

# **March 2013**



Dear Member,

March is an important month for Toastmasters. With only a few months left of the Toastmasters year, our focus will most likely land on the execution of our goals. As a club, there are DCP goals that were formulated to help your club become Distinguished. As members, we should have a solid idea of what we need to do to meet our personal goals for the year. Let me just offer this one piece of advice: NOW IS NOT THE TIME TO RETREAT! Consider the following as we start down the home stretch:

- Submit your awards now: Waiting to the end of the year to submit awards is never a
  good idea. Last minute submissions create a backlog at Toastmasters International, it
  causes a delay in the District tracking, and it delays well-earned recognition. It is
  difficult to assess achievement, when awards are put on the back burner.
- Assess where you stand with your goals: Know exactly what you need to do to claim your "pot of gold" at the end of the rainbow! If you are short on speeches, ask your VP Education to schedule you. Let everyone know what you need to do to execute your personal success.
- Raise awareness within your clubs: Now is the time to act and a call to action. Help each other stay on task and submit your educational goals without delay. It will be a huge, stress-free advantage to you and your club.

As Toastmasters, we enjoy excellent company. We are highly motivated, success-driven, and social people. We understand that satisfaction comes from helping and supporting each other, and achieving individual and collective goals. Remember, your success is your club's success, which is your district's success, which is Toastmasters International's success. It's a beautiful thing!

I would like to thank each of you for your dedication, your passion and your perseverance. I wish you every success as you engage in the art and science of making and keeping desired goals.

Dru Jorgensen, DTM
District Governor
2012-2013

# **District Officers**

# Lt Governor, Education & Training



Hello Fellow Toastmasters,

We had a very successful second round of Officer Training! Many of our Clubs have earned the Magnificent Seven Ribbon, but even more important an even higher number have at least 4 officers trained, which puts them in line for Distinguished Club Status. Remember MEMBERSHIP is KEY to Club Distinction.

As we prepare for our Spring Contests - Tall Tales and International, please read the NEW RULEBOOK. There are many changes; notice the black diamond in the margin that alerts you to a key change.

A couple of the changes are:

- All Judges and Contestants must have given at least 6 manual speeches to qualify as a Judge or Contestant.
- The Judges Certificate of Eligibility form must be read and signed by each Judge.

I look forward to seeing you at the Division and District Speech Contests!

#### **Sharon Rollefson, DTM, LGET**

## Lt Governor, Marketing



Greetings, District 6, from the Lieutenant Governor of Marketing's Corner. Your marketing team is hard at work and pulling out all of the stops in helping District 6 reach Distinguished by the end of June.

This Toastmasters year, the District must achieve distinguished clubs (40% of Club base) and membership requirements (3% increase), andmust have a net increase of nine (9) new clubs or three percent (3%). Accomplishing this feat will require each member and each club to increase their efforts and energy around recruiting new members, retaining existing members and strengthening each and every club, all in partnership with District 6.

To-date, we have chartered nine new clubs and have approximately seven in the works! On the down side, there are seven clubs that have not renewed for October (Renewals not here or Low - Minimum Requirement not yet met) or have less than six members. It is therefore especially critical that we do not experience any more non-renewals, as we approach the April renewal period.

To help clubs that are struggling, the District has assigned club coaches to fifteen clubs, as of 3/12/13. Additionally, all of our new clubs have been assigned excellent Sponsors (15) and Mentors (14). Thank you, to all who have stepped up as volunteers to sponsor, mentor or coach clubs within the District. Your dedication to serving our members is very much appreciated!

I would like to thank each of you for your hard work and dedication to helping improve both leadership and communication skills within District 6.

## Clinton Hunt, Jr., Ph.D., DTM

Lieutenant Governor of Marketing, 2012 - 2013 District 6, Toastmasters International Where Leaders Are Made

# **Diane Windingland, Public Relations Officer**



Public Relations contest submissions are due April 1!

Click here for details:

http://www.d6tm.org/springconvention2013/prcontest/

Email your submissions to the D6 Public Relations Officer, Diane Windingland: **toastmasterDiane@aol.com** 

Submissions for the guest packet only may be mailed to:

Diane Windingland 1730 Graham Ave. Apt 359 Saint Paul, MN 55116

Good Luck!



# **District 6 News & Events**

# **Spring Convention**

Spring fever? Thaw out and watch things heat up at the Spring Convention May 3 & 4! The Spring Convention is home to a special excitement that comes with the speech contests and the ever important elections. Each year, it is essential to have a quorum at the business meeting. Every vote counts and every voice is central to choosing your leaders.

