



# District 6 Toastmasters

Serving Parts of Minnesota and Ontario

## District News and Events

### District 6

March/2018

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### Key Dates

#### Spring Speech Contests

March - April

Tall Tales & International Speech

[Spring Speech Contests page](#)

#### District 6 Spring Conference

May 4 - 5, 2018

Crowne Plaza - Minneapolis West,

Plymouth, MN

[2018 Spring Conference](#)

It's an exciting time to be in District 6. With Pathways, Spring speech contests, and an awesome Spring Conference on the horizon, we have so much to share with you.



#### Are Your Needs Being Met?

Since serving in the military, I rarely get a full night's sleep. But, if anything causes me to lose sleep, it's feeling that you might not be receiving the support you need.

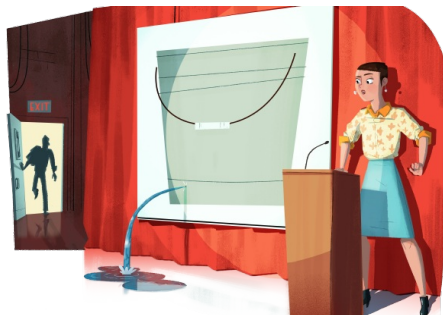
Every member deserves a supportive, high-quality learning experience to develop life-enhancing skills and confidence.

Every club officer deserves to develop valuable leadership skills, to receive support and guidance in his/her role, and to be successful in that role.

Every day, and at every club I visit, I'm humbled by the spirit and enthusiasm members and club officers have for learning and leading. If anything holds members and club officers back, it's a lack of information, guidance, and support.

When you receive the information, guidance, and support you need, then you and your club will shine brighter than ever. Our district exists to provide that support.

Leaders eat last. Your success and your club's success come first. Please connect with me. Let's discuss and work to create a better experience for you and your club.



#### The Importance of Member Retention

The March issue of the Toastmaster magazine featured an important article: [Membership Retention: Is Your Bucket Leaking?](#) It's worth reading.

Why is this topic so critically important? Meeting the needs of our existing members makes our organization great. It's our not-so-secret sauce.

When we each work to provide the best learning experience and value for each other, then we fulfill our club's mission. By doing that, we become the club and organization the world wants to join. It might seem counterintuitive, but growth in our club starts by taking care of our current members.

If you care about your club and your experience, please read this article and champion its ideas in your club.



# TOASTMASTERS PATHWAYS

— learning experience —

## Pathways Arrives in April!

Ready to develop new skills that closely match your personal and professional goals? The Pathways learning experience, Toastmasters International's new education program, launches in District 6 on April 24th!

Pathways gives you more learning options, real-world projects, and over 300 skills to master. It's simply a better and more productive learning experience.

In Pathways, you can immediately choose from 10 learning paths, including Dynamic Leadership, Presentation Mastery, Effective Coaching, Persuasive Influence, and Visionary Communication. For details on the 10 learning paths available to members, see the [Pathways Paths and Competencies guide](#). Additional details on Pathways are below in the Quality Matters section.

Let's use this new program to grow and get more from our membership. Looking forward to starting Pathways with you in late April!



**2018**  
**MasterCon**  
Where memories  
are made.

Contests • Education • Networking

**May 4—5, 2018**

2018 D6 Spring Conference  
Crowne Plaza  
Plymouth, MN

Visit: [www.d6tm.org](http://www.d6tm.org) for details

## Spring Conference - Registration Opens Soon!

The Spring Conference will be May 4-5 at the Crowne Plaza in Plymouth. This year's

conference provides exceptional value to members, featuring district speech contests, education, and great networking opportunities. Our focus is on maximizing your experience and making the conference more accessible.

Save the date and plan to attend the Spring Conference on May 4th & 5th. You'll receive a separate email when online registration is available.



### Continue Your Journey - April Renewals

Continue your journey of learning and personal growth in Toastmasters. Renew your membership for the April-September period. Please help your club's Treasurer by submitting soon. The deadline for renewals is April 1st.

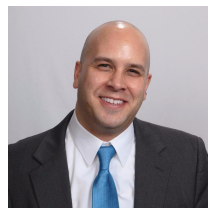


### Spring Speech Contests

The 2018 World Champion of Public Speaking may come from District 6. Who will it be?

Area and division speech contests are underway. Visit the [District 6 Speech Contests page](#) to learn about the International Speech and Tall Tales contests. Attend your area and division contests. They're great events and feature fantastic speakers. Hope to see you there.

Thank you for all you do. Let's continue to make 2018 count. Keep growing!



**Harold Osmundson, DTM**  
**District Director, District 6**  
Toastmasters International  
*Where Leaders Are Made*  
Phone: 763-213-7795  
Email: [harold.osmundson@d6tm.org](mailto:harold.osmundson@d6tm.org)

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### Quality Matters



# TOASTMASTERS PATHWAYS

— learning experience —

As mentioned above, Pathways launches in District 6 on April 24. This is an exciting time and opportunity! This section covers what to expect over the next month and how you can prepare.

