

Council and Business Meeting Minutes
District 26 Fall Conference
November 11, 2017
Doubletree Hilton, 7801 E Orchard Road, Greenwood Village, CO 80111

Meeting Called to Order: 3:16 pm

CALL TO ORDER: Rhea Thompson, DTM

Pledge of Allegiance

District 26 members recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Invocation: Mitch Krayton, DTM

Invocation was provided by Distinguished Toastmaster Mitch Krayton. In keeping with this year's theme, *"Raising the Bar by Leading By Excellence,"* he spoke about the four things that stand out in his mind for raising the bar during his 30 years as a Toastmasters: competence, confidence, value and action. He concluded with, *"My invocation for this event is that the action of the assembled body will look for growth, preservation, enlightenment, and the continued success of District 26."*

District 26 Mission Statement: Rhea Thompson, DTM

Members read the District 26 mission statement as follows: *"We build new clubs and support all clubs in achieving excellence."*

INTRODUCTION: Rhea Thompson, DTM

Distinguished Toastmaster Rhea Thompson introduced the head table. The head table consists of District Director, District 26 Distinguished Toastmaster Rhea Thompson. On the far right is District 26 Administration Manager, Advanced Communicator Silver, Advanced Leadership Bronze, Cynthia Cunningham. Sitting to her left serving as Parliamentarian, is Distinguished Toastmaster, Past District Governor, Alan Swartz.

CREDENTIALS CHAIR REPORT: Presented and Submitted by Beth Boaz, DTM, Past District Governor, Credentials Chair

This report provides information on the health of District 26 in respect to voting at today's meeting. As of today (November 11, 2017), there are 190 clubs in the District. Each club has 2 votes. To have a quorum, 1/3 of the club Presidents and Vice-Presidents of Education must be represented. District Officers are also entitled to 1 vote. District Officer votes do not factor in the quorum. For today's meeting, the required number of votes to constitute a quorum is 127. The following votes have been certified by Credentials:

127 Club Officer Votes and 21 District Officer Votes for a total of 148 votes.

Therefore, a quorum is achieved.

For matters requiring a simple majority vote, the necessary number of votes will be 75.

For matters requiring a 2/3 majority, the necessary number of votes will be 99.

Credentials Calculations (Not presented at the Business Meeting.)

Calculations of a Quorum:

1. Total number of clubs 190×2 votes = 380 Total possible club votes.
2. Divide total possible club votes by 3 to determine the necessary votes for a quorum. 380 total possible club votes, divides by $3 = 127$ Votes needed for a quorum.

Calculate Simple Majority: 165 Total votes certified divided by $82 + 1 = 83$

Calculate 2/3 Majority: 165 Total votes certified $\times 2 = 330$ divided by $3 = 110$

District Director Rhea Thompson declared a quorum to be present, announced the District Council can conduct business, asked Beth Boaz to provide the report to the Administration Manager and thanked her for presenting the report.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS: Rhea Thompson, DTM

Unanimous Consent

On occasion, the chair will use a procedure called unanimous consent to expedite business not considered controversial. You will hear the phrase, “without objection” or “if there is no objection” in each case. If you wish the issue to be debated and voted upon, simply call out “I object” or “objection”.

Voting Procedures

Each member of the district council in attendance at this council meeting, or his or her proxy is entitled to one vote. Any active individual member who carries the proxies of both the club president and vice president education from a member club is entitled to two votes; and any such individual member who is also entitled to a vote as a member of the district executive committee is entitled to three votes. All other members of district council shall be limited to a maximum of two votes.

Conducting Business

In order to conduct business as efficiently as possible, we will follow Roberts's Rules of Order. Any procedural question will be directed to the Parliamentarian whose decision will stand.

Although any Toastmaster may attend a District Council Meeting, only members of the District Council may debate and vote on an issue.

As a point of clarification, members of the District Council are Club Presidents and Vice Presidents Education or their Proxy carriers and members of the Executive Committee who are, the District Director, Program Quality Director, Club Growth Director, Administration Manager, Finance Manager, Public Relations Manager, Division Directors, Area Directors and the Immediate Past District Director.

Bringing Business Before the Council

If you have business to present or a motion to make, please rise, address the chair, show your ballot, and state your name and the name of the club you are representing for the Administration Manager to record. State the question, business or motion. If a motion is made, allow time for a second. If the motion is seconded, I will call for discussion. If the motion is debatable, the person making the motion will be allowed to speak first. Debate will then continue with a person for opposition, followed by one in favor and continuing to alternate between pro and con until everyone is heard or debate is closed, at which time we will vote.

