

District 6 Toastmasters
Semi-Annual Meeting of the District Council
Fall Conference
November 1, 2014

District Governor, Clinton Hunt, DTM, called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

Inspirational Message was given by David Goldsworthy.

Nancy Hobbs, DTM, read the District Mission

Clinton Hunt welcomed everybody and gave introductory remarks.

Credentials Chair, Sally Muraski, DTM, announced the following:

- The numbers required for a quorum were represented as follows:
- 290 Active Clubs
- There are two votes per club 1/3 are needed for a quorum = 97 clubs is required for a quorum
- Votes accounted for: Club votes = 70 clubs and District Officers
- We do not have a quorum
- No objections to the credentials reported adopted as presented.

Clinton Hunt explained the standing meeting rules. No business will be conducted.

The business meeting standing rules as stated on the agenda were voted and adopted.

Clinton Hunt presented the agenda. No objections.

Clinton Hunt appointed Shirley Daniel, DTM as the Timer. There were no objections.

District Secretary, Nancy Hobbs, DTM, announced that the minutes from the 2014 Spring Conference Business Meeting have been posted at the hotel. There were no corrections. The minutes will be approved at the spring convention.

Nancy Hobbs, Secretary provided the auditor's report on behalf of Medard Kaisershot, DTM. The audit report has been submitted and approved by Toastmasters International for the 2013-2014 year.

District Treasurer, Eric Mcbrayer, announced that the treasurer's report has been on display at the hotel for everyone to review. There were not questions. The treasurer's report, filed subject to audit. Submit the budget for approval when a quorum is present.

Officers Reports:

District Report was given by District 6 Governor, Clinton Hunt

4582 member payments as of October 29, 2014.

Membership counts down approximately 500 members from last year.

We have a lot of work to do.

The realignment was submitted to Toastmasters International.

All 10 Division Governors and 90% of all the Area Governors completed training by August 31, 2014.

All requirements have been met for the Distinguish District status.

Lieutenant Governor of Education and Training, Larry Marik, DTM gave his report regarding Education and Training:

75% of club officers were trained round one of officer training.

The revamped education program will be rolled out when TI determines the updated date.

Educational Awards compared to last year:

129 vs. 145 CC last year to date, 16% lower

66 vs. 62 AC

85 vs 67 CL

26 vs 9 HPLs, this is a significant increase. Thank you!

20 vs 8 DTM

Congratulations to all who submitted awards!

Lieutenant Governor of Marketing, Diane Windingland, DTM gave his report regarding Marketing:

District 6 has given birth to quintuplets--

5 new baby clubs so far this year! 3 in the Western Division:

- PowerToast Toastmasters
- Talk Nerdy to Me
- Ah Busters

2 in the Northern Division:

- Talk and Awe
- B-Talkative

10 clubs are gestating--in various stages. I anticipate at least a couple of those will be born, or charter, in the next couple of months.

Giving birth to a new club isn't always easy. Labor can be difficult.

Our two most recent clubs are examples of that:

The person who conceived our newest baby, B-Talkative, almost lost the baby. A week or so after the kickoff I got an email from the sponsor who worked there. All the kickoff attendee information and new member forms had been accidentally packed up in a box that a departing employee took with them to Texas. This was a blessing in disguise as the sponsor had to send out more emails and go up to people in person to ask them to come to the next meeting--and within a week, the club had even more people than were at the kickoff!

Our second newest club, Ah Busters, was a big baby with a quick labor. They sent in charter paper work for 30 members only a month after the kick-off. But, it wasn't easy--the main person chartering the club had an accident and literally broke his neck--he had to go on bed rest. It took the new officers stepping up to make it happen. Fortunately, they also had a few midwives--the sponsors and mentors for the club. Dan Grundtner modeled how to be a Toastmaster. Marvel Kummer gave advice to the new officers and Steve Bujarski provided officer training and additional support.

Even with difficult labors, the end results, new clubs with new Toastmasters, are worth it!

I hope that you will consider helping to give birth to a new club yet this year. But you better get busy. New clubs, like new babies, don't "just happen."

Public Relations Officer, Ravi Rai, DTM, provided the following:

PR contests for Q1 were concluded on Sep 15. The winners have been notified.
Categories: Newsletters, Flyers, Videos, website, Guest Packets, Social Media
Deadline for Q2 PR Contest: Dec 15.

