



District 6 Toastmasters

Where Leaders Are Made



Key Dates

- July 25
Toastmasters Leadership Institute
- June - August 31
Club Officer Training
- August 12-15
International Convention
- August
Collect Club Dues
- September 1-30
Submit Club Dues
- October 1
Club Dues Submission Deadline
- October 16-17
Fall Conference, Cohasset, MN

From the Desk of the District Director!

Fellow Members,

Happy Toastmasters New Year! I am excited to serve all of you as this year's District Director!



I know some of you may be asking, "Isn't it District Governor?" Starting July 1, 2015, Toastmasters International changed all District leadership titles.

Please note the new titles effective immediately:

CURRENT TITLE Past Title	NEW TITLE Effective July 1, 2015
District Governor	District Director, District #
Lieutenant Governor Education and Training	Program Quality Director, District #
Lieutenant Governor Marketing	Club Growth Director, District #
Secretary	Administration Manager
Treasurer	Finance Manager
Public Relations Officer	Public Relations Manager
Sergeant at Arms	Logistics Manager
Division Governor	Division Director
Area Governor	Area Director

With this and other changes coming from Toastmasters International and across the District, our message for this year is **Embracing Change!** Along with embracing change are those Toastmasters who go above and beyond across our District. Those who do will be recognized with the **Above and Beyond Award**. This award will contain a symbol of a shooting star.

Here are some high-level changes for 2015-2016:

- New District level titles (see above)
- Club Officer training increased to 2.5 hours
 - More info on this in the Program Quality section.
- Renaming of the Divisions
 - Divisions are now known as Division A, B, C, etc. (vs. International, Northern, Frontier, etc.)
 - This change was approved via a vote at the May 2015 Spring Convention Business Meeting.



Lance Miller

Join us for TLI on July 25. The 2005 World Champion of Public Speaking, Lance Miller, will deliver two keynote presentations.

- New major realignment of Clubs in Areas and Divisions
 - This change was approved via a vote at the May 2015 Spring Convention Business Meeting. The realignment is posted on the District 6 website (www.d6tm.org)
- We will only have one Fall Speech Contest (vs. two in the past)
 - The Humorous Speech Contest was voted on by the District Executive Committee to be in the fall. This will allow the District to focus on you, the members, and your clubs!
- The 2016 Winter Toastmasters Leadership Institute (TLI) will be at the Division level vs. the District Level (which means up to 10 opportunities to attend a TLI and to network with fellow Toastmasters)!

As of July 4, 2015, we have 282 recognized Toastmasters Clubs. (Note: year-end processing at Toastmasters International is in progress, so this number may change.)

This year is going to be exciting and a lot of fun, and I can't wait to share it with you! Together, we will become Distinguished, by focusing on you (the members)!

I look forward to seeing you at the Toastmasters Leadership Institute (TLI) on July 25. (Note: \$99 hotel rooms are available for the TLI. Call the Ramada Plaza Minneapolis at 612-331-1900. Book your room before they are gone!)

Stay tuned every month for our exciting newsletter. Print and share this newsletter with your clubs, friends, coworkers, family, or even your pet, Fido!

Larry Marik, DTM

District Director, District 6 (2015-2016)

Toastmasters International

Where Leaders Are Made

www.toastmasters.org

www.d6tm.org

(District 6: Serving parts of Minnesota and Ontario)

Program Quality Counts!

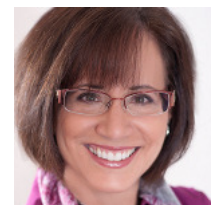
Toastmasters Leadership Institute and Awards Luncheon

[Register now](#) for the July 25 Toastmasters Leadership Institute (TLI) and Awards Luncheon (7 a.m. - 3 p.m.).

