



News from Metro Division

by Tom Marrs, DTM – Metro Division Director



Metro Division currently has 37 clubs, and spans a geographical area from Littleton (on the West) to Parker (on the East), and from Hampden Avenue (on the North) to Castle Rock (on the South). Metro also includes the southern suburbs of Centennial and Highlands Ranch. The heart of Metro Division centers along I-25 and the Denver Tech Center (DTC). Although, many of the clubs in Metro are corporate, we still have a variety of clubs that meet any Toastmasters need.

What differentiates Metro is our great blend of newer and older clubs. Several of our clubs have had milestone anniversaries this year, including:

- Wry Toast – 25th Anniversary
- Parker Toastmasters – 30th Anniversary
- Littleton Toastmasters – 60th Anniversary
- Titan Toastmasters – 60th Anniversary

An old proverb once said, “Many hands make light work”, and I would like to thank and acknowledge my leadership team that is making Metro so successful this year:

- Cynthia Schuller – Metro Club Extension Coordinator
- Catherine Carpenter – Metro Club Retention Coordinator

Area Directors:

- James Coope – M1
- Howard Levine – M2
- James Umbenhowe – M3
- John Donnellon – M4
- Mike Osolinski – M5
- Nina Moore – M6
- Melissa Butler – M7

I really appreciate our Club Coaches who have stepped up to serve our clubs to help them gain the feeling they once had. I would especially like to personally thank Coach Angela Schnaubelt for pioneering the use of Speechcraft to build clubs. Speechcraft (a Toastmasters program) is a crash course in public speaking that helps new speakers experience the first five Competent Communicator speeches in a condensed four to eight week timeframe.

I am so excited to see how this program will revitalize our Metro clubs and help our newer members grow into the Toastmasters they want to become.

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Dues Due

March 31, 2017

Larry Scantland, Dialogue Editor

D26 LEADERS

Darryle Brown, District Director
Rhea Thompson, Program Quality Director
Marcia Wood, Club Growth Director
David Johnson, Public Relations Officer
Jennifer Costello, Administration Manager
Brenda Uitts, Finance Manager
Chyrese Exline, Club Coach Chair
OPEN, Club Extension Chair
Greg Harris, Webmaster
Alexander Pyle, Technology Lead
Kelsey Robb, Clancy Taylor, Speakers Bureau Chairs
Lori High, Quality Events Chair

DIVISION DIRECTORS

listed alphabetically by Division

Jacqueline Smith, Denver
John Withrow, Eastern
Clare Kennelly, Foothills
Tom Marrs, Metro
Dana Morgan Barnes, Northern
David Mead, Southern

MISSION STATEMENTS

Toastmasters International Mission: We empower individuals to become more effective communicators and leaders.

District Mission: We build new clubs and support all clubs in achieving excellence.

Club Mission: We provide a supportive and positive learning experience in which members are empowered to develop communication and leadership skills, resulting in greater self-confidence and personal growth.

d26toastmasters.org / facebook.com/d26toastmasters



The Advantages of an Advanced Club (part 1)

EVENING STARS by Beth Boaz, PID, DTM and Kelsey Robb, Interim President, Evening Stars

Joining an advanced club helps you take your communication and leadership skills to the next level. District 26 has three advanced clubs which you can join once you have achieved your Competent Communicator award. Each advanced club can supplement the resources for growth available from your “home” club. Evening Stars, chartered in 2003, specializes in discovering your communication and leadership goals and providing you the tools and the human resources to accomplish them.



For instance, David Johnson joined Evening Stars in 2014 to improve his leadership skills and was selected as the 2016-2017 District 26 Public Relations Manager. Kelsey Robb joined to improve her competition speeches and after less than 4 years of membership was representing the District in the International Speech Contest semifinals in Las Vegas. Pictured above: 12 of our 16 members who attended the Fall Conference two years ago.

Evening Stars members ready to mentor aspiring leaders include a current Region Advisor, a Past International Director, and several past District, Division, and Area Directors. Members have won district-level evaluation, table topics, and international speech contests, and seven members have achieved their Distinguished Toastmaster designation. All members are eager to help you grow and succeed.

