



# TOASTMASTERS INTERNATIONAL NEWSLETTER

## District 6 News and Events

### District 6 Newsletter

April 2019

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### Upcoming D6TM Events

#### District 6 Conference

May 3-4, 2019  
Crown Plaza Aire  
Bloomington, MN  
[D6T.org](#)

*Do you have an article  
to share?*

Email to Ravi Rai to be  
included in the next  
edition of the District 6  
Newsletter.

Submissions must be  
received no later than  
the last Monday of the  
month

**Ravi Rai**  
Program Quality Director  
[Ravi.Rai@d6tm.org](mailto:Ravi.Rai@d6tm.org)

### Message From The District 6 Director

#### Greetings!

It's hard to believe, but we have less than 3 months left of this Toastmaster year! During these final months, conduct an open house, invite friends, family, and co-workers to attend, and showcase the value and benefits Toastmasters can provide. The best way to get folks to attend an open house? Simply ask them, and then provide a quality, informative meeting that will make them want to join and be a part of your club!

Speaking of time, the March 31<sup>st</sup>. dues renewal deadline has passed. How did your club do? Have you contacted those members that did not renew? Before too much time goes by, please take the time to contact members who didn't renew and find out why. It's good for us, as clubs and members, to know why fellow members didn't renew. Reach out and let them know they will be missed and they're always welcome to return!

#### Business Meeting

Every year we have a conference in May to elect our new District leaders for the next Toastmaster year. Next year's candidates are on the District 6 website. [Click this link](#) and see who will be up for election. Each club has two votes; the President and Vice President of Education each carry one vote. If those two officers can't attend the business meeting, please use the [proxy form](#). The President or Vice President of Education must sign the form with the member name authorized to vote. voting will take place at the [business meeting](#) on Saturday, May 4th, 2019 at 9:00 AM sharp. Members can pick-up their ballots at the Credentials Table 4:00 to 6:00 PM on Friday and 7:00 to 8:30 AM on Saturday.

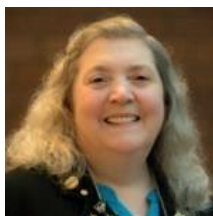
#### Area Directors

July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019 to June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020 will be the last year to earn a DTM under the legacy program. If you still need to be a District leader, the Area Director position fills that requirement. Contact Ravi Rai at [ravi.rai@d6tm.org](mailto:ravi.rai@d6tm.org) for more info!

#### Awards

On Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, during our lunch meeting, we'll be awarding those clubs who had 7 out of 7 officers trained in each round, and we'll also be handing out the DTM awards for those who earned their DTM after the December TLI. If someone in your club is receiving an award, please come and support them for their awesome achievement!

***Together, let's make this a phenomenal Toastmaster year!***



#### Jean Pearson DTM

District Director, District 6  
Toastmasters International  
*Where Leaders Are Made*  
507-259-2381  
[Jean.Pearson@d6tm.org](mailto:Jean.Pearson@d6tm.org)

## District Leadership Role

Have you been asked to serve in a district leadership role? And did that question make you squirm or made you uneasy? If it did, you are not alone. We have all been asked to serve in a district leadership role but our own hesitation and fear of failure are the top 2 reasons when we turn down such an offer.

I have often wondered, why do we usually say no? Is it fear of failure? Is it not knowing the role? Are we just too tired with our club roles?

Looking back, I have come to realize that we put our own limitations when asked to serve in these roles. It took me 3 years to finally say yes to Area Director. I still remember Mary Swanson, a district leader, was the first person to ask me to step into a leadership role. To me Toastmasters was all new and I came up with every reason to say no. Today I feel, that Mary saw something in me that I did not at that time. She saw I was ready to contribute based on her experience. If I ever had to change my mind, I would have said yes.

So next time when someone approaches you to serve in the leadership role, ask about the role. Ask what the requirements are and feel free to ask why you are being asked. Consider the benefits. As an Area Director, you fulfill a requirement for earning your DTM.

As Program Quality Director, I am facilitating the transition from current team to the new team. Please contact me if you would like to serve as Area Director or have question about district leadership. You are welcome to talk to any district leader regarding a district leadership role.



**Ravi Rai**  
Program Quality Director,  
District 6  
Phone: [612-501-4517](tel:612-501-4517)  
Email: [ravi.rai@d6tm.org](mailto:ravi.rai@d6tm.org)

### Welcome our new clubs:

#### Nina Hale Toastmasters

Nina Hale Office, Minneapolis

#### SPH Toastmasters

School of Public Health, University of MN

#### Pipestone Toastmasters

Pipestone Holdings, Pipestone

## World Champion of Public Speaking comes to District 6

Pres Vasilev rose above 30,000 competitive speakers from 122 countries to become the 2013 World Champion of Public Speaking. He'll share his experience and knowledge with District 6 members in three exciting sessions:

### Keynote Address

Journey to World Champion of Speaking

### Workshop

"Secrets of Compelling Storytelling"

### Education Session

"Uncover the Glory of your Story"

Pres Vasilev speaks four languages and loves traveling around the world. He has coached hundreds of people to deliver compelling presentations and win speech contests.

