



# DISTRICT 26 DIALOGUE

*Serving Colorado, Wyoming and Western Nebraska*

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*Seeking webmaster for district makeover.*



*Great opportunity to hone your skills!*

Contact us NOW at 720-675-8479

[webmaster@d26toastmasers.org](mailto:webmaster@d26toastmasers.org)

**Find** a club

## PENGUIN CROSSING GUARD RECEIVES TOP TI AWARD

*Dana Shankle, Gates to Excellence VP public relations*



*Doug Krnesi, VP education, proudly presents Tom Hobbs with his DTM.*

Tom Hobbs was honored for earning his Distinguished Toastmaster (DTM) award at the Gates to Excellence club on Thursday, February 10, 2011.

You may have seen Tom around town speaking to youth groups and service clubs about his adventures of traveling and visiting Antarctica.

He has helped form Toastmasters clubs and educate judges for better speech contests throughout Colorado and Wyoming.

Some of you may remember him as the Man in the Hat, the Penguin Crossing Guard, or the Denver Division Governor. ■

*Congratulations, Tom!*

*The purpose of the Distinguished Toastmaster title is to recognize outstanding dedication to the values of Toastmasters International through participation at multiple levels of leadership and a commitment to the educational process of improving public speaking.*

## MOHAN DEVARAJULU, DTM, EARNS TOP HONOR

*Rheid Schloss, ACB/CL, HP Rise 'n Shine P resident*

Mohan Devarajulu exemplifies Toastmasters' core values of integrity, dedication to excellence, service to its members, and respect for the individual. So it was with great honor that district leaders attended the ceremony on February 10, 2011 to recognize him as a Distinguished Toastmaster (DTM).

Mohan's educational course started eight years ago and led him through the Competent Communicator manual followed by a variety of advanced speaking manuals.

His leadership experience began when he was elected club president in 2003, taking HP Rise 'n Shine to Select Distinguished. In 2006, Mohan served as the E3 area governor and led his clubs to Distinguished status.

He has served in various club officer roles and is currently the vice president of education.

On his road to becoming a DTM, Mohan has been an ambassador of the HP Rise 'n Shine club and Toastmasters International through his service to the club and community.

In 2007, he coordinated and presented a 10-week Youth Leadership program to eight youths ages 10 to 14. In 2010, he organized and taught an educational class to adults on Parliamentary Procedures.

Throughout Mohan's Toastmaster career, he has been a mentor and sponsor to various clubs and individuals in District 26 as well as internationally. ■

*Congratulations, Mohan!*



*Julia K. Davis, DTM, District 26 governor, presents achievement award.*



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS	April 2011						
	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>APR 1_</b>Dues renewal Area Speech Contests M5, M6</li> <li>• <b>APR 2_</b>Area Speech Contests N1, N2, E4, E5, E6, E7, S-7</li> <li>• <b>APR 3_</b>Deadline for early conference registration</li> <li>• <b>APR 5_</b>Area Speech Contests F3, F4</li> <li>• <b>APR 6_</b>Area Speech Contests D2, D3</li> <li>• <b>APR 7_</b>Area Speech Contests M1, M2</li> <li>• <b>APR 9_</b>Division Speech Contests Foothills, Eastern</li> <li>• <b>APR 10_</b>Area Speech Contest D4</li> <li>• <b>APR 12_</b>Area Speech Contests D6, M3</li> <li>• <b>APR 13_</b>Area Speech Contests D1, M4</li> <li>• <b>APR 15_</b>Deadline for Dialogue submissions</li> <li>• <b>APR 16_</b>Area Speech Contest N4 Southern division contest Deadline for conference lodging</li> <li>• <b>APR 23_</b>Area Speech Contest N3 Division Speech Contests__ Denver, Metro</li> <li>• <b>APR 30_</b>Area governors final club visits</li> </ul> <p><a href="#">Calendar details</a></p>						1	2
	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30

## IRREGARDLESS AIN'T A WORD

*Carol A. Harris, ACB, District 26 secretary*

Unlike the evaluator, who may be subjective, the role of grammarian is objective and designed to instruct about precise rules of language. Doing so requires balance, trust, acceptance, and a willingness to learn.

