



District 6 Toastmasters

Where Leaders Are Made



Key Dates

November 11-12

[Fall Conference](#), Duluth, MN

November 19

[Evaluation Workshop](#), Stillwater, MN

December - February

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

December 17

[Holiday Potluck](#)

January 3, 4, 5

[Presentation Training](#)

January 14

[Train-the-Trainer](#)

Getting Past "Crazy Busy"

In a classic I Love Lucy [episode](#), Lucy and Ethel get jobs at a chocolate factory, wrapping chocolates as the candies move down a conveyor belt. The conveyor belt starts at an easy pace. But soon it speeds up. The two women frantically try to keep up and start shoving the candies off to the side or into their mouths, finally hiding them in their hats as their boss returns. To the boss, it appears that the job is being done well, so she yells to the conveyor belt operator, "Speed it up a little!"



Have you ever felt caught up in the frantic pace of life as it speeds by? Or, maybe the incessant flow of emails into your inbox makes you feel like Lucy and Ethel in the chocolate factory. And, then there is Toastmasters, a self-paced program to improve your communication and leadership skills. It's tempting to slow Toastmasters involvement to a halt when life gets busy--just like it's easy to skip the exercise routine or to get a drive-through dinner to try to fit it all in.

As this all-too-often busy season approaches, consider how you might make different choices to get off the "crazy busy" bus. If you have had success in focusing on the important, especially in Toastmasters, we want to hear from you!

Click [HERE](#) to email me your best tips on "getting past busy and onto the important," and your tips may be chosen to be part of my message in the December newsletter.

*"Your greatest danger is letting the urgent things crowd out the important."--
Charles E. Hummel*

Fall Conference Business Meeting

Click [HERE](#) for the business meeting agenda, previous minutes, and proxy/credentials information. The business meeting will be held at 11 AM November 12 at the Holiday Inn in Duluth, MN.



Holiday Party Invite

No, the Trio won't be in costume, but we are looking forward to enjoying your company at an informal holiday potluck, Saturday, December 17. Click [HERE](#) for details. Open to Toastmasters and their guests.



Presentation Workshops

Join District Director Diane Windingland as she shares top tips on speaking with confidence in one of three interactive sessions. In fact, invite your non-Toastmaster friends and co-workers, too, to one of these professional development sessions offered during working hours. Click [HERE](#) for more information and to register.



Share the Good News About Toastmasters!

[CNN Article on Toastmasters](#) "Stop texting and start speaking: The Olympians of storytelling show you how"

[Forbes Article on Toastmasters](#) "Why Your Boss Wants You to Join Toastmasters"

According to Forbes Magazine, Toastmasters is "growing like crazy" at Fortune 500 companies such as Google and Apple. Executives realize it's not enough to be brilliant - you have to be able to communicate. Whether you're trying to sell yourself at a job interview, lead a meeting at work, return defective merchandise to a store - everybody eventually becomes a public speaker.

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!

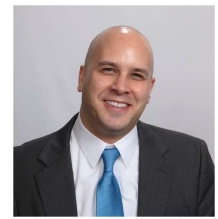
toastmasterdiane@aol.com

612-306-4214

Quality Makes the Difference

Interactive Evaluation Workshop - November 19th

Evaluation is essential to the Toastmasters education program and strong clubs. To help members strengthen evaluation skills, District 6 will hold an evaluation workshop on the morning of Saturday, November 19th in Oak Park Heights. To learn more and register, please visit the [workshop's Eventbrite page](#).



Your Club Can Be "Distinguished by December"

Your club still has two months to be Distinguished by December. To earn this honor and a \$25 TI gift certificate, by 12/31/2016 your club must achieve 5+ DCP points and have enough members to qualify for Distinguished status (20 members or +5 members compared to the base membership on 7/1/2016).

Below are three ways to earn the needed DCP points and achieve the membership requirement by December 31st:

1. Encourage at least four club officers to attend officer training by December 31st to complete the round 2 training requirement.
2. Stretch to complete and submit an education award by December 31st. Encourage your fellow members to do the same. If desired, hold special meetings to allow more speaking opportunities.
3. Plan a holiday-themed membership drive for November and/or December. Hold holiday parties and potlucks, inviting guests to celebrate and join!

Moments of Truth - Invest in Your Club Now

The [Moments of Truth](#) module allows members to give feedback and improve the club experience. Conducting the Moments of Truth in your club is time well spent, and now is a great time for it. Send me a brief 1-2 page summary of your club's Moments of Truth findings and action plan by 1/31/2017 to receive a \$25 TI gift certificate. See the [Speak N' Eagan Club's MoT summary](#) for an example submission.

