## **District 6 Toastmasters**

Where Leaders Are Made

# Membership Push: Continued Acceleration in September!

As we start the final month of the first quarter of the 2014-2015 Toastmasters year, membership and member experience is once again the top focus of our district. I begin by highlighting clubs that participated and received recognition by Toastmasters International for their participation in the 2013-2014 **Beat the Clock** Campaign. Listed in the table below are the 22 clubs that added five or more



members to their rosters from May 1 to June 30, 2014 (that is 7.7% of District 6 clubs). Please accept our thanks to each member and club who contributed to this vital membership-building program.

#### 2013-2014 Beat the Clock Awardees

Club No.	Club Name	New Members
3096	Speakers Under Pressure	12
1055613	Spirit of Leadership	10
987	Attention Getters Club	8
1311729	Elk River Area Toastmasters	8
183	Gopher Toastmasters Club	7
4805	Shock, Rhythm and Talk	7
7507	Lawson Thrill Speakers Club	7
933954	Blue Toasters Club	7
4020	Humorous Toastmasters Club	6
4324	Hutchinson Toastmasters II	6
5290	Talking Meds Club	6
9313	The Lacek Group Speakeasy	6
1036446	ALLETE "Power Cord" Toastmasters	6
1848034	Ecolab St. Paul Toastmasters Club	6
2512	Realtors Toastmasters Club	5
3107	Converse All Stars Club	5
4749	G.R.E. Energizers Club	5
6025	Creative Memories Club	5
8783	Out of Towners	5
1459687	ALCO Orators	5

1505727	Bright Monday	5
1746748	PowerTalk Toastmasters	5

#### Smedley Award (Membership-Building Tool)

In honor of Ralph Smedley, can your club add five new, dual, or reinstated members between August 1 and September 30? By doing so, you'll qualify to receive a *Smedley Award* ribbon to display on your club's banner. In addition to the ribbon, qualifying clubs earn a special discount code for **10% off** their next club order. (Note: The discount code expires six months from the date of issue and is not valid with any other offer.)

Applications and payments for members who join between August 1 and September 30 must be received at World Headquarters or online no later than **September 30**. Each member's join date as listed on the application must be for August or September. The addition of transfer and charter members does not count toward Smedley Award credit.

The winning clubs will be revealed online within a few weeks of the contest ending. Winning clubs should allow up to 10 business days to receive their award if they are located in the United States, and up to 21 business days if they are outside of the United States.

The second and final month of the 2014 Smedley Award is now underway (August 1 - September 30, 2014). Congratulations to the clubs that participated in last year's Smedley Award campaign.

With less than 2% of District 6 clubs receiving a *Smedley Award Ribbon* and the 10% discount off of their next club order in 2013, we are asking each club to give special attention to this membership-building tool. Each club is encouraged to take advantage of this great tool and generous discount.

#### 2013-2014 Smedley Awardees

Club No.	Club Name	New Members
5554	Class Act Speakers	21
6594	Stagecoach Speakers Downtown Mpls	6
75	Minneapolis Club	5
5518	Carver County Communicators	5
1036446	ALLETE "Power Cord" Toastmasters	5
1459687	ALCO Orators	5
2717197	Morning Glory	5

#### International Convention Recap

Three Toastmasters from Region 4 (Mary Swanson, George Volz, and Joan Watson) campaigned to replace outgoing Region 4 International Director Pat Hannan. Congratulations to Joan Watson, who was elected to serve Region 4 for the next two years.

District 6's presence at the convention in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, included Caroline Lyngstad, who competed in the International Speech Contest semifinals. Although Caroline did not place, she was cheered on by a dozen District 6 Toastmasters: Harold Osmundson, Janet Osmundson, Rick Holtmeier, Jonathan Goossen, Joan Watson, Mary Swanson, Mark York, Mark Brandow, Larry Marik, Diane Windingland, Shirley Hunt, and Clinton Hunt.

District 6, the race is on, and I encourage each of us to make a Toastmasters difference by focusing on club building, rebuilding, and strengthening, on membership (growth and retention), and on Distinguished Clubs! Thanks for all that you do to **enlighten** each other in our Toastmasters journey. You are incredibly **enlightening**!

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

## **Education & Training**

#### **Club Officer Training**

Roughly 70% of our officers have been trained. Please check the Club Officer Training Report to ensure your club officers received credit for attending training. We have a limited time to make any corrections. Please contact me, Larry Marik, if adjustments or changes are needed for your club's report.



#### **Officer Training: New Guidelines**

Toastmasters International now suggests that all club officers take five hours of officer training for each training round. Currently, we provide one hour of training each round. While we won't change directly to five hours of training, we will be extending our training in a future round to go beyond one hour. More details will follow.

#### **Fall Conference**

This year is the 90<sup>th</sup> year for Toastmasters. To celebrate this occasion, our theme for the fall conference is *Celebrating 90 Years of Taking the Scare out of Public Speaking*. The 2014 Fall Conference will be held at DoubleTree by Hilton in Rochester, Minnesota, on Friday and Saturday, October 31 and November 1. Winners of the 10 division contests will compete in the **Table Topics and Humorous speech contests**. For full details of the conference, go to www.d6tm.org/fall-conference-2014.

