

District 6 Officer Candidate



Biographical Information

Candidate's Name	Douglas (Doug) E. Blakesley
Office Candidate is running for	Southern Division Governor
Toastmaster member since	January 2007 (previously 1993 -2000)
Toastmasters offices held and terms of service	Hiawatha Valley (205): President (2008-2009); Sgt-at Arms (2011-2012); Secretary (2012-2013) NSPeakers (5582): President, Sgt-at-Arms; VP Membership Area 83 Governor (2012-2013) Area [43-44?] Governor (1999-2000)
Toastmasters honors and recognition	
How has your Toastmasters experience most benefited you both personally and professionally?	Toastmasters as helped me immeasurably to develop, improve, and maintain my communication and leadership skills. My membership in Toastmasters has been included in my yearly employee development plan, each year I was active member, since I was first "directed" by my supervisor to join the company club sometime in 1993.
What lessons did you learn from Toastmasters?	No matter what stage one is at in life one can continue to learn and hone communication and leadership skills to grow as an individual and to use these skills to be of service to others.
What key strengths would you bring to the role?	I believe that I have an amicable personality and I work very well with a variety of personalities. I am a

	problem solver and goal oriented.
Why do you want to serve in this position?	I am applying for this position because several of my personal mentors, who have held this position, have encouraged me to apply. I respectfully assert that I may not be the best candidate; however, it is very encouraging when others recognize one's skills and abilities. (I believe that encouraging individuals to advance and realize their full potential is a shared quality in the Toastmaster organization.)
In your opinion, what are District 6's major objectives and how would you work to achieve them?	The major objective for the District 6 leadership is to promote the growth of the organization, building membership and retaining members, by always seeking to assure that the organization is relevant to the broadest base of potential members.
Additional information you would like us to know:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education MS / Management, Cardinal Stritch University, Milwaukee, WI (1991- 1993) BA / Pol. Sci. / Speech, St. Cloud State University, St. Cloud, MN (1968 – 1972) • Relevant Work Experience 34 years working for Xcel Energy first as a contractor and then as an employee; job duties have included supervisory positions • I served in the US Peace Corps in Peru (1972-74) where I learned intercultural skills. • I served on a Diversity Council while employed by NSP in downtown Minneapolis (1990's) • I am conversationally fluent in Spanish (and some say that I do "OK" with English 😊) • I have two wonderful daughters, Milagros and Virginia, who I am continually trying to persuade to join Toastmasters