We are looking for help with publicizing District events in the Media.
Clubs are also encouraged to keep their information current on website, flyers and social media
Website will be revamped to make mobile friendly.

Eric McBrayer, Treasurer provided his report. Trade shows display board was requested and approval has been received.

Nancy Hobbs, Secretary provided her report. Please work with your clubs to ensure that communications flows from the District to the club members. Please ensure that TI has your club members' individual correct information including email and address information. Please confirm that TI has appropriate club contact information.

The Division Governors gave their reports:

Central Division Report-Annette Peterson

- I. **Clubs:** started with **33 clubs in 7 great Areas**
 - 31 have renewed and paid their dues
 - 1 has NOT submitted dues payments
 - 1 voted to suspend their charter
 - 1 Club Kick-Off CBRE
- II. **Officer Training:** 170 Officers trained 77%
 - Only 4 clubs did not have 4 officers trained
 - 12 clubs had all 7 Officers trained
 - Clubs have earned **51 points** toward the **DCP goals**
- III. **Educational Awards:**
 - 11 CC's
 - 3 Advanced Communicator
 - 13 Leadership awards
- IV. All clubs have been **visited** so far
 - 20 Area Governor reports submitted

- 12 more being worked on

Biggest concern is Membership

Average club membership is 15.5 members

9 clubs with 12 or fewer members

2nd Round of Officer Training

- **Keys to Membership Building** Tuesday night January 13th @ Edina Library
- Diane Windingland - Increasing Membership
- Helene Gagoud - Retaining Membership
- Ravi Rai - PR Practices that bring guests to your club

Eastern Division Governor – Jonathan Goossen

Eastern Division is moving right along saving clubs. We started the year with 4 of 6 area governors filled and quickly found number 5. Number six was found a couple months later. All 6 are great area governors who jumped right in. Clubs at risk were found and the team worked together to help save the clubs. The division is moving right along towards being distinguished as we continue to save clubs and increase membership and education award completion.

Frontier Division Governor – Mary Adams

I'm excited to inform you and fellow Toastmasters that the Frontier Division has been busy since the beginning of the Toastmaster year.

The Frontier Division has conducted nine officer training sessions and the good news is that 72% of all the Frontier officers has been trained. Plus for twelve of the 32 clubs in Frontier, has all seven of the officers trained. Furthermore, the clubs which has only the minimum officers trained, the Area Governors are reaching out to the clubs to conducted individuals training.

The Area Governors has also visited all the clubs in their area and the reports are starting to come in and how the clubs are doings.

Out of the 32 clubs in the Frontier Division, only three clubs has less than 8 members and one of them has submitted dues yet. Nevertheless, the Area Governors are working with the low members clubs to help them gain full membership strength in the coming months. On the bright side for Frontier membership, one of the Frontier clubs is looking at splitting into two clubs in the near future due to numbers of members in the club.

Overall, the Frontier Division leadership is activity working to help the clubs in the Frontier division to be distinguished.

International Division Governor – Grege Scholz

The International Division has 15 clubs. A small number for such a large physical area.

Slightly over 6% of our membership renews late.

We have 2 clubs suspended up on the range, and 2 additional clubs in danger. (1 Duluth and 1 Thunder Bay).

Our area governors are engaging the clubs with club visits which are either already completed, or scheduled, and wrapping up soon.

11 out of 15 clubs are making early progress towards the DCP.

We are confident the rest will catch up.

Our pending new club at Altec is on a break, but they expect to be resuming, most likely after the holidays.

Our challenge is membership.

As always, please move your Toastmasters to Hibbing.

Metro Division Report– Micheal Browne

The Metro Division is alive and well.

224 club officers needed to get trained. As of October 31, 2014 138 trained, roughly 62%

6 out of 7 Areas put on speech contests

The Metro Division contest was held on September 29, 2014 with three partners: Wells Fargo, Lead by Example and Minneapolis Urban Scholars. Approximately 100 people attended the contest.

29 out 32 clubs are paid

Bullseye is disbanding, Area 41.

Approximately 18 members per club within the Metro Division.

Area Governors are working to submit the club visit reports, 25% of the reports have been entered.

Kick off meeting scheduled next week in the Metro Division.

