



District 26 Fall Conference Update – EXPANDING OUR REACH

Pat Johnson, DTM, is the Past International President for Toastmasters International serving from 2010-2011 and will be the keynote speaker for the Fall Conference for District 26. Additionally, she will provide a special breakout session on Saturday.



District 26 will be returning to the format of having the Evaluation contest on Friday and the Tall Tales contest on Saturday. This is a major change from the previous years. Also on Friday night, we will host a social gathering. The theme of this year's conference is "Expanding Our Reach".

Mark your calendars for November 11-12, 2016 for the District 26 2016 Fall Conference! Additional information will be posted on the District 26 website at d26toastmasters.org ([Fall Conference](#)). The event will be held at the DoubleTree by Hilton, Denver Tech Center Hotel, 7801 East Orchard Road, in Greenwood Village, Colorado.

Toastmasters International Hits New Milestones

Toastmasters International, the global organization devoted to communication and leadership skills development, experienced its 22nd consecutive year of growth. During that time, the organization has more than doubled its membership with more than 345,000 members in 15,900 clubs and a presence in 142 countries.

"The continued growth of Toastmasters International is a testament to the organization's proven programs," says Mike Storkey, Toastmasters 2016-2017 International President. "We are seeing growth, regardless of geography, stemming from people's desire to become more confident in front of an audience. It is a skill that is in high demand in the workplace and Toastmasters offers a successful program in a supportive environment."

Highlights of Toastmasters' annual growth include:

- 3.9% membership increase
- Expanded presence in Cameroon, Dominican Republic, Guadeloupe, Gambia, Malta, State of Palestine and United Republic of Tanzania
- More than 70,000 education achievement awards earned by members (5.8% increase in 2015-2016)
- 1,469 new clubs were formed
- The organization's highest rate of growth was outside of North America

"More people than ever before are joining Toastmasters to become better communicators and leaders," says Toastmasters Chief Executive Officer Daniel Rex. "We have a number of initiatives underway, including Toastmasters Pathways, which will revitalize our education program and give our members the opportunity to develop more skills than ever before."

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Fall Conference

November 11-12, 2016

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

Kathy Schneebeck Dulnoan, Club Extension Chair

Greg Harris, Webmaster

Alexander Pyle, Technology Lead

Kelsey Robb, Clancy Taylor, Speakers Bureau Chairs

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 member are empowered to develop communication and leadership skills, resulting in greater self-confidence and personal growth.

d26toastmasters.org / facebook.com/d26toastmasters



The District 26 Speaker's Bureau is back!

by Kelsey Robb and Clancy Taylor

What is the Speaker's Bureau?

The Speaker's Bureau is here to connect interested Toastmasters with local organizations in search of a speaker. By Toastmasters International Rules, our speakers cannot charge for speeches that are arranged for them through the District 26 Speakers Bureau, but you receive the chance to give a longer speech to a new audience.



Why join?

Allow yourself to step out of the safe zone of Toastmasters and into a different world of speaking. This gives you the opportunity to speak with new and different audiences to expand your personal brand and Toastmasters reach. Gain the experience of giving longer, more dedicated speeches. It is one thing to write a speech – it is another to deliver it in front of an audience.

Any successful speaker will tell you the key to developing a strong keynote and the confidence to deliver it well comes from hours and hours of stage time. We are here to help you get the stage time you need to further develop your skills and gain invaluable experience.

What next?

Visit our page on the D26 website. If you are a speaker and you want to join the Bureau, fill out the form and send it our way. If you're an event organizer, take advantage of the great speakers we already have listed. If you are simply excited this is back up and running, give us a high five at the next event.

TAKING THE NEXT STEP

As you close on completion of your Competent Communicator manual you may be thinking, "what is the next step?" Toastmasters International will be sending you two new manuals to complete, but that is not really the answer to the question. Sometimes the answer lies in joining an advanced club to work on longer speeches, receive different perspectives on your abilities, and stepping up to new leadership positions.

Throughout District 26, there are several advanced clubs where they offer you this opportunity.

- Evening Stars (Denver)
- Excelsior (Lakewood)
- Peak Performance (Loveland)
- Professional Presenters (Denver)
- S-Peak Leaders (Colorado Springs)
- Spirited Speakers* (Centennial)

**this club does not require CC completion to join*



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

EXPANDING OUR REACH – BUILDING COMMUNITY

The secret to our success in expanding our reach this year consists not only of the impact we have outside of our clubs to non-Toastmasters, but within our clubs, Areas and Divisions throughout the District. Our Area Directors have been reaching out to so many of you for the purpose of enabling your club to meet fellow leaders and members of sister clubs within your Area. This is an opportunity for your clubs to share ideas, best practices, and strategies for growth and to support each other in overcoming challenges and obstacles.