Presumably, we join Toastmasters to become better speakers. If that is true of everyone, then we all invite constructive criticism trusting that our fellow members mean no harm and truly want to help us learn.

Balance is the tricky part. If a member consistently displays poor grammar, he/she needs help and we are doing them a disservice to let it slide because we feel we'll overwhelm them with negativity. We must balance our feedback with encouragement and never pass on an opportunity to reinforce the positive.

If you have club members in need of improvement you can:

- Assign them a grammar mentor.

- Focus on one or two areas until they improve and then move onto another aspect.
- Devote a meeting to an interactive grammar workshop conducted by the member with the best grammar skills.
- Point out that while language skills have declined over the years, Toastmasters, being the communication experts of the world, strive for a higher standard. ▪

*“Grammar is a piano I play  
by ear, all I know about  
grammar is its power.”*  
\_ Joan Didion

FYI: Elizabeth (Bette) Frick holds a Ph.D in English. Check out [The Text Doctor](#) for expert information on grammar and writing. Bette will receive her DTM on APR 2.

## WEBMASTER WANTED

If you are a skilled webmaster with the time to commit to the D26 makeover, please step up and join our team! This is an ideal opportunity to work on your High Performance Leadership Project and be part of a history making event as we strive to brand D26.

We need someone who has the experience and commitment to take the project from conception to completion.

### Are You That Someone?

If so, please see contacts below:

Joseph Esler, webmaster  
(303) 675-8479

E-mail: [webmaster@d26leaders.org](mailto:webmaster@d26leaders.org).

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Carol Harris, project coordinator  
(303) 617-9525

E-mail: [sec1011@d26leaders.org](mailto:sec1011@d26leaders.org)

## BENEFITS OF SERVING AS A CLUB OFFICER

Joyce Feustel, DTM, VP membership, Timberline Toastmasters



Recently, Wendy Towber, president of Timberline Toastmasters gave a thought-provoking and uplifting speech for her "Inspire Your Audience" project,

the 10<sup>th</sup> and final project in the Competent Communicator manual.

In this talk she made a strong case for the benefits of becoming a club officer, using examples from her personal experiences.

Here are the main points of her speech:

- The officer roles are flexible – you can do the minimum or you can do as much as you want in the role.
- The responsibilities of the officer roles are specifically delineated in both the Competent Communicator manual and the Competent Leader manual.
- When you are a club officer, you have more of a sense of belonging within the club; being an officer fosters building relationships with your fellow officers, both in person and via email.
- There is genuine support and help available to you as a club officer, both

from fellow members, and from other toastmasters, such as our area governor Ray Mohr.

- In our club there is an open leadership philosophy in that any member of the club is welcome to step into any officer role. You can expand your skill set as a club officer by developing expertise in areas where you don't already have experience

In reviewing the meeting, the general evaluator praised Wendy for this speech and stated that she hadn't contemplated seeking a club office in the 2011-2012 year until she heard the speech. She is now giving it serious consideration.

I believe that this member, who just joined a few months ago and has given one talk so far, will become an officer, in part due to Wendy's powerful message.

**"What are you doing in your club to inspire your newer members to get excited about taking on a club officer role?"**

If you haven't had one of your officers, especially your club president, give a speech like Wendy gave, it may be time to get that officer on the speaking schedule.

### SPECIFIC BENEFITS (from TI website)

#### Leadership training

- Helps you to better understand your colleagues and peers.
- Teaches you to accept responsibility with ease.
- Enables you to make better decisions.
- Helps you become more comfortable with pressure and deadlines.
- Facilitates time management.
- Motivates you to perform better and sparks creativity and productivity.
- Provides an opportunity to interact with well-know and accomplished leaders who will share their knowledge and experience.
- Teaches you to approach challenges from different perspectives.
- Enables you to impact others by setting a positive example.

**Think about it; club elections are just around the corner. ■**

## REFLECTIONS OF ST. PATRICK'S DAY

Terry J. Ploski, District 26 parade organizer

On Saturday, March 12, approximately 250,000 people stood along the parade route to watch the 49th Annual Saint Patrick's Day Parade. Toastmasters International District 26 was well-represented and we celebrated the parade theme, "Forever Green", by wearing a variety of green costumes or clothing.