**Business Meeting Itinerary: Saturday** 

10:45 Credentials Closes

11:00 - 1:00 Business Meeting

NOTE: You may attend the Business Meeting only for no charge.

- Important convention links: For registration and more information:
- http://www.d6tm.org/springconvention2013/.
  To volunteer during the convention, contact Judy Southwick at:
  - **Contact Us**
- For business meeting and important proxy information: <u>http://www.d6tm.org/springconvention2013/businessmeeting</u>
- Area & Division Contest Calendar: <a href="http://www.d6tm.org/springconvention2013">http://www.d6tm.org/springconvention2013</a>
   /speechcontestcalendar/

# The Lorin Pollman Award Speechcraft Course

It's time to submit your nomination for the Lorin Pollman Award! This award is presented each year at the District Spring Convention to a Toastmasters Club that has conducted Speechcraft sessions to help educate members of their community, and to help promote membership growth in Toastmasters.

If your club has conducted a Speechcraft this Toastmasters year (2012-2013), please email Dennis Feller **dennis.feller@hotmail.com** by April 1 with the following information:

- 1) Club Name & Number
- 2) Dates of Speechcraft sessions
- 3) Number of Speechcraft participants
- 4) Number of Speechcraft graduates
- 5) Names of main contacts who presented the Speechcraft

The Lorin Pollman Award Form and additional information can be found on the District 6 website at: <a href="http://www.d6tm.org/LorinPollmannAward">http://www.d6tm.org/LorinPollmannAward</a>.

## **Silent Auction**

The Silent Auction is a fun activity at District 6 conventions. Donations are accepted from individuals, clubs and organizations and will be bid on by conference attendees. There is a spirit of healthy competition as friends bid for favorite items. Monies gained from the Silent Auction go directly into the District 6 Treasury and may be used to help offset convention costs, as well as other significant District needs.

Join the fun! To find out how to participate as a donor, go to: <a href="http://www.d6tm.org">http://www.d6tm.org</a> /springconvention2013/silent-auction/

## **ALERT!**

Don't be surprised if you have visitors at your upcoming meetings! The Past District Governors (PDG's) are on the road carrying the spotlight to talk about advanced and specialty clubs.

## The Golden Ticket

District 6 has initiated an exciting new contest with a terrific prize attached! It is called the Golden Ticket! Over the next few months, Division Governors, Area Governors and members will be focusing on building the strength of their clubs. The Golden Ticket is a fun and effective way to help promote clubs as members conduct open houses and formulate membership events. The Golden Ticket is also a great way to encourage contest attendance.

The Golden Ticket represents one free registration to the Spring Convention, a value of \$135! The winning club will determine the lucky recipient.

Each Division will determine its own point structure using the following basic format:

- Promote your meetings -post club fliers
- Invite guests to visit put your club business cards in the local coffee shop or similar locales
- Update your profile on your club's website
- Track each visitor to the club; name, contact information, date visited
- Record every new member who joins between now and April 5

Club officers will need to share their information with their Area Governor. Be sure to include the number of new members that joined your club during this promotion.

The contest officially began on February 9 and runs through April 5, 2013. All entries must be confirmed through your Area Governor, so keep track and give them details!

There will be four drawings and four opportunities to win prizes at each Division contest:

- 1. The Golden Ticket drawing
- 2. The club with the most members attending the contest (winners drawn if tie exists)
- 3. The club with the greatest percentage of members at the contest (winners drawn if tie exists)
- 4. The Past District Governors are sponsoring a free Spring Convention registration drawn from first time attendance at the contest. You must be present to win this one and be able to attend!

Remember, only club members are eligible to win. District officers are also not eligible.

Have fun, good luck and we hope to see you at Spring Convention!

## International President John Lau's 1+1 Membership Campaign

We love a challenge almost as much as we love to recognize achievement! With the new 1+1 program, we can enjoy both. It is very simple, yet powerful in its far-reaching effects of building membership.

The March Toastmasters magazine has an insert that members can pass to friends or associates. Simply fill out the back of the card as you invite guests to your club.

#### It works like this:

**Step 1:** Refer a friend or associate who becomes a Toastmaster.

**Step 2:** Fill out the 1+1 Form @ <a href="http://www.toastmasters.org/Members/MembershipBuilding/11Campaign.aspx#11">http://www.toastmasters.org/Members/MembershipBuilding/11Campaign.aspx#11</a>

**Step 3:** Receive recognition from Toastmasters International! Recognition is broken into three areas: Members, Clubs and Districts.

**Members:** Receive a 1+1 decal and a personalized letter from Executive Director, Dan Rex. Each month your name will be listed on the 1+1 webpage wall. In addition, all referring members' names will be included in a drawing to win a 1+1 Toastmasters t-shirt.