Ramada Plaza Minneapolis

1330 Industrial Blvd NE

Minneapolis, MN 55413



At last year's International Convention, the highlight for me was not the speech contest, it was hearing [Lance Miller](#), the 2005 World Champion of Public Speaking, talk about building strong clubs. I immediately thought, "I must get him to speak at District 6!" At the TLI, you will enjoy two sessions with Lance ("Building a Championship Club" and "How to Promote &

Market a Toastmasters Club")! Come to the TLI and:

- Enjoy a continental breakfast
- Learn about building and marketing your club in two sessions with Lance Miller
- Attend club leadership and club officer training sessions
- Get club officer training credit toward DCP goals
- Applaud award recipients at lunch
- Shop at the district store
- Network with Toastmasters from around the district

You get all of the above for only \$30! If you do not want to include the meal at lunch, the cost is only \$10. Please pre-register, even if you only plan on attending the educational sessions, to help us plan for breakfast and materials. You must pre-register if you want the lunch meal.

Note: Clubs may choose to pay/reimburse their club officers' registration fees.

[Click here](#) for a more details and to register (online deadline: July 19. Mailed registrations must be **received** by July 18).

Club Officer Training: New Requirements

Well-trained club officers increase club quality, thereby increasing member satisfaction and retention, and attracting more new members.

Toastmasters International guidelines for quality officer training are that that club officer training either be accomplished in a 4-hour officer training session or at a longer Toastmasters Leadership Institute.

Your district leadership, while acknowledging that short "express" sessions and in-club sessions are inadequate, felt that requiring a 4-hour training would be too difficult to implement.

For this first round of officer training (ends August 31), **the minimum time for a training session is 2.5 hours**, and the minimum content has three components:

1. The Toastmasters module "Creating Quality Clubs"
2. Key dates
3. Officer role training for each role (role "breakouts")

The specifics and downloads are at the "[Club Officer Training](#)" section of our D6 website.

To count for the [Distinguished Club Plan](#), a minimum of four club officers must be trained in each of the two rounds of officer training. If your club has all seven club officers trained in both of the two rounds, your club will qualify for the "Magnificent 7" banner ribbon.

Officer Training Early Bird Drawing (also known as "Win Diane")

Two clubs will be winners! If your club has four or more officers trained by July 31, you will be placed in a drawing for an open house/special event speaker. If you have all seven officers trained, you will get an additional chance in the drawing to have Program Quality Director Diane Windingland, DTM, speak at your club open house or club special event

for up to 45 minutes (from a short 5-7 minute "My Toastmasters Journey" speech to a 45-minute program on public speaking, strategic storytelling, leadership, or networking).

Officer training must be completed by July 31 and recorded by August 5. Winners notified by August 10. The presentations will be scheduled to the mutual convenience of the clubs and Diane and must be completed by November 30.

Fall Speech Contest: Humorous

There will be only one speech contest this fall, the Humorous Speech Contest (5-7 min).

Download the [Humorous Speech Contest Kit](#) (free)

Commonly asked speech contest question: *What is a contest functionary? Can they serve in more than one role?*

The following are contest functionaries: contest chair, contest Toastmaster, chief judge, contest judges, tiebreaking judge, timers, sergeant at arms, and counters. They cannot serve in more than one role at the same contest and they may not compete in the contest at which they are serving as a functionary.

More [Speech Contest FAQs](#)

Diane Windingland, DTM

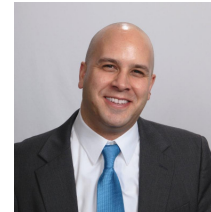
Program Quality Director, District 6, 2015-2016

toastmasterdiane@aol.com

612-306-4214

Club & Membership Growth

Welcome to a new Toastmasters year! Let's begin a year of growth for you, your fellow members, and your club.



Goals for 2015-2016 - As Club Growth Director, my goals are to add members to your club, to keep your club strong, and to add new clubs to District 6. Together, we'll strengthen your club, our district, and your Toastmasters experience. We're on this journey together. I invite you to get in touch with me if there's anything I can do for you along the way.

New Club Announcement - Congratulations to our newest club, Uncommon Speakers, chartered 6/26/15 in Excelsior!

