



District 6 Toastmasters

Serving Parts of Minnesota and Ontario

June 2018

District News and Events



District 6 Director

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Toastmasters International

Where Leaders Are Made

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June is here, and we're in the final month of the 2017-2018 program year. You're likely working to finish goals this month. Deadlines make the difference! Whatever your goals are, keep striving and you can achieve them. Below are key updates as we finish.

People First

There's a lesson I periodically learn, usually the hard way: People First. Although it isn't a new or flashy principle, we all benefit from a reminder. International President, Balraj Arunasalam, DTM shared that it's his overall philosophy. *People First.*

Each day, I see motivated members, leaders, and clubs striving to reach goals, have great meetings, and grow their clubs. In May and June, the Distinguished Club Program (DCP) becomes a focus for most clubs. That's great, as long as we always put people, our members, and our values above the goals we're trying to achieve. *People First.*

Can you think of any situations where the People First principle could be better applied? Reflecting on my own experience and observations, below are a few that came to mind:

- The energy and focus in clubs often shifts to club-related goals. The member's personal goals and learning should be given more attention.
- There's often more communication to groups than to individuals. Broadcasting announcements and needs to a group has become the norm. It can imply an unintended message and tone. The personal touch is needed more than ever.
- Club meetings often focus only on filling roles, meeting protocol, and routine. Less attention is given to whether or not the meeting engages the member and develops skill. The club's purpose and mission is to help members develop skills. For a club to succeed, meetings must support its purpose.

Set goals. Strive. Inspire. Motivate. Achieve. Let's keep performing these critical activities. But, to achieve the highest levels of success, let's also remind ourselves of our purpose, our values, and what matters most. *People First.*

Strive for Excellence - Last Month for Rewards

Let's honor People First, achieve, and earn rewards in June. The [Strive for Excellence program](#) contains 9 rewards members and clubs can earn by achieving club excellence. Take advantage of this program and use the [5 Steps to Achieve Excellence guide](#) to earn rewards.

Start Your Pathways Journey!

If you haven't already started Pathways, please begin benefitting from it. Visit <https://www.toastmasters.org/start-pathways>, take the assessment, choose your path, and start growing through Pathways today!

Club Officer Elections & Lists

If your club hasn't already held elections for the 2018-2019 program year, please do so soon. Please submit your club's 2018-2019 officer list to Toastmasters International no later than June 30th.

Thank You & Farewell

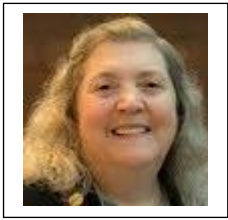
My journey has come to an end. It has been an honor to serve over the last 3 years. I took my responsibilities seriously, and for good reason. We have the best members and officers, and each deserves the best guidance and support. You always deserved the best I could give. My regret is that I wasn't able to do more.

For the 2018-2019 program year, I'm pleased to welcome Jean Pearson, DTM as the District Director for District 6, and Ben Smith, DTM as the District Director for District 106. Ben and Jean are the finest leaders I've met and worked with. You are in great hands.



*Thank you for allowing me to serve. Until we meet again: **People First.***

Strive for excellence in everything. Keep growing!



Program Quality Director South

Jean Pearson, DTM

Toastmasters International

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I would like to give a big “Thank you!!” to all the club officers who gave of their time to be trained this past year. Attending training shows your desire to help your members grow so the club can be strong. I would also to thank those who took the time to let me know what was good and what could be improved in regard to the officer training material. Your feedback on what best helps you and your club is crucial when it comes to developing strong, quality clubs.

With that said, let’s not forget that the year isn’t over. We can still show how strong our clubs are by having an Open House to demonstrate to our guests how we can help them grow. One thing to think about when conducting an open house is to remember to give the guest one-on-one time so they can ask questions. Guests generally attend because they have a curiosity about what Toastmasters is and what we offer. They also have a need to understand “What’s in it for me?” By listening carefully to what they’re looking for and matching their needs with what Toastmasters offers, more often than not they will join.

I would like to see every club achieve a distinguished level to show what a phenomenal group of quality clubs we have. To that point, ensure every member has received credit for their education awards. Quality meetings are the meetings you attend and, when they’re done, you can’t help but think to yourself how glad you are that you attended! They’re also the meetings where guests readily ask afterwards “How can I join?”

Pathways is here. Are you using the new education system? You can be in both the old and new education systems which allows you to finish the manuals you’re working on plus look into Pathways, so you understand how it works. Please make sure that someone in your club knows Pathways. New members only have access to the new system, and we need to be able to support them as they progress. Pathways guides are conducting virtual sessions on a regular basis and can serve as a phenomenal resource for you.

New officers can attend the officer training being offered in June before they start their term. Remember that the President, Secretary, and Vice President of Education need to work together so when someone completes a level in Pathways they can get credit for it.

It has been a great year and I’ve thoroughly enjoyed the journey. Thank you again for all your wonderful support, and I look forward to another great year as we work together to build a strong, quality-focused, and member-enriching experience for all in District 6!