The meeting format allows you to schedule longer speeches, with a round robin evaluation to provide insights you may not hear in a regular club meeting. Accelerate your growth by visiting one of Evening Stars' meetings, which are held on the second, fourth, and fifth Wednesdays of each month at the Denver Bookbinding Company, 1401 West 47th Avenue, in Denver at 6:55 pm. <http://eveningstars.toastmastersclubs.org/>.

PROFESSIONAL PRESENTERS by Joan Janis, DTM, President, Professional Presenters

Professional Presenters Toastmasters has a NEW focus! Professional Presenters was started as a specialty club for speakers wanting to turn pro. Many members have gone on to become authors and international speakers. This club is known for longer speaking times, outstanding round-robin evaluations, and high-quality education segments on the business of speaking, by professional speakers from both inside and outside of the club.



Obviously, not everyone who joins Toastmasters wants to go into the speaking business. This has kept the club's numbers small. Nonetheless, the 5-7 minute speech slot offered in traditional clubs does not always offer members the chance to practice real-world speeches.

To fill that gap, the current club officers, under the leadership of President Joan Janis and VP of Ed Rich Hopkins, have decided to expand the focus of Professional Presenters Toastmasters! They aim to attract mid- to top-level managers, salespeople, entrepreneurs, teachers, and trainers – all folks who need public speaking skills in their current vocation - and help them be more effective, impactful, and entertaining when they speak – i.e.: to present professionally!

If you want to practice 20-40 minute presentations, check out Professional Presenters Toastmasters! It is now both less intimidating (not just for those who want to be a full-time professional speaker), and more inclusive – dedicated to creating a professional specialty-club environment. professionalpresenterstoastmasters.com.



A message from your District Director, Darryle Brown, MBA, DTM

EXPANDING OUR REACH – EMPOWERMENT

The strength of District 26 rests in the success of every member achieving his or her goals as leaders and communicators. When every member is empowered to unlock his or her potential with the support of club leaders and members, they soar. It is from that achievement a ripple effect of success occurs in every club, Area, Division and ultimately, the District.

Our role as leaders is so important in assisting our members to reach their potential from that day they first entered our clubs as a visitor. Leaders cultivating empowerment within their clubs create an experience that endures with members years after those leaders have passed on the torch to others in their clubs. This is because it promotes a healthy culture of growth, vision and drive for excellence that opens doors of opportunity and discovery as they explore how high they can go as toastmasters.

Empowerment has a way of enabling members to feel others believe in them, but it also creates a greater personal belief in oneself. In the end, it can cast away the fear of the unknown. The results of this empowerment by our club leaders are also enabling District 26 to lead the way in Region 1 in strategic goals as a District, both in paid clubs and in club payments.

This correlates to our members finding value in their Toastmasters experience because of one main ingredient –they feel empowered to achieve their personal best! As we make others around us better, our impact is far reaching and our experience as a leader is the most rewarding. Keep expanding your reach!

A message from your Program Quality Director, Rhea Thompson, DTM



SETTING THE COURSE, STAYING ON TRACK

My dad was an engineer for the Burlington Northern Railroad. His job required that he set a course, determine a time of arrival, and follow that course to completion. This was great for his job as an engineer, but it drove us kids crazy when we were on a road trip with the family! Dad set the course and knew exactly, to the minute, when we would arrive at our destination. As you can imagine, there was no “dilly-dallying”.

You might think we did not have any fun on these trips, quite the contrary. Dad had a keen eye and could spot a coyote running across the field when none of the rest of us saw it. Even when pointing it out to us five kids, we had a hard time seeing that darn coyote. Dad would challenge each of us to be the first to spot a skunk, a gopher, or an antelope. All the while whistling while he drove.

By setting the course and staying on track we reached our destination at the appointed time. Dad had painted a picture with words of what we would see and do once we reached our destination.

