



District 6 Toastmasters

Where Leaders Are Made



Key Dates

June 1 - August 31

[Club Officer Training](#)

August

[International Convention](#) (proxies needed)

August

Collect Club Dues

September 1-30

Submit Club Dues

September 30

Club Dues
Submission Deadline

November 11-12

Fall Conference,
Duluth, MN



You're Worth It!

Joining Toastmasters ranks in my top 10 best decisions ever! Maybe it's even in my top 5. Through Toastmasters, I have gained great confidence, great experiences, and great friends. The great things I have gained have led me to a new career, increased income, more and deeper relationships, and the satisfaction of making a difference in others' lives.



The benefits have been priceless--so much more than the Toastmasters dues I've paid. And paying those dues hasn't always been easy. Six years ago, my family was getting some of our groceries from a food shelf due to a failed business, but my husband and I always prioritized our Toastmasters memberships. Toastmasters was part of the solution and worth the relatively minor sacrifice.

This month and next you will be asked to pay dues, and the dues will be \$45, a \$9 increase. Nobody likes to pay more, but all things considered, Toastmasters is still an incredible bargain given the benefits.

Renew your Toastmasters membership, because you are worth it!

[Dues increase FAQ](#)

No Grace Period. Members with dues not paid by September 30 will be unpaid members (no grace period). This will be most critical for speech contestants in October contests. In order to be eligible to compete in speech contests you must be a paid member in a paid club. Additionally, for the Distinguished Club Program credit, the deadline is September 30, not October 10 as in previous years. A paid club is one that has 8 or more member dues submitted (clubs can get those first 8 member payments in right away to ensure that the club remains a paid club).

Club and Member Incentives

Did you check out the 2016-2017 club and member incentives? Clubs can earn up to \$150 in TI gift certificates, and new club builders can earn up to \$100 per new club!

<http://www.d6tm.org/2016-2017-club-and-member-incentives/>



Conference Call with Lance Miller

Membership Building Tips

Fall Speech Contests

Digital contest kits are available free on the Toastmasters International website:

[Humorous Speech Contest](#)

[Table Topics Speech Contest](#)

Date: Monday, September 12, 2016

Time: 8:00-8:45 PM Central Time

Dial-In Number: 515-604-9000

Access Code: 435759

At the scheduled time, call the Dial-In Number and enter the Access Code followed by the pound (#) sign.



Diane Windingland, DTM

District Director, District 6 (2016-2017)

Toastmasters International

Where Leaders Are Made

www.toastmasters.org

www.d6tm.org

(District 6: Serving parts of Minnesota and Ontario)

Contact me!

toastmasterdiane@aol.com

612-306-4214

Quality Makes the Difference

Toastmasters Leadership Institute (TLI) Recap

Thanks to each member that attended the District 6 Toastmasters Leadership Institute (TLI) on July 23rd and made the event a success. Results from the awards luncheon are available at [2015-2016 Awards Results](#), and photos from the TLI are available in [District 6's Flickr albums](#).



Key Takeaway from TLI: Three Reasons Clubs Struggle

Of the many things I learned at TLI, my key takeaway was Lance Miller's three reasons clubs struggle:

1. The club doesn't have members that take ownership of the club and its well being.
2. The club doesn't follow the Toastmasters education program.
3. The club doesn't promote itself.

If your club is struggling or could do better, the solution is often in one or more of these

three areas.

2016-2017: Your Club's Best Year Ever

Would you like your club to have its best year ever? Below are two ways to make that happen:

1. **Make the Pledge:** Your club's chances for success increase considerably once you define your goals and commit to them. Commit to success by sending me your completed [DCP pledge card](#) before September 30th. I'll recognize each pledge.
2. **Craft a Club Success Plan:** Engage your entire club in the effort to succeed by crafting a [Club Success Plan](#) and sending it to me by September 30th. Your club will also earn a \$25 gift certificate to the Toastmasters online store. For a list of all club incentives, see [2016-2017 Club Incentives](#).