Becoming the 2013 World Champion of Public Speaking is something many find hard to believe, especially when they learn that in 2002, Pres came to America as an international student struggling with English.

"What kept me going through my darkest moments was my dream that one day I will speak in public and inspire people from around the world to achieve their goals and dreams."

Pres lives in Chicago and when he is not speaking, training, or coaching, he practices his listening skills with his wife, Sara.



**Pres Vasilev**  
2013 World Champion

**TOASTMASTERS**  
INTERNATIONAL

## My Journey to DTM

*Marcia Belisle*

My journey to Distinguished Toastmaster (DTM) has spanned over 18 years and I tell people that I am proud of that time. I like that you can do Toastmasters on your own time and the time it took me was right for me. When I started with Toastmasters, I had no thoughts about achieving DTM and probably knew little about what that award even meant. I have been in a wonderful supportive home club, V.A.M.C. Toastmasters, which meets twice a month at the Minneapolis VA Health Care System Medical Center. I was assigned to a mentor, Connie Lindberg, who has continued to be my friend and mentor throughout my journey. After I had been in the club for about seven years, my work schedule became so busy that I needed to take a break from Toastmasters.

After I retired from work, I returned to the club and started on a new path. I became president of the club and began to explore the amazing world outside of the club. I was asked to be an Area Director and decided that the time was right to try that role. There were five awesome clubs in Bloomington that I worked with along with a super Division J Director and fellow supportive Area Directors. Suddenly I realized that DTM was possible and set it as my goal. After completing Area Director, I joined a second club, Leadership Summit, which is in St Louis Park, now located in D106. This is another great club. I also decided to go way outside the clubs last August and attended the International Convention in Chicago. The convention was another fantastic experience as I met people from all over the world.

Come this year, the final requirements for DTM were met thanks to a variety of people in both D6 and D106 who I met along the way. Now I enjoy mentoring other members and I am excited to be working on my first Pathway. Who knows where that will lead!

## Officer Elections

It is April. Yes it is hard to believe that the year went by so fast. May is the month to start preparing for next year. Many of you have been members for some time with no club leadership experience. I would urge you to consider serving as a club officer for next year. Have your club contact your immediate past President to organize a team to seek nominations for officer positions. Sometimes it is easier to talk to a person and encourage them to take on a role. Everyone gains from leadership experience. So I hope your club members are encouraged to take on the leadership role for the next year

## Rebuilding of Goal Getters

*Harold Osmundson*

As clubs often struggle with membership, here's a story of what's possible for every club:

Just over a year ago, I visited the Goal Getters club (#1414) and met 3 tired members. The future wasn't certain. We struggled just to avoid suspension. Now, a year later, the club just added its 22nd member. The upward spiral continues.

It didn't happen overnight, and growth has its own challenges. But, it's a new era for the club and those amazing members who stayed the course. ***So proud and happy for them.***

How did we do it? Teamwork, persistence, and a strong focus on existing members. Most energy was spent developing existing members and helping each make progress. We did the same for anyone who joined. That culture catches on and attracts others. PR was certainly important to help others find us. But, the focus was on serving members.

It works for any club, individual, or organization: When we take care of what we have, we receive more.



## Important TMOY Dates

- **June 1:** Club selects a TMOY and forwards to Area Director.
- **June 15:** Area Director selects Area TMOY & forwards to Division Director.
- **June 25:** Area Director notifies Area TMOY recipient
- **June 25:** Division Directors select Division TMOY and the Area Director of the Year (ADOY)
- **June 25:** Division Directors forward nominations to [TMOY Chair](#) and to District Director
- **Summer TLI:** Announcement of Division & District TMOY

## Congratulations to our new DTM'S

Marcia Belisle V.A.M.C Toastmasters  
Don Rollefson, Word Masters Toastmasters

# District 6 CONFERENCE



**LEAD**  
**LEARN**  
**QUESTION**  
**NETWORK**  
**SOAR**

**Friday, May 3**  
**Saturday, May 4**

Crowne Plaza AiRE  
MSP Airport – Mall of America

**COMPETITIONS**  
**EDUCATION SESSIONS**  
**DISTRICT ELECTIONS**  
**AWARDS**

FEATURING

**PRES VASILEV** 2013 WORLD CHAMPION OF PUBLIC SPEAKING



- ▶ **Keynote Address**  
Journey to World Champion of Public Speaking
- ▶ **Workshop**  
Secrets of Compelling Storytelling
- ▶ **Education Session**  
Uncover the Glory of your Story

[Register Online at D6TM](#)