We were never disappointed. Now the real fun began! Because we stayed on track we now had more time to enjoy what it was we set out to do. In July our District set the course to stand on stage at the Vancouver Convention as a “President’s Distinguished” District. We are staying on track until we reach our destination. Do you want to come along for the ride?

A Message from your Club Growth Director, Marcia Wood, DTM



TWO TRUTHS AND A LIE ABOUT TOASTMASTERS

I recently played the game “two truths and a lie.” Have you ever played this game? In my case, we each compiled a list of two truths and one falsehood about ourselves. Then the new person who joined the group had to guess which one was the lie.

My submissions were:

1. My husband proposed while we were fishing and hid the engagement ring in the bait can.
2. My son is an off-Broadway actor living in Manhattan.
3. I interviewed Tiny Tim when he was traveling with the circus in 1987.

Guess which one was a lie? If you guessed the engagement ring in the bait can, you were correct. Now it is your turn. What are two truths about you? Mix it up with a lie. Get wild and crazy!

Next, look at your Toastmasters club. What are two truths about your club? Do you welcome guests warmly and encourage guests to join? Do you have a guest packet available that includes promotional materials and a member application? Are members enthusiastic during meetings?

What is the lie? Do you tell guests that Toastmasters can cure their fear of public speaking? Sorry! Past International President Pat Johnson said, “Don’t oversell.” We can help members conquer their fear of public speaking, but we cannot do it for them.

The best part of these engaging activities is that guests know exactly what they are getting from us – a great investment in developing their skills (truth), leaving little room for guesswork (or lie) on what our clubs and the Toastmasters experience has to offer. Now they need a nurturing, supportive environment so they can succeed by their own power. Bottom line: Speak the truth. Give new members hope – but no lies!

Leprino Foods Toastmasters

Banner Celebration

February 22, 2017



UPCOMING DISTRICT 26 EVENTS

d26toastmasters.org/calendar

Fellow Toastmasters, please take the time to either add the Toastmasters [calendar](#) link to your phone or computer. This will help you to stay up-to-date on all of the great activity in District 26. Because it is critical that we keep our members up-to-date, I will run this section every month with updates.

March 2017

Club and Area Contest will spring into full action as we determine who will be the 2016-2017 District 26 representative for the World Championship of Public Speaking. This Winter/Spring event will begin at the club level for International Speech. To compete, a Toastmaster must have completed at least six speeches, be in good standing by paying dues prior to April 1, 2017, and not be a current District 26 officer. If you are a member of a club that is not holding a contest, but wish to compete, please speak with your Vice President of Education or President to note your interest. They may direct you or you can reach out the Area Director of your club to offer guidance. This is a 5-7 minute speech. Partnering alongside will be the District's Table Topic contest, which is open to all Toastmasters, except current District 26 officers and any Toastmaster that is not current with their club membership.

Area Directors you should have already started visiting your clubs in your Area and the District needs your club reports as soon as possible. It is best to try and get those reports posted by March 31, 2017. Why is this date a good benchmark? Because you can help your clubs by assisting with their club contests, find out if they are in need of a mentor or club coach, and celebrate their success. With contest season, April comes and goes very fast. It also allows you to remind your clubs of the dues date and that there is no longer an extension.

April 2017

The conclusion of the Area contest and the beginning of the Division contest start in April. Additionally, all dues must be collected by April 1, 2017 to receive credit towards the Distinguished Club Program.

Saturday, April 15, 2017 – Denver Division (AM) / Metro Division (PM)

Saturday, April 22, 2017 – Southern Division (PM)

Saturday, April 29, 2017 – Eastern Division (AM) / Foothills (PM)

Saturday, May 6, 2017 – Northern Division (AM)

May 2017

The Spring Conference has been set for May 19-20, 2017 with EARLY BIRD registration now through April 15, 2017. For more information see [District 26 Spring Conference](#).

