



TOASTMASTERS INTERNATIONAL NEWSLETTER

District 6 December 2020 News and Events

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Upcoming D6TM Events

December 5 –

District Holiday Party
Saturday, 10-11:30 AM

December 10

Monthly Motivation
Thursday, 7-9 PM

December 21

VPE Exchange –
Monday, 7 PM

December 31

Pay dues by this date to
receive a free Pathways
Path!

Until December 31

View the International
Convention highlights on
toastmasters.org

A Message from your District 6 Director

Susan Rajbhandari, DTM



District 6 Director, 2020-2021
Toastmasters International
704-327-8726

Susan.Rajbhandari@d6tm.org

Dear Toastmasters,

Have you had a situation where you doubted yourself? This past week I got the opportunity to connect with a Toastmaster who shared with me that they had second thoughts on things.

Like anything in life, whether it be in personal or professional life, we may start a certain thing and as we progress, our hearts may change, our minds may change and situations may change where we may question ourselves. We may end up rethinking - "What am I doing? Why am I doing it or even, do I want to do this?" Questions like these are good to keep reminding us of the values we live by, reflect on them, and then understand and possibly modify the direction that we want to move forward.

During this holiday season, may I request that you remember to take some time for yourself, spend some time with your friends and family and, if possible, to focus on the present as it is the gift you have – to make a difference. Make it matter. As you probably have heard, *yesterday is history, tomorrow is a mystery and today is the gift that matters as it is the present.*

I wish you a wonderful month of December as we all keep ***working together, celebrating excellence!***

Yours humbly,

Susan

A Message from your District 6 Program Quality Director



Deborah Luu, DTM

2020-21 District 6 Program Quality Director
Toastmasters International
[952-270-9571](tel:952-270-9571) Deb.Luu@d6tm.org

Fellow Toastmasters and Friends:

As the days get shorter and 2020 is coming to an end, I am feeling grateful for my health and my family; which includes my Toastmaster family. I am sincerely grateful for all of the members of District 6. Thank you so much for all that you do for your Toastmaster family! Take time for yourself and your family to enjoy this holiday season even though it is not like any other we have experienced. Be safe! Be healthy!

District 6 members have been working hard in Pathways. In 5 months, you have earned 319 educational awards and 26 triple crowns. Way to go!

I want to encourage all of you to continue to sign up and progress through Pathways. The Pathways program is amazing! The Pathways adoption rate (rate for those who have chosen a path in Pathways) for District 6 is as follows:

Members	80%
New Members	48% (new members that have joined in the last 6 months)
Club Officers	89%

Note: new members should be 100%. If you are a new member who has not picked a path in Pathways please ask your club officers or mentor to assist you if you need help. Through Pathways you will learn to be a better speaker and a better leader. I guarantee it! Skills learned in Pathway projects carry over to your job and family.

Club officer training round 2 started November 1st. Please click this link [Register for Officer Training](#) to go to the District 6 calendar for training dates. All sessions are online. Empower yourself to be the best club officer you can be by participating in Club officer training. In the breakout sessions come prepared to share your challenges and what is going well so we can learn from each other. Please send me a note to let me know one thing that you are taking back to your club that you learned at club officer training. I want your feedback! Don't forget: If your club had all seven club officers attend training in round 1 and has all seven club officers trained in round 2, your club will receive a Magnificent 7 ribbon for your banner.

It's never too early to start thinking about new goals in Toastmasters. With January right around the corner take a moment and think about how you can grow as a communicator and a leader. Please visit the Help Wanted page on the District 6 website at [Help Wanted](#) to apply for a position for the Toastmaster year starting July 2021. Area Director? Division Director? There are so many more. I would be happy to discuss them with you.

Next, incentive for educational goals ends on December 31st. The Golden Pathways Incentive is achieved by a club when the members get each educational goal completed on the Distinguished Club Plan (6 goals). The club will choose a really nice gift from the District 6 Incentive Catalog.

The Next Vice President of Education (VPE) Exchange is Monday, December 21 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM. I would like to help set you up for success as I present a relevant topic each month with time left to exchange ideas as well as share best practices. Register here: [VPE Exchange - Dec.](#)

Wishing you and your family a wonderful holiday. Stay safe and healthy. I am grateful for each and every one of you! Please don't hesitate to let me know how I can serve you.