TLI: A Special Opportunity for You and Your Club - At the [TLI on July 25](#), Lance Miller, 2005 World Champion of Public Speaking, will present two excellent sessions that will help your club grow: "Building a Championship Club" and "How to Promote & Market a Toastmasters Club." Take advantage of this special opportunity to see an amazing speaker present strategies to grow your club.

Support for Your Club's Growth - Could your club could use some support to help it grow this year? Support can come in many forms, such as information and resources, mentoring, a Club Coach, a Club Buddy, or whatever makes sense for the specific situation. Our team will do whatever we can to assist.

Club Sponsoring, Mentoring, and Coaching Opportunities - Are you working toward a DTM award? You can complete a major component of the Advanced Leader Silver (ALS) award by sponsoring or mentoring a new club or by coaching an existing club. Beyond the award, these are great opportunities to contribute to others.

Kick-off Meeting Opportunities - Would you like to speak in front of a new audience and share Toastmasters with others? Several times each month, we demonstrate a Toastmasters meeting to prospective Toastmasters. These "kick-off" meetings are a great opportunity to grow by speaking to a new audience.

Share Your Ideas for Growth - Let's grow our communities through Toastmasters. I welcome your thoughts on how we can share the value of Toastmasters with others. How can we better promote Toastmasters? Could your community or workplace benefit from a new club? Just as you've benefitted from Toastmasters, your ideas will make a difference to so many others.

If you have an interest in any of the opportunities above, or if there's anything I can do for you, please contact me at hosmundson@gmail.com.

See you at the TLI on July 25. Keep growing!

Harold Osmundson, DTM
Club Growth Director, District 6, 2015-2016
District 6, Toastmasters International
Where Leaders Are Made
hosmundson@gmail.com

Public Relations

Hello, fellow Toastmasters,

I hope your club had a smooth transition of leadership. As you hold your first officers meeting, please revise your guest packets, website, flyers, and brochures. Ensure that the club contact information is accurate.



There is a change in how the Public Relations Contests will be held this year. We will have a number of contests throughout the year. The first PR contest is for guest packets. Please submit your club's guest packet for the PR contest by mailing it to Ravi Rai, Public Relations Manager, P.O. Box 241321. The guest packets should be received by August 30.

Thank you,
Ravi

Ravi Rai, DTM
Public Relations Manager
District 6 Toastmasters

Speechcraft

"To date, I have not received any calls or emails from anyone outside of the club that is interested in the Speechcraft program, and there are only eight days until the program is intended to start. I am feeling pessimistic about proceeding ahead next week as we have no participants from outside the club that have expressed interest."

- Speechcraft Coordinator, 2012

Training and recruitment of new Toastmasters is often viewed as the purpose of Speechcraft, a four to eight week class taught by Toastmasters that covers some of the skills from the Competent Communication manual. This being the case, it looked like failure was ahead. Was failure the result?

Let's say the club proceeds without any enrollees. Individuals from the club still can provide training toward their CC, CL (including projects 6 and 8), ALB, and ACS awards. The result is a refresher course on basic speaking skills by and for the club. Megan Jo Paulson credits a "failed" Speechcraft - one where no one enrolled - with the turn-around and current President's Distinguished status of her club last year. "The practice Speechcraft was the tune-up the club needed for success the next year."

A second scenario is that people attend despite predictions to the contrary. Eloquent Engineers ended up with three new members from their 2012 Speechcraft after expecting zero a week before session one. Emily Hyland, one of the 2012 graduates, coordinated the 2013 Speechcraft. Select Distinguished status has now been achieved for three consecutive years, with Speechcraft providing the membership applications that each year get the club to twenty members.

Both Speechcrafts nearly failed ... as both nearly did not happen. The way to fail at Speechcraft is to worry about "failure" and then not proceed.



2015 Speechcraft graduates Laura Rahm, Mark Keefer, and Andy Brummer with Eloquent Engineers VP of Education Jeff Stewart.

