



DISTRICT 26 DIALOGUE

Serving Colorado, Wyoming and Western Nebraska

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UNITED WE STAND, TOGETHER WE WIN

Norm Frickey, DTM, District 26 Governor

District Leaders....we have done it – raised the bar– we're on our way to a great year!

FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE I BECAME A DISTRICT OFFICER WE HAD 100% FEEDBACK. Yes, all area and division governors and others provided contact information, bio, and photo for the 20-page pamphlet distributed at district officer training that profiles your leaders... YIPPEE!

August marks the sixth consecutive month that the *District 26 Dialogue* has met their publication deadline and there is an increase in readership, submissions, and feedback.

AND_
On August 18, during the Hall of Fame ceremony at the

Toastmasters International convention in Las Vegas, I will be receiving the Excellence in Education & Training Award presented for leading our team to meet and exceed our goals.

This a district award and I will be accepting on behalf of District 26, which means I would not have the honor of stepping up to the podium without the efforts and achievements of each and every one of you.

In 2010-11, our members earned a total of __

- 333 CC Awards-138% of our goal
- 146 AC Awards-211% of our goal
- 190 Leadership Awards-121% of our goal



This is an outstanding accomplishment that contributes to our district brand and I'm honored to begin my term as district governor with the support of your proven skills and commitment.

Achieving greatness together means a win for one is a win for all! •

BACK ON THE WORLD STAGE

Rich Returns for the Second Act



Rich Hopkins is representing District 26 at the competition for World Champion of Public Speaking in August. This is not his first rodeo as the cliché goes. In August 2006, Rich took third place in the International Contest. At the time, he was a resident of Spokane, WA.

Since then, Rich has written *Win, Place & Show*, which is

available on his [website](#). He and his family now live in Colorado and Rich is a member of Arvada Speakeasy #6835.

Husband and a father of six, Rich embodies the essence of leadership as he overcomes personal challenge and inspires others to make the tough decisions that will enable them to reach their goals.

TLI

August 6

8:30 AM- 1:00 PM

UCCS

Austin Bluffs Pkwy
Colorado Springs, CO

[Find](#)

[a club](#)

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS	August 2011						
	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
AUG 1_ Smedley Award contest begins District executive committee conference call_8:30 PM		1	2	3	4	5	6
AUG 6_ TLI at Colorado Springs							
AUG 8_ Division governors conference call_8:30 PM							
AUG 15_ Deadline for article to the Dialogue	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
AUG 17_ TI unveils brand							
AUG 15-20_ TI conference and World Champion of Public Speaking contest in Las Vegas	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
AUG 31_ Last day for officer training	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Calendar details	28	29	30	31			

Club Coach Weekly Editor's Choice Awards

John Murphy, DTM, Editor & Assistant Club Coach Chair, District 8

The Editor's Choice Award honors outstanding club coaches. Coaches that help a club win the Distinguished (or better) Club Award, share their story with *Club Coach Weekly* and do such a great job that the coached club is Distinguished (or better) one year later.

In the 2009-2010 Toastmaster year, only 25% of coached clubs earned the Distinguished (or better) Club Award (187/763). This is only a few percentage points higher than the 17%, 303 of the 1746 non-coached clubs with 12 or fewer members on July 1, 2009, that earned the Distinguished (or better) Club Award by June 30, 2010. Moreover, one year after the successful coach left the club, only 79 of the 187 clubs (42%) are Distinguished (or better). This suggests that club coaching is tough, that current approaches are not effective and that clubs are rebuilt for the short term.

Club Coach Weekly is an attempt to improve this situation. It is an electronic newsletter written by successful club coaches for the benefit of current club coaches. Our mission is to prevent isolation, present ideas and provide inspiration to club coaches throughout the world.

Each edition features the story of a successful club coach and a letter of praise written by a member of the coached club. We believe these stories will help others make lasting improvements to low membership clubs. ▪

See the entire list of recipients at [Linkedin](#) and read the articles at [Club Coach Weekly](#). If your club is struggling, this publication offers ideas for expansion.

Our thanks to John Murphy for submitting this article to the *District 26 Dialogue*.

*Winners of the 2009-2010
Editor's Choice Award
(coach and coached club) include*

*Mary Mirabile, DTM
BodyShops #821
for her coaching effectiveness
and
Joyce Feustel, DTM
Evening Stars #7448
Excelsior #3247
Timberline #1965M
for her educational articles.*

BRACE YOURSELF__ THE BRANDING HAS BEGUN

Carol A. Harris, District PRO

As you should all be aware by now, Toastmasters International has taken the unprecedented step of refreshing their brand. The new colors, logo, fonts, images, and theme will be unveiled at the [international conference](#) in Las Vegas on August 17.