Attention Club Officers: Final Month of Officer Training

Club officer training sessions are offered through August 31st. If you serve as a club officer in the 2016-2017 program year, please attend a session to best serve your club, and to also help satisfy requirements for the Distinguished Club Program (DCP). See [District 6's Officer Training page](#) for upcoming sessions.

Starting in September: Fall Speech Contests

Would you like to stretch your speaking skills? Speech contests help you get the most educational value from your Toastmasters membership. Area speech contests for the Fall round start in September. The contests will be Table Topics and Humorous Speech:

- The Table Topics contest involves a 1-2 minute response to a topic/question that will be unknown to the contestant until he/she is introduced.
- The Humorous Speech contest involves a 5-7 minute speech whose purpose is to entertain (while also being thematic and avoiding potentially objectionable material).

If you aren't sure when the area speech contest will be, please contact your Area Director for the date. Plan your club's speech contests 2-4 weeks prior to the area speech contest. Note that clubs in areas with four or fewer clubs in good standing can send two contestants for each contest at the area level. Please contact your Area Director for more information.

Links for contest information and materials are below:

- [2016-2017 Speech Contest Rulebook](#)
- [Humorous Speech Contest Kit \(the digital kit is free\)](#)
- [Table Topics Speech Contest Kit \(the digital kit is free\)](#)
- [District 6 Calendar for September](#)

Coming in September: Speech Evaluation Workshops

Evaluation is a fundamental activity within the Toastmasters education program. Strong evaluation skills help members grow, and they also attract new members. To help all interested members strengthen their evaluation skills, District 6 will hold two evaluation workshops in September: 9/10 in Duluth, and 9/17 in St. Paul. Save the dates above if you are interested. Invitations and details will be sent in a separate email.

Recent Distinguished Toastmaster (DTM) Achievements

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. Congratulations to the following members for achieving the Distinguished Toastmaster award since the July newsletter:

- Cheryl Bergstrom
- Mark Brandow
- Helen Grothe

- Brian Hinton
- Bernardine Krupka
- Gary Moore
- Paula Muth
- Nick Nelson
- Alita Nichols
- Megan Jo Paulson (2)

Educational Achievements for 2016-2017

The reports below show the education achievements by District 6 members in the 2016-2017 program year. Congratulations to each member completing an award!

- [All Education Awards Submitted](#)
- [Triple Crowns \(3 or more education awards in the same program year\)](#)

Hope to see you at an upcoming speech contest. Keep growing!

Harold Osmundson, DTM

Program Quality Director, District 6

Toastmasters International

Where Leaders Are Made

Phone: 763-213-7795

Email: hosmundson@gmail.com

Marketing Matters

NOW is the time for you and your club to start working toward the Smedley Award! For more info, watch July's [Membership Minute](#).

Let's keep the momentum from last year and charge into this new year gaining new members for your club!

A promotional graphic for 'The Ralph Smedley Award'. It features a black and white portrait of an older man with glasses, wearing a suit and tie. A dark, rounded rectangular text box is overlaid on the left side of the portrait. The text inside the box reads: 'Add 5 or more new, reinstated or dual members by Sept. 30 and get a \$50 gift certificate to the Toastmasters International Store! Plus, 10% off and a ribbon for your banner!'. Below the text box, the text 'The Ralph Smedley Award' is written in a smaller font.

Add 5 or more new, reinstated or dual members by Sept. 30 and get a \$50 gift certificate to the Toastmasters International Store! Plus, 10% off and a ribbon for your banner!

The Ralph Smedley Award

Thank you for your great participation with the #ShareYourStory / #AskMeAboutToastmasters videos at the TLI!



We had people from all over the District share their experience with Toastmasters on video, and we'll be putting them online to share with their network across platforms. Look in the September newsletter for more info!

New Clubs in District 6

Congratulations to District 6's newest clubs. Welcome to Toastmasters and District 6!

