



## Small Steps

District 115 Club Retention Chair  
Sherrie Parker, DTM, PDD

**Accept the “One Month – One Action” Challenge!** Each month, I will share three effective club habits that are proven to help clubs thrive. Start a new action for at least a month and add a new “Best Practice” every month for a year. Remember one small step in the right direction still moves you to your destination! Please share your club’s unique best practices with me at [sparkerflute@hotmail.com](mailto:sparkerflute@hotmail.com)

Is your club ready for 2022? How are you helping members renew their commitment to your club’s quality and growth? Let’s face it: it can be overwhelming to look at future goals and realize how much time and effort it will take to reach them. It can

seem downright  
**IMPOSSIBLE!**

Solution: start  
with **SMALL  
STEPS!**

Here are three  
best practices  
that focus on  
small steps you  
can take towards  
your big goals.

1. The New Year  
is the perfect time  
to **check in with**

**members who haven’t attended in a while.**

A personal phone call or text from your VP Membership, President, mentor, or a fellow member can remind someone that they are missed and will be welcomed back. Who doesn’t appreciate a personal invitation? If there is a specific reason they haven’t been

attending, ask if you can do anything to help. Offer your encouragement and support.

2. **Engage your new members immediately.**

Vote them into the club and have a special induction ceremony. The VP Education can have a one-on-one conversation to discuss the new member’s goals and answer questions. The VPE can also use the discussion to help match the new member with an appropriate mentor. Assign them meeting roles as soon as possible! Participating in Table Topics or serving as a Word Master, Humorist, Grammarian or Ah Counter allows them to experience the value of actively contributing and feeling invested in the club. These are small steps that make a big difference.

3. Contest season is here! **Encourage**

**members to participate in contests.** As contestants, they can improve writing and presentation skills. As contest helpers, they grow leadership experience and expand their knowledge of organization and preparation skills. Whether they are a contestant or a contest helper, when they participate in contests beyond the club, the member will bring that experience and expertise back to your club. Best of all: being in contests is FUN!

What other small steps does your club take to support its new and continuing members? Please share these Best Practices with me and I will include them in future articles and in the District 115 “Best Practices” resource. Wishing you a year filled with small steps that lead to your club’s success!

*Happy New Year!*

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### Wake Up With Toastmasters

Monday through Friday, 6:00 am

[FaceBook.com/TMD115CGD](https://www.facebook.com/TMD115CGD)

Contact Ken Richardson at [d115cgd@gmail.com](mailto:d115cgd@gmail.com) if you are interested in being a guest on the show.

### Educational Enrichment Night

Saturday, January 8, 2022, 6:00 - 8:00pm.  
Enrichment Night - attend this evening of virtual classes and chose from the following presentations.

#### 6:00 - 7:00pm

*New Member Orientation* presented by Ken Richardson - meet other new members as you learn about Toastmasters, meeting roles, and what to expect your first year.

*DTM and HPL Projects* - a discussion session facilitated by Program Quality Director Jean Williams DTM.

#### 7:00 - 8:00 pm

*Introduction to Pathways* presented by Ken Richardson - designed for new members to learn about Pathways.

*DTM Requirements* – a discussion session facilitated by Program Quality Director Jean

Williams, DTM. Register in advance at-

<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJcpcOCorjguGdlxmh4iK65WMUWmCoRaltGj>

### Game Night

Saturday, January 29, 2022 6:00-8:00 pm

Come to see friends and make friends. Bring your non-Toastmaster friends when you come to this virtual event to laugh, play games, and have fun. Register in advance for Game Night at-

[https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJcocuuzotGNP2K\\_gPRj-T90QWZpbMO0sP](https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJcocuuzotGNP2K_gPRj-T90QWZpbMO0sP)

## TLI: In-Person AND Online

This month you have two options for attending the Toastmasters Leadership Institute, or TLI. The in-person event will be held on January 8, 2022 at the LDS Church, 5160 W. Lone Mountain Road, starting at 8:30 am.

**DISTRICT 115  
TOASTMASTERS  
WINTER  
TOASTMASTERS  
LEADERSHIP  
INSTITUTE**

**Saturday, January 8, 2022**

**IN PERSON TLI**

**Location:**  
**The Church of Jesus Christ of  
Latter-Day Saints**  
**5160 W. Lone Mountain Road**  
**Las Vegas, NV 89130**

**Note: D115 will practice the COVID-19  
Guidelines as required by the State Officials**

**Registration begins at 8:30am**  
**Education is from 9:00am to Noon**

Register today to reserve your spot  
<https://bit.ly/3ENyyhf>

If you have any questions, please contact Jean Williams,  
Program Quality Director, at [JeanWDTM@gmail.com](mailto:JeanWDTM@gmail.com).

The online version will be held on January 24, 2022 starting at 6:00 pm.

Although the primary focus of the TLI is to train club officers, you do not need to be an officer to attend. The program will include several educational opportunities as well as the biannual training. Please join us in the venue you prefer. Keep in mind, however, that we are required to follow the State's mask mandate for the in-person sessions.

**DISTRICT 115  
TOASTMASTERS  
WINTER  
TOASTMASTERS  
LEADERSHIP  
INSTITUTE**

**Monday, January 24, 2022**

**ON-LINE WINTER TLI**  
**ALTERNATE TO THE IN-PERSON TLI**

**6:00 pm TO 9:00 pm**  
**6:00 pm to 6:30 pm Registration**  
**6:30 pm to 9:00 pm Training Sessions**

Register today to reserve your spot  
<https://bit.ly/3z0O4UU>

If you have any questions, please contact Jean Williams,  
Program Quality Director, at [JeanWDTM@gmail.com](mailto:JeanWDTM@gmail.com).

## 2022

By Ken Richardson, DTM, CGD

The start of the new calendar year means that we are half way through the Toastmasters fiscal year. It's time to reflect on what we've gained from our Toastmasters membership and to do all we can to reach our year-end goals for the period ending June 30, 2022.

Our District started the (fiscal) year with a base of 64 clubs. We now have 54 clubs. To reach distinguished status as a District, we must add 11

new clubs in the next six months. TI uses membership payments as a measure of membership strength. On July 1, 2021, our base was 1,884 payments. As of December 31, we stood at 878. To reach distinguished status we must get to 1,913 payments.

The numbers may seem daunting but they are achievable. If we all work together we can achieve great things. In the words of a famous District 115 leader, "It ain't June 30<sup>th</sup> yet!"

*Wishing you all the best for 2022.*

## VPPR Corner

By Jennifer Smith, D115, PRM

Happy New Year! Our next incentive is *Talk Up Toastmasters*. I encourage you to use videos to "Talk Up" your clubs. I'm in the process of reading "Human-Centered Communication" written by Ethan Beute and Stephen Pacinnelli. I will post nuggets of what I think that could benefit us as a District, Club, members, and individuals. In the meantime, I encourage you to read the book as well or at least listen to this podcast:



<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/success-insider/id1091005446?i=1000545244512>.

It's an hour podcast about the book and gives some insights on how important videos are to businesses. We are in the business of growing our membership. Let's show the world what we do and what we know.

**Communications**, the D115 Newsletter is published monthly. Please send articles, photos, comments and suggestions to CGD Ken Richardson at [D115CGD@gmail.com](mailto:D115CGD@gmail.com) or call 702.523.3023.