The secrecy surrounding the project has left many toastmasters frustrated as their plans for websites and orders for badges, manuals and business cards are put on hold. Many wonder, "Why all the mystery?"

A "brand" is a valuable marketing tool and, like the Coca Cola recipe, must be protected. This is the first major change in Toastmasters image since its founding in 1924. The hype generated by the "official unveiling" has built interest and enthusiasm, which translates to FREE advertising. "Teasing" keeps people on the hook.

Most people are onboard with the brand refresh but to those who fear losing their unique identity because of mandated compliance, I would say that it's not as harsh as it sounds and your concerns are unwarranted. The recognition and respect associated with the organization will become greater and more consistent worldwide as we raise the bar for education and achievement.



Upgrades for District 26 will eventually include Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, YouTube, and any other social media for which we can recruit a leader.

Hugh Curley, DTM and new chairman of the [Speakers Bureau](#), has some well conceived ideas for raising our profile in the community. Consistency is key and Hugh is developing a mission statement, guidelines and a committee to ensure quality presentations that will enhance our credentials and credibility district-wide.

Our new [district website](#) is under development and a sneak peek reveals that our vision is becoming a reality. The changes you have seen over the past few months are good, but temporary. Our goal is to go live with the "real deal" on August 17 in coordination with TI.

The *most notable change* will be the Home page which will serve as a marketing piece to non-toastmasters. This will comply with TI's branding elements to create the universal image. District 26 has an impressive history and it will be detailed in About Us. Once you get into the Members section, you will begin to see some images that reflect CO, WY, and NE. It's here that we can still express our unique identity.

There are plans to make more of our district resources readily available on the website and to expand our training into new areas.

The [District 26 Dialogue](#) is viewed by many people outside our district so you are encouraged to submit articles that highlight leadership skills and accomplishments, as well as ideas that will demonstrate the creativity and commitment of our members. Our goal is to become the benchmark to which all districts will aspire. ▪

LISTEN UP—NEWS & NOTES



Chartered on August 1, 1991, ASC Speakeasy Toastmasters Club #8361 is celebrating 20 years of building better speakers & leaders.

They meet at
National Business Center
7201 W. Mansfield Ave,
Lakewood CO 80022
Wednesdays at 11:30 AM

Does your club have a special anniversary coming up? Notify the editor and we'll give you a "shout out!" gordonsavage@msn.com

CLUB OFFICER TRAINING

At least four of your club officers must attend training at one of the District 26 TLIs (Toastmasters Leadership Institute). If they do, you will have achieved half of your club DCP (Distinguished Club Program) goal of getting your club officers trained. The other half is accomplished during January - February TLIs; check the district calendar for the specific dates. If your schedule doesn't fit any of the current training dates, don't fret!! The district will hold limited make-up sessions to be posted to the website after 6 Aug.

How can you ensure you receive credit for training? Be certain you sign in during training and follow-up by checking the district website for a posted record. If you find an error, contact Bea Macliz at iget1112@d26leaders.org.

NEW CLUB OFFICERS

Inquiring toastmasters want to know what's happening in your club?

Please submit your news and announcements to the editor by the 15th of each month. Connect with the district-at-large by sharing your ideas, success, and knowledge. Tell us what exciting things are happening in your corner of District 26. Invite your peers to participate, credit those who make an extra effort, etc.

Please keep your articles short. Readers want clear, crisp, and concise. Many say they scan the newsletter while "on hold" at the office, waiting for a meeting to begin, or simply taking a few minutes of downtime. If they are really interested, they will later return and follow the link to details.

SOCIAL MEDIA AND TOASTMASTERS – A NATURAL FIT

Joyce Feustel, DTM



One of the reasons I love Toastmasters is the supportive nature of the club atmosphere. Sure, people typically join to improve

their speaking. Yet, they quickly find that being a toastmaster is also about supporting others in their quest to be better speakers, as well as being a contributing member of their club.

There is a parallel culture in social media - be it Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, YouTube or whatever. Those who get the most out of social media are those who GIVE the most - through their postings in their news feed, their comments in groups, their re-tweets of Twitter postings, and their overall sharing of their knowledge and perspective.

