



TOASTMASTERS INTERNATIONAL NEWSLETTER

District 6 News and Events

District 6 Newsletter

October 2019

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UPCOMING D6TM EVENTS

Nov 1 – Feb 29
Officer Training

Feb 22:
TLI

March
Area Speech contests

April
Division Contests

May 9
Annual Conference

Message from District 6 Director

Greetings, Fellow Toastmasters:

Hope you are having a great time with Toastmasters this year. It is heartwarming to see a vast majority of D6 members renewing their membership. Please accept my sincere thank you for renewing on time and giving me a chance to serve you as your district leader. I hope the entire district leadership can meet your expectations.

I would encourage you to consider serving as a District Leader for 2020-21 Toastmaster year. Yes, this is going to make you stretch beyond your club. In doing so, you will realize the awards that are found in that extra mile. The following district officer roles are elected roles: District Director, Program Quality Director, Club Growth Director, and Division Director. More information about the nominations and the interviewing process will be coming from the Nominations committee. There are quite a few appointed roles such as Area Director, Administration Manager, Public Relations Manager and Finance Manager. Serving as a District leader also fulfills the requirement for earning your DTM. Ask any of the district leaders to share their experience so that you are better informed. Please do let me if you would like to serve as a district officer for next year.

I look forward to all of us serving fellow Toastmasters in the coming year. Wishing you a great fall season ahead.



Ravi Rai
District Director, District 6
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Message from the District 6 Program Quality Director

Hello, Friends in District 6:

We are done with our first round of club officer training for this Toastmasters year. Thanks to all the club officers who were able to attend one of the trainings. I appreciate the time you took to learn about the roles in a club and to connect with other folks from different Toastmasters clubs. Thanks also to all who were involved in providing the trainings to our fellow club officers. If we count all seven officers being trained from all of our clubs in District 6, we would have had a total of 1,064 club officers attend. With the data we received, we recorded having a total of 681 club officers trained. That is over 60%, and all made possible because of you. So thank you! Look out for the next club officer training starting November 2019 by visiting our D6TM events page.

It seems that we have some opportunity to talk about Distinguished Club Program (DCP). I personally think it is a good tool to track progress of our clubs as we practice the skill sets that assist us in becoming a better communicator and a leader. As your clubs participate in DCP, please remember that the criteria to be eligible is that your club should have either a net growth of 5 club members from the number of club members you had at the beginning of the Toastmasters year, or the club maintains 20 club members or above.

I hope you have already started on your Pathways journey. As you work on your Path and have some questions you would like to talk about, or

are simply looking for support, please feel free to reach out to a past District Pathways chair or our current District Pathways chair. Both Duane and Rahul are running Q & A sessions on a biweekly basis for anyone who would like to join. I would like to encourage you to tap into the wealth of knowledge they have regarding Pathways, and connect with others on the call who are looking for support. You can connect through our leadership directory page to get their contact information.

Even though I touched a little on training, DCP, and Pathways this time, if there is anything you would like to connect with me on, please feel free to do so. Enjoy the month of October!



Susan Rajbhandari, DTM

Program Quality Director, District 6

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Triple Crown Award

What is a Triple Crown Award? When you earn at least 3 educational awards, D6 recognizes you for your efforts by awarding you a Triple Crown pin.

Susan Rajbhandari, Program Quality Director, will award these coveted pins at the next District 6 event.

Message from the District 6 Program Club Growth Director

Hello, District 6:

The district mission states: "We build new clubs and support all clubs in achieving excellence". We are off to a great start this year. There are 2 potential clubs that will most likely charter in October (downtown Minneapolis and Eagan) and 2 more that may charter before December 31 (Eden Prairie and downtown Minneapolis). How can you help? Please let me know if you are interested in becoming a sponsor or mentor for a new club. As a sponsor you will help a potential club reach charter strength (20 or more members). As a mentor, you will help a new club that has chartered for 6 months or more so they can be self-sustaining for many years to come. Also, I am looking for opportunities for new clubs. Please let your family, friends and employers

know about the benefits of Toastmasters and that I would be delighted to help them build a new club wherever they are in District 6.

You can also support the district mission by becoming a club coach. Help low member clubs (12 or less members) become thriving clubs. You will receive credit for your hard work once the club becomes Distinguished.

Have a great October - learn and grow as a Toastmaster! Please let me know how I can help you "bloom where you are planted".



Deborah Luu, DTM
Club Growth Director, District 6
Toastmasters International
Where Leaders Are Made
c : 952-270-9571

Virtual District Council

District 6 had its annual Virtual council meeting on Sep 21, 2019. We used Zoom for the online meeting. ElectionBuddy was used for electronic voting. The budget was passed with 100% in favor of the budget. We did have minor issues with number of participants in spite of the license. Lessons learned for a better virtual meeting next year. A big thank you to everyone who participated to help achieve the quorum and making it a success.