Recent Speechcrafts

Eloquent Engineers, chaired by Jackie Dylla
Kemps, St. Paul, chaired by Judy Twisk
River Park Toastmasters, Department of Revenue, St. Paul, chaired by Mai Lee Yang
Simply Spoken Toastmasters (#66) at Symantec, chaired by Dennis Parker

Current Speechcrafts

River Park Toastmasters, Tibetan Community, chaired by Sherab Tsomo
River Park Toastmasters, MAPE union officers, chaired by Ravi Rai

Promotion

Clubs that have decided a time for their next Speechcraft should visit the display at the July TLI to receive a Speechcraft kit (normally \$20), available until they run out, courtesy of District 6.

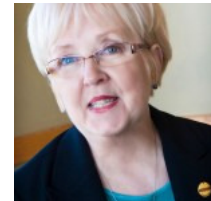
Please share your club's plans, experiences, and graduation photos, and reserve a Speechcraft kit. All District 6 Toastmasters are invited to join the 2015-2016 Speechcraft Leadership Team to become aware of opportunities to be involved in Speechcraft outside your club. Please email TM.David.Rasmussen@gmail.com.

David Rasmussen

2015-2016 Speechcraft Chair

Be an International Mentor

Every month in our *Toastmaster* magazine from World Headquarters there is a special article called "Meet My Mentor." This year in District 6 we are going to actively promote the mentor program.



What that means to you as a Toastmaster:

- Enlist a mentor if you do not have one (or more than one)
- Become a mentor
- Nominate your mentor for Mentor of the Month.
- Earn a mentor pin and certificate

Each month we will feature your nomination for Mentor of the Month and then forward this person to the *Toastmaster* magazine for consideration to print in their magazine.

Your nomination should be 200 words or less, and send along a photo of you and your mentor to me, Sharon Rollefson, at rollefsldw@msn.com.

Once the District Mentor of the Month is selected, I will forward our entry to MentorMoment@toastmasters.org.

Look for more information at our upcoming Toastmasters Leadership Institute on July 25, "Two Way Street of Mentoring."

See you there!

Sharon

Sharon Rollefson, DTM, PDG
2015-2016 District 6 Mentor Program Chair

High Performance Leadership

As you travel along on your journey as a Toastmaster, you have numerous opportunities for growth, reflection, and development. Inevitably there will come a time when you are faced with a problem, need, or injustice that you know you can move toward a better solution. You may even already feel the call to get involved to fulfill this particular need or correct that specific injustice. To ensure you have the proper structure to maximize your chances of success, Toastmasters offers the leadership development program called High Performance Leadership, commonly referred to as HPL. This year, the HPL team will provide technical assistance to those Toastmasters ready to assume the leadership role to complete a project by using this amazing tool.

Throughout this upcoming year, the HPL team will share practical advice on working through a project using these Toastmaster materials, convening a guidance committee, providing accountability, and encouraging you as you learn the ways of servant leadership. This year will also mark the start of District 6's development of a webpage devoted to recognizing members in the district that earn the Excellence in Leadership award, which will include excerpts from fellow Toastmasters whose results will help inspire your ideas for selecting a project. Some completed projects will also be included as a highlight in the District 6 newsletter.

Spotlight on Excellent Leadership: Paula Muth

Last July, District 6 distributed 21 High Performance Leadership packets free of charge to those members willing to commit to completing the project within the Toastmasters year. Recently, Paula Muth fulfilled her commitment and successfully completed her first HPL. Her final project was to track the non-manual speeches of club members and fit them into a manual project. In the accompanying picture, Paula shows all advanced manuals, her home club's minutes for the past 10 years, her HPL manual, and an article about the member who took 31 years to earn his CC award. Building on this opportunity and the growth Paula experienced, she will be the club's VP of Education in the upcoming year. Moreover, this project will be the basis for continuing to ensure that members give manual speeches. We extend a hearty congratulations to Paula for earning the Excellence in Leadership Award!