We in District 26 are looking to grow our presence in social media. We already have a D26 Toastmasters group on LinkedIn with over 100 members. Are you a member yet? This group is a great way to share ideas and ask questions of fellow toastmasters in our district.

After the most recent D26 International Speech contest, Brad Beck posted to the group his fascinating blog entry about humor in speech contests. To join that group, just [CLICK](#) and request to join.

Toastmasters are already using Facebook to invite their friends to attend area, division and district contests. Have you attended a contest because of such an invite? Have you ever thought to use Facebook this way yourself? [CLICK](#) to see an invite I got from Darryle Brown to the D6 area spring contest.

Speaking of contests, are you looking for ideas for your upcoming humorous speech

for this fall's contest season? Just go to YouTube and type in [Toastmasters humorous](#) speeches.

Twitter is probably the least used social media, at least among my circle of friends. Yet it also has tremendous possibilities for toastmasters. You can use it as a search tool, group certain toastmasters you follow together in a list and track with them, post Toastmasters happenings, and much more. Just by typing "[Toastmasters](#)" into the search window while writing this article, I found a wide range of interesting postings. •

To get more involved with the District 26 social media initiative, contact D26 PRO Carol Harris at pro1112@d26leaders.org

Joyce is founder of *Boomers' Social Media Tutor* and a frequent contributor to the *Club Coach Weekly* and *LinkedIn*. Review her [profile](#) and E-mail her at JoyceFeustel@Comcast.net

LEADING BY EXAMPLE

Can You Identify the Leaders in Your Area / Division?

Greetings

I'd like to talk to someone about volunteering to help District 26 with website and Twittering. I taught social media at the Denver TLI and I facilitated breakout groups on Twitter. I found in getting my club's website up and running this year that it is something I really enjoy. It's a combination club website/blog: www.parkertoastmasters.com

Bill Morgan ACS, CL

Hello Carol

I am a new VPPR and reaching out to introduce myself to connect. I've just read the PRO training materials, email and listened to the webinar; just great content! In starting a website having text only is rather dull; it would be great to have help. Is there a 'best of breed' website to leverage for use for us locally? Any advice you can provide would be much appreciated! I would also like to understand what I should promote that you would like locally communicated.

*Alisa DeMartino, VPPR
Eagle Valley Toastmasters*

Hello Webteam

My club has asked if we can discontinue use of the FTH calendar in favor of a Google calendar. I've created an account for the calendar and want to know if one of you could talk me through embedding this in a new page?

*Tami Griffin, VPPR
Ranch Raconteurs*

Hi everyone

I am working on a Toastmasters High Performance Leadership (HPL) project with [Aurora 8 TV](#), our local government access station. They broadcast stories of interest to Aurora citizens. I submitted a story idea about the success of the many Aurora Toastmaster clubs. They accepted the idea and are contacting club members for interviews. Aurora 8 TV recorded bits and pieces of the recent Orbiting Toasters meeting. The show will air during the last week in July or early August

*Deborah Fraunfelder
D6 Area Governor*

Dear Club Presidents and VPPRs

Here is a link to our [District-wide newsletter](#). Please consider writing an article about a problem your club overcame, a success story, a memorable moment, something that your club does particularly well, etc. We love highlighting your successes! If your members want to get it automatically, please forward them the link and encourage them to sign up.

*Tyler Hart
M4 Area Governor* •



WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME?

Niki Moore, DTM, District 26 Bookstore Manager



I am in a unique and rewarding position; I am the District 26 Bookstore Manager; unique because there is no other position in the district quite like it. It is a position with no power and yet, every time I am at a venue

where the bookstore is expected, I feel totally empowered! As it is with any powerful contribution there comes an extraordinary amount of responsibility.

It can't be enough that the resources and the materials are accessible and available to you; managing the bookstore also requires a sense of pride and commitment that in turn translates a sense of the same in you. I want you to be able to shop, look, and even buy with a sense of pride in your own accomplishments. Knowing that when the bookstore is available it is your opportunity to challenge yourself to one more project, one more step, and one more opportunity

to relish in the pride that you are 1 in 1000 who has or is achieving greatness. After all, your relationship with Toastmasters is a statement of pride few others can make.

I want the bookstore to support and reflect the commitment that you have made to Toastmasters. It should be a resource that supports you where ever you are in your Toastmaster journey and reflects the very nature of each toastmaster's goals. Whether they are that of a great communicator, an inspirational leader, or a dash of this and a dab of that! I believe the offerings should be varied and diverse enough to support you where you are at any given time.