PARLIAMENTARY NOTE: Alan Swartz, DTM, Past District Governor

If I want to offer a motion to stop debate, that is called "Previous Question." It is a motion that requires a second and is not debated. Shouting out "Question" is not a motion and does not show respect for your neighbors or this assembly.

APPOINTMENT OF TELLERS, TIMERS AND MICROPHONE CONTROLLERS:

Rhea Thompson, DTM

Without objection the chair appoints Distinguished Toastmaster, Past District Governor, Janice Haldi and Competent Leader Brenda Uitts as Counters, who will tally any counted votes. The Chair also appoints Distinguished Toastmaster, David Johnson and Advanced Communicator Silver, Advanced Leader Bronze Clare Kennelley as Timers. Our mike controllers are Advanced Communicator Silver, Competent Leader Trisha Akins and Distinguished Toast Master Joy Carol Davidson.

There were no objections to the appointments.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Rhea Thompson, DTM

District Director Rhea Thompson asked the members of the council to review the agenda for the District Council Meeting on November 11, 2017. There were no corrections or additions made.

The agenda was approved by unanimous consent.

**APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES FROM MAY 20, 2017 DISTRICT COUNCIL MEETING:
Rhea Thompson, DTM**

District Director Rhea Thompson announced that the meeting minutes from the District Council Meeting on May 20, 2017 were posted on the District 26 website and a limited number of minutes were available for distribution. Distributions were made. There were no corrections or additions made.

The minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

**END OF YEAR AUDIT REPORT FOR YEAR 2017-2018: Presented and Submitted by
Peggy McIntosh, Advanced Leader Bronze, Competent Leader, Audit Committee Chair
2016-2017**

1. 2016-2017 Audit Committee meeting: Ray Mohr, Diane Nuss and Peggy McIntosh, Chair.
2. Year-end audit committee meeting: Saturday, August 12, 2017.
3. Audit was conducted in accordance with guidelines provided by Toastmasters International.
 - a. The committee reviewed copies of all canceled checks to ensure signatory guidelines were followed.
 - b. The committee reviewed all vouchers (reimbursement and deposit) to ensure appropriate signatures, supporting documents, and preapprovals were present.
 - c. The committee reviewed all expenditures to verify that they matched the Payment Register and all deposits to verify that they matched the Receipt Register.
 - d. The committee reviewed Profit and Loss statements to verify that they matched other documentation.
 - e. The committee reviewed documentation to verify that all transactions were appropriate as dictated by Toastmasters International.
4. The committee concluded that the finance records for District 26 are clean and appropriate as dictated by Toastmasters International.

5. Brenda Uitts did a great job as the District Finance Manager. Thank you, Brenda, for your dedication and hard work this past year on behalf of District 26.

District Director Rhea Thompson directed the report to be entered into the record as reported and thanked Chair Peggy McIntosh and the Audit Committee for their diligent work on the audit.

APPOINTED DISTRICT OFFICERS: Rhea Thompson, DTM

The District Officers reports are included in all packets. The names of the 2017- 2018 District 26 Leadership Team have been posted on the District 26 website under the menu item “Members/District Contacts 17-18.” The following correction is on page 6: Mike Akins is our Club Growth Director, not Program Quality Director as indicated.

Elected Executive Leaders

Rhea Thompson, District Director
Marcia Wood, Program Quality Director
Mike Akins, Club Growth Director

Elected Senior Leaders

Carolyn Conover, Denver Division Director
May Tran, Eastern Division Director
Laria Lovec, Foothills Division Director
Howard Levine, Metro Division Director
Janice Haldi, Northern Division Director
Victoria Cox, Southern Division Director
Joy Carol Davidson, Urban Division Director

Executive Advisor

Darryle Brown, Immediate Past District Director

Appointed Core Leaders

Cynthia Cunningham, Administration Manager
Katrina Johnson, Finance Manager
Marieta Ferrington, Public Relations Manager

Appointed Mid – Level Leaders

Kyle Wilson, D1 Area Director
Kelsey Robb, D2 Area Director
Alejandro Vera, D3 Area Director
Robin McIntosh, Jr., D4 Area Director
Louise Watson, D5 Area Director
Aimee Voth Siebert, D6 Area Director

Bill Bartlett, E1 Area Director
Xuezhen Wang, E2 Area Director
Chris Hutchinson, E3 Area Director
Sarah Beasley, E4 Area Director
Marianne Graham, E5 Area Director
Victoria Bard – Evans, E6 Area Director
Esther Walden, E7 Area Director

Michael Clark, F1 Area Director
Mary Watson, F2 Area Director
Dylan Counts, F3 Area Director
Marni Myers, F4 Area Director
Mike West, F5 Area Director
Rick Barrett, F6 Area Director
Ash Mittal, F7 Area Director
Stephen Moulton, F8 Area Director

