How Lunch at McDonald's and Toastmasters Are Alike

Two years ago, I was having lunch with Past International President Jana Barnhill, when she asked, "Sharon, have you ever had lunch at McDonald's? You know the Coke, hamburger, and fries?" "Of course," I answered. She then asked if my lunch at McDonald's in Minnesota is the same in Texas, where she lives. "Yes." How about in Dublin, Ireland, where I had gone on vacation? Again, the answer was "Yes."



That consistent quality of food, atmosphere, and delivery is what we are trying to emulate in our new branding of Toastmasters. Therefore, we are asking every club to follow the Distinguished Club Program. New people coming to Toastmasters for the first time or the hundredth time need to experience the same quality at every location, every meeting.

When someone looks up Toastmasters on the website and comes to your club to visit, can you guarantee the quality, agenda, manual speeches, evaluations, and timing are meeting the worldwide standards set by the new branding? Remember: "Toastmasters, Where Leaders Are Made."

Join me for lunch?

Sharon

Education & Training

Greetings, District 6, from the Lieutenant Governor of Education and Training's Corner. This Toastmasters year is off to an excellent start. For starters, the District experienced a successful July TLI at the Crowne Plaza Hotel (Plymouth, MN) on Saturday, July 20, 2013. More than 240 District 6 Toastmasters and others attended.



Club Officer Training, critical to each club becoming distinguished, is progressing quite well, with almost 50% of all club officer positions trained to date on the Distinguished Club Program (DCP) and respective club officer roles. Distinguished clubs lead to Distinguished areas, divisions, and districts. Our 2013-2014 goal for District 6 is to repeat as a Distinguished District (3% growth in membership and clubs, with 40% of all clubs Distinguished) and perhaps become a Select

Distinguished District (5% net increase in membership and clubs, with 45% of all clubs Distinguished).

If you need assistance from the Education and Training team regarding *Training* (Joan Watson and Pat Croal - District 6 Trainers), *Speech Contests* (Roman Pundyk - District 6 Chief Judge), *Speechcraft* (Jean Pearson - District 6 Speechcraft Chair), *Youth Leadership* (Tim Kelly - YLP Chair), *Accredited Speakers* (Vitalia Bryn-Pundyk) or *Speakers Bureau* (Chair, Anandram Seriram), please contact any of the above at www.d6tm.org.

Thanks to each of you for your hard work and dedication in helping to improve both leadership and communication skills within District 6! Enjoy the journey.

Clinton Hunt, Jr., Ph.D., DTM Lieutenant Governor of Education and Training, 2013-2014 District 6, Toastmasters International Where Leaders Are Made

Marketing Matters

Have YOU Seen the District 6 Toastmasters Billboards?

The District 6 billboard campaign is running from July 8 to October 20. At least one billboard is on display every week through the duration of the campaign. Every week the billboards are in a different location. If you find our billboard, send me the date you saw it and the closest highway intersection for a chance to win prizes! You can reach me at http://www.d6tm.org/contact/?id=lgm.



Welcome New Club

I would like to welcome Yomari Stars as the first new club for this Toastmasters year!

Millennial Marketing

For those Toastmasters under 35, we have a "Millennial Marketing Toastmasters" Facebook group. This Facebook group is geared toward you. The link is https://www.facebook.com/groups/MillennialToastmasters. All other Toastmasters are more than welcome to check it out and join the group!

Which Area and Division Am I In?

To see the alignment of clubs within District 6, please go to "Find Clubs in District 6" at http://reports.toastmasters.org/findaclub/searchresults.cfm?District=06 and then click on the word "Excel" or the icon to download the list.

Can Visitors Find You?

Club officers, please make sure your club contact information, meeting date, time, and location are up to date. To update or review your club information:

- Log in to toastmasters.org by entering your personal username and password
- Click on Members (top left of page)
- Click on Club Central (middle left of page)
- Click on the club name and number (center of page)
- Under the heading Conduct Club Business, click Update my club meeting information
- Not sure of your user name and password? At the <u>Log in</u> page, click "Forgot password" and enter your email address. First-time users will need to sign up.

Annual Membership Program

If you sponsor 5 or more new members in your club between July 1, 2013, and June 30, 2014, you can win a prize from Toastmasters International. Make sure you list your name on the back of the new member's application.

Ralph Smedley Membership Building Contest

If your Club adds five new, dual, or reinstated members between August 1 and September 30, your club will win the Ralph Smedley Award, which is a ribbon for your banner and a special discount code for 10% off the next club order! The membership application and payments must be submitted on or before September 30. Additional information can be found at http://www.toastmasters.org/membershipcontests, by selecting "Club Contests."

Need Flyers, Brochures, or Business Cards to Help Build Membership?

Don't recreate the wheel! Go to the Marketing Resources page (http://www.toastmasters.org/marketingresources) for brochures, flyers, and other promotional materials already created for you. Go to the Brand Portal (http://www.toastmasters.org/logos) for images, business card templates, stationery, and other marketing materials.

District 6 would like to thank everyone who has helped with building new clubs and increasing our membership throughout the district.

Larry J. Marik, DTM Lieutenant Governor Marketing

Public Relations

Fellow Toastmasters, I hope you are having a wonderful summer so far. We had a wonderful start in July with the TLI and Twins game. We are definitely hoping for more of these exciting events in the upcoming months!

If you haven't yet reviewed your club's contact information at Toastmasters International, please do so as soon as possible. That is because most of our guests and potential members find us through the "Find a Club" feature on the Toastmasters International website. Has the meeting location moved? Is the contact information still valid? Is your club's website updated with current information? If not, now it is the time to update it. To build strong clubs, you want to build strong membership early. If this important information is not updated, you will lose potential members!

As we Minnesotans know, the State Fair started on Thursday. It runs through September 2 (Labor Day). We have a booth at the Education Center, as in previous years. Have you signed up to volunteer at the booth? We still have a few openings there. If you are interested in practicing your Table Topics skills and helping our District 6 publicity effort, please contact our State Fair Chair Colleen Hamilton at TM.cshamilton@gmail.com.

Lastly, do you know that Toastmasters was formed on October 22, 1924? We would like help to get October proclaimed Toastmasters Month in many of our cities this year. Please stay tuned for details! Thanks again, and I look forward to seeing many of you at the State Fair!

Colbert Fong, DTM Public Relations Officer



Welcome, Hastings StoryWeavers, which chartered on June 30. This advanced specialty club focuses on using story effectively in any context. Storytelling makes communication more memorable, because narrative is the basic organizing principle of memory. The club meets Thursdays at 6:00 p.m. at the Tilden Community Center. Drop by for a visit!

STAY CONNECTED









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District 6 Toastmasters | Sharon Rollefson, DTM | District Governor | Eagan | MN | 55122