Plan to Attend Divisional TLIs: December 2016 - February 2017

Toastmasters Leadership Institute (TLI) events are great opportunities for you to enhance your Toastmasters experience, learn, re-energize, and meet others. All members can benefit from attending, and club officers receive training credit as well. To reach more members and officers, TLIs will be held in various locations around District 6, from December 2016 through February 2017. Watch the [District 6 Divisional TLI page](#) for dates.

Club Officer Training - Round 2 Starts in December

The second round of club officer training runs from 12/1/2016 through 2/28/2017. The upcoming round emphasizes membership growth, mentoring, and discussion on specific challenges. Active, trained officers lead quality clubs. If you serve as a club officer in the 2016-2017 program year, please attend a session. See [District 6's Officer Training page](#) for upcoming sessions.

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 Dale Phelps of Maximizers Club on achieving his Distinguished Toastmaster award!

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!

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



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](#)

Hope to see you at the Fall Conference. 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

Hello District 6!

First, I'd like to congratulate this year's Smedley Award winners! The following clubs gained at least 5 members from August 1 through September 30, 2016:



- **Fairmont Toastmasters Club** with 7 new members
- **Pacemasters Club** with 6 new members
- **Golden Toastmasters** with 6 new members
- **Shock, Rhythm, & Talk Toastmasters Club** with 5 new members
- **Tech Masters - Twin Cities** with 5 new members

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

More exciting news in Club Growth Land! We have **TWO** new clubs with their charter paperwork being processed right now. Please help me welcome **TCF Free Toasters** and **Anemki Voices**! We are helping more people increase confidence, become better communicators, and become more effective leaders.

Don't forget to be on the lookout for communities and organizations around you where we could start a club and let me know. Go to the [New Club Builder Kit](#) to learn how to

start a new club, and let's help MORE people experience Toastmasters!

Also, be sure to check out the new [Build Your Membership Kit](#)! It's your one-stop shop to start you on your journey to helping more people experience Toastmasters through YOUR club.



See you at the Fall Conference!

Ben Smith, DTM

Club Growth Director, District 6

Toastmasters International

[Where Leaders Are Made](#)

Phone: 612-770-8590

Email: bensmithtm@gmail.com

Public Relations: Social Media Tips

Social media is a great way to keep your club members informed. It can also be used to attract new and potential members because it allows you to create and share content. Since the goal is connecting people, it works best if you interact with people rather than just post things.



The benefits of social media are numerous. You can reach a larger audience with a single post. It's free (although there are some paid options). You can post from anywhere as long as you have access to a computer or phone with an internet connection.

If you're new to social media it can be a little intimidating. It can take time to gain a following and get noticed. Don't feel like you need to know everything about social media before you dive in and start using it. Work on getting comfortable with posting to social media. See what posts get the most likes and shares. This will help you decide what your followers want to see.

There are so many social media channels. Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Pinterest, Meetup, LinkedIn, Periscope, and Google+ are a few of the many options. Start where your target audience is. For most of us that will be Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

Facebook is a great place to start because so many people are on Facebook. It probably has the widest audience age range. Twitter allows 140 characters or less so you need to be succinct. This can be a great exercise for Toastmasters because it forces you to get to the point quickly. Instagram allows you to share photos and videos. You have to share an image; you can't just post text like you can with Twitter or Facebook.

A good first step is to set up a free email account. There are many free services, but Gmail and Yahoo are probably the most popular. You should set up a generic email address that can be used for your club. This way, the email address isn't tied to one specific person and can be handed down to members to use with social media.

Here is how to set up a Gmail account

(<https://support.google.com/mail/answer/56256?hl=en>) and a Yahoo account

(<https://help.yahoo.com/kb/SLN2056.html>). For first and last name you could enter your club's name, i.e., if your club's name is Speak Up Toastmasters, you could use Speak as the first name and Up as the last name or Speakup as the first name and Toastmasters as the last name.

Once the email address is created, you're ready to create a Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram account. Here are some resources to set them up:

<https://www.facebook.com/help/345121355559712/>

<https://support.twitter.com/articles/100990>

<https://help.instagram.com/155940534568753>

What to Post

One of the hardest parts about social media is trying to figure out what to post. This can bog you down. Sometimes people think that they aren't a subject matter expert, so they don't know what kind of valuable information they could offer others. You don't need to be an authority on a topic in order to provide insightful information. Here are some suggestions on what to post.

Club Happenings. Keep members and prospective members informed about what is going on in the club, area, and district by posting details about upcoming events.

Tips and Tricks. We all like to learn something new. That is one thing that has drawn us to Toastmasters. Post what you have learned lately or memorable tidbits.