A Pathways Guide will help your club prepare for the Pathways launch. When your club's Pathways Guide contacts your President or VP Education to schedule a club visit, work with them to schedule the visit and presentation as soon as possible.

When the meeting time is set, please have all members present. This is new and valuable information that hasn't been presented before. All members will benefit from hearing it. After your club has the Pathways presentation, the next step is to wait for the launch date.

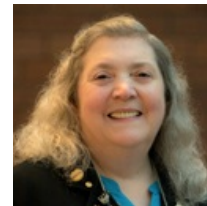
After the launch date, your club's Pathways Guide will hold virtual sessions through online meetings to keep members informed. There are plenty of opportunities to engage, ask questions, and get help as you start your journey in Pathways.

After your club reviews the new Pathways program, you'll be as excited and eager as I am to accelerate our communication and leadership development!



**Ben Smith, DTM**  
**Program Quality Director - North,  
District 6**

Toastmasters International  
*Where Leaders Are Made*  
Phone: 612-770-8590  
Email: [ben.smith@d6tm.org](mailto:ben.smith@d6tm.org)



**Jean Pearson, DTM**  
**Program Quality Director - South,  
District 6**

Toastmasters International  
*Where Leaders Are Made*  
Phone: 507-259-2381  
Email: [jean.pearson@d6tm.org](mailto:jean.pearson@d6tm.org)

## 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 recipient:**

- Daniel Grundtner of MNRPCV Toastmasters Club (#1284)
- Kavish Sain of All-Terrain Toasters (#5563008)

### 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 \(3 or more educational in the same program year\)](#)



Connect, Share, and Learn

Join District 6's Facebook groups

[District 6 Facebook Group](#)

Club Office-specific groups: [Pres](#), [VPE](#), [VPM](#), [VPPR](#), [Sec](#), [Treas](#), [SAA](#)

## New Club Announcements

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

- NAAD Toastmasters (#6765687) chartered on 01/26/2018 in St. Paul
- Strivers Toastmasters (#6655858) chartered 02/13/2018 in Rochester
- Alexandria Breakfast Club - Toastmasters (#6640455) chartered on 02/27/2018 in Alexandria

## Club Growth

The Virtual Club Coach program will benefit clubs looking for additional expertise.

We've found many clubs in District 6 looking for coaches but have been unable to get a coach due to lack of availability. At the same time, we have many club coaches looking for a central place to connect.

To address this gap, the Virtual Club Coach program connects interested clubs and coaches to form a central team.

### ***How does it work?***

Any interested club or Toastmaster can call into a Zoom meeting either by phone or internet to connect to a online collaboration session.

### ***Who administers the program?***

District 6 Club Growth Directors: Ravi Rai & Dave Gibson

### ***Who is it for?***

Ideally clubs with 12 or fewer members, but open to any club that's interested.

### ***How often?***

Every month, 2nd Monday from 6:30-7:30 pm CST. More sessions will be added in the future.

The next meeting is scheduled for April 9th, 6:30-7:30 pm CST.

Contact Ravi or Dave for more information.



**Dave Gibson, DTM**  
**Club Growth Director - North, District 6**

Toastmasters International  
*Where Leaders are Made*  
Phone: 763-318-1043  
Email: [dave.gibson@d6tm.org](mailto:dave.gibson@d6tm.org)



**Ravi Rai, DTM**  
**Club Growth Director - South, District 6**

Toastmasters International  
*Where Leaders are Made*  
Phone: 612-501-4517  
Email: [ravi.rai@d6tm.org](mailto:ravi.rai@d6tm.org)

## Club Experience

What happens in Vegas, does not need to stay in Vegas...

I recently traveled with my family on vacation. Our destination, fabulous Las Vegas.

Now, I'm not a big gambler, but Las Vegas is surrounded by natural beauty. This week, I'm planning to take in Red Rock, Canyon, Valley of Fire State Park, Hoover Dam, and Mount Charleston to name a few.

On our first full day in Vegas I thought, "Why not start my day off right by attending a Toastmasters meeting?" A quick search revealed a club not too far from the house we rented, so I had my wife drop me off at a Toastmasters club with a familiar name, "Saturday Morning Live".

They met in a Century 21 office building, and my first impression was made as I walked up to the front door, hoping that I was at the right place (since my wife and kids had already pulled away in our rental car). They had a bright sign out front telling me where to go.



Once I entered the building, there were similar signs directing me right to the room where they met. There really was no mystery as to how to get to this meeting.

Upon entering the room, I was warmly greeted by several members, handed an excellent guest packet, a bottle of water and welcomed to the meeting. When they found out where I was from, they informed me that there was a Saturday Morning Live club in Minnesota as well. I told them I was familiar with the club, but was impressed that they knew about it (I suppose quality clubs are known far and wide). They did let me know that their club was not the same format as MN SML, focusing on Evaluations, and that if I was looking to attend a club with that focus, I should also check out Jackpot Toastmasters. What struck me about this was the great way they welcomed me to their club, and still promoted other clubs in the area.