It is with all of that said that I hope each and every one of you are excited when you come to the bookstore. Excited and curious to peruse the uniqueness of its offerings. Unique because they speak to you; they speak to your next goal and your next endeavor; personal, professional or just because. Each time you come to the bookstore I hope you feel the reward was

well worth the trek. That you feel as though your purchase has opened another door and the reward is an even better understanding of the toastmaster you aspire to become.

It is with pride and commitment that I manage your bookstore. It is your recommendations, feedback, and comments that drive how it reflects your needs. Please, if you haven't stopped to browse, do so. If you have made a quick glance, stay longer the next time, and finally, if you are one of the many who I see everywhere all the time, tell me what you need, After all, it is your bookstore! ▪

Toastmasters is a learning organization dedicated to total communication and leadership skills. It offers affordable education in a professional and supportive environment that allows you to advance at your own pace. However, people buy benefits, not features.

If you stop to think about it, service offers benefits to the servant. Tell us what unique benefits you have derived from your membership. You will likely find that others share your interests and rewards; and if not, then your story may inspire someone to step up to the challenge.

"For me, walking into a bookstore is like being hugged by a friend." Carol A. Harris, ACB

SIMPLY SPEAKING UNIQUELY CELEBRATES SEASON SEVEN

Colorado Cowboy in Chaps Lassoes Leader

There are many active and accomplished clubs in District 26 but none more so than Simply Speaking in the Denver division, area D6.

On June 30, they staged a "Season Seven" round-up, howdy dudey, chuck wagon, branding and hot diggity-doggy good time! New officers were branded (inducted) and the members paid homage to the outgoing president, Marcy Brack.

David Bounds, creative director, built stage settings and authentic cowboy, Lee Benjamin, contributed his saddle, blanket, and animal skulls for realism. George Maestas crafted an impressive makeshift covered wagon and there were enough vittles to feed all the settlers on the plains.

Club founder and past district governor, Dana Morgan, who now lives in WY, was on



hand for the festivities. Members and guests lined the walls and just about everyone had something to say. Off the cuff humor, a clever script of one-liners, and heartfelt sincerity made for a memorable evening. Is it any wonder this club consistently produces district leaders? ▪ -cah

PARTNERING FOR SUCCESS

Betty Chavira, Immediate Past Club Coach Chair

The following Club Coaches succeeded in their partnership with a struggling club to help the club achieve Distinguished Status by June 30, 2011.

These coaches will receive **Advanced Leader Silver** credit for coaching.

Congratulations to:

Ed Morgan and Mountain Toastmasters Club, Evergreen, CO
Gayle Perron-Krawetz and Ball Jars to Stars, Boulder, CO
Sherman Wiseman and Cheyenne Toastmasters Club, Cheyenne, WY
Paula Cowen, Jerry Nelson, and High Plains Toastmasters, Cheyenne, WY

Thanks to the following Club Coaches who will continue to work with clubs until June 30, 2012

Jennifer Zerba, Vicki Kissack and Smooth Talkers Club, meets at various locations in WY
 Alex Benko and Timberline Toastmasters, Denver, CO
 Shari Quackenbush, Kari Moore, and Triskelion Toastmasters Club, Centennial, CO
 Amy Brown-Krug and Orbiting Toastmasters, Aurora, CO
 Tyler Hart, Amber Clark, and ASC Speakeasy Toastmasters Club, Lakewood, CO
 Diana Hutchinson and HP Rise 'n Shine Club, Fort Collins CO
 Tom Hobbs and Solar Speak Club, Broomfield, CO
 Stuart Dorman and Club 6300, Boulder, CO
 Geoffrey Chance with ENTspirational Speakers, Colorado Springs, CO
 Terrance Smith and Quail Lake Toastmasters, Colorado Springs, CO
 Shari Quackenbush and Cisco 9 Bars, Centennial, CO
 Raymond Mohr and BNI Powerful Presenters, Denver, CO
 Pam Gasparrini and TIC Club, Littleton, CO

Thanks also to Gavin Kirton, Tri-Town Toastmasters, Firestone, CO and Carol A. Harris, Orbiting Toastmasters, Aurora, CO, whose terms ended on 6-30-2011 and to Julie Kub, who worked with Boulder Early Risers in FY11.

WHAT IS A COMPETENT LEADER

William D. Morgan, ACS, CL

What is a **Competent Leader**? How does Toastmasters help you to become one?

These are good questions and the basis of these may be answered by your active participation in a club.