- Tech Talkers (#5447509) chartered on June 27th in St. Louis Park.
- DNRticultators (#5481039) chartered on June 28th in St. Paul.
- Northfield Community Toastmasters (#5607421) chartered on June 28th in Northfield.
- All-Terrain Toasters (#5563008) chartered on June 29th in Wyoming.
- The King's Speakers (#5612080) chartered on June 29th in Woodbury.
- Vital Voices (#5339882) chartered on June 29th in Minnetonka.

How YOU Can Help with New Clubs

As we move into this new Toastmasters year, we are looking to grow the District by starting new clubs. If you have an idea of someplace to start a club, please contact me. Also, if you would like to be a Club Sponsor or Club Mentor, please contact me. I can be reached at: bensmithtm@gmail.com.

Ben Smith, DTM

Club Growth Director, District 6
Toastmasters International
Where Leaders Are Made
Phone: 612-770-8590
Email: bensmithtm@gmail.com

Connect, Share, and Learn

Join D6 Facebook groups

[District 6 Facebook Group](#)



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

July TLI Was a Success!

Thanks to our many volunteers and participants, over 300 Toastmasters from District 6 came together from near and far for educational sessions, Lance Miller's club-building and speech-building advice, fellowship, and an amazing awards luncheon!

See the list of award winners [here](#).

Browse the photos from the event on the District 6 [Flickr](#) site.

Participants were asked to complete an online survey after the event, with one lucky person winning a free registration to the District 6 Fall Conference in Duluth, MN, November 11th and 12th. Congratulations to Ravi Rai - we'll see you in Duluth!

Thank you to all who helped make the July TLI a success!

Cheryl Evans & Joanna Carley

Looking Ahead

Happy middle of the summer,

Soon the State Fair will be upon us, signaling the end of summer. As soon as Labor Day is over, people will be thinking of school, their kids, and their own education. Once the kids are settled they will have time to think about their own betterment. What a great time to snag some new members.



This article includes details on

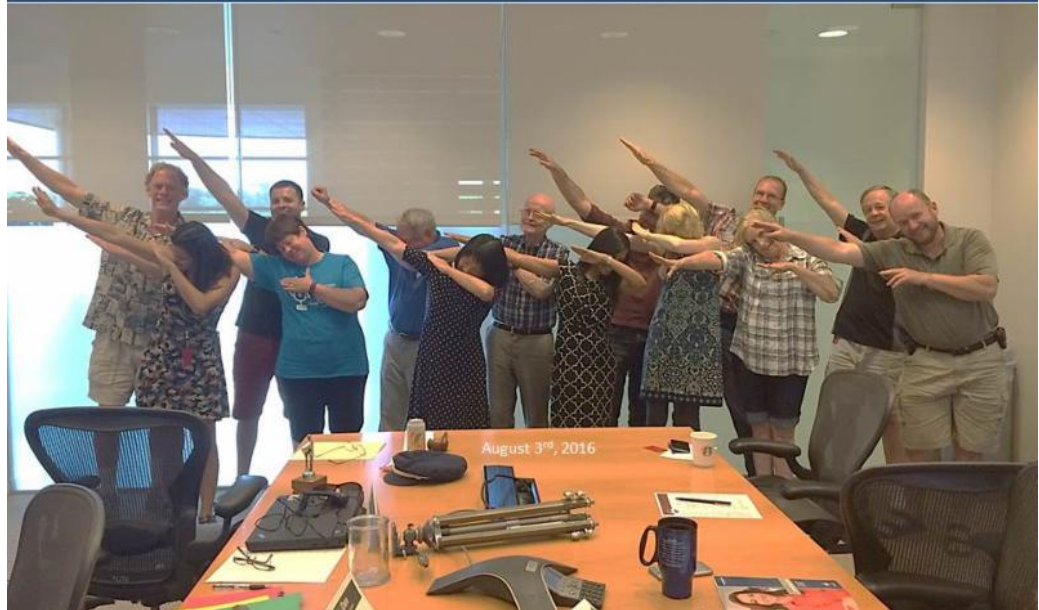
- Contests
- Open Houses
- Social Media
- Website Excellence Program

Contests

Contests are a great way to improve your club reception and publicity. This year District 6 will be having four contests: 1) guest packet; 2) flier or brochure; 3) newsletter; and something new, 4) club selfie - courtesy of Diane Windingland. If you submit your club selfie to the District PRM, Dan Grundtner, dan.grundtner@gmail.com, you may get your photo in this monthly newsletter. Here is an example taken Wednesday, August 3, at Simply Spoken club #66.