Ultimately, we are encouraging a culture throughout the District that enables us all to be unified in purpose, scope and shared success. The key element is in building community between our clubs. In doing so, we discover there is a bigger world and greater opportunities to foster personal growth and achievement beyond the club setting.

As members broaden their scope as a community, the greater the benefit and reward as they meet other Toastmasters in other clubs who are sharing their journey as aspiring communicators and leaders at various levels. Stories of inspiration can be shared to motivate one another to long term success as a Toastmaster. In that community setting, the stories of inspiration can be shared to motivate one another to long term success as a Toastmaster. Participation in contests outside of the club, attending the District Conferences, and other major events are a part of that purpose, to build community.

By doing so, we maximize our toastmasters experience. Let us connect, open ourselves up for a greater sense of community and expand our reach by connecting with each other throughout the District. Meet a fellow toastmaster from another club today and become a part of the community building!

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



BE YOURSELF!

Over the past two months a theme keeps reoccurring in my life. I heard it again last night at one of our Area Contests. The theme that keeps knocking at my heart is, “Be Yourself”.

Why is it that we find it so difficult to just be our self? Why do we think we have to be the carbon copy of someone else? Okay, we all realize we may have character flaws and we should definitely work to eliminate them from our lives. Some of these drive other people crazy! However, we all have character traits that make us special.

Do you have a loud, infectious laugh and people tell you to “tone it down a little”? Invite others to share in your joy. Be yourself! Are you serious minded in your duties and people tell you to “lighten up”? There is a time to be serious and a time to have fun. Know when to have both. Be yourself! There’s absolutely nothing wrong in trying to emulate the behavior of someone you admire. But realize, you are not that person. Be yourself!

Life would be pretty boring if we all looked alike, thought alike and acted alike. I am confident that the reason a person does not feel as if they are making a difference in this life is because they are not allowed to be themselves.

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



LEADERS FROM THREE STATES HELP TO FORM A NEW TOASTMASTERS CLUB IN WYOMING!

Would you drive for 10 hours round-trip to a Toastmasters meeting—Nope? How about eight hours—Nuh-uh? Maybe six hours round-trip—No way?

When it comes to dedicated District 26 and District 15 (Utah) Toastmasters leaders, you can see that distances are no big deal. Case in point: five seasoned veterans drove to Rock Springs, Wyoming, from three different states to present a kickoff meeting for residents of Rock Springs and Green River, Wyoming, who were interested in forming a new Toastmasters club. The five leaders came from Salt Lake City and Vernal, Utah; Aurora and Denver, Colorado; and Cheyenne, Wyoming.

Taa daa! The meeting was a success! The group will likely be able to charter in October. These people are excited to learn more about Toastmasters. They are full of hope that they can learn to be better leaders and speakers—and for a very reasonable cost!

Do you want to participate in a future Demo meeting? I promise will not have to drive 6 – 10 hours to attend. There are new clubs starting all over the Colorado Front Range and Foothills, as well as Wyoming. Please contact me at CGD1617@D26leaders.org for details.



Left to right: Marcia Wood and Dana Morgan Barnes from D26, Regina Eco and Craig Sutton from D15. (Photo credit to D26 Deborah Frauenfelder not pictured.)



MICROMANAGEMENT IS NOT LEADERSHIP

Editor's Opinion by Larry Scantland, DTM

When does leadership become coordination rather than being a leader? Micromanagement is not leadership. It is control! It is removing leadership from an individual to simply follow someone else's desires.

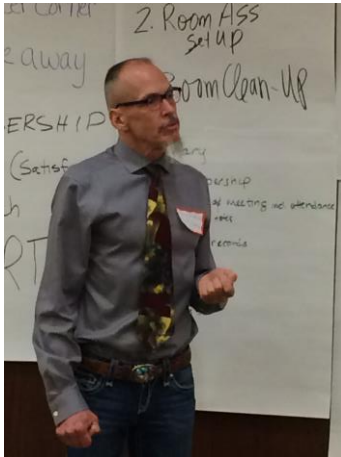
Through personal experiences, I have been a part of and seen from a distance, how micromanagement can destroy someone. In Toastmasters delegation is critical to success. One person cannot take it upon themselves to do everything. Eventually, they burn out, and others are not trained to step up and take over, even if they wanted to lead.

When we consistently see stagnation in events, we need to be open to new ideas. There is an easy way to do this. Listen. Seriously listen. Remove "that is the way it has always been done" from the equation. If someone comes up with an idea that is different than what has been done or expected, analyze it for what it offers, instead of simply dismissing because your way works best for you.

We ask new members to step into roles immediately in Toastmasters. So we need to be open to their ideas, instead of automatically thinking that is not how it has always been done. Stifling new ideas chases away members and as we know, members are how Toastmasters succeeds.