Roger Buswell, M1 Area Director
Claudette Erek, M2 Area Director
Ranee Ryan, M3 Area Director
Tom Ludlow, M4 Area Director
Ryan Hawkins, M5 Area Director

Gini Horner, N1 Area Director
Mary Ann Hoff, N2 Area Director
Jane Thomas, N3 Area Director
Kelly Schweitzer, N4 Area Director

Glenn Knight, S1 Area Director
Marty Scholes, S2 Area Director
Greg Williams, S3 Area Director
Dallas Shepard, S4 Area Director
Bob Kittridge, S5 Area Director
Rusty Stevens, S6 Area Director

Gretchen Vaughn, U1 Area Director
Cynthia Beyer, U2 Area Director
David Johnson, U3 Area Director
Carlos Diaz, U4 Area Director

Appointed Extended District Leadership Team

Michelle Mras, District Newsletter Editor
Trixie Hunter-Merrill, Social Media Chair
Ray Mohr, District Speakers Bureau Chair
Gregory Harris, District Webmaster
Alex Pyle, Technology Lead
Lori High, District Quality Events Chair
Vacant, District Extension Chair
Colette Smith, District Retention Chair
Vacant, Denver Extension Chair
Vacant, Eastern Extension Chair
Vacant, Foothills Extension Chair
Mark Krekeler, Metro Extension Chair
Vacant, Northern Extension Chair
Michael Pierson, Southern Extension Chair
Tina Hubis, Urban Extension Coordinator
Jacqueline Smith, Denver Retention Coordinator
Vacant, Eastern Retention Coordinator
Vacant, Foothills Retention Coordinator
Vacant, Metro Retention Coordinator
Vacant, Northern Retention Coordinator
Vacant, Southern Retention Coordinator
Vacant, Urban Retention Coordinator

Ryan Hawkins, Castle Rock Toastmasters #3680

Ryan Hawkins motioned for the appointment of the officers be approved with correction on David Mead.

Rick Barrett, Arrowhead Club #4435

Rick Barrett second the motion made by Ryan Hawkins.

The nominations were approved by unanimous consent.

District Director Rhea Thompson directed the report to be entered into the record as approved.

FINANCE MANAGER Report: Presented and Submitted by Katrina Johnson, Advanced Communicator Silver, Advanced Leader Bronze, Finance Manager

A copy of the 2017-2018 Budget and the 1st Quarter Financial Report is in your packet. We have \$122,015.77 in total available funds as shown on page 11 of the packet. Page 9 shows our budget (including what we are spending for the conference, fund raising, marketing, TLI expense, and educational training expense) and our total revenue that

we are bringing in. It also includes the signatures of the four officers that approved the report. Page 8 and 9 are the same, however page 8 has the signatures and page 9 has been enlarged for better viewing. Page 10 is the Financial Report for the 1st Quarter and it shows the Actual, Budget and Variance from July 1-September 30, 2017.

District 26 Profit and Loss (Actual vs. Budget Summary in USD)

First quarter 2017 versus budget

	As of 9/3/17	2017-2018
	Actual	Budget
District Revenue		
Membership Revenue	29,898.97	26,101.00
Conference Revenue	1,402.89	0.00
Fundraising Revenue	0.00	0.00
TLI Revenue	0.00	0.00
District Store Revenue	0.00	0.00
Other Revenue	0.00	0.00
Total District Revenue	31,301.76	26,101.00
District Expenses		
Conference Expenses	0.00	0.00
Fundraising Expenses	0.00	0.00
TLI Expenses	10.78	0.00
District Store Expenses	0.00	0.00
Marketing Expenses	4,179.43	6,177.00
Communications & PR Expenses	425.00	9.35
Education & Training Expenses	1,666.42	2,489.00
Speech Contest Expenses	1,660.40	869.00
Administration Expenses	542.42	3,693.00
Travel Expenses	12,740.56	17,736.00
Total District Expenses	21,225.01	31,899.00
Total Net Income	10,076.75	(5,798.00)

District Director Rhea Thompson directed the report to be entered into the record as reported and thanked Finance Manager Katrina Johnson for presenting the Financial Report.

DISTRICT OFFICER REPORTS ON THE STATE OF THE DISTRICT

District Director Thompson instructed all District Officers to limit their reports to 2 minutes.

