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District 6 Toastmasters

Serving Parts of Minnesota and Ontario

District News and Events

District 6

November/2017

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Well, Better Late Than Never!

With all the activity around the Fall Conference and Balraj Arunasalam's visit, the last 6 weeks have been incredible, but incredibly busy. As a result, this newsletter barely made November. That said, the announcements below are perfect for a "November" newsletter.

Thanksgiving & My Thanks To You

Too often, the busy-ness of life distracts us from recognizing all the good in each other. Our words, kindness, and praise are still more powerful than our technology. With the holiday season, it's the perfect time to express gratitude and thanks.



Every member of Toastmasters deserves thanks and praise. I see so many amazing things on a daily basis, and unfortunately they go unrecognized. That must change.

Members work diligently to maintain their clubs in challenging times. They serve as the foundation of their clubs. Members mentor other members, give helpful feedback, volunteer into meeting roles and leadership roles to ensure those roles are filled. Members make the magic of Toastmasters happen in clubs, and they transform lives. They also step up and volunteer into demanding roles at the district level. It's overwhelming to consider the effort each member makes to serve others.

Thank you. My sincerest appreciation and gratitude for all you do to serve others. You make your club and this organization so amazing. Please let me know how I can assist you.

Increasing Your Club's Value

From visiting with International President Arunasalam, DTM, we learned his philosophy towards club and district excellence. His focus is on increasing the value we offer at every opportunity. It's a simple and powerful approach.



Consider the value your club offers to each member in each meeting, and to any organization affiliated with your club:

- Does the club understand the specific needs of each member?
- Does the club understand the specific needs of the organization?
- Does the club and each meeting develop specific, transferable skills that members want? Are there educational presentations on those skills in meetings?

These aren't easy questions. But, by understanding the needs of members and organizations, and by adding relevant, educational presentations to meetings, each member will benefit more. As a result, your club will increase its value, which increases its ability to attract and retain members.

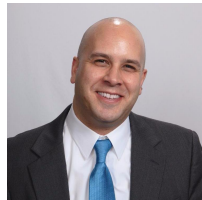
Club Officers: Round 2 Training Starts in December

Sincerest thanks to each club officer leading a quality club that serves members. Your efforts make the difference in each member's experience. Round 2 of Club Officer Training reinforces the focus on quality, with training sessions offered in December through February 2018. Upcoming training sessions will be posted to the [District 6 Club Officer Training page](#) shortly.

Requesting Your Help: Hosting Training Sessions

Humbly, I'm looking for help starting new projects. To better support members and club officers, my goal is to offer specific training for corporate clubs, as well as leadership training for key officer roles. To provide these sessions, I'm looking for members and locations willing to host. If you can help with a location/venue, please get in touch with me. I'm grateful for any help you can provide.

Thank you for all you do. Enjoy the holiday season. Keep growing!



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It's Back! - District 6 Speakers Bureau

We're excited to announce the return of the District 6 Speakers Bureau! Reach new audiences, gain new speaking experience, and further develop your skills through the District 6 Speakers Bureau. This is an exciting opportunity for ambitious members. To learn more and sign up, please visit the [District 6 Speakers Bureau page](#).



Why Run for an Elected District Position?

1. Be a influential servant leader and positively impact more people to gain benefits from the Toastmaster program
2. Gain organizational leadership skills that are transferable to leading groups at work.
3. Be part of a team that grows together!

There are 16 elected positions available for 2018-2019. Seven positions (as of 11/29/2017) currently do not have declared candidates: CGD-South, Division Directors for A, D, E, F, I, J. (All positions are open until the deadline of January 13, 2018).

For more information and forms: <http://www.d6tm.org/call-for-nominations/>

Fall Conference Recap - Farewell to Fall

The final Fall Conference was held in Rochester, Minnesota on November 3-4. It was the best possible way to bid farewell to the Fall Conference. The speech contests, education sessions, venue, and food were all fantastic. With International President, Balraj Arunasalam, DTM attending and sharing his perspective, we were the luckiest district in the world.