#### Fall Conference: Registration

Full registration is \$120. Please register for this event now at www.d6tm.org/shopping. Note: You must register no later than October 17! Don't delay, register now!

#### Fall Conference: Hotel

Guaranteed two-night room reservations are available for only \$129.00 per night, but only if you reserve by **Friday**, **October**, **10**.

#### Fall Conference: Call for Presenters

Take your public speaking skills to the next level by presenting at the Fall Conference educational sessions. Our theme will be Celebrating 90 Years, and the educational sessions will focus on equipping each attendee with tools that will help expand the Toastmasters experience in District 6 and help their clubs grow. If you have a presentation that has a connection to this focus, we want to hear from you! Application Deadline: October 8.

#### **New District Leadership Titles**

The new district leadership titles will take effect starting July 1, 2015. For the 2014-2015 year, be sure to use the current titles for district leaders. The titles starting July 1, 2015, will be:

CURRENT TITLE	NEW TITLE
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

#### Larry J. Marik, DTM

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

### **Marketing Matters**

#### Welcome New Clubs!

Talk Nerdy to Me - Western Division Talk and Awe - Northern Division We have three new clubs chartered since July 1. The goal is 23 by June 30, 2014.



#### **Chartering Incentives for 2014-2015**

- All clubs chartered this year will receive a customized club banner.
- Clubs that mail charter paperwork for 28 or more members within four weeks of the kickoff will also receive a portable wooden lectern with the Toastmasters logo on the front.

Do you work somewhere that could use the communication and leadership training of a Toastmasters program? Contact Diane Windingland (toastmasterdiane@aol.com) with new club leads.

#### How to Get a Club Coach Appointment

Develop your leadership skills, receive credit toward the Advanced Leader Silver award, and help a struggling club (12 or fewer members) become distinguished. This short video (3:55) shows you the basic steps to get appointed as a club coach.

#### Diane Windingland, DTM

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

## **Public Relations Contests for Quarter 1**

To recognize the efforts of District 6 clubs to promote their events, we are organizing our contests every quarter. Please submit your entries to me (toastmaster.ravi@gmail.com).

The categories are as follows:

- Website (send the URL of your website)
- Flyer/brochure (only one entry please)
- Newsletter (one edition since July 1, 2014)
- Promotional video (uploaded to youtube or vimeo)
- Social media (address of the site)
- Guest packet (electronic copies and brief description)
- Press release (screen print or formatted text)

The submission deadline for quarter 1 is September 15.

Please send your entries via email to me (toastmaster.ravi@gmail.com).

Please include the following in your email:

- Club name
- Club number
- Club contact name and email

I look forward to your entries.

**Ravi Rai, DTM** Public Relations Officer

## Celebrating 90 Years of Taking the *Scare* Out of Public Speaking

Come one, come all to the 2014 Fall Conference being held at the DoubleTree Hotel in Rochester, MN, on October 31 and November 1!

We are exceptionally honored to have with us the First Vice President of Toastmasters International, Mike Storkey.

Friday will be frightfully fun for adults and children alike. We will have a Halloween party for the children, and the adults are strongly encouraged to dress in their most boo-tiful best for a fright-night themed costume party following the Table Topics contest.

On Saturday we will have fabulous education sessions, the business meeting, and the Humorous contest on Saturday night - guaranteed to have you all laughing out loud! There's no trick - registration is now available at www.D6tm.org.

Jean Pearson Fall Conference Co-Chair





## **Convention Notes**

- The Trio completed District Leader Training in the two days prior to the convention.
- Clinton Hunt accepted an Excellence in Education and Training award on behalf of District 6.
- In a very close race for Region 4 International Director, Joan Watson was elected.

Highlights from the Toastmasters International Board of Directors meeting:

- "Web 2.0" new TI website will be live soon, maybe as early as September.
- The virtual clubs issue is being studied, with recommendations coming 2/15.
- Club quality recommendations: Require that the Moments of Truth (a very revised version) be conducted twice a year as part of the DCP program.
- Retention recommendations: Districts and clubs should be recognized for retention. Mentors should be assigned for each new member (new member form to be revised). Consider having dues paid annually and allowing "self-service" online payment for individual members.
- Leader selection recommendations: Incorporate international procedures, such as a selfassessment and a specific deadline for nominations. Rename the Nominating Committee the District Leader Committee and have handbook/reference materials and templates for the process.



After the speech contest semi-finals, in which Caroline Lyngstad competed. Left to right: Clinton Hunt, Larry Marik, Jonathan Goossen, Caroline Lyngstad, Diane Windingland, Mary Swanson, Harold Osmundson, and Janet Osmundson.

## September: Important Tasks

- Promote Smedley Award membership-building contest.
- Register for Fall Conference (Rochester, MN).
- Plan and publicize upcoming speech contests.
- Collect and submit membership dues to Toastmasters International.
- Enter District 6 Public Relations Contests.