Northern Division Report– Gary Kivi

Membership growth: Grown about 5% per year, flat without new clubs

DCP Goals: 50-55% Distinguished

Club Growth: Trending about 1.5 new clubs per year

Goals: Grow Area Governors in to Distinguished Toastmasters, Membership growth

Prairie Division Report– Deb Luu

1. Officer Training

- 83% in round 1 – above the average of D6 75%
- 10/23 clubs trained in all seven officers
- Area 64 had the highest % - 100% with all officers trained

2. Area Governors

- 5/6 attended District Training

3. Area Visits

- Area Governor Visits are trickling in
- Area 61 @ 0
- Area 62 @ 100%
- Area 63 @ 33%
- Area 64 @ 100%
- Area 65 @ 0
- Area 66 @ 67%

4. Membership

- Base 23 clubs, 20 clubs paid a minimum of 8 members on time
- Paid members as of 10.31.2014 300
- Paid members on 7.1.2014 384
- 1 club inactive

5. Education Awards (34 on 10.31.2014)

- CCs – 10
- ACBs – 8
- ACSs – 3
- ACGs - 1
- CLs – 5
- ALBs – 1
- ALSs – 4
- DTMs – 2
- Triple Crowns – 5

6. Challenges/Concerns

- Main concern is membership
- Low member clubs <12 = 11
- Clubs with <2014 base membership 18 of 23
- Working on possible new clubs in Redwood Falls & Fairmont

Rivers Division Report– Ruth Alliband

24 clubs

Total membership: 355 – average 15 members/club

Membership ranges from 2 to 27

New members: 37 new members / member attrition since 6/30/14 = 120 (average/club=5)

TRAINING:

Half of the Rivers Division Clubs exceeded the minimum expected number of officers trained. Seven clubs trained all 7 officers. Three more trained 6 and two trained 5. All clubs sent some officers to training, but four clubs fell short of the requisite 4 trained—all of these had at least 3 officers trained. In spite of a final last-stand emergency intervention by trained Toastmasters from all corners of Rivers Division, untrained officers got a glassy stare on Labor Day weekend with a “gone to the lake” sign hanging outside their doors.

AWARDS

Awards are beginning to come in. Clubs have collectively earned 11 CC points, 7 AC points and 14 Leadership points, including 5 from one club alone.

Admin points: 20 of 24 have the administrative point—one more club has half an admin. point with the potential of gaining the other half point in the next dues cycle.

LOW MEMBERSHIP

Five of the low membership clubs in Rivers Division have a club coach working with them either officially or unofficially. I am thrilled that my Area Governors have taken up this challenge. Three of them have waded into the coaching arena.

Southern Division Report– Ernie Stone

Civic involvement is a key element in Toastmasters. The Southern Division was well represented by Terry Hafferon. Terry is taking her Toastmasters skills to a national level with her work. 29 days to get in your club visit reports. If you need help, please contact me.

Western Division Report – Steve Bujarski

I have been humbled by the support this year. Thank you to Diane and the leadership team for the three new clubs in the Western Division. 4% net decrease in membership.

Currently 12 clubs have under 12 members. One club has not renewed.

Discussed membership building at the Western Division council meeting. The group is actively working on building membership. Materials have been shared to assist with membership building activities.

Nominating Committee Chair, Sharon Rollefson, DTM was appointed.

Please note the new titles for next year:

Current Title	2015-2016 Title
District Governor	District Director
Lt. Governor of Education and Training	Program Quality Director
Lt. Governor of Marketing	Club Growth Director
Public Relations Officer	Public Relations Manager
District Secretary	Administration Manager
District Treasurer	Finance Manager
Sergeant at Arms	Logistics Manager
Division Governor	Division Director
Area Governor	Area Director

District level nominations must be submitted. The information will be available by 12/1/2014. The deadline for nominations is 2/1/2015. The guidelines have not changed.

The following nominations were announced at the meeting:

- Larry Marik, announced for District Director 2015-2016
- Diane Windingland, Program Quality Director 2015-2016
- Daniel Grundtner, Club Growth Director 2015-2016, nominated by Mary Adams and Ruth Alliband
- Eric Johnson, Metro Division Director 2015-2016, nominated by Michael Browne
- Nick Nelson, International Division Director 2015-2016, nominated by Sandi Robarge
- Sue Ann Rawlins, Central Division Director 2015-2016, nominated by Annette Peterson

New Business: No new business discussed

Upcoming dates:

February 7, 2015: Toastmaster Leadership Institute (TLI) Ramada Plaza Minneapolis

Adjourn at 2:57 (CST) by Clinton Hunt