So the next time someone approaches us with new ideas, we need to be truly open, review current and previous procedures for the situation, and work with member to discuss and decide, rather than just micromanaging the person into a forced predetermined process.

Pictures from Toastmasters Leadership August Sessions



HEADS UP DISTRICT 26

SUITETALKERS BANNER CELEBRATION

On September 21, 2016, the charter party and banner celebration took place for Suitetalkers Toastmasters Club.



SILENT AUCTION ITEMS

It is never too early to begin planning for the Fall Conference silent auction. This side event of the Fall Conference was created for two specific reasons. The first is to let each club participate in the Fall Conference by donating a basket or item. The second is the money raised from the Silent Auction goes directly to cutting the cost of the conference for those attendees.



In the past we have raised in excess of \$2,000 some conferences. This money allowed us to increase the quality of the conference for the attendees without charging the attendee.

This year, let us all work together to see what great tangible items we can bring to the event. Personal services are discouraged since they rarely sell. Prizes will be awarded to participants in several categories. Even if your club members may not be attending, your Area Director can take your basket for the club.

Ann Kerr from Gates to Excellence is the Silent Auction chair for the Fall Conference. Visit the District's website for forms and more information.

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.

RECOGNITION CORNER

by John Withrow, Eastern Division Director

TOMMY MALONEY, E1 AREA DIRECTOR

It has been said that effective leadership involves someone who is willing to "go the extra mile". In the case of Tommy Maloney, E1 Area Director, this metaphor became literal, as he sought to reach out to a club in Fort Morgan known as "Morgan County Toastmasters", a club which is relatively distant from all other clubs in his Division.



Hearing this club had been significantly neglected in recent years, Maloney made a special effort to reach out to Morgan County, even going as far as planning the Fall Area E1 contest at the Fort Morgan location. On a sunny afternoon on September 10, 2016, a large flock of Toastmasters and guests gathered at the Country Steak Restaurant with a contest gavelled to order by Rheid Schloss, recent International Speech Contest District 26 Champion. The contest went well, with three out of the four E1 clubs participating, as well as tons of energy and laughter taking place. The lesson for Tommy is simple – an energetic desire to care and serve is a vital aspect of leadership!

DISTRICT 26 FALL CONFERENCE PRELIMINARY AGENDA – Updated for October issue

November 11, 2016 – Friday Evening Highlights

- Evaluation Contest Briefings
- Registration and Credentials Open
- First Timers Gathering
- Silent Auction
- Dinner

Evaluation Contest

- Social Gathering

November 12, 2016 – Saturday Highlights

- Tall Tales Contest Briefings
- Registration and Credentials Open
- First Timers Gathering
- Silent Auction
- Opening Session
- Keynote Speaker Pat Johnson, DTM, PIP
- Immediate Past District Director, Deborah Fraenfelder Roast
- Communication and Leadership Luncheon
- Educational Sessions
- Banner Parade
- Business Meeting
- Dinner

Tall Tales Contest

- Social Gathering

Check the District's website ([Fall Conference](#)) for pricing updates and early bird specials.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to all Toastmasters who have earned an educational award since the beginning of the Toastmaster year. You are all bright and shining stars for our District. Good luck as you continue on your Toastmasters journey.

Competent Communicator

James Divine
Emily Everett
Ceasar Montoya
Aricia Shaffer
Stephanie Warenski Jensen
Daniel Warner
Michael Conklin
Judy Fawcett
Patricia Askins
Joseph Costello
Anthony Gurzich
Colette Smith
Karen Standiford
Sara Carruthers
Alan Swartz
Julia Miller
Manuel Solis
Theresa Willis
Kristen Judd
Ruth Sobol
Chris Spence
Julie Formby
Rita Bean
Kathleen Shanahan
Allison Suerdieck
John Karagiannes
Royce Gomez
Stephanie Thomas
Jarrick Chappell
Stephen Heidenreich
Tami McVay
Kathy Schneebeck Dulnoan
Rajita Shrestha
Carol Baum
Diana Korabecna
James Owiny
Robert Sturtevant
Chelsa Newberg
Vanessa Frazier

Ted Costello
Chris Schaefer
James Moody
Greg Throckmorton
Elizabeth Kretchmer
Michael Orwig
William James Bridgham
Gutierrez Angel
Anthony Rieck
Geri Anderson
Russell Dennis David
Ganga Bhavani Akkina
Eric Scrank
Joan Janis
Ana Lucaci
Paul Mrak
Keith Horowitz
William Kenneth Nugent
Stacy Menditto
Richard Travis Green
Jeanne Simpson
Lawrence Bigler