[Click to view more pictures in our photo gallery.](#)



Many parade spectators remarked as to either knowing about Toastmasters or receiving a Toastmasters flyer highlighting the Toastmasters goals, objectives, and mission.

The parade route passed in front of Coors Field to the raucous applause of the spectators in the reviewing stands. Was there a bit of elfin magic accompanying us through Lower Downtown? We all felt transformed and renewed by the spectators' warm reception to our entry. ■

# LINKEDIN AND REACHING OUT

*Off the Clock but Always on the Job*

If you have not met Joyce Feustel, DTM, make a point of doing so at your first opportunity. As the former D26 club coach chair, Joyce has acquired a great deal of knowledge and personal experience that she continues to share in every possible venue.

Joyce recently made another valuable contribution to [Club Coach Weekly](#). Her article addresses two issues facing every coached club and coach.

- How do you recruit members (especially new ones) into club leadership roles?
- Why do some clubs collapse when the coach leaves?

To answer these questions, Joyce draws upon her experience, the writings of Ralph

Smedley, and contributions from Toastmasters on the Toastmasters International LinkedIn Discussion site.

John Murphy, DTM, District 8 club coach chair, highly recommends this article for any coach who wants to rebuild a club, and keep it healthy long after their coaching assignment ends.

This electronic [newsletter](#) is posted on the District 8 web site and is freely available to everyone. You'll recognize names from D26 and the information is so relevant to all TMs that it's recommended you add this site to your favorites. ▪

*My thanks to John Murphy, DTM, for reaching out to promote this informative article. Carol A. Harris, ACB, D26 secretary.*

*Inquiring Toastmasters want to know \_\_\_\_*

*"If the best things in life are free, why do we have to pay to attend the district conference?"*



*Perhaps because life isn't always fair?*

# TWO CLUBS CHARTER

*Tom Hobbs, DTM, Denver division governor*

What is the best effect to the business bottom line? A staff that communicates well with the customer (the monetary source) and the internal provider (the fellow staff members).

When a company recognizes this, the human resources department is empowered to educate the workforce to the

best of their abilities. Using their budget to the best advantage often includes a Toastmasters club for their employees, complementing other training while putting the individual's skills into continuous development.

This benefits both the company and the individual.

Two organizations that are

honoring their staff for their personal improvement while getting a great return on their investment (ROI) are Anadarko Oil Corporation in Denver and BNI of Denver, a business networking company.

Cheers to these newly chartered clubs, members, and the companies each benefiting from Toastmasters. ▪



Anadarko Rockies Toastmasters, #1574648



BNI Powerful Presenters #1563812

## COMPASSION IN YOUR SELF-EVALUATION

*Amy Brown-Krug ACB, ALB, M4 area governor*



You've just completed a speech or leadership project, and your mind is awirl with everything you wish you had done differently. **STOP!** Consider the language you are using with yourself.

Are you being constructive and improvement oriented, or are you being down right mean? As Toastmasters it is just as important to learn to effectively evaluate ourselves as it is to evaluate others, but we tend to be encouraging when speaking to others while we beat ourselves up.

Get out of the loop of self-talk and use a formal evaluation approach with yourself:

- Sit down, with a pen in hand, and plan for a few minutes of self-time
- Review the expectations of the speech or the project.

- Review the written and/or verbal feedback provided by your evaluator or mentor.
- Identify two to four things that you did well
- Identify two to four things that you could improve upon

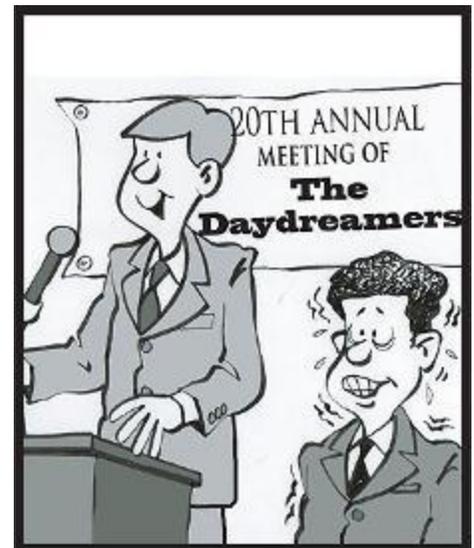
Give yourself an evaluation with as much care as you would use with another Toastmaster member; remember it is your goal to learn and to get back out there for the next project.