Respectfully,

Deb

A Message from your District 6 Club Growth Director



Linda Dorn, DTM

2020-2021 District 6 Club Growth Director
Toastmasters International
612-889-8932 Linda.Dorn@d6tm.org

Toastmasters:

On December 31, 2019, my husband and I attended a show at the Chanhassen Dinner Theater and rang in the new year -- 2020. Wow, this was going to be the best year ever! Like for many of you, 2020 turned our world upside down. We planned trips that had to be canceled, we lost a loved one due to COVID-19, we missed getting together with family and friends, we struggled with isolation at times, and our Thanksgiving was drastically reduced from a gathering of 18 to just my husband and me. What a strange and exhausting year. But, being the eternal optimist, there were some extraordinary things that happened in 2020, especially in Toastmasters. I earned my DTM thanks to the support of my fellow Toastmasters. I learned the ins and outs of Zoom on the fly, all while working alongside my fellow Toastmasters as we pivoted to online contests. What an incredible and fun opportunity to learn a new skill and work together as a team! I am beyond grateful for the ability to hold club meetings online. Not only did my fellow Toastmasters and I continue our educational and leadership goals during the meetings, but meeting online also provided a much needed and appreciated chance to connect with dear friends. I'm thrilled to share that I started the year in Level 1 of my Visionary Communication path and will complete this path by the end of our program year. If you haven't attended an online meeting, I encourage you to give it a try!

Speaking of Pathways, don't forget that those who renew their October membership by December 31, 2020, receive a FREE PATH. Our Toastmasters International President, Richard E. Peck, announced the following message. "As a token of our appreciation during this difficult time, any Toastmaster who renews their membership for the October renewal period by December 31 will automatically receive a free Pathways path! Please visit your Toastmasters profile, click the "Choose A Path" button, and follow the normal path selection process to redeem your free path before March 31, 2021." How wonderful. Please share this with all of your members and with your members who may not have renewed, yet!

On the new club front, the Club Growth Team is working with some great new clubs as they work toward chartering. Do you have ideas for new clubs in District 6? If so, please contact me at linda.dorn@d6tm.org. **AND, new clubs that charter by January 31, 2021, will have their \$125 charter fee waived and the new member fee of \$20 per member waived as well!**

Speaking of new clubs, **congratulations to our newest club, the PR of the North!**

Wishing you and yours a blessed holiday season.

Warm regards,

Linda

HELP WANTED:

District 6 is looking for individuals interested in serving in the following roles - Click into these links to find out more:

[Area Director](#)

[Club Coach](#)

[Club Growth Research Team](#)

[New Club Demo Team](#)

[Club Seeking Club Coach](#)

[Club Sponsor or Mentor](#)

NEW CLUBS

The Club Growth Team is working with some great new clubs as they work toward chartering.

Do you have ideas for new clubs in District 6? If so, please contact our Club Growth Director, Linda Dorn, DTM at linda.dorn@d6tm.org.

New Club

Incentive

GREAT NEWS for clubs that charter in November, December, or January!

~~\$125 Charter Fee Waived~~

~~\$20 New Member Fee Waived~~

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE
NEWEST CLUB IN
DISTRICT 6

The PR of the North

TOASTMASTERS INTERNATIONAL 1924
TOKEN OF APPRECIATION

FREE PATH

FOR EVERY MEMBER WHO RENEWED THEIR MEMBERSHIP FOR THE OCT-MAR PERIOD

TOASTMASTERS
PATHWAYS
learning experience

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT
<https://www.toastmasters.org/education/free-path-faq>

Complimentary Path in Pathways!

NOTE: Dues must be paid by December 31st although you have until March 31st to choose your free Path.

Announcement:

There will not be a DEC meeting in December.

January 16, 2021

The next District Executive Committee Meeting will be held on **Saturday, January 16, 2021.**

The Committee meeting will begin at 8 AM.

There will be a District Officers' Train the Trainer session from 9 AM until 2 PM.



Attention Club Leaders

Be sure to Register for Club Officers' Training being held now until February 28th. Watch for opportunities on the D6tm.org Calendar so that you are prepared to lead your club to excellence this year!

Follow this link to [Register for Officer Training](#).



**(2021-2022)
Nominations
Leadership
District 6
Call for**

Are you ready for the next step up?

All candidates declaring for a 2021-2022 District Leadership role, i.e., for the Club Growth Director position or as Division Directors, must declare their intent to run to the District Leadership Chair (Ravi Rai, DTM) **no later than January 15, 2021.** Toastmasters International approved extending this date into January! See this link for information on the process: <http://www.d6tm.org/call-for-nominations-2021-22/>



Colleen Marie Kelly, DTM



District 6 Monthly Motivation

December 10, 2020

7pm - Onward

Each one of us has a unique set of strengths, abilities, and passions that if utilized can enable us to make a unique and positive difference in the world we touch.

Come and be encouraged to DARE to DREAM so that YOU can Be ALL that YOU were Born to Be!

To Register for a Zoom Invitation, [Click Here](#)



Charles Brunnette
District 6 Public Relations Manager
President, Mall Talkers Toastmasters Club (US Bank)
charles.brunnette@d6tm.org
651.295.4479

From our District Public Relations Manager

Stepping into the role of District 6 PRM a few months back has been a valuable learning experience. At each step, I have been awestruck at the support extended to me from our District 6 Director, Susan Rajbhandari, our Program Quality Director, Deb Luu, and our Club Growth Director, Linda Dorn.