Book List. Do you have a book that has helped you with your communication and leadership skills? Share it with your social media followers.

Social Media Takeover. Have one of your club members take over your social media account. Have them show a day or week in the life of a Toastmaster. How do they select their speech topic? What kinds of resources do they use? Do they write at a coffee shop or library? Do they hand write their speech, use a laptop, or take notes on their phone? Do they write their speech out in its entirety or make an outline? It's fun to see how others plan their speech because we can all learn something new from their process.

Share what other people are posting. If you see others posting great content, share it with your followers.

#Hashtags

What are hashtags and why do you need them? Hashtags are a way to categorize your content so that it can be easily found. Here's a great resource to get you started with hashtags: <http://mashable.com/2013/10/08/what-is-hashtag/#fayooaRyqkqn>

Here are some other hashtags you can use: #D6TM #Toastmasters #leadership #communication #speaking #PublicSpeaking #ProfessionalSpeaking

Still feeling lost? Ask for help. You are likely surrounded by people who have been using these avenues and can be of assistance. There is probably someone in your circle of friends or club members already is doing this. In addition, feel free to reach out to me as well at juliembane@yahoo.com

Want to learn more about how you can use social media for Toastmasters? I'm hosting a talk and Q&A.

When: [Tuesday, November 29, 2016](#)

Time: Registration: 5:45 PM, Talk 6:15 - 7 PM followed by Q&A.

Where: Edina Library, 5280 Grandview Square

Thanks. See you on the internet!

Julie Bane

Social Media Chair, D6 2016-2017

Youth Leadership Program

Time for New Year's Resolutions!

Wait, it was just Halloween! It's not even Thanksgiving and commercials are already featuring holiday themes that used to be reserved for December! I guess it is never too early to start shopping for Christmas! And it is never too early to plan a New Year's resolution!



If you wonder what you could do to further your personal goals and Toastmasters career, you have an amazing option to start planning for it now and inquire about a Youth Leadership Program when you live, work, or attend Toastmasters! Let's start now, thinking about the youth in our communities and how they can benefit from a Toastmasters program that caters to youth in grades 7-12. Let's help them prepare for their goals in college and the business world by sharing with them the same benefits that we each enjoy regularly at our Toastmasters meetings and conferences.

It is better to give than to receive, and with Youth Leadership Programs, you can enjoy BOTH! I have found that the adult Toastmasters member (YOU) gets just as much practical skill and tangible warm fuzzy feelings as the kids do by participating in Youth Leadership Programs. It is not as difficult to accomplish - as one might think. It may take a village to raise a child, but it only takes one caring or concerned adult to speak up and change a young person's path!

You don't have to do anything now but ask questions! If we start game-planning a little bit now, it will be a breeze to kick off a Youth Leadership Program to start in January!

Speak Well and BE Well!

Ray Young III, ACB, ALB

Youth Leadership Program Chair 2016-2017

raymondmyoung3@gmail.com

612-986-3628

Meet the Corporate Sponsor Chair

Prior to owning MAS Office Cleaners, Corporate Sponsor Chair Mark Skipper was a 25 year professional fund raiser for the Boy Scouts of America and Dunwoody College. Mark will be leading a pilot program to secure sponsors and advertising for our Spring Conference.



Call for 2017-2018 District Leaders



Fellow Toastmasters members,

It is time to start thinking about a leadership role for the 2017-2018 year.

If you are thinking about declaring your candidacy 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 declare your candidacy to the Leadership Committee Chair (Larry Marik) by **Thursday, December 15, 2016**.

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

Fall Business Meeting

The District Fall Conference will be held on November 11-12 in Duluth. On Saturday, November 12, 11-12 PM, the fall business meeting will be held. The location will be:

Holiday Inn
200 W 1st St
Duluth, MN 55802

One key part of the convention is the semi-annual business meeting.

Each club has two votes, typically carried by the President and the Vice President of Education. If only one of these two officers attends the business meeting, he or she may carry the vote for the other, with no proxy needed. If neither can attend, then another club member can carry the two votes, as long as a signed [District Council Proxy Form](#) (signed by the president or VPE) is presented to the credentials desk prior to the start of the business meeting. Certain district leaders also carry a vote, which they can carry in addition to any club votes. District leaders may carry up to three votes; other members may carry up to two votes.

[Click HERE](#) for more information.

If you have *any* questions about the business meeting ballot, proxy, or credentialing process, feel free to contact me at swansonmej@gmail.com or call 507-649-1879 cell.

See you in Duluth!

Sincerely,

Mary Swanson, DTM
2016-2017 District 6 Proxy Chair

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

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