



District 6 Toastmasters

Serving Parts of Minnesota and Ontario

District News and Events

District 6

August/2017

Inside This Issue

Recapping the Toastmasters Leadership Institute (TLI)

Up Next: The Fall Conference!

Monthly Webinars for Club Officers

Officer Training Update

Fall Conference

Member Recognition

Membership Matters in District 6

Club Proxies

Key Dates

Club Officer Training

June 1 - August 31

[Upcoming Training Sessions](#)

Designate Club Proxy

By Tuesday, August 22

[How to Submit Proxy](#)

Smedley Award Membership Contest

August 1 - September 30

[Membership Programs for Clubs](#)

Speech Contests



Recapping the Toastmasters Leadership Institute (TLI)

Thanks to each member that attended the District 6 Toastmasters Leadership Institute (TLI) on August 5th at the Crowne Plaza in Plymouth. You made this event a huge success.

The TLI hosted 28 training and education sessions! Very special thanks to the presenters and conveners that provided 28 awesome sessions. The sessions were excellent, and there was something for everyone. If you missed a session, or you'd like the materials for a given session, the slides and handouts for most sessions are available at the [TLI Session Materials page](#).

Each presenter at the TLI was a member of a District 6 club. That shows the collective knowledge, skill, and experience our members have. It demonstrates the strength of our community. During 2017-2018 program year, I hope to provide many more educational offerings by members for members. And I encourage you to share what you know! By shining a spotlight on successful members and clubs, there's so much each of us can gain.

We also presented nearly 200 awards at the Recognition Lunch! Results from the lunch program are available at [2016-2017 Awards Results](#). Photos from the TLI and Recognition Lunch are available in [District 6's Flickr page](#). As an aside, each time I see a photo of me, it reminds me that I need to eat better, exercise more, improve my posture, lose the beard (maybe), and much more! Nonetheless, photo albums from TLI are listed below:

- [TLI Training & Education Sessions](#)

September - October
[Speech Contests](#)

- [Faces at TLI](#)
- [Awards & Recognition Lunch](#)

District 6 Fall Conference

November 3 - 4, 2017
DoubleTree,
Rochester, MN

Congratulations to the members below that received District 6's highest awards!

- Toastmaster of the Year: Deb Luu, DTM
- Division Director of the Year: Jon Perry, DTM
- Area Director of the Year: Gopu Shrestha, DTM

Congratulations to each member that was recognized at the TLI!

Up Next: The Fall Conference!

The next major District 6 event will be the Fall Conference in Rochester, Minnesota on November 3rd & 4th. You won't want to miss this conference! We'll be joined by International President, Balraj Arunasalam, DTM! Balraj is not only the highest-ranking officer in Toastmasters, but he's a special leader with a rare style each of us can learn from. You have the opportunity to meet and talk with him at the conference. Please save the date and plan to attend!

Monthly Webinars for Club Officers

Each month, District 6 will host a 1-hour webinar for club officers, providing information that's timely to help club officers to lead successful clubs. The August webinar covers membership building and handling the October dues period. The webinar will be held on Thursday, August 31st, from 8:00-9:00 pm. Join the webinar on 8/31 from your computer, phone, or tablet by accessing the URL: <https://zoom.us/j/180501406>. Sessions will be recorded and made available to all. If there's a specific topic you'd like covered in a monthly webinar, please let me know.

Hope to see you soon. Keep growing!

Harold Osmundson, DTM
District Director, District 6
Toastmasters International
Where Leaders Are Made
Phone: 763-213-7795
Email: harold.osmundson@d6tm.org

Officer Training Update!

District 6 extends a huge "Thank You!!" to everyone who was a volunteer, presenter, or attendee at the Toastmaster Leadership Institute (TLI). Without your efforts, there wouldn't have been a TLI. We appreciate the time you take out of your schedule to help your fellow members achieve their educational goals.

After a great TLI, 30% of the clubs in the District currently have 4 or more officers trained. The deadline for Club Officer Training is August 31st, 2017. If you have yet to receive training, please look on the [District 6 Officer Training page](#) to find a Club Officer Training near you. If you can't find a training near you please contact your Area or Division Director to find out when one will be scheduled. The more officers trained, the better quality and experience your club will have.

Fall Conference

It's speech contest time again! The categories for this fall are Table Topics and Humorous speech. We have a lot of exciting things already planned for the Fall Conference! The Business Meeting, Speech Contests, and a visit from our International

President, Balraj Arunasalam, DTM. Having the International President visit our district is a tremendous honor and will be a valuable experience for everyone who attends.

