



District 6 Toastmasters

Where Leaders Are Made



Key Dates

December - February
[2nd Round Club Officer Training + TLIs](#)

January 14
[Train-the-Trainer](#)

January 28
[Winter Fun Day](#)

Following Through

Have you already given up on your New Year's resolutions? If you made them, odds are more than 25% that you've already given up. Now think back to the start of the Toastmasters New Year, which was just over 6 months ago. Think about your goals in Toastmasters. You do have goals, right? Do you want to achieve a new educational level? To start a new club? To help your club achieve Distinguished? Whatever your goal was or is, there is probably still time to achieve it (there are 172 days left until June 30). In fact, it's not too late to set a goal!



Here's my favorite goal accomplishment tip: **Don't just make a goal (outcome you want to achieve), but also plan the process and then work the process!**

Below are a couple of examples:

Goal: Complete One or More Educational Goals by June 30

In the 2015-2016 Toastmasters year, District 6 members completed nearly 1,400 educational awards, with more than 1/3 of them being Competent Communication completions. District 6 members earned 122 Triple Crowns (three education awards) and 39 Distinguished Toastmaster (DTM) awards ([2015-2016 Educational Achievements](#)). Will you be on this year's list? ([Current year to-date awards.](#))



Process: Map out a completion plan with your club VP of Education to get on the schedule to accomplish the goal. If there aren't enough speaking spots, consider alternatives: two times speaking outside the club (with a Toastmasters evaluator) and having a hip-pocket speech ready to go, so you can take advantage of last-minute cancellations.

Goal: Help Your Club Achieve Distinguished Status

Did your club achieve Distinguished Status last year? ([Honor Roll of 2015-2016 Distinguished Clubs.](#))



If your club created a Club Success Plan ([list of clubs submitting success plans](#)), you are probably on your way! Now is the time to plan to finish strong. What are the critical success factors for your club to achieve Distinguished Club or better? For many clubs it is the membership requirement (20 members or net gain of five members).

Process: Map out a membership-building process; for example, set one or more open house dates, have a membership contest to reward members for bringing guests, plan to have guest packets, and follow up with guests. Resources: D6's "[Build Your Membership Kit](#)" and "[Boost Membership With Open Houses Tip Sheet.](#)"

I've heard people groan about the Distinguished Club Program (DCP) and say that "all the district cares about are the numbers." I can see how it might seem that way, but behind the numbers are people. The DCP is a measurement tool, a set of goals that, when achieved, help the *real* "DCP": Documented Changes in People.

Bonus Tip: Learn Something New

Many goals, especially those related to your business or career, involve learning or building a skill. One of my favorite online instruction resources is Lynda.com, which is available free from many library websites ([video](#), 1:41).

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

Happy New Year to you and your family. Wishing you a 2017 full of joy and abundance.



Congratulations to the "Distinguished by December" Clubs!

Congratulations to the 24 clubs achieving "Distinguished by December" honors. See the list of clubs at the [Distinguished by December 2016 page](#). Each club achieved 5+ DCP points and the membership requirement by December 31, 2016. These clubs earned a \$25 TI gift certificate and positioned themselves to easily achieve Distinguished Club honors later this year.

There's Still Time to Achieve Excellence

Although the "Distinguished by December" program has passed, regardless of the situation, there's time to grow your club into a Distinguished Club by June 30. Right now is the best time to take steps to flex your leadership muscles, engage and motivate others, and grow your club in terms of educational excellence and membership strength:

"The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The second best time is now." -
Chinese Proverb

How Do We Get There? - A Roadmap for Club Growth

The October 2016 issue of *Toastmaster* magazine featured a two-page gem on how a small club in a city of 9,000 grew into a large, 30-member, President's Distinguished club [in just 90 days!](#) This article is a fantastic case study on developing a great club using simple steps, teamwork, and creativity. Take a moment to read [A Roadmap for Club Growth](#) and discuss it with your fellow members. You can do it!



Wherever You Are, Start Here - Moments of Truth

(Incentive Deadline: January 31)

The club in the case study mentioned above used the [Moments of Truth](#) module to assess its situation and identify improvements using member feedback. If your club hasn't conducted a Moments of Truth session recently, act now to leverage the benefits and earn a reward. Send me a brief 1-2 page summary of your club's Moments of Truth findings and action plan by January 31 to receive a \$25 TI gift certificate. See the [Speak N' Eagan Club's MoT summary](#) for an example submission.

Energize Your Toastmasters Experience at Divisional TLIs

Enhance your Toastmasters experience, learn, energize, and meet others at the Toastmasters Leadership Institute (TLI) events held through February. All members will benefit, and club officers receive training credit as well. See the [District 6 Divisional TLI page](#) for upcoming events.