SIMPLY SPOKEN TOASTMASTERS

Phone: 651-746-6538 Meeting Times: Wednesday 12:00 pm
Location: Veritas, 2815 Cleveland Avenue North, Roseville, Minnesota 55113 United States
Membership Restriction: None; the club is open to all interested parties.



Members do the DAB dance move.

Open Houses

Also think about your fall membership drive. Will your club have an open house? Use [a booth and banners](#), available for you to borrow courtesy of District 6. They can be borrowed and returned using the "sign out" form. These booths are great way to grab attention and gain interest in your club.

Social Media

Consider using social media to bring an audience to your club website and your club. Use Twitter and Facebook to reach more people. It might seem like a lot of work starting from scratch, but you can have some fun with it by making it a team effort and involving your club executive committee or your whole club.

Website Excellence Program

This year we will be conducting a Website Excellence Program (WEP). The 10-point program gives you suggestions to improve your club website to bring in more guests and gain new members. When you have met five or more of the points you can submit to the WEP chair, Ravi Rai, toastmaster.ravi@gmail.com, for recognition.

Here is what Ravi says:

"This year we are encouraging all clubs to bring their websites to a standard level. All the clubs that meet WEP qualification would have a link placed in WEP section for special recognition as being an exceptional club."

You can find more information on everything above by visiting www.d6tm.org and clicking on *Public Relations Information* under the *Resources* tab.

Daniel Grundtner, DTM

Public Relations Manager, District 6, 2016-2017
Dan.Grundtner@gmail.com; 651-487-3068 home

Speak at the State Fair!

You are invited to get on your soapbox at the Minnesota State Fair!

Twin Cities Public Television has made the Front Porch Stage available to District 6 Toastmasters. You can:

- Practice a manual speech
- Talk about your cause
- Inspire a different audience
- Make a call to action

Stage Time: From 3-5 pm on Monday, August 29 on the Front Porch Stage next to the TPT booth in the 4H building.

Entries must be submitted by midnight, Saturday, August 20 for consideration.

To sign up contact Don Mathews at mathewsd@asme.org or go to www.meetdon.com/soapbox for up-to-date information.

**Calling all
Toastmasters!**
You are invited
to get on your
soapbox at the
MN State Fair!



August 29, 3- 5 PM
MINNESOTA
STATE FAIR

[SoapBox Flyer](#)

This information is also at the following link:
<http://www.d6tm.org/mn-state-fair-soap-box/>

Attention, Club Presidents and Secretaries

On or near July 6th, a very important email arrived in your email inbox from Toastmasters International.