District Director Report: Presented and Submitted by Rhea Thompson, DTM, District Director

I am pleased to announce that District 26 has met the Qualifying Requirement for our District to participate in the Distinguished District Program:

- The District Success Plan and Budget were both submitted to WHQs before September 30th.
- 95% of our Division and Area Directors were trained

Our district is financially strong:

- We've just completed our financial 1st Quarter Certification and Narratives Report and sent them to WHQs

Two clubs in our District have already reached amazing Distinguished Club Program Goals:

- 1 club has earned all 10 of their DCP goals necessary to qualify for President's Distinguished Club
- 2 clubs have earned 7 of their DCP goals necessary to qualify for Select Distinguished

The District Success Plan establishes the goal of President's Distinguished District 2017-2018. To reach this goal we need to end the year with at least:

- 204 Paid Clubs
- 9,000 Membership Payments
- 94 Distinguished Clubs

Our District is growing, we now have 7 Divisions and 40 Areas. Thanks to all our district leaders who are "Raising the Bar by Leading with Excellence." It is my pleasure to serve with you!

Program Quality Director Report: Presented and Submitted by Marcia Wood, DTM, Program Quality Director

[Pathways Learning Experience](#). Coming to District 26 tentatively in March 2018. The call for more guides and ambassadors to apply was sent on October 31 and second reminder on November 9. The deadline to apply is November 14. We need 20 of each. Guides and Ambassadors will be appointed by December 5. Training will begin tentatively two months before the rollout date. For more Pathways information visit: www.toastmasters.org/Education/Pathways/Volunteers/Pathways-Guides. It may be necessary to log in to access the information.

Club Officers Trained. During the training period through August 31, 65% of all clubs had four or more officers trained! Last year the record indicated 51%. There were 14 clubs that had all seven officers trained:

Denver: 0 out of 37 clubs.

Eastern: 1 out of 31 clubs, Peak Performance.

Foothills: 3 out of 41 clubs, Grand Junction TM, Front Range TM, Speech Masters Advanced Club.

Metro: 2 out of 30 clubs, Rocky Mountain TM, Parker TM.

Northern: 3 out of 13 clubs, Cloud Peak TM, Pathfinder Club, Pioneer TM.

Southern: 4 out of 24 clubs, 21st Century TM, Peak Articulators, S-Peak Leaders, Quail Lake TM.

Urban: 1 out of 22 clubs, Spirited Speakers.

Toastmasters Leadership Institute Training. We will hold our next round of leadership institutes in January. See the District calendar for dates and times.

Mid-Year District Officer Training. Will be on December 2nd at Xilinx Retreat Center, Longmont.

Spring Contests. Arrangements are being made for the spring area contests. See the District calendar for dates and times.

Conference. The fall conference has 170 registrants. You can still sign up for the special Sunday morning session. I want to thank conference chair Trixie Hunter-Merrill and co-chair Michelle Mras. I want to especially thank District Quality Events Chair Lori High for all the work she did to ensure the success of our last best fall conference ever.

Club Growth Director Report: Presented and Submitted by Mike Akins, DTM, Club Growth Director

I assumed CGD role from Mark Krekeler, ACG, ALB on 8/17/17 and immediately traveled to the Vancouver World Convention. During the week long training and festivities, I networked with many global CGDs to discuss ideas and processes. Much to absorb.

Dashboard Paid Clubs History:

- 7/1 Base clubs: 188
- 9/30 paid clubs: 191
- 11/9 paid clubs: 175
- Distinguished goal: 194
- President's goal: 204

In our District history, we've never had more clubs or members in November. We're the largest of seven Districts in Region 1. Great job everyone!

District 26 has lost (16) paid clubs from September month-end, which is average over the past five years. Likewise, we're down (13) clubs from our July Base, which is also average over the previous 10 years.

Only 4/8 Extension and 3/8 Retention roles are filled. I've added four of these Coordinators since taking CGD role through Dialog newsletter appeals, speech contests and personal recommendations. Unfortunately, current District Leaders and future Pathways team are not allowed to take one of them due to workloads. Toastmasters seeking Advanced Leadership Silver (ALS) credit must take a club Sponsor, Mentor or Coach role.

I project the District will have 179 paid clubs by 12/31. Historically, the District has chartered 16 clubs/year over the past five, with the high water mark last year of 21. To meet the (194) Distinguished goal, we need all (15) clubs currently in their Kickoff/Start-up stages to charter during the second half, resulting in the most clubs ever chartered within a fiscal year (23). We also cannot lose another club this fiscal year. A very tall order indeed, but we can do it.

We need your help to Raise the Bar! Please volunteer for one of these **Vacant** roles on the A-Team, club Sponsor, Mentor or Coach to support our clubs. My email is cgd1718@d26leaders.org. Darryle Brown has offered to make calls to worthy candidates.

Public Relations Manager Report: Presented and Submitted by Toastmaster Marieta Ferrington, Public Relations Manager

I failed.... I failed all of you and I failed my leadership position as PR Manager. I was warned by the outgoing PR Manager how difficult it was to get media to engage, to carry our story. As it turns out that has been exactly my experience in this first few months. Rather than hiding from that fact I think it serves us all better to share this challenge and to invite all of you to bring forth your media connections, ideas & experiences, so that we may do a better job going forward.

