

## **Clubs & Membership**

As I write this final article for the 2014-2015 Toastmasters year, I cannot help but muse over how fast the year as progressed. Our district has experienced numerous high points in this period. As we move into the final month of this Toastmasters year, much work remains to reach our club and membership growth targets (299 and 11,455, respectively).



In the table below are the latest membership and club counts to date, relative to what is needed to reach Distinguished District (DD) status. Of the two *Renewals Not In* and eleven *Low-Minimum Requirement Not Yet Met* clubs, we are optimistic that these clubs will reach paid status on or before June 30, 2015.

## June 9, 2015 D6 Membership & Club Renewal Update

Category	Totals
Total YTD Membership Payments (2014-2015)	**10,618 **
Membership Payments Needed to Meet DD Goal	**837**
Paid Clubs Base (July 1, 2014)	290
Paid Clubs YTD	** 274 **
Additional Clubs Needed to Meet DD Goal	** 25 **
Low - Min. Requirement Not Yet Met	11
Renewals Not In	2
Suspended Clubs	16

Additionally, we are working with several of the suspended clubs to help them return to paid status. As part of a final push to finish strong, we have initiated Meetup accounts (www.meetup.com) for our entire district. Please reach out to the district Trio and/or your respective Division teams for assistance with implementation.

Our collective focus for the remainder of the year is on building build new clubs, increasing membership, and retaining current clubs and members. We can still be distinguished if we work together to finish strong.

Let us continue to focus on membership and clubs (growth, retention and quality). Thanks, for all that you do to *enlighten* each other in our Toastmasters journey.

Finally, thank you for allowing me to serve you as District 6 Governor this past year. I am proud of our district and fortunate to be affiliated with such incredible leaders and communicators.

Clinton Hunt, Jr., Ph.D., DTM
District 6 Governor, 2014-2015
District 6, Toastmasters International
Where Leaders Are Made

# **Education & Training**

2015-2016 District Leadership Roles: Only a Few Spots Left! District Leadership roles are almost filled. If you are interested in being an Area Director (formerly Area Governor), please fill out the Area Director application form. We have 14 Area Director spots currently available. If you are interested in helping as a District Web Editor (no web experience needed), please fill out the District Chair application form or contact Larry Marik directly.



#### **Club Officer List**

By now you should have held your elections for 2015-2016 club officers. Please make sure the list of 2015-2016 club officers is submitted to Toastmasters International no later than June 30, 2015!

#### **Educational Awards**

Congratulations to all who have submitted awards. Here are the District 6 Toastmasters awards, with a comparison to last year. For a complete list of members who received individual awards, please follow the link to 2014-2015 Awards.

	As of	As of
Award	June 8, 2015	June 8, 2014
Competent Communicators	448	475
Competent Leaderships	245	214
Advanced Communicators	225	212
Advanced Leaderships	129	132
High Performance		
Leadership Excellence	49	33
<b>Distinguished Toastmasters</b>	37	21
Triple Crown (# people)	83	78

#### **Distinguished Clubs**

We currently have 91 clubs who have reached Distinguished status or better. This is roughly 78% of our goal of at least 116 clubs. We are well on our way to surpassing this goal.



#### Save the Date!

## Toastmasters Leadership Institute (TLI)

July 25, 2015 Ramada Plaza Minneapolis, Minnesota

Be prepared for:

A World Championship Speaker District-wide Club Officer Training Lots of Awards...and more !!!

Registration and more information are coming soon to www.d6tm.org.

#### Larry J. Marik, DTM

Lieutenant Governor Education & Training, District 6, 2014-2015 District 6, Toastmasters International Where Leaders Are Made

## **Marketing Matters**

#### **New Club "Birth Announcement"**

Welcome to our newest clubs, TCS Steamers (Central Division, Area 6) and Redwood Area Toastmasters (Prairie Division, Area 65). So far, District 6 has 13 newly chartered clubs this year, and a few more are anticipated to charter before June 30.



#### Why Build New Clubs?

Many people feel that we should focus our efforts primarily on supporting existing clubs-maybe you feel that way, too, that we should focus on the children we have with our limited resources rather than give birth to new children, new clubs. Supporting all clubs in achieving excellence is important, but it is only half of the District Mission Statement: **We build new clubs** and support all clubs in achieving excellence.