**Clubs:** How does a \$250 store credit sound? The top 20 clubs gaining the most new members from the 1+1 campaign will receive just that!

**Remember:** INVITE & ENCOURAGE = GROWTH

This campaign only lasts through **June 30, 2013.** Good luck!

## **Calling All Volunteers**

Volunteers are needed to judge speech and interview competitions for the 2013 United States Academic Decathlon (USAD), which is the premier national scholastic competition for high school students.

High schools students from more than 35 states will gather April 25-27 at the Minneapolis Hilton. More than 350 students will present prepared and impromptu speeches, and complete interviews before a panel of judges. Volunteers are being recruited for those with speech, public speaking or interviewing skills to be judges Thursday afternoon from 3:00-8:30 pm. Volunteers are also needed to proctor objective testing Friday morning from 6:00 am to 12:00 noon.

To volunteer, please register online:http://www.mnscsc.org/Programs-Services/Academic-Outreach/Minnesota-Academic-Decathlon.aspx

Questions: Joyce Swenson, MNAD State Director, 507-389-2461, jswenson@mnscsc.org

#### **Web Pro In A Minute**

Is your organization looking for a speaker for a corporate event? Is the keynote motivational, humorous, master of ceremonies? Contact the District 6 Speakers Bureau. Speakers are provided at no charge as a community service. For more information, go to:

<u>http://www.d6tm.org/speakersbureau/</u>. In under a minute, you can be hero to your company's event coordinator!

# **Club Officers**

#### **Dues Are Due**

Clubs should be actively engaged in collecting dues. Dues should be collected and submitted by April 1. For meeting DCP qualifications, remember that you need only submit 6 member dues in order to receive the second part of your DCP point. Corporate clubs especially need to pay attention to timelines as it may take a little longer to collect funds. The sooner dues are collected, the less stress there will be in having to track down and submit at the eleventh hour.

## Verify your e-mail address and update your profile information here:

**Toastmasters International** - Member Profile

# **Area Governors**

Area Governors are busy serving, nurturing and promoting their clubs. In addition, there are calendar items that need to be paid attention to in order to keep your Governorship on task. Keep in mind the following:

- Spring contests. Make sure your club leadership knows the Area contest schedule so they can prepare their own contest in time.
- Please note that your Area Governor visits must be completed by **APRIL 30**. You have until May 30 to submit your reports to Toastmasters International.
- AG's have their own site on the D6tm.org website. Utilize this tool; it is designed to facilitate and help:

http://www.toastmasters.org/Members/OfficerResources/AreaClubVisits.aspx

The next few months will be busy, rewarding and exciting. Now is your time to concentrate your efforts, and to shine, lead and serve your clubs. Their success is your success. Don't hold back; go for broke. Remember all things are possible!

## **New Members are Calling!**

Is your club phone number up to date?

Area Governors, please contact each club in your area, using the phone number quoted on Toastmasters International website, to ensure phone numbers noted on the website are active.



The District 6 alignment page has been updated. This was formerly known as "Find a Club". If you have not visited this page before, please go to: <a href="http://www.d6tm.org/findclub/">http://www.d6tm.org/findclub/</a>. It is an excellent resource for club information. Check it out; see what your fellow clubs are doing!

#### **Share the Newsletters**

As a club officer, you have the opportunity to serve your club members every week. One of the best ways to do this is to keep abreast of current news not only within District 6, but in the global Toastmasters International organization. Familiarize yourself with both the District and International websites; there is a wealth of fun, interesting and important information that will benefit you and your fellow club members. As you invest a bit of time into searching these websites, you will feel a part of something significant that spans the globe. Go to:

d6tm.org and Toastmasters.org. You will be glad you did!

## **Announcements**



# **Triple Crown Awards**

Mary Adams Rich Andresen Carol Basil Lisa Burnside Helen Chen Glen DeGuzman Thomas Deyo Colbert Fong Jean Gallagher Anne Groetsch Colleen Hamilton Keith Hardy Brian Hinton Longfei Hu Curt Johnson Mark S. Kennedy Marvel Kummer Hu Longfel Susan McCoy BJ Olsen Jean Pearson Thomas Polachek Terry Ragan Ravi Rai Jane Rischmiller Greg Scholz Stephen Shaner Dan Vesey

#### **Newsletter Co-Editors-in-Chief**

Jean Mirowski and Nancy Shaner





We welcome your feedback on the E-Newsletter. What would you like to see? What do you like or don't like? We are here to serve you and to make the news around the District meaningful and entertaining. Please click on our names to contact us.

Where does your club stand on the Distinguished Club Plan Goals?

Click here to find out!

7 of 7