

District 6 Toastmasters
Semi-Annual Meeting of the District Council
Fall Conference
October 15, 2011

District Governor, Catherine Rai Cardenuto, DTM, called the meeting to order at 3:01 PM

Inspirational Message was given by Vicki Chelf

Teresa Fehn, DTM, read the District Mission

Catherine Rai Cardenuto welcomed everybody and gave introductory remarks.

Credentials Chair, George Deliduka, DTM, announced that there was not a quorum. The numbers required for a quorum were represented as follows:

280 active clubs with 2 votes per club equals 560 Total Votes

1/3 are needed for a quorum = 186 votes required

Club votes accounted for 97

District Officers' votes = 22

Total votes = 119

The Credentials report was adopted.

We had did not have a quorum.

With no quorum, Catherine Rai Cardenuto followed the business meeting rules when there is no quorum. No new business will be done at this meeting.

Business Meeting Agenda was approved to proceed with the district reports.

No Tellers were appointed. Brian Hinton, DTM was appointed Timer.

District Governor, Catherine Rai Cardenuto, DTM, announced that the minutes from the 2011 Spring Convention hard copy had been on display at the hotel for review. Nobody

offered any corrections to the minutes posted. Approval of the minutes will be done at the 2012 Spring Convention.

Reports

District Report was given by District 6 Governor, Catherine Rai Cardenuto, DTM

Membership Payments Base: 10695

Membership Payments to Date: 3115

Goal for June 30: 10908

District is behind: 7793

Membership is at about 29% and tracking the same as last year

Club Base: 278

Active Clubs to Date: 281

Paid Clubs to Date: 253

Goals for June 30: 286

District is behind: 33

Competent Communicators (CCs) to Date: 106

Goal for June 30: 374

District is behind: 268

Advanced Communicators (ACs) to Date: 49

Goal for June 30: 106

District is ahead: 57

Lieutenant Governor of Education and Training, Dru Jorgensen, DTM, gave her report regarding Education and Training:

Madam District Governor, Fellow Toastmasters and Honored Guests –
I am pleased to share with you the results of Officer Training

- 79% of our clubs had 4 or more officers trained
- 98 clubs had all 7 officers trained
- 3 Area Governors trained all clubs and all 7 officers
Area 83 Jean Pearson
Area 84 Helen Chen
Area 85 Vicki Chelf

A challenge for our clubs is a best practice. For every 10 members, one member should attain a triple crown and two other members working on education awards.

During the division contests, we shared with you the District's education incentive. *By December 31, all clubs who surpass an education point in the DCP (such as Competent Communicators need 4, when the club has 5, 6, 7 or 8 or more) their name will be in the drawing for a video camera.*

During a recent club visit, Joel Bronson from Fluid Speakers shared with me his diamond visual in our presentation this afternoon. As a District we are polishing our diamonds as we prepare to 'walk across the stage' at International Convention next summer!

The Report of the Audit Committee was presented by Duane Rivard, DTM. The Audit Report will be reviewed and voted at the 2012 Spring Convention.

The District Budget Report was presented by Catherine Rai Cardenuto, DTM. District Budget report will be reviewed and voted at the 2012 Spring Convention.

The Treasurer report was presented by BJ Olsen, DTM. A hard copy of the treasurer's report had been on display at the hotel for review. Nobody offered any corrections to the minutes posted. Approval of the treasurer report will be done at the 2012 Spring Convention.

Lieutenant Governor of Marketing, Sharon Rollefson, DTM provided the following report:

Madame District Governor, Lt Gov of Education & Training and Fellow Toastmasters,

It is our Goal in the Marketing Area to do our best to help District 6 becomes a Distinguished District this year!

Most of us know the DCP Distinguished Club Plan and how to become a Distinguished Club or even how to become a Distinguished Area or Division,
But what do we need to do to become a Distinguished District ?

- 1.) DSP (District Success Plan to World Headquarters by Sept 30.
- 2.) Division and Area Governor Training Report to World Headquarters by Sept 30.