New Club Announcements

Congratulations to our newest clubs. Welcome to Toastmasters and District 6!

- Thesaurus Rex (#6816281) chartered on 04/01/2018 in Saint Paul
- Roast Masters (#6802640) chartered on 04/03/2018 in Mankato
- Ed Talks (#6839291) chartered on 04/17/2018 in Bloomington



Connect, Share & Learn

[Join District 6's Facebook Groups](#)

Club Officer-Special Groups:

[President](#)

[Vice President Education](#)

[Vice President Membership](#)

[VP Public Relations](#)

[Secretary](#)

[Treasurer](#)

[Sergeant-at-Arms](#)



Member Recognition

Distinguished Toastmaster (DTM) Award

The Distinguished Toastmaster (DTM) award is the highest honor in the Toastmasters education program. This award requires at least 45 speeches, 6 months of club leadership, 1 year of district leadership, club building, mentoring, and other activities. Achieving this award reflects commitment and excellence in communication and leadership.

Congratulations to our newest Distinguished Toastmaster Award recipients:

- Rondi Pacheco of Speak N' Eagan Club (#9893)

Educational Awards 2017-2018

The reports below show the educational achievements by District 6 members in the 2017-2018 program year. Congratulations to each member!

[All Education Awards Submitted](#)
[Triple Crown \(3 or more educational in the same program year\)](#)



Program Quality Director North

Ben Smith, DTM

Toastmasters International

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Summer TLI 2018

It's that time of year again!

Sunshine...warm weather...you know, it's time for the Toastmasters Leadership Institute (TLI)!

Networking, learning, experiencing, and recognition are all things you'll find at the TLI. Learn from fellow Toastmasters through 4 hours of training.

Topics include:

- Officer Role Training
- Pathways Base Camp Manager Training
- Pathways sessions
- Expert Evaluations
- and many more!

And don't forget about the Awards Luncheon!

DO NOT miss out on this opportunity to share with other Toastmasters and learn from them as well!

Go to <http://www.d6tm.org/2018-summer-tli/> for all the details!

Pathways

We've been talking a lot about Pathways lately, even in this newsletter. And it's an awesome new experience for us as Toastmasters. But I'd also like you to take a moment and consider: This is an awesome new experience for *everyone!*

I'm specifically talking about 3 groups of people:

People brand new to Toastmasters. We have a brand new marketing tool in Pathways! Tell people about our new educational program and invite them to your club to check it out. Sure, you may not know EVERYTHING there is to know about Pathways (I don't either!), but you don't have to. Do you remember a time when you didn't even know there were Advanced Manuals? I do. But we learned the program and loved (or at least liked) the program. Make a point to learn Pathways and then tell everyone how excited you are about it!

Past Members. Reach out to past members of your club. Life may have changed to take them out of the club, but it might have changed again. Let them know that now's the time to take another look at Toastmasters and Pathways is why. Invite them back to your club to check it out. If nothing else, it'll be good to see old friends!

The third group is US! Our club experience will be the same, but we have more content, more projects, and online delivery! I hope you join me in jumping into Pathways!

Thank you

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as one of your Program Quality Directors this year! I've gotten to meet and work with a lot of you this year and it's been great! Your commitment to the members of your club is inspiring. All of us collaborating together to have quality, valuable meetings where members achieve their goals. Thank you for making this year great!



Club Growth Director

Ravi Rai, DTM

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Membership and Club Growth

It has been an amazing year to learn about our district.

I have come to realize that every club needs a growth in membership. A growth that is not just measured in numbers but how each member feels the program has benefitted them. Pathways has been an exciting tool for all our new members.

Virtual Club Coach Program

To help our low member clubs we started Virtual Club Coach Program. This is a unique program in Toastmasters. We reached out to clubs looking for help and hearing ideas that could be shared.

We also reached out to all new members who are new to Toastmasters. Hope we continue to see them grow in their Toastmasters journey.

The year saw a 12 new clubs starting their journey with Toastmasters. Few more nearing the completion of their paperwork.

Unfortunately we lost 7 clubs during the year.

Our membership over the years continues to be a roller coaster ride and this year has been no different. We are still working on growing our membership payments by 3%. Our goal is to achieve 800 more members before June 30. Please remember to use the "[strive for excellence](#)" program to reward your club for helping grow the membership.

The members make the biggest difference. Hope you can share your success stories with those who may not have seen the benefits of Toastmasters as well as those who have been away for some time. Serving those around us is our service to people around us.

Please join me growing our membership and reaching out to those who can benefit from Pathways and Toastmasters. Looking forward to all of us walking across the stage in Chicago with the banner of being Distinguished.



[June Rewards Program](#)

[April-June: TI Reward Program](#)

[June 23: DEC Meeting, SuperValu, EP](#)

June-August: Officer Training

June 30: Deadline-New Club Officers List to TI

[July 21: District 6/106 TLI, Crown Plaza Plymouth](#)