The meeting itself was well run and organized. As a guest, they interacted with me at several points during the meeting, and of course asked for feedback at the end. The members were engaged, and energetic at the meeting, promoting the Toastmasters Brand promise. Following the meeting, I grabbed a quick photo with some of the members in attendance.





Everyone thanked me for attending and welcomed me back if I am in the area again. I was even given some tips on things to do and see during my stay. It was a great meeting overall and left an impression of quality and professionalism.

Remember that guest packet I mentioned at the beginning? I need to talk a little about this, and the impression it made. It was in a nice two pocket folder, and the paper inside was good quality and filled with good information. I created a quick scan of the contents [here](#).

It made me reminisce of the message we are promoting in District 6 this year. Promote your club, hold strong quality meetings, welcome guests, and let them see why they should join your club, leaving them with a good impression of the value of Toastmasters.

All the best,



**Dave Gibson, DTM**  
**Club Growth Director - North, District 6**  
Toastmasters International  
*Where Leaders are Made*  
Phone: 763-318-1043  
Email: [dave.gibson@d6tm.org](mailto:dave.gibson@d6tm.org)

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## Youth Leadership Program

Fellow Toastmasters,

I am pleased to recognize the completion of a Youth Leadership Program in St Paul! Coordinator Dan Grundtner and Co-coordinator Laura Nolan of the MNRPCV (Minnesota Returned Peace Corps Volunteers) Club # 1284 worked all winter long to share the Toastmasters Program with a group of young leaders. In Fall of 2017, Dan began to create a partnership between Toastmasters and Urban Roots - the organization where the youth are 'growing' and served as host to the meetings. Urban Roots provides community development services in the Metro Area and in Southern Minnesota including; architecture, urban planning, economic development, and organizational development. The four main 'seeds' planted by Urban Roots are Gardening, Cooking, Conservation, and Entrepreneurship. Urban Roots was incorporated as a 501(c)3 in 1969 - with a vision of a world where all communities have unlimited access to nature and healthy food! Learn more on their website: [urbanrootsmn.org](http://urbanrootsmn.org) What a perfect match for Toastmasters International and Urban Roots to join forces on this Youth Leadership Program!

This YLP planted its "roots" with just 3 teenagers but the word spread across the

organization and the number 'grew' into a high energy group of 9! Great work Dan and Laura! The picture here includes the students, Dan and Laura, and two of the staff members who attended the sessions - frequently participating in Table Topics and 'harvesting' some of the benefits of the program themselves!

Let's follow Dan and Laura's lead by finding an organization that Toastmasters can partner with to fertilize the growth of future generations! Use my contact information to reach out if you know of any organizations that would enjoy the benefits of a Toastmasters Youth Leadership Program.



Speak Well and Be Well!



**Ray Young III, ACS, ALB**  
**Youth Leadership Chair 2017-2018, District 6**  
Toastmasters International  
*Where Leaders Are Made*  
Phone: 612-986-3628  
Email: [raymondmyoung3@gmail.com](mailto:raymondmyoung3@gmail.com)

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## Outreach Opportunity

### Connecting with Social Workers, Psychologists, and Psychiatrists

Would you like to connect others with Toastmasters? Stan Brown, ACS (Dan Patch Club #1280) started a program to inform psychologists, social workers, and psychiatrists on the benefits of Toastmasters to help them recommend Toastmasters to their clients.

Stan believes there are 3 aspects of Toastmasters that'll appeal to this audience:

1. Through weekly meetings and recognition, clients gain a sense of accomplishment.
2. Clients create friendship and strong relationships through participation in Toastmasters.
3. Clients consistently attend meetings because the meetings are fun.

Stan seeks others to help. He'd also like to create an advisory board of others who are/were therapists. To volunteer or get more information, please contact Stan Brown at [stan@stanbrown.us](mailto:stan@stanbrown.us) or 952-943-0718.

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## Featured Resources for Clubs

**Flexible Club Programming** - Do members in your club often serve in multiple meeting roles? If so, there's a better way. Theo Black, DTM, PID wrote a fantastic guide for planning meetings based on your club's membership level. Please read the



[Flexible Club Programming guide](#) to make your meetings more enjoyable.

**A Roadmap for Club Growth** - This awesome article from the Toastmaster magazine shows how a club tripled in size within 90 days. Follow [A Roadmap for Club Growth](#) and your club can do the same.

**Measuring What Matters** - Want to understand the Distinguished Club Program (DCP) and why its goals are important for your club? The [Measuring What Matters article](#) provides an excellent perspective on the program and how it leads to a sustainable club and a quality experience.

**When Bad Things Happen to Good Clubs** - Every club encounters challenges, and many challenges are common across clubs. [When Bad Things Happen to Good Clubs](#) covers several challenges clubs have and how to overcome them.

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