

Report of the Eastern Division Governor

Educational Awards

There were fifty members this year from Eastern Division who received educational awards. Some of those people have received two or three awards in the same year and I commend them for their efforts. I would like to congratulate each and every one who achieved an educational award for their continued commitment to Toastmasters International and more importantly to their own personal development.

Attendance at Club Officer Training

Ingrid King the Assistant Division Governor Education and Training developed a training session with something for everyone for the second round of training this year. The majority of those who attended gained a lot out of the day and enjoyed the variety of training provided. We also tried out a new venue, the Performing Arts Centre at Centenary High School, which offered us an opportunity to conduct collective training as well as training in the club officer responsibilities.

We will continue to develop our skills and value add to the skills we already have. This new round of training was designed for everyone to develop leadership skills as well as enjoy the company of those learning with us. Some clubs missed out on DCP points this year because insufficient people attended the training. I hope the response to the next round of training results in a better outcome for clubs and the division.

More importantly I hope the members newly appointed to club officer positions attend the first round of training to get Eastern Division off to a good start for the year. I also hope that those appointed to the club executive positions of President and Vice President (Education and Training) attend President Elect Training (PET) training this year. Although PET training does not attract any DCP points it does help those attending understand the responsibilities they are taking on and give them guidance on how to achieve good outcomes in these roles.

Membership

Considering the turbulent times we are experiencing with employment in our division our membership remains strong. Despite closing two clubs early in the year we are well on the way to establishing more clubs to take their place. We have three clubs In-Formation and a number of other clubs in the process of getting started. I wish to thank all those involved with the development of these new clubs and I look forward to seeing these clubs charter.

DCP Goals

Clubs from all areas within the Eastern Division have worked towards their DCP goals this year and although some did not achieve the goals they set for themselves at the start of the year they never stopped trying. The Area Governors have provided excellent support and have assisted all the clubs within their area to achieve their DCP goals.

Contact with Area Governors

I have been so lucky with the Area Governors in Eastern Division this year. They have all gone way above my expectations with the support they have provided to the clubs and to the Eastern Division Council. All the Area Governors continue to provide me with updated information about their clubs. They have had the hard conversations with some clubs to get things back in order and have been inspirational to other clubs. They continue to keep me informed through teleconferences at the end of each month and through phone calls and emails. I thank each area governor for their efforts during my time as Eastern Division Governor.

Contests

The Eastern Division is going to provide a very strong representation at each of the competitions conducted at the District 69 Convention on the Gold Coast in May 2013. I encourage all club members within the division to come along and support the Eastern Division competitors. I know the calibre of competitors on

display will be high because I was able to attend all the area competitions and those who won at the division contest were selected from a very competitive group.

Clubs

All clubs in the Eastern Division continue to develop. The Eastern Division Council, in particular the Area Governors continue to support all clubs. It is through the dedication and the assistance provided by Area Governors and the Presidents of every club that allows the Eastern Division to continue to develop. I know the clubs are already looking to elect committees to lead them through the next year. It is an exciting time for all concerned and I commend anyone putting their hand up to take on a leadership role. Toastmasters is where leaders are made and taking on the responsibility of a committee position is the first step.

New Clubs

There are a number of possible new clubs in the division. Once the dust has settled from the government layoffs and things return to normal I expect to see a great influx in membership and people realise the potential of Toastmasters International to assist them develop their communication and leadership skills as they search for alternate employment. As I indicated before we have three new clubs getting close to charter and more on the horizon.

Successors for Governor Roles

There has been movement toward a selection of new committee members at club, division and district level. We are working on a training support program to assist any member of the division wishing to undertake a leadership role. There are a number of good mentors within Eastern Division that are willing to provide advice and assistance to anyone who asks. Some people have already been identified for leadership roles and I applaud them for their efforts in taking on any of the executive roles.

Other Information/Comments

The mission of the Eastern Division remains unchanged. That is to serve the clubs assigned to it by providing district support and resources through our area governors. We have developed training opportunities for all our members and we encourage them to grow in confidence.

Shane Cooper CC, CL

Eastern Division Governor 2012-2013