Special thanks to Stacy Johnson and Kimberlee Redington, DTM for serving as Fall Conference Co-chairs. Additional thanks to Brian Hinton, DTM for his tireless work as Registration Chair. The contributions of these individuals, as well as so many others, made this conference a huge success.

Photos

Photos from the Fall Conference can be viewed in the [District 6 Flickr page](#). Thanks to Dave Hansen, Duane Noto, DTM, and Kim Windingland, DTM for their photography and videography work. International President Arunasalam, DTM recognized each with an Outstanding Toastmaster pin at the Fall Conference. Well deserved!



District Speech Contest Results

Congratulations and thanks to each member participating in the Fall speech contests. Although only 1 contestant wins a contest, hundreds of members grow through the process of competing. Results from the division and district contests can be found on the [Fall Speech Contests page](#).

Below are the results from the district speech contests:

Table Topics Contest

1. Eric Schurr
2. Jim Zugschwert
3. Janet Fuchek

Humorous Speech Contest

1. Kim Lang
2. Caroline Lyngstad
3. Jim Carlson

Thanks to Dave Hansen, the Humorous Speech performances are available on the [District 6 YouTube channel](#).



Business Meeting

Thanks to each member that attended and helped achieve a quorum at the District 6 Business Meeting! With a quorum, we passed the motion to extend District 6's boundary to include Douglas and Grant counties (pending approval from the International Board of Directors). For full details, see the [District 6 Business Meeting Minutes](#).

Quality Matters

I sincerely hope everyone who attended the Fall Conference had a great time. I sure did. It was nice to hear what Balraj Arunasalam had to say about how we can improve our district and help members reach their goals and achieve greater success.

- Now that our International President has shared his vision and his desired direction for District 6 and Toastmasters overall, what are you planning for your club?
- Of the many helpful tips and suggestions Balraj gave us, which ones are you planning on implementing?
- Is there anything you feel you need help with?

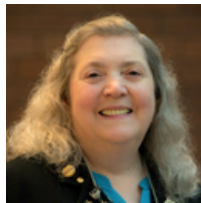
From my perspective, I'll be planning different types and varieties of training for the membership. I'll also carefully examine the requirements for the second round of club officer training to ensure we're offering a quality and supportive program.

I'd also like to implement a training session for those who would like to be a World Champion speaker, plus a seminar on correct and effective contest judging.

What do you see that's needed or would help you grow in your personal Toastmasters journey?

Please feel free to contact either myself or Ben Smith with your thoughts and ideas to see what we can do to assist you.

Thank you so much for all your efforts and time. Happy Holidays!



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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:

- Deb Luu of SUPER Communicators (#1098516)
- Janet Osmundson of AC Early Risers (#2665)
- Lisa Jenks of Marsh Winds Toastmasters Club (#7179)
- Bethany Krom of Chamber Toastmasters (#5917)
- Jim Kickul of One Voice Club (#4437)
- Steve Compton of Russell H Conwell Club (#82)

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](#)

New Club Announcement

Congratulations to our newest club. Welcome to Toastmasters and District 6!

- Crystal Clear Communicators (#6692954) chartered on 10/16/2017 in Crystal

Youth Leadership Program

Fellow Leaders,

Are you interested in the idea of a Youth Leadership Project or would like to participate in a YLP but don't feel you have the availability to coordinate the whole project? There are a handful of Youth Leadership Programs across District 6 that will kick off in the next couple of months and could benefit from little help from you - for a session or two. If you think you want to get a taste of a YLP but not bite off more than you can chew, then I have an opportunity for you! (Did I just drop a rhyme on a dime? I do it all the time!)

Look for me at the Fall Conference or reach out to me by phone or email for more information!

Congratulations to the AC Early Risers of Maple Grove! They are the first club to complete a Youth Leadership Project in the 2017-18 Toastmasters program year! There are other YLPs in the works and I am looking forward to hearing from each club's successes and learning experiences of coordinating a Youth Leadership Project.



Speak Well and Lead Well!



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