



District 52 Toastmasters

Where Leaders are Made

Linda Cota-Kumagai, DTM

District 52 Nomination Chair
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April 23, 2020

Ms. Agnes Lewis, DTM

District Director Lewis:

This letter is to inform you that we have completed vetting and nominations for the following candidates to run for District Office for the term 2020-2021.

District Director Candidates: Circe Denyer and Serena McCullough

Program Quality Director Candidate: Lawrence Quesada

Club Growth Director Candidates: Jim Kearney and James Park

Division A Director Candidate: Albert Lin

Division B Director Candidate: Richard Dickson

Division C Director Candidate: Steve Savage

Division E Director Candidate: Rose Abbott

Please be advised that John Murray has withdrawn his Program Quality Director candidacy. We continue to seek two more Division Director Candidates during this extremely challenging time.

Attached to this letter please find the District Leader Biographical Information Forms for all candidates to be distributed to the District Council along with this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Linda Cota-Kumagai".

Linda Cota-Kumagai, DTM

Chair/Nominating Committee 2020

DISTRICT LEADER BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION



Candidate's Name: **Steve Savage**

Candidate's Office: **Division Director** District Number: **52**

Toastmasters member since: **2017**

Education:

Some College

Toastmasters offices held and terms of service:

Sargent at Arms 2017-2019

President 2018

VP Education 2019

VP Membership 2019

Toastmasters honors and recognition:

N/A

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

Since 1977, I have worked in the Motion Picture Industry. My co-workers have been from many different cultures. I have always been able to blend work styles and effectively work side by side with various personalities. I enjoy learning about different customs and traditions.

What experience do you have in strategic planning?

N/A

What experience do you have in the area of finance?

N/A

What experience do you have in developing procedures?

N/A

What lessons did you learn from previous leadership positions?

I discovered there are many varieties of clubs while serving my term as Area 33 Director. I also learned there are slight differences in corporate clubs and ones that are open to any and all members. I gained some insights on how to work with the different styles of clubs. And, I learned there are many, many talented folks in our Area.

Why do you want to serve as a District leader?

Serving as a District leader allows one to serve others, and help others gain skills and confidence by learning to communicate effectively. We have all heard stories of how some new members were afraid to stand up and say their name. It's very fulfilling to observe those folks unlock their full potential and grow personally.

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

Toastmasters and the District offer people the opportunity to find their voice, build their confidence and self awareness. I will align myself with the District leaders to help any member that is willing to take the actions required to improve their speaking and listening skills.

Additional information about yourself:

I came to California in 1977 from Oklahoma to stake my claim in the Motion Picture Industry. Lighting sets, rigging, and camera set-ups can be physically demanding. I am currently winding down that career, and now embracing Toastmasters to develop communication skills and personal growth. Rather than wearing out my 'backbone,' I'm now on a new path to develop my 'jawbone' Thanks for the opportunity to be of service as one of your Division Directors.
Steve

DISTRICT LEADER BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION



Candidate's Name: James Park

Candidate's Office: Club Growth Director

District Number: 52

Toastmasters member since: January 1, 2016

Education:

Central Washington University - Bachelor of Science in Business Administration 2005

Toastmasters offices held and terms of service:

President 2016-2017 Lofty Speakers, Treasurer & VPE 2019-2020 Lofty Speakers, Secretary 2018-2019 Voices of Los Angeles, VPE 2019-2020 Voices of Los Angeles, Area D41 Director 2017-2019, Division D Director 2019-2020

Toastmasters honors and recognition:

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

Dental sales consultant for 13 years. Managed and built relationships with over 200 dental practices. Each practice has its own leadership, team and culture, which is similar to a single club at Toastmasters. My job was to help each of these practices run more efficiently and produce more. I trained each team member to perform their role and helped a practice with marketing, sales and operations. In turn, I became their trusted advisor and their efficiency and production increased my sales. I believe the District leadership's role is very similar.

What experience do you have in strategic planning?

Strategy is important when planning, short term and long term. I plan the most efficient way of running a practice while increasing production and help my clients implement the plan. Usually this is a business plan which either involves an existing dental practice, or planning the build-out of a \$1M office, which includes budgeting for construction and equipment costs. In addition, I conduct frequent check-ins and make adjustments to any additional needs or changes so we stay on track and on schedule.

What experience do you have in the area of finance?

I work with clients to create business plans which includes budgeting and forecasting for general operations, marketing, etc. During the last quarter of each year, we go over capital purchases to maximize tax savings.

What experience do you have in developing procedures?

As a certified OSHA/Infection Control, HIPAA, California Practice Act, Recall system, Total Health, Team Harmony and other continuing education course instructor, I developed custom-tailor courses and the procedures that works for every practice.

What lessons did you learn from previous leadership positions?

Have a bias for action - I am not above any job or task, period. I learned how to be accountable and learned to better control my emotions and have more patience.

Why do you want to serve as a District leader?

As a Toastmaster and current Division D Director, I have grown immensely and climbed out of my shell. I recognize that Toastmasters has changed my life, and taking on bigger leadership positions has challenged me to grow and learn. I believe that District 52 has a lot of opportunity in terms of helping people bring the best out of themselves.

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

First and foremost, the district mission is to build new clubs and support existing clubs by continuously offering quality training programs. From my experience working with John Murray, current CGD, I believe that firing up the leadership and getting leads, in addition to following up patiently with calls and emails are important. The final part where you close the sale - the launch meeting- is the easy part! I plan to gather up a super team to help me fulfill my objectives for the District.

Additional information about yourself:

Toastmasters has changed my life. As much as I received help from all the mentors and leaders, I must give back to the Toastmasters just as much if not more. I believe Toastmaster is for everyone!