I find myself returning over and over to our District mission to build new clubs and support all clubs in achieving excellence. Driving awareness of our ongoing District events such as the monthly VPE Exchange, Monthly Motivation speakers, speech contest training and club officer training dates, and our open houses for guests, is a huge part of the equation of fulfilling our mission.

I have also come to realize the importance of giving voice to myriad activities and energy taking place at each of our clubs in District 6. In recent weeks I have had the exciting opportunity to interview a number of club officers throughout our District. Check out the "Coffee with Chuck" series in our YouTube channel as they become available. ([Coffee with Chuck - YouTube](#)). Let me know if you or someone you know would like to join the conversation! Ravi Rai has also been conducting interviews with District leaders which will be released on YouTube as the year progresses.

I would love to hear your ideas and stories, and see photos that you feel should be featured in our social media channels on [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [YouTube](#). Each and every club meeting is an opportunity to encourage our voices to be heard. We demonstrate our District mission in action. Let's showcase our energy!

Feel free to reach out to me via my email address with your suggestions!

Sincerely,

Charles (Chuck)



Paul Lubinski, DTM
District 6 Audit Chair
Officer in his clubs
paul.lubinski@d6tm.org

Paying Forward – Paying Back

When editor Cathi said this article should contain approximately 425 words, the smart-aleck in me considered reaching that total by saying “Thank you” followed by the names of ~200 fellow Toastmasters! The point, which would have been lost on you had I gone that direction (!), is that your service to our members, especially when you serve beyond your home club, has been my inspiration to be of service throughout my 13+ year Toastmasters journey, including for events outside our clubs, like speech contests, education events, and visits to other clubs.

Speech contests

The contest Toastmaster—my favorite contest role! – dutifully states the standard TI verbiage about the benefits of contests. There are many more benefits than those stated in that script. Contest volunteers learn from each other, build their Toastmasters network which they can leverage for future events, and increase the visibility of their home clubs. Feel free to ask me about not only the Toastmaster role but any contest role: chief judge, judge, timer, ballot counter, sergeant at arms. I've done all of them except the newest role of Zoom moderating!

Education events

I'll admit that checking that club officer training box is often the prime motivator for attendance! However, I've found many additional benefits in serving with fellow Toastmasters to produce successful officer training sessions, TLIs – Toastmasters Leadership Institutes, and District conference education sessions. As trainers, as officer breakout session leaders, or as session conveners (I've had the fun of each!), we learn from each other, build our Toastmasters network to leverage for future events, and increase the visibility of our home clubs.

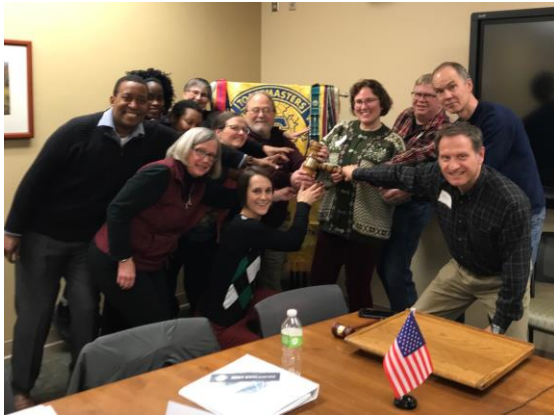
Visiting other clubs

This way to meet service-oriented leaders is obviously part of District officer roles, especially that of Area Director. I enjoyed those visits during my Area Director stint, but have made sure to continue visits outside

that role. These interactions have been valuable opportunities to learn from each other, grow our Toastmasters networks to leverage for future events, and increase the visibility of our home clubs (and not just when a potential EGG capture is involved! – See picture below). Both in our environment of online meetings (no geographic limitations to visiting!) and in our future return to in-person meetings, I'll keep up those visits and encourage others to do the same. No worries if you decline the hosts' invitations to become a member of their club. (True story: I've been rightly scolded for NOT asking that of a visitor from another club!) You and they may not become members of each other's club. There is, however, a great chance that you and they will become new partners in service, whether at the kinds of events I have described, or in other valuable ways.

A servant Toastmaster,

Paul



Jill Nauman and myself in the EGG tug-of-war with members of Ah Busters when they visited us in Gopher Toastmasters Club 183.

Elusive Golden Gavel – A program that provides an incentive to visit and learn from other clubs. The visiting club with the greatest number in attendance capture the EGG.

<https://www.d6tm.org/gaveltravels/>



Attention: Published Toastmasters!

We are looking for Toastmasters who have published, be it a Toastmasters Magazine article, book of poetry or prose. We are especially interested if you feel that your Toastmasters experience has benefited you in this effort. Consider contacting Charles Brunnette, our Public Relations Manager, at charles.brunnette@d6tm.org to see if his "Coffee with Chuck" interview series is a fit.

Also, I would invite you to submit an article to me at cathi.droz@d6tm.org for consideration in our District 6 Newsletter that would relate your publication story! You are among our talented Toastmasters succeeding with media. Congratulations!



Cathi Droz, DTM - Newsletter Chair