Each Toastmaster has his or her idea of what Toastmasters is about. How he or she wants their experience to be completed. If you are looking for something more outside your club, the activities on this page need volunteers. They need contestants. They need you. Many hands make small work, so check with your Area Director to see how you can step beyond the club. The opportunities are many, and we believe there is the one that will allow you to grow and then bring that experience back to your club.

The best way to celebrate your success is to share it with others. Plan your experience today, so that you can take advantage of many opportunities.

S&P SPEAKEASIES – OPENING OPPORTUNITIES

by Marcia Wood, DTM, Club Growth Director and Larry Scantland

The newest club in the Denver Division, S&P Speakeasies, sponsored by S&P Global has presented a new opportunity for potential members in District 26. One of their members is hearing impaired and in an organization where speaking and listening are key factors, it presents a unique challenge. Their company is providing a sign language interpreter at each Toastmasters club meeting to ensure that all members receive the same opportunity. Imagine this scene:

- The prepared speaker gives an ice breaker speech.
- The hearing impaired member is the evaluator and watches the interpreter who translates the speech into sign language.
- The evaluator prepares the evaluation.
- Then the evaluator is called up, and we see the evaluation translated from sign language to speech by the interpreter.

Toastmasters has stepped into a new generation. We have found a way to open our doors to new members, the hearing impaired.

However, not every club can afford an interpreter, nor does the District offer this service at our functions. When I (Larry) was bowling in tournaments, we had numerous hearing impaired bowlers and we worked with the American Sign Language institute (signlanguage.com/) to ensure we had an interpreter for every event. There are many services available to offer inclusion into our District. S&P Speakeasies has shown that we can always learn from any club.

THANK YOU

by Tommy Maloney, E1 Area Director

You will need to be sitting down as you read this. What you are about to read is very, I mean VERY controversial. You might even want to send the kids over to the neighbor's house, as you will have a feeling of outrage. You have been warned this is going to upset many of you. Continue reading at your own risk!

Thank you for getting this far. Thank you for taking the time out of your day to be part of Toastmasters International. Thank you for supporting your fellow Toastmasters as they learn and grow. When you read "Thank You" how did it make you feel (I do not play a psychiatrist on TV)? When you read "Thank You" did you want to swear?

Have you watched a [TED Talk](#) and the last two words were (wait for it) "Thank You." Then did you pick up your computer monitor and toss it out the window because you were so enraged of hearing those two nasty words of "Thank You"? Why is there controversy of being polite? When we have a new member giving their "Ice Breaker" only to scold them for saying "Thank You."

Professionally I have been a keynote [speaker](#) and said "Thank You." I have even been blessed to of stood on the famous "Red Dot" at a [TEDx](#) event and yes ended my talk with "Thank You. Let the kids come back in because I am done but before I leave, "Thank You."

WESTERN SLOPE CHARTER CELEBRATION by Clare Kennelly, Foothills Division Director

Club President Bobbie Daniel had the idea for starting the Grand Junction club after visiting a Liberty Toastmasters club in the Front Range. Club sponsor Bradley Beck provided Bobbie with all materials needed to run a meeting, and Area F2 Director Penny Alleman also actively supports the club. The first Demo meeting was held in April, and the club chartered in September. Anne Hill is the club's mentor. Club members focus their speaking on the topics of Liberty and Founding Principles. Sponsor Bradley Beck joined the charter ceremony via FaceTime. Penny and Clare Kennelly, Foothills Division Director, also attended. Bobbie attributes the success of the club to the warm, safe, family-style environment and meeting consistency. The charter ceremony was a fun, celebratory event!

FOOTHILLS OFFICER TRAINING IN GRAND JUNCTION

On January 28, Area F2 officers watched Rich Hopkins' keynote speech "Lead Anyway" via YouTube at the F2 Club Officer Training in Grand Junction. In his speech, Rich advises officers to help each other and remember they are never alone. Even though some Toastmasters become officers unexpectedly, they can always find assistance by turning to fellow Toastmasters.