Write down a few bullet points on a sticky-note and add it to the front of the project you'll work on next. This way you can approach the next task from a place of learning.

By completing this process you may just find that the looping voice quiets down and you feel you've come to a more cohesive conclusion for your project. ▀

**Keep learning, keep growing!**

**Don't fear it, don't fake it; join Toastmasters and learn to master it.**



**"I AM HAPPY, NOW, TO INTRODUCE OUR GUEST SPEAKER. I'VE TOLD HIM THAT HE HAS ONE MINUTE TO CAPTURE OUR INTEREST."**

## DREAMS

*Norm Frickey, DTM, Lt. governor education and training*

I frequently ask others why they are in Toastmasters. The answers are almost predictable but most often unique to their individual goals, aspirations, and dreams. Becoming better communicators and leaders is important, but we should not forget our dreams. Most of us will find that circumstances have changed since the day we became a Toastmaster; new job, no job, moved, marriage, divorce, children, grandchildren, etc. While all these impact our lives, we should never forget or set aside our dreams – never let them die. ▀

**Toastmasters provides support and training to develop the skills that will enable you to “Tackle Your Dreams.”**



*“Dreams are never destroyed by circumstances.  
Our dreams are born in our hearts and minds.  
It is only there that they can die.”*

\_\_ Art E. Berg

**IN MEMORY**\_\_Our condolences to the family and friends of Ron Wachenheim who passed away on February 27. Ron was a toastmaster for 21 years and at different times in the past 10 years he was an active member of Excelsior, Timberline, and Buffalo Toastmasters. Born in Jamaica, Queens, New York, he attended P.S. 82, P.S. 117, Richmond Hill H.S., and graduated from Regis College with a B.S. in Computer Science. Ron earned his M.A. in Computer Info Systems Management from Webster University and he also held two associates degrees; Computer Information Systems (AS) and Business (AA). He was employed by CDOT from 1977-2000. If you knew Ron and want to reach out, you may contact his longtime companion Janine Krizek (303-279-6162) or Joyce Feustel (303-570-9864). Ron Wacheheim will be remembered with respect and gratitude for his contributions to District 26. ▀

## DISTRICT OFFICERS NOMINATIONS

*Alan Swartz, DTM, Immediate past district governor*

Leaders think about the future at least 50% of the time. That's why the Nominations Committee of Alan Swartz, Amy Krug, Bob Baxter, Betty Chavira, Boyce Logsdon, and Karen Kitzky spent a good deal of time looking for nominees for next year. Ultimately it is important for our organization and for many clubs.

That being said, here are the nominees for district offices next year that will be on the ballot at Spring Conference in May. There can still be nominees from the floor for any office provided they have met the qualifications for office.

- District governor – Norman Frickey
- Lieutenant governor education and training –Karyn DeLuna
- Lieutenant governor marketing –Tom Hobbs
- Denver division governor—Glenn Conrad
- Eastern division governor—Gayle Perron-Krawetz
- Foothills division governor—Ed Morgan
- Metro division governor—Elaine Love
- Northern division governor—Janice Haldi
- Southern division governor—Thomas McKenna

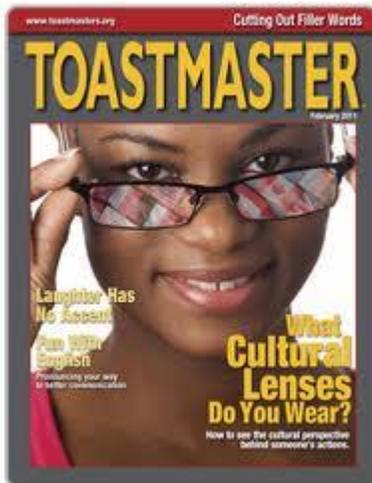
Each club has two votes at the district conference; the president and VP education or a proxy. Be there at the district business meeting to ensure we have the very best leaders for District 26 next year.