Club Officer Training - Sessions Available Through February

Active, trained officers lead quality clubs. If you serve as a club officer, please attend a session to best serve your members. The second round of officer training runs through February 28. This round emphasizes membership growth, mentoring, and time to discuss your specific concerns/challenges. See [District 6's officer training page](#) for upcoming sessions.

Get Ready for the Spring Speech Contests!

Want more from your Toastmasters membership? Speech contests help you get the most educational value from your membership. Area speech contests for the Spring round are on the horizon. Plan now to compete in your club's contests.

Spring speech contests include Evaluation and International Speech:

- The Evaluation contest involves a 2-3 minute evaluation of a 5-7 minute test/target speech that all contestants observe. Contestants then leave the room and have 5 minutes to prepare their evaluations. Pages 15-16 of the contest rulebook cover the complete process.
- The International Speech contest involves a 5-7 minute speech. Contestants can reach the [World Championship of Public Speaking](#), held August 26 in Vancouver. While speeches in this contest often inspire, there's no requirement for the speech to be inspirational. Just give the best original speech you can! Note: This contest requires members to complete at least six speech projects in the Competent Communication (CC) manual before the contest. Charter members of a club chartering less than one year before the club contest are exempt from this restriction.

If you aren't sure when the area contest will be, please contact your Area Director for the date. Plan to hold your club's contests 2-4 weeks prior to the area contest. 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](#)
- [International Speech Contest Kit \(the digital kit is free\)](#)
- [Evaluation Contest Kit \(the digital kit is free\)](#)
- [District 6 Calendar - Check for Upcoming Contests](#)

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. Achieving this award reflects commitment and excellence in communication and leadership.



Congratulations to Bill Desmond on achieving the Distinguished Toastmaster award! Great job, Bill!

Educational Achievements for 2016-2017

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

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



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](#)

Looking forward to a great 2017! 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

We all want to share our positive experience in Toastmasters with new people and have them become members in our club. If you add five members to your club in the months of February and March, you will qualify for the Talk Up Toastmasters incentive! Start making plans NOW to gain new members in February and March! See below for details.



Talk Up Toastmasters: February 1 - March 31

Add five new, dual, or reinstated members within the contest dates above and you will receive a ribbon for your banner and a discount code for 10% off an order to the Toastmasters online store. Your club will also receive a \$25 gift certificate to the TI online store.



Talk Up Toastmasters!

Membership Contest February 1 – March 31

Add 5+ Members

New Club Mastermind Team

With a goal of 25 new clubs this Toastmasters year, I'm going to need some Toastmasters mastermind help! To that end, I'm working on details to create a New Club Mastermind Team. This team will conference call and discuss opportunities for new club leads, ways to find new leads, and work to build new clubs. This will work in concert with the mailing parties that will begin in February. Stay tuned for more info. If this is something that may interest you, please email me at bensmithtm@gmail.com and tell me you'd like to be a part of the team.

New Club on the Horizon

We have a new club in the charter process at Toastmasters International! SPS Speaking Power has its charter paperwork in to TI and is currently being processed. Welcome to District 6, SPS Speaking Power!

Club Sponsors and Mentors

Imagine helping an entire new club experience Toastmasters for the first time! For our goal of 25 new clubs in the district this Toastmasters year, we will need 50 club sponsors and 50 club mentors. Being a club sponsor or mentor gives you credit toward your Advanced Leader Silver, on your way to Distinguished Toastmaster. If you are interested in being a club sponsor or mentor, please contact our Club Sponsor/Mentor Chair, Dave Gibson (tm.davegibson@gmail.com) and let him know you would like to be placed on the list.

Halftime

In football, halftime is a chance to reflect on what went well in the first half, make adjustments to achieve your goals in the second half, and encourage the team to go out and finish strong. It's the same idea here, now. We've had success in some areas, and there are more challenges ahead. But as the team moves forward, we WILL achieve our goals because we want to share our experience in Toastmasters with new members and new clubs. To help them become better communicators and effective leaders. It's up to you and me: WE are the team. As we invite more people to visit and join our clubs and find more places to build new clubs, we will achieve our "why" AND our goals. Set goals for your club and for yourself to achieve. Not for me, not for TI, not for your club, not even for yourself. But set these goals for those people we will be bringing the experience of Toastmasters to. Now get out there and tell people about your Toastmasters experience and see if they want to join you. I bet they will.

Ben Smith, DTM

Club Growth Director, District 6
Toastmasters International

Where Leaders Are Made

Phone: 612-770-8590

Email: bensmithtm@gmail.com

Public Relations

Greetings from the halfway point in our TM year. I have a renewed energy in our work. Here are my words of advice for the second half of our TM year.



The best thing you can do for your club is to improve the quality of your meetings and increase the number of members. When you have quality meetings, people want to be a part of your strong club. Having good evaluations, manual speeches, and lively Table Topics are just a few of the necessary ingredients for a successful club. When you do these things you'll easily add new members.