Following the speech, attendees discussed and recorded best practices for each club office. Then officers broke into groups by club to review their Distinguished Club Program (DCP) reports and discuss ideas for meeting club goals. Interspersed throughout the training were several networking breaks with officers of different clubs. The event was chaired by F2 Area Director Penny Alleman.

DUES UPDATE

Toastmasters International requires all clubs to renew our membership twice each year (October 1 and April 1). Renewal fees are \$45 for April thru September.

All clubs must submit their members' renewal fees before April 1, 2017; because the grace period has been removed. A club must submit dues for at least eight members to be counted as renewed.

Additionally, if a club has not renewed, but a member has, and that member is competing in the Area or Division contest, he or she CANNOT compete until the club is current. So club officers, work with your members to ensure you can meet the due date.

DIALOGUE SUBMISSION PROTOCOLS

The Dialogue is open to any Toastmaster in District 26 to submit an article. Remember this is your newsletter; however please limit your word count to 250 words. We would also like a picture of either you or the event. The deadline for the March issue will be March 22, 2017. Please note, I will be in Houston celebrating my 61st birthday with my twin during the week of March 12-19, 2017, so I will need your submission for the Dialogue by the due date.

MEMBER RECOGNITION CORNER

by Jennifer Costello, DTM, District 26 Administrative Manager

The District 26 leadership team is proud to recognize the following members for their achievements so far this Toastmaster year. Congratulations to all Toastmasters who have earned an educational award since October 14, 2016.

Competent Communicator

Jennifer Dunne	Janet Ward	Carol Dillow
Kelly Martin	Thomas Christopher	Susan Kirksey
Susan Quinlan	Carolyn Carpenter	Compassionate Rose
Michelle Hoff	Mark McFarland	Clint Torczon
Ankur Kirit	Matthew Foster	Woohyuck Choi
Ada Chen	Jade Santoro	Shileene Martinez
Patricia Simon	Doyle Hanks	Meagan O'Leary
William Baxter	Shelley Wall	Ronald Miller
Bryan Peck	Laurie Dewy	Camille Fiore
Eric Thomas	Hannah Widmer	Cynthia Schuller
Christopher Smith	Bronwyn Morrissey	Jeff Ruiz
Gayle Gross	Eric Demeter	Charley Will
Rebecca Hobart	Mary Corbin	Rita Mohler
Frances Fackler Myers	Mindy Sterling	Jonathan Kolber
Svetlana Kobets	Lisa Shook	Eric Kronwall
Alan Wong	Ron Ross	Larissa Kirkland
Linh Phan	Nancy Blose	Kim Brokling
Marilyn Kolber	Ann Yadon	Mitch Krayton
Andrew McCoy	Ryan Rickard	Ali Abouzalam
Angela Giles	Dmitriy Vassilyev	Jolene Miller
Pattie Apple	Dennis Robinson	Valeska Davis
Dallas Shepard	Sarah Mann	Tina Saunders
William Farrand	Daniel Park Bowdey	Scott Henning
Diane Leach	Thelma Mueller	Glenn Knight
Bonnie Ann Smith	Daniel Galperin	Alison Wolfe
Victoria Cox	Paul Hamann	Lindsay Clark
Melanie Morris	Craig Young	Kristen Johnson
Carolyn Hart	Andy Curry	Cyrina Bullard
Rheid Schloss	Peter Paulus	Sharon Reed
Richard Barrett	Jaime Schunk	Jane Brewer
Jacquie Staples	Ryan Schuler	Therese Debenedette
Martha Kennedy	Danielle Kiaha	Kathy Flores
Girard Sheffield	Heather Wuollet	Meghan Trubee

Bobbie Daniel
Clancy Taylor
Christopher Gray
Martha Guzman

Tzung-Sz Shen
Mark West
Richard Hopkins
Jeanne Ladewig

Nicholas Cox
Anne Janik
Hellmuth White
Greg Roche

Competent Leader

Bonnie Ann Smith
John Smith
John Donnellon
Harold Hartley
Rhonda Peters
William Holmes
Matt Wells
Laura Mayerl
Sandra Gomez
Jamila Bryant
Michael Conklin
Rhea Thompson
Thomas Ludlow
Sai Nandoor
Carolyn Hart
Eva Fisher
Resa Mai
Joseph Veingrad
Brandon Elmer