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Note – Any candidate wanting to submit a campaign article for the May District 26 Dialogue, please have the article to the [editor](#) by April 15. Limit your article to 200 words or less. If you want to submit a photo as well, keep in mind that it will be limited to about 1.35" in width; therefore, a head shot is your best choice. ■

## REEL THEM IN WITH YOUR BRAND

*Carol A. Harris, ACB, Immediate past D6 area governor*



Many toastmasters are members of multiple clubs, which means they receive duplicate magazines.

What do you do with your magazines?

- Do you pile them in the corner until recycle day and then toss them?
- Do you have a stack that has been sitting there for years?

One of the DCP goals is to increase your club's membership by June 30 and the TI magazine can help you achieve that.

I challenge every club to collect a minimum of 15-20 magazines to be distributed as part of a membership drive.

Even magazines published years ago contain information that is new and informative to non-toastmasters.

- Turn the publications into your VPM
- Present to visitors. Everyone who signs your guest book should leave with a magazine.
- Share them with the VPPR to be used in a PR campaign.
- Take a few minutes at your club meeting to highlight an article in the magazine.

TM magazines are the best marketing materials available:

- They are delivered right to your door.
- They cost you and your club nothing additional in time or money.
- They demonstrate the true value of the organization in a way that a brochure cannot.

So, as part of your spring cleaning, gather up all those Toastmasters magazines and take them to your next club meeting.

While you're at the district conference in May, stop by the book store and pick up some brochures and other marketing materials. Write a page about your club history; include its origins and any outstanding achievements by the club or individual members.

Make your own promotional packets by purchasing folders at the \$ store and inserting:

- Your club history
- Brochures
- A Toastmasters Benefits page
- TM magazine
- Membership form
- Welcome letter from your club president or VP membership
- Copy of the *District 26 Dialogue*

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*“Every action you take, every word you speak, every impression you leave, affects how others view your brand.”*

— Steven Bradley

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*Have you heard the buzz?*

## DISTRICT 26 SPRING CONFERENCE



**\$125 Registration Fee**

**\$100 Busy Bee Special available until April 3.**

*Sign up Now!*

**Deadline for on-line and mail in registration is MAY 13**

Contact Embassy Suites

Ask for the

**SPECIAL TOASTMASTERS RATE**

\$119 - double

\$139 - triple

\$149 - quad

**LAST DAY to book for reduced rate is**

**APRIL 20, 2011**

Conference registration form at [www.d26toastmasters.org](http://www.d26toastmasters.org)

### Keynote Speakers

**Dana LaMon, DTM** joined Toastmasters in 1988 and became the Toastmasters World Champion of Public Speaking in 1992. He became a Toastmasters Accredited Speaker – the only Toastmaster to receive both honors\_ in 1993.

Dana is a member of two Toastmasters clubs in Lancaster, CA, where he served as a division governor from 2004-06, leading his division to Select and Presidents Distinguished.

He has given motivational speeches for 20-years and is the author of four published books.

**Emmy Hager, DTM** has been a Toastmaster since 1992 and her leadership positions have included Lt. governor education & training and a district governor. She is presently serving as International director for Region 1, 2009-2011.

### Speakers for Educational Sessions

Don't miss these outstanding Toastmasters who will share their broad array of experience.

Hilary Blair  
Dana LaMon

Byron Embry  
Dennis Ryan

### Conference Agenda

#### Friday, May 20

- 5:00 PM Registration/credentials open  
Book store open  
Candidates Corner
- 7:00 PM Buffet dinner  
Keynote presentation by  
*Dana LaMon*