On the other hand, I've also succeeded. As a PR Manager, I'm tasked with connecting Toastmasters to a larger community that surrounds us and I wanted to do this in a way that brings direct value to our members. Immediately my passion for networking led me to the question, "*How have we on a District level integrated Toastmasters and networking organizations?*" My second question was, "*How can we squeeze as much public awareness as possible from that connection?*" The answer to the first one was: "*It hasn't been done before*" and the answer to the second one was: "*The Toastmasters*

Networking Event.” In September, we launched this concept on its maiden voyage and we had more than 40 attendees. To extend that analogy I think it’s safe to say it’s sails caught wind and we are full-speed-ahead toward our next stop this Thursday, November 16th. So, here is the plug in: “Come to the event and lend your voice and participation to see that this continues to be successful. Thank you.

Denver Division Director Report: Presented and Submitted by Carolyn Conover, ACS, CL, Denver Division Director

The Dynamic Denver Division has been diligent and dedicated in developing and directing clubs toward achieving DCP goals.

Currently there are 37 clubs in the Denver Division

1 new club chartered in September – Earth Speaks (Area D4)

4 suspended clubs (no dues paid): DaVita Toastmates (corporate club, minimal communication), PWC Denver Toastmasters (corporate club, no leadership), Have Darts Ready (HDR) (corporate club, no communication), LEAD Toastmasters (corporate club, working on renewals)

9 clubs qualify for a coach – 3 have specifically declined having a coach, other corporate clubs have indicated they are not interested in having a coach.

Working with Retention Coordinator to find coaches for those clubs that want one. One club is currently assigned a coach – Lowry Peak.

One corporate club changing to an open club to help increase membership

Although Area Directors have visited clubs at least once, many reports have not yet been submitted. Encouraging A.D.s to get reports completed ASAP. None filed from: D1, D2, D3 and D6; D4 5 of 7 filed (one is a new club); D5 3 of 6 filed.

Working to schedule our second Division Council meeting to debrief on our Area Contests and discuss club retention strategies.

Clubs are making progress toward becoming distinguished:

Thrillspeakers & Body Shops have 7 DCP goals met to date

Cherry Creek TM has 6 DCP goals met to date

Downtowners, Timberline & El Puente have 5 DCP goals met to date

Many other clubs have 3 DPC goals to date

Our focus through the end of the year is to get our 4 suspended clubs back on track and keep our other clubs working to achieve educational and leadership awards.

In conclusion, the Denver Division is Dynamic, Diverse, and Determined to be President's Distinguished.

Eastern Division Director Report: Presented and Submitted by May Tran, DTM, Eastern Division Director

As of today, our Eastern Division has 7 Area Directors, 31 clubs and 609 members.

New charter club: Twin Peaks Toasters and 3 new clubs are in the process of chartering in Boulder.

Suspended club: Navigationally Speaking

Hig-risk clubs: Loveland Toastmasters & Star Speakers TM

Clubs with coaches: Loveland Toastmasters & Talking Toastmasters & Carbon Valley TM

Area Reports: E2, E4, E5, E6, E7 reports have been submitted. E1 and E3 reports will be done by Nov 30th, 2017.

Division Council Calls: One call was done in Oct, and next one will be in Dec, 2017.

Our Eastern Division's goal is to be Presidential Distinguished Division by June 30th, 2018.

Foothills Division Director Report: Presented by Rick Barrett, F-6 Area Director and Submitted by Laria Lovec, DTM, Foothills Division Director

The Foothills Division is living the dream!

We have a new club, Speak and Influence. We welcome them to Foothills Division.

Area Directors are getting their reports entered.

We have lost "Vail Voices" and two more clubs are at risk: "Fabricators" and "Innovative." If you want to coach, please contact Colette Smith and me.

We have a potential club that will charter soon!

We hold monthly division meetings.

Living the Foothills dream!

**Metro Division Director Report: Presented and Submitted by Howard Levine, DTM,
Metro Division Director**

Overview

Metro Division has a strong leadership team with 5 engaged area directors: Roger Buswell, Claudette Erik, Randee Ryan, Tom Ludlow, and Ryan Hawkins; and an Extension Coordinator Mark Krekeler and Retention Coordinator Pat Condon who have enthusiastically embraced their roles and are working effectively with clubs.