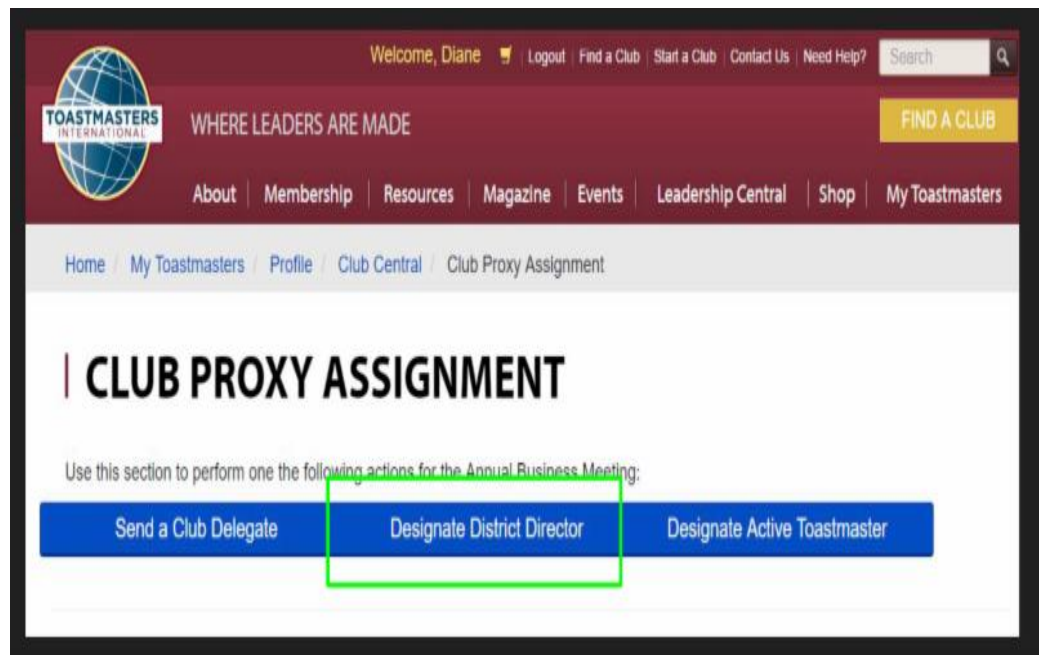
The email contained instructions on how to designate your club's proxy for the Toastmasters International Annual Business meeting on Saturday, August 20, in Washington, DC.

During the Annual Business meeting, the 2016-2017 Toastmasters International Board of Directors will be elected and two proposals voted on. To learn about the proposals, go to <https://www.toastmasters.org/2016-Proposals>. You must designate your club proxy (worth two votes) by Wednesday, August 17, to someone who will be attending the meeting.

See the picture below for what you will see when you log into Club Central on www.toastmasters.org. You have three options for who to designate the proxy to:

- A member of the club who will be attending the Annual Business Meeting. You will need the member ID for the club member.
- The district director (as of July 1, 2016, the District 6 Director is Diane Windingland). This option is outlined in a green rectangle in the graphic below.
- Any member of Toastmasters International that your club wishes to designate as the club proxy holder. You will need the member ID for the club member.

For step-by-step instructions, see www.d6tm.org/how-to-designate-your-club-proxy.



Outlined with a green box is the option to designate our district director, Diane Windingland, to carry the proxy on behalf of your club.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Mary Swanson, 2016-2017 District 6 Proxy Chair, at swansonmej@gmail.com.

Youth Leadership Program

Congratulations to the Storytellers Club in Thunder Bay, Ontario, club number 3944592. They have won the Keith Hardy Youth Leadership Award for their work on YLP programs in 2015-2016. Please join me in recognizing this club's efforts and achievements!



Summer is not over yet, but schools are winding up to plan their fall curriculum.

The Youth Leadership Program is starting to boom, thanks to individual efforts at Toastmasters clubs in Hopkins, Edina, and Bloomington. We are initiating four different Youth Leadership Programs with the intention of starting early in the school year.

It is exciting to be this early in the Toastmasters year with this amount of interest from schools and clubs wanting to take advantage of the growth that comes with the Youth Leadership Program. The YLP provides growth for the youth, growth for individuals stepping up to make a difference in their community - and then growth for clubs!

Take a look in your community and at your kids' school for contacts to whom we can reach out. If your club is working on the DCP or is looking for growth, the YLP is an opportunity you ought to look into.

It would help if you want to join in current efforts - as a presenter in a session or two. You can reach out to me to get more info. If you have questions about reaching out to prospective schools and community organizations, please email me or call.

Ray Young III, ACB, ALB

Youth Leadership Program Chair 2016-2017

raymondmyoung3@gmail.com

612-986-3628

Has Someone Helped You to Be a Better Toastmaster?

If your answer is "yes," nominate that person for District 6 Mentor of the Month.

Send a picture of the two of you (a selfie would work) and a short description of how this person has helped you to Sharon Rollefson, DTM, rollefsldw@msn.com.

Look for your nomination as the District 6 Mentor of the Month!

Toastmasters, Diane Windingland, DTM, District Director, St. Paul, MN 55116

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