Competent Leadership

Carol Pace
Nikolas Hunnicutt
Heidi Thomas
Theresa Willis
Chris Spence
Keith Horowitz
Chih-Wu (Joe) Jen
David Hoefer
Craig Anthony Waltz
Thomas Marrs
Tami Griffin
Lynda Lily
Ashley Pyle
Ruthann Hoag
Sarah Beasley
Cynthia Schuller

Aasha Jones
Marta Welch
Lisa Shook
Lisa Denk
Hugh Curley
Patricia Saunders
Kathleen Allerd
Kathy Keeler
Robin Lee McIntosh
Sara Simpson
Ankur Kirit Shah
Linda Coleman
John DeFore
Rosemarie Spano

Leadership Excellence

Cynthia Schuller

Advanced Communicator Bronze

Carol Pace
Carol Wegleitner
Diarmuid Truax
John David Lee
Diana Hale
Sandra Smart
Sarah Beasley
Natalie Jean McGarry
Mike Lee Shleton

Advanced Leader Bronze

Julie Huddle
Carroll Graham
Suellen Overton
Eric Dunham
Theresa Been
Linda Brotman-Evans
Patti Scamucca
Jennifer Rivera-Cordona
Lynda Lilly
Sandra Smart
Kailee Mardesen
Keith Horowitz x2
Jake Calzavara
Stephen Bailey
Brian Callahan

Advanced Communicator Silver

Linda Ann Fellion
Ivy Biswas
Michael Friend
Caitlin Geibel
Thomas Ludlow
Patricia Moore
Doug Speedie
Kathy Keeler
Amber Clark

Advance Leader Silver

Lewis Garber
Hal Lunka
Carole Newhouse
Deborah Horowitz
Eric Merrell
William David Starr

Advanced Communicator Gold

Mary Watson
Robert William Case
John Goagins
William David Starr
Bala Acharya Vamsi Kanumuri
Angela Lee Schnaubelt
Victoria Cox

Distinguished Toastmaster

Lewis Garber
Lori High
Colette Smith
Hal Lunka
Carole Newhouse
Eric Merrell

Triple Crown Award

Keith Horowitz

This is a list of award winners through September 14, 2016. Please check back each month to see our newest award winners.

MORGAN COUNTY TOASTMASTERS

by Tommy Maloney, E1 Area Director

The drive going to Fort Morgan, Colorado, is about an hour from our house in Greeley, Colorado, and it was mentally the most stressful drive I have taken. With my wife by my side in the car I should have felt at ease – besides it is an easy drive. However, this was not an out-of-the-blue drive on a sunny and warm Saturday morning. We were headed to (pause for effect) the Tall Tales and Evaluation contests for Area E1.



On this Saturday morning I was about to “chair” my first ever-speaking contest and I was more nervous than at any time in my life. Throughout the morning drive my mind was trying to stay positive because the pressure of letting people down was really stressing me out. My wife is a great support; she could feel how tense I was. She has chaired events and knows organization is not a skill I have fully embraced.

I have struggled throughout my life of asking for help and for the contest, but I put my big boy pants on and asked for LOTS of help. In the end we had contestants from three of the four clubs, certified judges, a superb Toastmaster, a strong sergeant-at-arms, and a room filled with guests! As for every Area Director, the first time you feel relaxed is when the gavel sounds that the contest is over. Teamwork, mentoring, and just being honest made the event a resounding success.

THE FIRST STEP

by DeeDee Lake

While building a speaking and writing ministry, I heard how Toastmasters was the place to be if you wanted to perfect public speaking and leadership skills. Since I am gluten free I was not sure I wanted to sign up for anything relating to bread. How would mastering toast enhance my speaking ministry?



I reminded myself of a goal I set this year, to learn the craft of public speaking. It was time for the rubber to meet the road and check out the Masters of Toast. I went online and read about the local clubs and narrowed my search. My last name is Lake, the Quail Lake Club seemed perfect.

Unsure what to expect, I put my best foot forward. I remembered Dr. Phil’s words, “Winners do what losers won’t.” I decided to go. The first step is typically the most difficult. At the correct location, the members warmly welcomed me. I jumped right in. I have enjoyed learning the craft of public speaking in an encouraging and growing atmosphere. I am jazzed to be a member of Toastmasters.

Toastmaster’s Tall Tales contest, D26 was only my third speech. Though, I did not win, I moved forward in my self-appointed task to grow my skills as a public speaker. I have learned a lot already and I am proud our S5 club president, John Tucker, took first place in the Evaluators and Tall Tales Contests. Gluten intolerant people, no worries, you are safe at Toastmasters. I have yet to see bread at any meetings.

PICTURES FROM D26 TALL TALES AND EVALUATION CONTESTS

Can you believe we are entering into our fourth month of the Toastmasters year? Below are several pictures from contests held over the past few months that were submitted to me.