Number of clubs – 24 paid

Number of newly chartered clubs – 1 plus another processing paperwork (SPEakers + Spectrum Speakers)

Number and names of suspended clubs – 4:Kaizen Toastmasters, Red Robin Burger Masters*, Suitetalkers*, XTOastmasters

*Not included in base number of clubs

Number of clubs who have not submitted member renewals and names – 3: Southridge Toastmasters (Checking on whether club is viable), No Water, No Toast*, Meridian Mid-Day Toast**

*Club dissolved, **Submitted 5 renewals, but 8 needed to be in good standing.

Number of clubs assigned coaches – 1, TLC - Kyle W. Wilson

Number of clubs needing coaches but not yet assigned – 2: Talkin' Dish, Meridian.

State of your Area Director Visit Reports, how many submitted, how many left to submit? 26 submitted, 1 not allowed to be submitted on web site due to low membership (Meridian in M5), 1 suspended club (XTOastmasters), 0 visits remain to be done.

Number of Division Council Meetings held – 3 meetings held. One after a club officer training in August, another in September via Conference Call, another in person on 11/5/17 in person.

Where do you plan to end the year as a Division - Distinguished, Select Distinguished, President's Distinguished? President's Distinguished – need 5 more paid clubs and 14 distinguished clubs which is achievable.

**Northern Division Director Report: Presented and Submitted by Janice Haldi, DTM,
Past District Governor, Northern Division Director**

The Northern Division includes all clubs in the State of Wyoming. There are 13 clubs in total, covering Rock Springs in the west, Cheyenne in the southeast, and Gillette in the northeast. This amount of territory presents some challenges when it comes to building

and maintaining clubs, not to mention holding contests and educating the members. But as a division, we are thriving.

Our newest club, Rock Springs Raconteurs, chartered in the spring. The club in Thermopolis has been suspended, but we have two club prospects in Cody and Rawlins. The club in Cody currently has 16 signed members and plans to charter by the end of the year. The club in Rawlins hopes to charter by next spring. We also have club prospects in Afton, a town on the far western border of Wyoming, and Wheatland, which is an hour north of Cheyenne.

All the area visits have been completed. However, only a third of them have been submitted to TI, so I will be working with the area directors next week to finalize that process.

All 13 clubs have submitted renewal dues. One club, Hear Me Roar, submitted dues for six members but the others have met or exceeded the minimum number of members. Hear Me Roar is not, at this point, seeking a club coach but plans to present a Speechcraft after the first of the year.

Only one club currently has a coach, Roadmasters. They are on pace to meet all qualifications for at least Distinguished Club by the end of the fiscal year. Others that have a lower than suggested membership have not yet indicated a desire to have a club coach. That may change in the next quarter.

Contact with the Area Directors has primarily been by phone and email. I visited Casper two weeks ago to train the newest Area Director. It is our intent as a division to end the year as a President's Distinguished Division.

Southern Division Director Report: Presented and Submitted by Victoria Cox, DTM, Southern Division Director

Number of clubs – 24

Number of newly chartered clubs – We no new chartered clubs but we have a goal of setting at least 3 new clubs by the end of this Toastmaster year.

Number and names of suspended clubs – 1: Sunshine Valley in Alamosa, Colorado.

Number of clubs who have not submitted member renewals and names – 1: Springs Liberty in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Number of clubs assigned coaches – 3

Number of clubs needing coaches but not yet assigned – 3 more clubs that are below 12 that might need coaches (21c, New Life and Top Class).

State of your Area Director Visit Reports, how many submitted, how many left to submit? All area reports are in; we are at 100%.

Number of Division Council Meetings held – 2 and another planned for December.

Where do you plan to end the year as a Division - Distinguished, Select Distinguished, President's Distinguished? We are looking to improve from last year and get a Distinguished award.

This year, we have already changed the face of the TLI in the Southern Division by having our first training session to include meeting with new Area Directors. This was successful and helped improve communication with all clubs.

We are looking to start our first community corporate-sponsored club in the East Pueblo area. This will help give the people in the area a chance to gain confidence and better their lives.

Clubs have the following points: Pueblo with 5; Chemical Weapons, Colorado Orators and Speak Leaders with 6; and 555 with 7.

Clubs trained for first TLI:81.6%.

Urban Division Director Report: Presented and Submitted by Joy Carol Davidson, DTM, Urban Division Director

1) Number of Clubs in Urban Division: Technically, 22

2) Number of newly chartered clubs in Urban Division:

i) Plans to charter clubs in Urban Division?

(a) David Johnson is working on an idea for a club in Green Valley Ranch

(b) I, Joy Davidson, am beginning talks with a member of my church staff about ideas for a club.

3) Number of clubs suspended in Urban Division:

i) Universal Speakers TM: Ended previous TM year with 0 members

ii) Elevator's TM: Ended previous TM year with 0 members

iii) Real People Real Talk: Chartered previous TM year, but has plans to dissolve as the club seems unable (even with mentoring) to survive the departure of the dynamic, primary motivator.