#### Saturday, May 21

- 7:00 AM Meet/greet/credentials  
Bookstore open  
Credentialing/registration
- 7:30 AM First-timers meet up
- 8:00 AM Opening ceremony  
Keynote Speaker
- 10:00 AM Table Topics Contest  
(9:30 briefing, 10:00 contest)  
Winner and Awards
- 11:30 AM Educational sessions
- 12:15 PM Communication & Leadership Award Luncheon
- 1:45 PM Educational sessions
- 2:30 PM Credentialing closes
- 2:45 PM Banner Parade
- 3:00 PM Business meeting  
Election of officers
- 6:00 PM Banquet  
Induction of officers
- 8:00 PM International Speech Contest  
(7:30 briefing, 8:00 contest)  
Winner and Awards  
Closing



*Purchase your Toastmasters materials at the conference and \$AVE shipping costs! See Nikki at the D26 book store.*

## Tackle Your Dreams

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### Our Mission

We strive to create a bond among all the clubs of the district by sharing our experience, resources, and recognition through an interactive media.

Our goal is to make every toastmaster feel empowered, appreciated, and connected.

Please send your questions, comments, tips, and articles to the editor, [gordonsavage@msn.com](mailto:gordonsavage@msn.com), by the 15th of each month in order to appear in the next issue. Visit the [web site](#) for submission guidelines. All articles are subject to editing to fit allotted space and submission does not guarantee publication.

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## ABOUT TOASTMASTERS DISTRICT 26, REGION 1



District 26 includes Colorado, the Eastern Slope of Wyoming, and the Nebraska panhandle. It was formed in 1948, with Gordon Merrick serving as its first district governor.

### *Four past District 26 governors have risen to the International level:*

Don Paape was international director, 1966 - 68 and international president 1972 -73. It was during his term that women were first admitted to Toastmasters International. Watt Pye was district governor from 1969-70 and international director from 1970 -72; Dorothy Chapman served as district governor, 1989-90 and international president from 1990-92; and Beth Boaz was D26 governor from 1995-96 and international director, 1997-99. Marilyn Boland served as the first female District 26 governor in 1975 -76.

In 2000, Ed Tate, a member of Cherry Creek Toastmasters, won the World Championship of Public Speaking. Ed is now the principal of a professional development firm that provides keynote and end-note presentations, workshops, and other training. He has spoken professionally in 46 states, 12 countries and on five continents, authored a book, contributed to two others, and co-produced two audio albums.

In 2007, Rory Vaden, also a member of Cherry Creek Toastmasters, was the first runner-up in the World Championship of Public Speaking. He has since co-founded a multi-million dollar public training company and been featured on [Oprah Radio](#) with [Dr. Oz](#) and in [SUCCESS™ Magazine](#).

Peter Coors joined a Toastmasters club at the Coors Brewing Company early in his career to gain the skills and confidence needed to appear as the company spokesman for a series of national TV commercials. He is the Chairman of the Molson Coors Brewing Company and of MillerCoors, chairman of the board for the University of Colorado Hospital Foundation, and part-owner of the Colorado Rockies. ■

## MUSINGS FROM THE EDITOR

*Gordon S. Savage, DTM*

Our cover stories for this issue recognize two of the district members who have achieved their Distinguished Toastmaster (DTM) awards. Among our candidates for district office, the two running for division governor acknowledge a goal of achieving a second DTM. What's the big deal with DTMs anyway?

- First, it is acknowledged as the highest award in Toastmasters. To earn it requires that you challenge yourself well beyond the basic level.
- Second, it shows a dedication to continued development in both communication and leadership skills.
- Third, it means you have served your fellow Toastmasters beyond participation in club meetings. You've served as a club officer, served more than once. You've served as a district officer. You have helped a new or struggling club become self-sufficient.

Whether you're striving to achieve your own DTM or simply continuing your development, Toastmasters offers you plenty of opportunities.

You don't have to stop when you earn your competent communicator or your competent leader. There's a lot more to learn, and even when you've done it all, you can still improve. I'm on my seventh pass through the basic communication manual and my second pass through the advanced manuals, and I'm still learning.

One final thought, Distinguished Toastmaster is not an impossible task. You can do it. All it takes is a commitment to do the work, and more importantly taking one step after another.

So I challenge you, set your aim high. Go after your own Distinguished Toastmaster.

By the way, I'm working on my third. ■



*Some people dream  
of worthy  
accomplishments,  
while others stay  
awake and do them.*

—Anonymous