

**District 65  
District Officer Training – June 17, 2006  
Minutes**

A District 65 Toastmasters International District Officers' Training Session was held on June 17, 2006 at the Holiday Inn, Waterloo, New York.

The meeting was called to order at 8:45 a.m. by Beth Miller, Incoming Sergeant at Arms.

Gordon Penniston, Outgoing District 65 Governor, announced officers. The officers for the 2006-2007 Toastmasters year are listed in the attached spreadsheet along with their attendance at this meeting. Gordon thanked the outgoing officers for their hard work during the past year.

Gordon Penniston announced duties of each office and asked officers to orally accept. He then called Sam Mehta to the front, where Sam introduced the 17 (out of 19) incoming Area Governors and 3 (out of 4) Division Governors present. He mentioned that, while incoming offices he introduced have eight hours of training, the "Top 3" have 16 hours at the Regional conference, in Detroit this year.

The incoming Top three District 65 officers gave presentations. Taz Cannon, the incoming Lt Governor of Marketing, emphasized listening and doing in translating "Thoughts and Words into Action" (Sam Mehta's theme for District 65 this year). Bob Logan, the incoming Lt Governor for Education and Training (LGET), emphasized communication and positive experience. Sam Mehta, incoming District Governor, made several comments. He said the average "life" of a Toastmaster is only two years, that we are different from Rotary or Lions in that our focus is internal, for self-improvement, that without members our organization does not exist, and that we should pay attention to the District mission, which is on the back of our binders. He said that AG is the most "fun" office, but Area Governors and Division Governors should be facilitators and not to try to run the clubs. Sam also announced that there are currently two President's Distinguished Divisions (East and Central) and several Distinguished Areas. The outgoing Eastern Division Governor, Bruce Gilbert, was present at this meeting, as were three Distinguished Area Governors, Amy Burnell (Area 7), Pat Janacek (Area 12), and Kay Whipple (Area 16).

Beth Miller, incoming (and acting) Sergeant at Arms, thanked Sam Mehta and introduced Kay Whipple, our incoming Public Relations Officer, who did the first of five training sessions on "Achieving Success Standards for Area and Division Governors.

Gordon Penniston announced Areas currently headed for distinguished status (13, 18, 2, 3)

Sam made some announcements:

- Went over binder contents
- E-mail Sam once, us back, Sam back, then call
- Mentioned Club Extension Specialists (Harry Carlson for the West, Gordon Penniston for the Central, Lorraine Mott for the East, and Elisa Serfass for the south)
- Web masters – Melinda and Andrew Smith (took pictures)

Taz Cannon, incoming LGM, gave a presentation and provided a handout on "Maintaining Strong Clubs".

Melinda and Andrew Schmidt gave a web presentation.

There was a break for lunch and pictures of incoming officers.

Gordon Penniston, outgoing District 65 Governor, gave a presentation "Building New Clubs".

Bob Logan gave a presentation, "Conducting Quality Speech Contests", and passed out a handout.

Sam Mehta gave a presentation, "Building a Successful Team".

There were breakout sessions for Division and Area Governors followed by closing comments.

Sam Mehta thanked Gordon Penniston for his service as District Governor, and Gordon received a standing ovation.

Sam Mehta made all the Area Governors and Division Governors aware of the speech contests held in other districts within Region VI. In the handout provided it was shown that all the other seven districts have Table-Topics and Humorous speech contest during the fall contest and International Speech and Evaluation contest during the spring contest. District 65 is the only district in the region VI who does Evaluation and Humorous speech during the fall contest and International Speech and Tall Tales during the spring. Sam wants to provide the opportunity to toastmasters in District 65 to compete in the Table-Topics contest at the area, division and district levels. He told the attending Area Governors and Division Governors to think about it and get back to him with their opinion in one or two weeks.

District Officers Training meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m. The next District Executive Committee meeting will be July 15.

Dan Ferens, DTM  
Acting and Incoming Secretary, District 65