Join the Momentum and Commit to an HPL Project

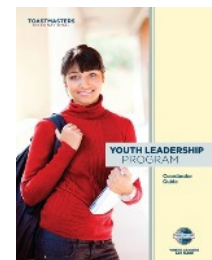
At the TLI on Saturday, July 25, the HPL team will kick off our Commitment Drive to encourage and stimulate HPL projects across the district in the 2015-2016 Toastmasters year. We invite you to join the momentum and commit to your HPL project by providing your name, email address, and agreement to hear from us on a quarterly basis. In exchange, the District will give you a High Performance Leadership packet so you can get started right away. Overall, the HPL Team's goal is to empower the membership with materials and information, demystify the High Performance Leadership project, and support Toastmasters on the journey to earn the Excellence in Leadership award!

In Service,

Michael K. Browne
District 6 HPL Chair 2015-2016

Youth Leadership Program

The Youth Leadership Program is designed to help our youth to develop effective listening and communication skills for the challenges of today's world. This is an excellent program for Toastmasters clubs (and sponsor clubs) who are looking for opportunities to be involved in the community and help our youth. Also, a Toastmaster could facilitate a Youth Leadership Program as one of the requirements toward earning the Advanced Communicator Gold (ACG) award.



There are also countless youth groups in our community that could be part of this program: local schools, 4-H clubs, Junior Achievement, church groups, and scout troops (boys or girls), to name a few.

The program comes with a coordinator's guide that contains short assignments and materials to supplement and explain the group activity, and offering suggestions for discussions at the sessions. The materials are designed to be used by adult Toastmasters to help our youth gain communication and leadership skills during the workshop. The average size of the class is 15 students, and the maximum is 25 participants. Most sessions are 1 ½ hours, and the typical length of the workshop is eight weeks. Also, there should be a minimum of two adults (only one of whom needs to be a Toastmaster) when coordinating a Youth Leadership Program.

Each youth also receives a workbook that provides opportunities to practice developing skills in a friendly, positive atmosphere. The skills learned during the workshop are impromptu speaking, how to organize a speech, listening, gestures, voice, and vocabulary. The youths also learn how to accept evaluation and how to give constructive feedback, along with gaining self-confidence and improving communication skills.

At TLI on Saturday, July 25, the Youth Leadership Committee is kicking off the District 6 commitment to our youth by offering to any club that is willing to coordinate and lead a Youth Leadership session the complete kit (coordinator guide, workbooks, and certificates for the participants). Please contact Mary Adams at 612.521.0649 or email her at adams_mary_j@yahoo.com for a kit or more information. In turn, we need the club to provide the dates of the Youth Leadership class, number of youths, and recap of the workshop (with photos if possible), which will be used on the District 6 website and/or Facebook page. Also, if possible, someone from the Youth Leadership Committee would like to come to the last session and congratulate the club and the youth when they demonstrate the skills they have learned to their family, friends, and the sponsoring Toastmasters club.

District 6 also has the **Keith Hardy Youth Leadership Award**. This award is presented annually to a club that has held at least two Youth Leadership Programs. Will your club be the winner of the award next May?

In service,

Mary Adams, DTM

District 6 Youth Leadership Chair 2015-2016

Success Story: From Struggling Club to Presidents Distinguished!

From a base of 10 members who didn't come regularly to meetings and weren't committed to educational development, Speakers After Hours (SAH) Toastmasters club has grown to 16 members and achieved Presidents Distinguished Club status.

According to club coach Leo Parvis, the club's success resulted not only from his own dedication and influence as a club coach since last September but also from the dedication and hard work of the Leadership

Summit Club Buddies (three ended up joining SAH) and from starting a MeetUp group, which resulted in getting more guests who then became members.

Leadership Summit's participation, providing at least two club buddies at each meeting, was crucial to providing the boost that the club needed to showcase quality meetings for visitors and to deliver value for the members, even if only two or three of SAH's members were in attendance.

Leadership Summit had enough interested members (five total) that it was relatively light work for any one individual to help out at the SAH meetings. Most participants visited the club one to two times a month. This proved to be a beneficial addition for Leadership Summit members as it gave them extra opportunities to complete projects and give speeches when there were openings.

Club Coach + Club Buddies + MeetUp = Success!

If your club has twelve or fewer members, you are eligible for the club coach program. Also, District 6 can help your club set up a MeetUp account. Contact your Division Director for more information and assistance.