(Show Chart)

- 3.) Membership increase by 2 percent over previous year
We were at 10,695 we need to be at 10,908 by June 30, next year.
as of October 6 we have 3,115 paid members, Please Get your dues in to Toastmasters International As soon as possible.
- 4.) Net Club increase of at least 3 percent over previous year
Was at 278 needs to be at 286 by June 30 next year.

As of today we have 2 newly chartered clubs. We have 6 to go. We must strive to maintain all the clubs we currently have in addition to the new clubs.
- 5.) Competent Communicator Awards at least 3 ½% of district membership for previous year.
- 6.) Advanced Communicator awards at least 1% of district membership for previous year.

Districts that meet these goals are Distinguished Districts and earn points

Districts that exceed these goals accumulate points.

Based on total points at end of year the

6 districts with the most points are named President's Distinguished,
the next 6 districts are Select Distinguished

It is our Goal this year to have District 6 be a Distinguished District and proudly walk our banner across the stage at International Convention in Orlando Fl, August 2012.

I am asking everyone here to sign the banner and make a commitment to do the very best you can to support your home club and your fellow toastmasters, as we all work together to be a Distinguished District.

Public Relations Officer, Diane Windingland, DTM, provided the following:

I want to do a good job as the district's Public Relations officer, so I recently got a book on Public Relations from the library: Public Relations for Dummies. That sounded about right. I haven't had time to read it, but I did come up with my own concept of good public relations:

Anything that produces a positive response about Toastmasters, or causes a person to visit a club meeting, to go to a Toastmaster website, or to attend a Toastmaster event.

As a District, here are a few of the PRO TEAM Highlights

State Fair (Brian Rice)

- 80 volunteers filled 96 timeslots.
- 40 volunteers attended training
- 400+ entries for 2 \$50 gift cards
- Follow up on 400+ Leads in process (Shirley Daniel)

Note: during my shift, I met a Toastmaster who originally discovered Toastmasters by stopping by the booth at the state fair.

District Social Media—icons at the upper left of the District Website (Steve Beaman):

- Twitter (no tweets yet)
- Facebook Fan page (the group page/internal: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/District6/>)
- Flickr (pictures)
- LinkedIn (group discussions)

Volunteers (Shirley Daniel)—approaching Toastmasters to speak at clubs about opportunities in the district.

Media Communications (Lori Jacobson)—still working on press kit, awaiting budget approval.

Events (Lisa Jenks) awaiting budget approval. . Also looking at promoting at a couple of events, such as at a wedding fair.

Speakers Bureau (FranceneNiemic)—some speakers booked. Having some technical challenges with getting a Speakers Bureau website up.

We have a lot of work to do in these areas, but when it comes to public relations, nothing beats word of mouth.

So, I have a challenge for you: Ask not what Toastmasters can do for you –ask what you can do for Toastmasters. When I say “Toastmasters” I mean both the organization

of Toastmasters and individual Toastmasters. Whose life might you change through Toastmasters?

Take your Toastmasters story to your world: Tell your Toastmasters story to your family, your neighbors, your coworkers . . . Rock your world with your Toastmasters Story.

The Division Governors gave their reports:

Central Division – Kim Redington

As I reflect back over the past several months as Central Division Governor, I can honestly say that it has been a true team effort. Our team got off to a "rocky" start due to the following reasons:

- Central Division Governor (that's me) was gone for 8 weeks in Baltimore for job training.
- The realignment of the clubs in the Central Division Area wasn't complete and that created a little confusion among the Area Governors and their clubs.
- All the Area Governors weren't in place until September 1st.

You might be thinking if you were gone for those 8 weeks who ran the Division? Great question! The past Area and Central Division Governors were there to assist in my absence and I am truly grateful for all their assistance while I was gone.

Once I returned, the Area Governors and myself rolled up our sleeves and began to work as a team to prepare for the upcoming Area and Central Division Speech Contests. Our Area Governors are currently working hard with their clubs to complete their Area visits.