The Fall Conference Co-chairs would also like to know what you value most, so they've created a survey for you: [Fall Conference Interest Survey](#). Please take a moment to fill this out and let your voice be heard. Thank you and we'll see you in Rochester!



Ben Smith, DTM
Program Quality Director - North,
District 6

Toastmasters International
Where Leaders Are Made
Phone: 612-770-8590
Email: ben.smith@d6tm.org



Jean Pearson, DTM
Program Quality Director - South,
District 6

Toastmasters International
Where Leaders Are Made
Phone: 507-259-2381
Email: jean.pearson@d6tm.org

Member Recognition

Distinguished Toastmaster (DTM) Award

The Distinguished Toastmaster (DTM) award is the highest honor in the Toastmasters education program. This award requires at least 45 speeches, 6 months of club leadership, 1 year of district leadership, club building, mentoring, and other activities. Achieving this award reflects commitment and excellence in communication and leadership.

Congratulations to our newest Distinguished Toastmaster Award recipients:

- John Vu of Hennepin County Toastmasters #4511664
- Gopu Shrestha of Four Seasons Club #373
- Francene Niemiec of Free Speakers #1409
- Attracta Abulu of Westerly Winds Toastmasters Club #8582
- Sandi Robarge of FRB \$peakea\$y Club #5348
- Sara Leiste of Class Act Speakers #5554
- Laura Bathke of Stagecoach Speakers-Early Risers #568
- Michael Shovein of Speak N' Eagan Club #9893

Educational Awards 2017-2018

The reports below show the educational achievements by District 6 members in the 2017-2018 program year. Congratulations to each member!

[All Education Awards Submitted](#)

[Triple Crown \(3 or more educational in the same program year\)](#)

Connect, Share, and Learn
Join District 6's Facebook groups
[District 6 Facebook Group](#)

Club Office-specific groups: [Pres](#), [VPE](#), [VPM](#), [VPPR](#), [Sec](#), [Treas](#), [SAA](#)

Membership Matters in District 6

This month our focus on membership shifts twofold. First and foremost, we should be focusing on member retention. This is a good time for club officers to talk to their members about the Toastmasters program and establish some goals for the current Toastmasters year. Engaged members are happy members, and remember the club exists to serve its members.

Membership renewals are due October 1st, and now is the time to start talking about collection of dues. If you are a club Treasurer, it may be a good time to start collecting dues. They may be submitted now, and you won't have to fight against the October deadline.

Secondly, let's focus on adding some new members. New members are good for a club in that they add new variety and life to our meetings. Perhaps now is a good time to plan an open house or a membership drive. This can provide leadership opportunities for our members and potentially add new members to our clubs. Additionally, any club that adds 5 new members in August, or September will receive recognition for a Smedley Award. We will have special recognition of any club that receives a Smedley award this year.

Every member makes a difference for each of our clubs. Thank you for your continued dedication to helping to build a strong Toastmasters program in District 6.

Dave Gibson, DTM
Club Growth Director - North, District 6
Toastmasters International
Where Leaders are Made
Phone: 763-318-1043
Email: dave.gibson@d6tm.org

Ravi Rai, DTM
Club Growth Director - South, District 6
Toastmasters International
Where Leaders are Made
Phone: 612-501-4517
Email: ravi.rai@d6tm.org

Attention: Club Presidents and Secretaries

On July 7th, you received a very important email from Toastmasters International with the subject, International Election Proxy Information.

Please make sure that emails sent from donotreply@toastmasters.org will not be sent to your spam folder. The email contains instructions on how to designate your club's proxy for the Toastmasters International Annual Business Meeting on Saturday, August 26, 2017 in Vancouver, British Columbia.

It is important for your club to be represented at the Annual Business Meeting. Clubs will vote to elect international officers and directors to the 2017-2018 Board of Directors as well as vote on Proposals A through G: Amendments to the Bylaws of Toastmasters International and the Club Constitution for Clubs of Toastmasters International. To learn about the proposals, go to <https://www.toastmasters.org/about/board-of-directors/proposals>. Designate your club proxy by **Tuesday, August 22nd**.

For step-by-step instructions, see <http://www.d6tm.org/how-to-designate-your-club-proxy/>.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact [Dru Jorgensen, DTM: 2017-2018 District 6 Proxy Chair](#).



Toastmasters | Harold Osmundson, DTM | District Director | Minneapolis | MN | 55427