- 4) Number of clubs not submitted member renewals and names:
 - i) Three previously mentioned clubs suspended or anticipating suspension
- 5) Number of clubs assigned coaches: 0
- 6) Number of clubs needing coaches but not yet assigned: 6
- 7) Area Director Visit Reports?
 - i) Submitted: 6
 - ii) Not Submitted: Pulling together as a team to submit remaining 13 by the end of the month.
- 8) Any Division Council meetings held? October 27th, Next in December or January
- 9) Division Goal: Distinguished or above

COMMITTEE/CHAIR REPORTS

Conference Chair Report: Presented and Submitted by Toastmaster Trixie Hunter-Merrill, Conference Chair

In this role as Conference Chair, I have stepped out of my comfort zone, gained new skills, learned new things about the District and grew as a leader by stepping outside my club and Raising the Bar on Myself to Lead with Excellence.

- I utilized the tools and techniques I learned through this past year to take this opportunity to not only grow as a Toastmaster, but also grow as a person, building my character and achieving strides towards my goal to become a leader
- Leader vs Manager: I learned that there is a distinct difference between a leader and a manager. A manager, manages. Checks in on people, makes sure everyone is doing their job. A leader encourages those on their team to see their vision, move towards success and set and achieve goals for themselves as well as the teams below them.
- I learned more about how the District works, how the Trio is comprised and how the roles are divided within the Trio. As well as tips and techniques for how to move forward in the District.
- I got to know a lot more of the District by traveling to various events to share the message about Fall Conference. I feel that this is what made the biggest impact was being able to share my energy with others and inspire them to attend conference this year.
- I learned it takes a village of Toastmasters to plan and produce a conference

- I learned how the Conference Chair work cooperatively with a team of committee chairs and their volunteers on education programs, logistics, contests, credentials for business meeting, check-in, decorations, the pre- and post-conference celebrations, and others to shape a successful conference.
- I learned from being a Conference Chair that though you only do this role for a brief time but the lessons I learned will stay with me for a lifetime.
- By doing this, I have been able to step outside of my comfort zone, gain valuable new skills, grow as a leader, become a better speaker, do more stage presentations, share my message, and inspire others.
- The theme for this year is Raising the Bar by Leading with Excellence. When I heard there was no Conference Chair, I decided to do so to work towards raising the bar on myself.

If you want to grow as a leader, challenge yourself as an individual and step outside of your comfort zone: Be a Conference Chair! Best thing I've done in years!

Dare to Leap. Challenge yourself to be better than you were yesterday. Reach for the things you want in life. Raise the Bar on Yourself! Lead with Excellence. Be the best YOU that YOU can be. I know you can do it. I believe in you. I wish you much success in reaching your personal, professional, and Toastmasters Goals.

Leadership Committee Chair Report, Presented by Darryle Brown, DTM, Immediate Past District Director

It is a pleasure to serve as your Leadership Committee Chair, to invest in District 26's future. Each of you here and potential people in your clubs, your areas, division and the District are part of that investment. Today when I was giving out awards during the "Hall of Fame Luncheon," I thought about how many of you demonstrated that success and were being recognized for it as well. For the future of the District and the 2018-2019 Leadership, we're calling on not only you but people that you know within your club who are up and coming and who are looking for greater opportunities. We have a lot of great opportunities at District Leadership and abroad for you to participate in; whether it's to be a part of the Division or Area Leadership. For some of the appointed positions, such as Extension and Retention that we're recruiting for right now, we need all of you to take advantage of those opportunities because the "Advanced Leader Silver" award requires us to participate in District Leadership. If you're looking to grow and advance, I want you to say "yes" and raise your hand and if not you, you can nominate someone, but I prefer that you nominate yourself to step up to be a part of the District's future. We have been enjoying "Distinguished District" status and we can do more but it takes good leadership dedicated leadership and people like you to make a difference. Give me a call, email me, find me. I want you on board as the future of this District.