We are currently, looking for a Toastmaster, to fill the Area 3 Governor position, that became vacant in September. If you are interested in serving as the new Area 3 Governor, please let me know. Because the appointment would be after the September deadline, you would be unable to receive credit for serving as the Area 3 Governor this Toastmaster year.

As you have heard our Division has had a few bumps in the road, but our team keeps working closely together to get the job done and having fun at the same time! Just call us the "Rocky" of today!

Eastern Division – Clinton Hunt

I. Officer Training

- 82% (38/168) in round 1
- 9/24 clubs trained all seven officers – 9 Diamonds
- Area 14 had the highest % of OT, 27/28 (96%) – 3/4 Diamonds!!!
- Area 11 trained 91% of its officers – 2/5 Diamonds!
- Areas 12, 13, and 15 have 1, 1 and 2, Diamonds.

II. Area Governors

- 4/5 have attended District Training (10/12/11)
- Round 2 Speech Contest – address deficiencies

III. Area Visits

- Reported Area Governor Visits are trickling in.
- Area 11 @ (60%)
- Area 12 @ (20%)
- Area 13 @ (0%)
- Area 14 @ (100%)
- Area 15 @ (80%)

IV. Membership

- 429 paid members versus 271 in 2010
- 399 paid members on 7/30/11

V. Education Awards

- CCs – 11
- ACBs – 2
- ACBs – 0
- CLs - 3
- ALBs - 2
- ALSs - 1
- DTMs - 2

VI. Challenges/Concerns

- Low member clubs (<10) – 1
- Clubs with < 2010 base membership – 6
- In general - membership

Frontier Division – Joe Brauer

6 Outstanding Area Governors. They are all engaged in training and have completed the first contest cycle. Currently at 60% of the club visits have been reported to Toastmasters International. Area Governors have some to still report. 100% of the Area Governors has attended Area Governor Training. Challenged to bring more people to training next week for the Train the trainer.

International Division – Jean Mirowski

Madame District Governor, Toastmasters and Honored Guests

The International Division has been very busy this fall with Officer Training, membership building, and hosting speech contests. Our Division Speech Contest was held in Duluth, Minnesota on September 24th. I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all who competed in and contributed to the fall contests.

We have 4 clubs who have at least 20 members, Allete Power Cord, Nanabijou, Icebox, and Harborview. Some clubs are close to achieving the magical 20, other clubs have need of membership drives.

Of 15 clubs in the International Division, 6 clubs trained all 7 officers! Nanabijou, Silver tongues, Hear of the Harbor, Itasca, Riverview and ID Lighthouse.

There are clubs whose dues are still coming in, I see by the last report. We have 3 new competent leaders, with at least one more close to achieving this goal.

The Area of Thunder Bay has been particularly busy this past year, preparing for this fall conference. There are many tall tales and humorous speeches that have been spoken, but shall not be heard outside the committee!

To the International Division Area Governors, Sue McCoy, John Schuldt, Karolyn Hoard and Elaine Johnson, you have worked tirelessly to reach these goals. I sincerely thank you for your support and leadership of your areas. Attaining the rest of the goals will be challenging and rewarding, but I have confidence this is the team to reach those goals!

Metro Division – Jim Kickul

9 out of 33 Clubs in Metro Division had all 7 officer trained. Area Governors worked together to complete their Area Contest by combining two areas together. Area Governors are working to complete their club visits. One area governor resigned their position. Metro Division has 13 Competent Communicators, 17 Competent Leaders, 6 Leadership awards for Stagecoach Speakers Downtown Mpls, and Oracle with 16 New Members. Celebrate 75 years for the Club 75 Minneapolis Club.

Northern Division – Patrice Hassing

It has been my pleasure working with these dedicated Northern Area Governors. They have all worked very hard to make their Areas successful, especially with their Area Contests.

I want to give a special thanks to Theresa Kraft , Area 57, for being the first Northern Area to have all Dues Renewals in on time.