Ashley Hagood
Yvonne Buck
Heather Wuollet
Bruce Ekins
Vaneta Winberg
Christopher Hutchinson
Daniel Bowdey
David Johnson
Clancy Taylor
Katie Cloyd
Beth Baker Owens
Corey Bairre
Gary Freeman
Kristin Sorensen
Esther Walden
Thomas Maloney
Keith Horowitz
Ed Archuleta
Eric Pollock

Richard Hopkins
Sue Payne
Lindsay Clark
Ann Bernadette
Richard Robertson
Michael Friend
Jennifer Klein
Jarrick Chappell
Jeanne Simpson
Glenn Bott
Kinch Reindl
Jennifer de Jarnette
Deborah Horowitz
Carol Banks
Brenda Uitts
Carol Dillow
Thomas Gross
Patrick Costello
Deborah Frauenfelder

Advanced Communicator Bronze

William Gallup
Catherine North
Gretchen Vaughn
Barbara Luthy
Michael West
Terri Ammon
Wilfred Brown
John Donnellon
Frances Thomas

Sarah Beasley
Deborah Horowitz
Shaun Dashjian
Comy Lou
Melissa Butler
Sharon Henderson
Monica Perez
Ross Kasner
Diana Hutchinson

Michael Conklin
Debra Kemp
Marni Myers
Sara Elton
Richard Hopkins
Monica Israels
James Owiny

Advanced Leader Bronze

Christine Mills
Victoria Cox

LeighAnn Crockett
Timothy O'Connor

Melissa Butler
Stacey Chambers

James Ubenhower
Bonnie Ann Smith
John Donnellon
Barbara Peck
James Roth
Kathy Barrett

Laura Mayerl
Sara Simpson
Michael West
Ivy Biswas
Ruth Ere
Sarah Beasley

May Tran
Robin McIntosh
Jack Cowart
Kristin Sorenson
Monica Israels

Advanced Communicator Silver

Kaitlin LaFlamme
Nancy Denniston
Marcia Wood

Alan Carpenter
Sherry Thomas
Ronald Pierre

Advanced Leader Silver

Helen Raleigh
Cynthia Thorstad

Alan Swartz
Mary Taylor

Excellence in Leadership

Helen Raleigh
Alan Swartz

Mary Taylor

Advanced Communicator Gold

John Daley
Stephen Moulton

Michael Friend

Distinguished Toastmaster

Helen Raleigh

Michael Friend

Triple Crown

Michael Conklin
Victoria Cox
John Donnellon
Helen Raleigh
Cynthia Schuller

Sara Simpson
Bonnie Ann Smith
Alan Swartz
Sarah Beasley
Hugh Curley

Deborah Frauenfelder
Michael Friend
Richard Hopkins
Deborah Horowitz

This is a list of award winners through February 13, 2017, please check back next month to see our District celebrate new award recipients.



Club Recognition Corner

by Jennifer Costello, DTM, District 26 Administrative Manager

The District 26 leadership would like to join in the celebration and congratulate the following clubs for reaching milestone anniversaries.

February

- Pikes Peak Toastmasters – 50th Anniversary
- LEAD Toastmasters – 15th Anniversary

March

- Pathfinder Club – 25th Anniversary
- Chemical Weapons Masters – 10th Anniversary
- The Talking Toasters – 5th Anniversary



Welcome to District 26! These are the chartered clubs so far for the 2016-2017 Toastmaster year.

- Speaker Alliance
- Elevator's Toastmasters
- Western Slope Liberty Toastmasters
- Terumo BCT
- Steamboat Toastmasters
- Greeley Noon Toastmasters
- Leprino Foods Toastmasters
- Gogo Toast and Talk

The following three clubs chartered in February

- S&P Speakeasies
- No Water, No Toast
- AP Toastmasters