Virtual Club Coach

Several clubs in our district are in need of a coach. However, the logistics have prevented many members who are willing to be a coach. At the 2019 TI convention, the district leaders learned about Virtual Club Coach as an alternative to traditional club coach. A virtual coach can provide assistance, guidance and coach a club using phone, web conferencing and occasional visits. Virtual club coach is also eligible for the same credit as a traditional club coach. Look out for more information on this from district leadership as we develop this program for D6.

Prior Lake Community event



Recently members of Minnesota River Valley Toastmasters club participated in a community fest event. We asked Maureen to share her experience. Enclosed is what we received from her.

Maureen: Thank you for sharing your story

Attached is a photo of our Minnesota River Valley Toastmasters booth at the Prior Lake/Savage Community Fest, September 16, 2019.

Pictured are Bob Wohlers, Maureen Carlson, Keith Helmbacher and Marjorie Johnson, members of the Minnesota River Valley Toastmasters Club 5252.

The 2 1/2-hour event was open to the public. The high school gymnasium and commons area was set up with 100+ booths, both commercial and non-profit, including food booths. Several music groups also performed. We have participated for a number of years as it is a good way of getting out the word that, yes, there IS a Toastmasters Club in Prior Lake. We engage with the public, pass out info, including past Toastmasters magazines, and exchange candy for jokes. We've found that people of all ages, not just the kids, seem to have fun with jokes. Our line is that telling jokes is one way to practice public speaking, which is what we do at Toastmasters, so give it a try. This year we had a drawing for Starbucks gift cards, which also gave us a contact list.



EGG Captured by HealthToasters

Capturing the Elusive Gilded Gavel (EGG) has been a fun tradition in District 6. We encourage you to visit another club that has the EGG to enjoy meeting Toastmasters from a different club and learning something new.

Summer TLI (2019 August)

District 6 had its TLI at HealthPartners in August 2019. The event had 8 educational sessions, lunch, and an award ceremony.

Thanks to the efforts of HealthToasters Toastmasters club and HealthPartners, we had an excellent venue and top notch facilities for holding a special event.

The TLI was chaired by Carol Duling and Chau Stanton. If you were there to witness the event, you would have seen them working nonstop along with several volunteers. Thanks to all.

We had several training sessions that were well attended. Thank you to all the presenters who shared their expertise with us.



2018-19 Awards

District Toastmaster of the Year
Emily Hanson

District Area Director of the Year
Jamie Ogborn

District Division Director of the Year
Paula O'Brien

Don Murray Award
Dave Pearson

Lorin Pollman Speechcraft Award
Hennepin County Toastmasters

Keith Hardy Youth Leadership Award
Rochester Chamber Toastmasters

Alex P Smetka Award
Sharon Rollefson

Division Toastmaster of the year

A: Angie Smith
B: Dana Voller
C: Kari Barlas
D: Emily Hanson
E: Brian Flagg
F: Abby Bradford

Division Area Director of the year:

A: Laura Joswiak
B: Jamie Ogborn
C: Chau Stanton
D: Jane Richmiller
E: Ansley Lovgren
F: Margaret Nelson

Select Distinguished Division:
B (Laura Bathke)

President Distinguished Areas:
Area 44: Todd Vitols

Select Distinguished Areas:
Area 11: Dan Nelson

Distinguished Areas:
Area 22: Paula O'Brien (Division Director)
Area 45: Linda Dorn

Adrian Mikols - My DTM Story

My Journey to DTM began on November 1, 2013 as a charter member of PUMPernickel Toastmasters. I had heard of Toastmasters and when I heard a club was forming at my work, I knew I had to join. I joined before I had even attended a meeting! I became comfortable in PUMPernickel Toastmasters and decided to extend myself as an Area Director in 2017. Being involved at the District level created a spark in me and I decided I wanted to complete my Distinguished Toastmaster award. Soon after, Pathways was announced and that spark turned into a fire, as I now had a hard deadline. I began giving speeches every month, and soon found a club closer to home to coach and join (District 106 Christopher Toastmasters). After that, everything wrapped up quickly! On August 6, 2019, I was awarded my Distinguished Toastmaster Award.

I hope to inspire others in my clubs to go beyond the comfort of the club; to push themselves to be more. I am excited to start my journey again in Pathways in the "Effective Coaching" Path, this time with my husband by my side as a new member. Let the competition begin!



2019-20 DTM Awards

Congratulations to the following Toastmasters for achieving their Distinguished Toastmasters award during 2019-20 year.

- Adriana Mikols**, *Pumpernickel Toastmasters*
- Dan Nelson**, *Stagecoach Speakers Downtown Minneapolis*
- Sarah Bateman**, *Dan Patch Toastmasters*
- Erika Steen**, *Xcel Energy – XNSPeakers Club*

Do you have an article to share?

Email Starlett to be included in the next edition of the District 6 Newsletter:

Starlett Drader,
Newsletter Editor
(Starlett.Drader@d6tm.org)

TOASTMASTERS
INTERNATIONAL

Inspire ME special event

District 6 had a special event titled "Inspire ME". The event was organized by Amit Maheshwari, Division M director and emceed by Ray Young. Several speakers from District 6 shared their favorite inspirational stories. Special thanks to Richelle Schmitz Prime Therapeutics for allowing us to host the event.