In order for guests to find you, you need to advertise. And one of the strongest and most effective ways to do this is by word of mouth. Your enthusiasm, persuasion, and a

simple invitation to the people you meet at school, work, and shopping will get them through your door.

Don't forget your club website! You can tell people to check it out, but first you might want to think about what they'll see when they visit online. District 6 has a special program in place to help you with your website; it's called the Website Excellence Program (WEP). The WEP gives you practical advice through 10 checkpoints:

1. Welcome message or home page
2. Contact Us page
3. Meeting information
4. Recent photos of meetings, events, and members
5. At least three member bios or testimonials
6. List of current club officers
7. Link to at least one social media platform
8. List of educational communication and leadership components
9. At least three supporting content pages
10. Links to District 6 and Toastmasters International

You can learn more about the program at <http://d6tm.org/website-excellence-program>. And did I mention your club can win prizes? Submit your club's website by submitting through the WEP page by February 1, 2017.

We also want to reward your club for the other ways you're using public relations to entice visitors. Your club can create or update its guest packet, flyer/brochure, newsletter, and club selfie and enter for prizes by April 5, 2017! It's a win-win for your club and the visitor. Go to www.d6tm.org/prcontest to see how your club can participate.

It's the perfect time to set a club New Year's Resolution to update your promotional materials and increase your membership. Have an open house and advertise it following the tips above.

Our goal in District 6 is to improve your club! **You** know how great it is, now let the **world** know too -- then tell **us** by participating in the WEP or PR contests.

Sincerely,

Daniel Grundtner
Public Relations Manager, District 6, 2016-2017

Youth Leadership Program

Fellow Toastmasters,

If you didn't get enough of kids' smiling faces over the holidays, check out photos of these happy Youth Leadership Program graduates! Click on the link to the Rochester Toastmasters Tumblr site. Nice work, Rochester -- you really set the standard for us all to aspire to!



<http://rochestertoastmasters.tumblr.com/post/153220584267/ylp-grads-offer-an-impromptu-assist-were-always>

<http://rochestertoastmasters.tumblr.com/post/152598309402/toastmasters-youth-leadership-program-is-underway>

<http://rochestertoastmasters.tumblr.com/post/153832466969/encouraging-education-excellence-through-public>

I'd love to recognize every club that is doing a Youth Leadership Program, so please let me know directly if you have completed a session so far this Toastmasters year or if you have one coming up. I hope to attend a session of any YLP being conducted, especially to be there for the graduation day!

The new year is here, time for new beginnings or to finalize plans leftover from the first half of the Toastmasters year. Let me know if I can help you meet your goals of sharing the Toastmasters experience: a YLP can earn a point for you toward your Advanced Communicator Gold award, or be the subject for a High Performance Leadership project, or even as a Public Relations campaign for your club! I am here to help you get the most of your Toastmasters experience.

Happy Toastmaster-ing in 2017!

Speak Well and BE Well!

Ray Young III, ACB, ALB

Youth Leadership Program Chair, 2016-2017

raymondmyoung3@gmail.com

612-986-3628

**Call for 2017-2018 District Leaders
(DEADLINE EXTENDED)**

Fellow Toastmasters members,



Toastmasters International gave us the approval to extend the nominations for leadership roles for the 2017-2018 year.

If you are thinking about declaring your candidacy or nominating someone for one of the following roles -- Division Director (10 positions), Club Growth Director (2 positions), Program Quality Director (2 positions), or District Director -- you must submit nominations to the Leadership Committee Chair (Larry Marik) by **Thursday, January 12, 2017**.

For more information about the nominations for any of the above roles, please contact Larry Marik or visit the District 6 Nominations webpage at www.d6tm.org/call-for-nominations.

Larry Marik, DTM

Immediate Past District Director & Leadership Committee Chair

toastmasterlarry@gmail.com

651-955-7390

Spring Conference Business Meeting

Dear District 6 Club Presidents and VPs of Education,

Mark your calendars for May 6!

The District Spring Conference will be held on May 5-6 in Plymouth, MN. On Saturday, May 6 (time to be determined), the Spring business meeting will be held. The location will be:

Crowne Plaza

3131 Campus Dr.
Plymouth, MN 55441

Details about proxies and what will be voted on will be posted on d6tm.org by early April.

If you have any questions about the business meeting ballot, proxy, or credentialing process, feel free to contact me at swansonmej@gmail.com.

See you in May!

Sincerely,

Mary Swanson, DTM
2016-2017 District 6 Proxy Chair

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

[SafeUnsubscribe™](#)

[Forward this email](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [About our service provider](#)

Sent by danielcarol@comcast.net in collaboration with

Constant Contact 

Try it free today