Most everyone knows that Toastmasters is a proven program which helps you become a better public speaker; it's not as well known that Toastmasters can also be instrumental in developing your leadership skills .

The **Competent Leader manual** is your structured guide, and by following its form, you will find yourself filling every required role at your club's meetings, sometimes several times over. Your Competent Leader manual requires that another club member give you a critique on how you fulfilled your role.

You should start out like most new members and take on a role as a **Timer** or **Grammarian** within the first couple of meetings. After that you can step out and try **Speech Evaluator**, which is a good exercise in active listening and impromptu speaking. At nearly the same time you may

find yourself more assertive and volunteer to be a **Table Topics Speaker** – another great opportunity for impromptu speaking.

The next roles you can try are **Topicsmaster**, **General Evaluator** and finally **Toastmaster**, which provide extensive and valuable experience. It is in these roles that you will get to lead the club through larger and larger parts of the meeting, and which help you to understand how to guide your club with less and less structure. It is here where you find your greatest challenges and rewards as a speaker. You may not feel that you are a leader, but you have already made great strides in your confidence and in taking on more important roles for the club. In fact, by example you are a leader.

The more advanced activities or projects never happen in a vacuum. You should work with your club officers to get involved with your advanced projects and they can provide you the benefit of their guidance and experience to help the projects bring success to your club and to yourself. Your creativity, people skills, and project skills will come together as you work hard to bring each project to fruition.



Competent Leader is one of the important milestones that help you on your journey to the pinnacle of Toastmasters achievement_ **Distinguished Toastmaster (DTM)**. Becoming a **Competent Leader** is an important and life-changing first step. ▪

Bill Morgan has been a toastmaster for three years and is the immediate past president of Parker Toastmasters. Read his [entire article](#) on the club website.

TOASTMASTERS ROCKED AT RED ROCKS

TLI in Review

TLI at Red Rocks Community College in Lakewood is always exciting and July 9 was no different. We had a great turnout and some stimulating sessions. Leadership solicited feedback and the members responded.

Among the suggestions for improvement are:

- Better signs on site to direct first-timers
- Promote the bookstore and allow more time to peruse the resources with an assistant on hand to answer questions
- Post the presentation materials to the district website
- More time on overall view of club structure for new members
- Promote the benefits of the advanced clubs



If you attended training and have some feedback to offer, it's not too late. Send your comments to Bea Garcia-Macliz, Lt governor education & training at lget1112@d26leaders.org ▪



Brenda Smull, DTM, TI Ambassador

WE THINK WE CAN, WE THINK WE CAN...

Bradley Beck, DTM

Lethologica was the word of the day at our recent meeting. Defined as a state of *forgetfulness*, especially of a word you are trying to use, yet cannot remember. The word originates from Greek mythology; the Lethe (or *River of Oblivion*) one of the rivers that flowed through Hades, from which the shades of the dead were forced to drink in order to forget their past lives on earth.

Like so many clubs, our river of death is our dwindling membership. But WAIT, we choose not to follow that egress. This past week we had several members away on business trips, vacations or had health issues; a perfect storm. Yet, four members showed up ready to discuss how to increase our ranks. We had talked about moving the meeting time; however, 7:00 a.m. works best for the members. That's opportunity #1; start your day early with interesting and enthusiastic people.

We just had concluded a very well designed new membership campaign, yet, no new members have committed to joining our club. We have new officers in place and installed officially in a ceremony at our last meeting. Many of our members are excited to have just completed their Competent Communicator manuals and are ready to work on their advanced manuals. We are told by our past area governor and

prospective members that we are friendly, welcoming and have a well structured meeting, yet we also like to have fun. Opportunity #2; embrace change and do what works best for the membership using the tried and true structure of Toastmasters.

There was no evidence of lethologica when asked why we were members of Toastmasters. In a recent club survey, our members said they joined to become better speakers, to be able to give better presentations for work, and to seize opportunities as they arise. Undeterred, we are going to try some new things. We decided to contact our local newspaper and ask if they would do a human interest story on how Toastmasters has helped our members. We are also committed to submitting more press releases to the newspaper about our meetings and inviting the public to attend.

Some wonderful ideas came from our meeting. Our local artist community has invited us to be spokespersons on their behalf when they have events. We plan to take this opportunity to draw interest by announcing and speaking at their shows and perhaps attracting members from this partnership. The most exciting idea we have come up with is a multi-club humorous and evaluation contest for the fall. Often, it is hard for a small club to get more than one person to compete at the

club level. We thought of inviting some other small clubs to hold an event like an area contest, competing in a local restaurant for the evening, welcoming the public to see and hear what we Toastmasters do. This is a win-win for small clubs and the restaurant. We are determined to keep our club going. Opportunity #3; be persistent.