New clubs can reach new audiences and give even more people the many benefits of Toastmasters. In the coming Toastmasters year, I urge you to consider not only what you can do for existing clubs but also how you can build new clubs, through lead development, being a sponsor or a mentor, or even just participating in a kickoff.

#### **Beat the Clock Membership Contest!**

Toastmasters are taught to run meetings on time, finish speeches on time, and reach membership goals on time. In that spirit, "Beat the Clock" is a great



motivator for finishing the year on schedule-on time and with record numbers! Make it your club's goal to earn the "Beat the Clock" award, and encourage every member to take part. Clubs adding five new, dual or reinstated members with a join date between May 1 and June 30 receive a "Beat the Clock" ribbon to display on the club's banner. Qualifying clubs also earn a special discount code for 10% off their next club order. (The discount code expires six months from the date of issue and is not valid with any other offer.)

#### 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-Elect 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.

### Diane Windingland, DTM

Lieutenant Governor Marketing, District 6, 2014-2015 toastmasterdiane@aol.com 612-306-4214

# **Club Information: Is It Right?**

Hello, fellow Toastmasters,

Enclosed are my findings on website review. This was my High Performance Leadership project in which I contacted district leaders to check if our clubs had accurately listed their club information (meeting date, time, location, and website) with Toastmasters International. The focus was on clubs that are open to the public-in other words, clubs without membership eligibility criteria.



- 10 clubs have no website (including 2 new clubs)
- 11 clubs have a website but are not listed at Toastmasters International
- 1 club prefers not to have a website
- 7 clubs: incorrect map location
- 6 clubs: incorrect contact email

It is important that you keep your club information updated. As you elect your new officers and update Toastmasters International, I would encourage you to update the club contact email, phone, website, and location.

The above statistics are based on feedback received from 48 Area Governors and all 10 Division Governors. Division and Area Governors: Thank you for your time and effort in checking for the accuracy.

Best regards,

# **Keep Growing and Finish Strong!**

June is the final month in the 2014-2015 program year. We're in the homestretch! This is a great time to challenge yourself to reach your individual goals and to also help your club meet its goals.

If you're close to finishing an educational goal, such as a communication or leadership award, perhaps you can find additional opportunities to speak, serve in meeting roles, or take on a leadership



project for your club. A special Speech-a-Thon meeting can give more speaking opportunities to you and other members. Additionally, other nearby clubs may have opportunities to speak or serve in meeting roles to help you accomplish your goals. Your club's Area Governor can often assist in connecting you with other clubs.

Just as you have individual goals, your club also has goals, such as submitting education awards (which reflect member growth) and increasing membership (to keep meetings strong and provide the best experience for each member). To help your club meet its membership goals, invite friends, neighbors, and co-workers to your club meetings. Share the value and opportunity of Toastmasters with those around you. Personal invitations are the most effective way to promote your club and increase membership. Additionally, organize an open house event or year-end celebration for your club. Not only are these fun events for members but they also attract guests and increase membership; you also receive leadership credit as an event chair.

In sum, your goals and your club's goals are aligned and interconnected. As you grow, your club grows, and as you help your club grow, you grow as a result. Keep growing, and finish this year strong!

#### Plan for Speechcraft in 2015-2016

When June comes to an end, a new year will begin. Thinking of the 2015-2016 program year, consider incorporating Speechcraft into your club's education and PR plans. Integrating a Speechcraft program into your club's overall program not only energizes existing members and allows them to learn by teaching but it also infuses new energy with Speechcraft participants. As a result, member satisfaction increases, and membership increases since at least one participant will likely join when the Speechcraft program concludes. Now is a great time to plan for a Speechcraft in the new year.

It has been an honor serving as the Speechcraft Chair for the 2014-2015 year. That said, this year is not over! If there's anything I can do for you or your club, please get in touch with me at hosmundson@gmail.com.

Hope to see you soon. Keep growing!

Harold Osmundson, DTM Speechcraft Chair, District 6 Toastmasters International

## Where Leaders Are Made



Megan Jo Paulsen shares her excitement at having a club she was coaching finally become Distinguished.

STAY CONNECTED