Also, BJ Olsen, Area 54, and Sheila Mena, Area 52, who also had their Dues Renewals in on time.

Areas 52 and 57 both have 5 cc's completed.

Area 51 has 3 cc's and 3 AC's completed so far.

Each Area is working hard so that their clubs can shine through their DCP programs, and to have a successful Toastmaster year.

Great job everyone in Northern Division. We have some time to make this a very successful Toastmaster year. Thank you.

Prairie Division – Rich Andresen

The Prairie Division is on Fire. Lots of Positives: All Area Governor trained and all Area Contests completed with the help from former Area Governors. Sound speakers are in a little trouble but changing to a humor club. 8 clubs with less than 4 club officers trained. 6 late or low in membership clubs. 3 clubs have at least 4 new members plus this year already

Rivers Division – Nancy Hobbs, DTM

Each of the Area Governors had successful Area Contests. The Rivers Division contest was well attended with 65 Toastmasters and guests present.

Some successes within the Rivers Division:

Renewals: October renewals are 100%

1st round Officer Training- 4 club officer minimum: 100%

Educational Awards:

CCs- 9

ACs-4

Leadership Awards- 14 submitted, with Community Spirit Toastmasters Club submitting 4 leadership awards

Membership:

Rivers Division has added a total of 39 new members.

Speak N' Eagan has recruited 5 new members this year and brought the membership up to 20 members.

3 clubs have recruited 4 new members this Toastmaster year.

Clubs are looking at ways to promote through use of facebook and speechcraft programs.

Toast of the West is exploring revamping its mentoring program.

Apple Valley Toastmasters has been using AppleValleyPatch.com to publicize our meetings. Patch.com is an online newspaper/email that is free to use. Many cities have their own Patch (BurnsvillePatch.com, LakevillePatch.com, etc.) and are free and easy to use.

Dakota Speakers moved to a much more accessible location. They had previously been in a Senior Living Center that was a secure building, meeting in the chapel. They now have a meeting room in an apartment/condo complex that will be much easier for guests to visit.

Membership Challenges:

Maximizers Toastmaster Club which meets at Lockheed Martin in Eagan is facing the challenges of the company closing down with 75% of the staff moving to outstate locations. The option of moving the charter is being explored.

Other Highlights:

Stillwater Toastmasters Club #2377 celebrated its 50th Anniversary on October 4
Maximizers Toastmaster Club #4726 will celebrate its 30th Anniversary October 25
Community Spirit was successful at having the City of Burnsville to Proclaim the Month of October Toastmasters and Community Spirit Month!

Southern Division – Janet Betz , DTM

Area Governors - Kim, Karen, Jean, Helen and Vicki

Southern Division is energizing, leading and moving! The Educational awards are starting to come in already and I want to recognize those who have already achieved an educational or leadership award in this first quarter of the Toastmaster year. Way to go! Please share my congratulations to your area members who have submitted an educational achievement.

Thank you for your kind support in this first quarter. Nice reports as of today.

Total CC's 9

Total AC's 6

Total CL= 4

/AL/DTM 5

Total new members 25

Club Officers Trained - very nice numbers - 171 - awesome job with the training! You worked very hard to get the officers trained. My deepest appreciation for your wonderful follow up on this.

Nice job on the contests too - weren't they fun? Area Governors - you are amazing.

Western Division - Shannen Clark

All area visits are completed just need to get all of the recorded to Toastmaster International. 22 educational awards achieved so far for Western Division. 9 achievements in communication. Western Division to focus on membership, open houses, and improve on our numbers. Join the Western Division Facebook.

Announcements:

The following nominations were announced at the meeting:

Dru Jorgensen for District 6 Governor 2012-2013

Sharon Rollefson for Lt Governor of Educaiton and Training 2012-2013

Clinton Hunt for Lt Governor of Marketing 2012-2013

Sue McCoy for International Division Governor 2012-2013

Dru Jorgensen gave her announcements and the meeting was adjourned.