Like the little engine that could, our club members keep saying, "we think we can, we think we can, we think we can" and soon we will grow our membership back to the vibrancy of 20 plus. •

Erie Express Toastmasters #1197248
Eastern Division - Area 4
Tuesdays 7:00 am
470 Briggs Street Erie, Colorado 80516
<http://erieexpress.freetoasthost.biz/>

JOKES & QUOTES FOR SPEAKERS



◆ You've been a wonderful audience. So, we're even.

◆ It usually takes more than three weeks to prepare a good impromptu speech.
Mark Twain

◆ I gave a speech last week for which I only pretended to be prepared. Fortunately, the audience only pretended to be listening.

◆ This microphone is like my wife. It won't let me speak.

◆ Now I'd like to open the floor for questions and since they never get a chance to speak, why don't we begin with the married men?

◆ Visit Humor 101 at TI to learn
— Why Laughter is Good for You
— How to Tell a Joke
— Mastering the Laugh

Begin preparing for the Toastmasters Humorous Speech Contest now so you'll have time to practice, practice, practice...

The logo for Toastmasters International, featuring the words "TOASTMASTERS" and "INTERNATIONAL" in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters on a blue rectangular background.

July 20, 2011

Norman Frickey, DTM
2010-2011 District 26 Lt. Governor Education & Training
14295 W 84th Pl
Arvada, CO 80005-5924

Dear Norman,

On behalf of the Toastmasters International Board of Directors, please accept our sincerest congratulations for earning the **Excellence in Education and Training Award**. As Lt. governor education and training, you successfully led your team to meet and exceed its education and training goals, truly exemplifying the Toastmasters International mission and vision.

In order to recognize you for your outstanding contribution to Toastmasters International, you will be presented with the **Excellence in Education and Training Award** on **Thursday, August 18, 2011**, at the Hall of Fame ceremony during the Toastmasters International Convention in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Remember that every Toastmaster in your district who earns an educational award represents individuals who experience the personal growth that only Toastmasters International can provide. Thank you for living the Toastmasters International mission and vision through your leadership and dedication.

Again, congratulations on your outstanding achievement.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pat Johnson".

Pat Johnson, DTM
International President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daniel Rex".

Daniel Rex
Executive Director

P.O. Box 9052 - Mission Viejo, CA 92690
B: 949-858-8255 - F: 949-888-0665
www.toastmasters.org

This honor belongs to YOU, the MEMBERS of District 26, who have worked so hard to achieve this distinction. It is with great pride that I will accept it, on your behalf, at the conference. *Norm Frickey, DTM, District 26 Governor*

Achieving Greatness Together

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Our Mission

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

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

Please send your questions, tips, comments, and articles to the editor, 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 endnote presentations, workshops, and other training.

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.

[Byron Embry](#) of Pikes Peak Toastmasters was a major league baseball pitcher before he became a finalist in the World Championship of Public Speaking in 2009. He later founded Closing Remarks and has become a keynote speaker and author. [Ian J. Humphrey](#) of Simply Speaking was in Toastmasters little more than a year when he progressed to the final round of the World Championship of Public Speaking in 2010. Ian is now an inspirational speaker who reaches out to youth at risk.

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 spokesman for a series of national TV commercials. ■

MUSINGS FROM THE EDITOR

Gordon S. Savage, DTM

“United we stand, together we win.” That says a lot. It says that Toastmasters is a team effort. Whether we’re striving for distinguished district or distinguished club, we have to work together to get there. For every individual to achieve his or her personal goals we all contribute.

Meetings are a team effort. We each have our jobs to do even if it is simply being there to support the active participants. All the players have to work together.

The executive committee is a team effort. The club officers have to work together to generate and execute a club success plan.

In fact, being members is a team effort. We support each other and the club as a whole. As officers we attend training so we can do our jobs better, As members we serve on committees to help the officers get their jobs done. We serve as mentors to share what we have learned and help other members develop and hone their skills.

By working together we contribute to each others’ success. That’s a winning combination. We win because our efforts as a team help us all to accomplish the very best we are able.

What are you doing to contribute to the team?



Teamwork is the ability to work together toward a common vision. The ability to direct individual accomplishments toward organizational objectives. It is the fuel that allows common people to attain uncommon results.

~ Andrew Carnegie