastmasters clubs while on business trips; my current tally is 45 clubs in 10 different states and the District of Columbia. I've been a guest speaker, guest speech evaluator, and guest grammarian while attending these out-of-town meetings. I originally joined Toastmasters to develop my public speaking, listening, and leadership skills. I continue being a Toastmaster because of the camaraderie and friendships I've developed within the organization, to mentor new members, and to keep my skills fresh and current. In addition to being passionate about Toastmasters, I also enjoy bicycling, motorcycling, spelunking, amateur radio, hiking, orienteering, and disc golf.