Social Media Chair Report: Presented and Submitted by Toastmaster Trixie Hunter-Merrill, Social Media Chair

- Prior to Conference much of the Social Media was directed towards Conference posts. Going forward we will be going back to normal business
- I have put our District Conference on Local Calendar sites. I noticed Geeks Who Speak was on one of them and wanted to send out a suggestion to other clubs that they might look for local online and print news media to post about their regular club meeting times as well as open houses and other events the clubs might have. It would promote interest in your club in the area as well as Toastmasters in District 26
- Tag Us
 - Remember to Tag or Hashtag us either @D26Toastmasters or #D26Toastmasters on Twitter and Facebook, and @toastmasters-district-26 on LinkedIn
 - Please continue to send me items you wish to be shared online or remember to tag us for more reach
 - If you are trying to build a new club, do as Sarah Beasley did and tag me on your posts and I will help share the news on D26 Social Media to help promote your future club
- I would really like to receive more news from Nebraska and Wyoming Clubs as I don't tend to hear as much about them because of all the Colorado Clubs. I would like to share more of these states online to help promote them. Please email info or tag online.
- Would like to know if any clubs have developed or do develop any Social Media Goals? If so, please email them to me as I would like to keep track of them and help encourage those clubs who wish to do so
- I would like to work with other clubs (and district leaders) on activities or initiatives they have as well.
- Looking for: club programs, district conferences, announcements, anniversaries, open house meetings, milestones, member achievements and recognitions
- My Action Plan as Social Media Chair is to actively assist and promote clubs and information within and around the district as well as help new clubs gain recognition for future club and district growth.

If you have information for Social Media that you would like us to share on one or more of the D26 Social Media pages please email me at:

Remember, you can always email me if you items you want to share, Social Media questions, needed help or other Social Media needs. You do not have to be a VP of PR to contact me. Any officer who needs my assistance is welcome to contact me.

- If you are not following us on Social Media, please do. This is the best way for the District to keep you aware and keep us aware of what is going on in our district so that we may best support it. The vehicles I will use to attract and connect with fellow members is:
- D26 Website: <http://www.d26toastmasters.org>
- Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/D26Toastmasters/>
- Twitter <https://twitter.com/D26Toastmasters?lang=en>
- LinkedIn <https://www.linkedin.com/company-beta/390685/>
- Instagram <https://www.instagram.com/district26toastmasters/>
- You Tube https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCRAAnj3Sg3NT7Z_UyC0xa_A

Best way to keep track of your Social Media in your clubs is www.Buffer.com Give it a try. (I will be hosting a Basic of Buffer series soon, stay tuned)

For VP of PR's within District 26:

Ensure you are always staying true to the brand of Social Media by adhering to Toastmasters Rules and guidelines as well as using proper fonts, logos and images

<https://www.toastmasters.org/resources/logos-images-and-templates>

Other places for help for Social Media and VPPR's:

Though this is for a PRM role, there is a lot of good information and links in here for VPPR

- <https://www.toastmasters.org/Leadership-Central/Club-Officer-Tools/Club-Officer-Roles/Public-Relations/PRM-Responsibilities>
- <https://www.toastmasters.org/Leadership-Central/Club-Officer-Tools/Club-Officer-Roles/Public-Relations>
- <https://www.toastmasters.org/leadership-central/club-officer-tools/club-officer-roles/public-relations/developing-a-pr-calendar>
- <https://www.toastmasters.org/leadership-central/club-officer-tools/club-officer-roles/public-relations/vppr-responsibilities>
- <https://www.toastmasters.org/~media/4961F7BE4B244A12A39426D0C9193CD1.ashx>
- http://toastmasters.wikia.com/wiki/Vice_President_Public_Relations

For the most current social networking groups used by Toastmasters, please visit:
www.toastmasters.org/socialnetworking

Speakers Bureau Chair Report: Presented and Submitted by Ray Mohr, DTM, Speakers Bureau Chair

I want to thank the D26 leadership for giving me the opportunity to chair this committee. I have long felt that Toastmasters provides an invaluable opportunity to become an exceptional speaker. I also believe that we can provide a valuable service to our communities to speak to the issues we care about.

We have a lot of work ahead of us to make our Speakers Bureau realize that vision. Since I was asked to chair the Speakers Bureau I began doing research. I spoke with many Toastmasters in District 26. Based on conversations with numerous Toastmasters I believe that we can begin now. We will be setting up an interim system that we will be incorporating into the D26 web site update project.

Over the next few months we will:

- Establish standards for Toastmasters participation. We will be looking for speakers that are Toastmasters in good standing in their club and be an expert on a particular topic.
- We will be doing outreach to both meeting planners and to club members and invite them to participate.
- We will be distributing copies of the application form and speaker's bio form to members who are interested in joining.
- We will be creating a promotional pamphlet or one-sheet and a web-based database.

I believe that we have a great team in place (Bob Bennett and Tom Hobbs) and we are ready to go.

Webmaster Report: Presented by Toastmaster Tom Marrs and Submitted by Gregory Harris, CC, CL, Webmaster

Website currently runs well in its current state, no major incidents to report, minor incidents crop up from time to time, as always let me know if you spot anything wrong. Ongoing server maintenance is about the only highlight of any given week + small requests from time to time. Some requests such as Rhea's single page editing request were more complex than others, but ultimately get resolved someday (Sorry to pick on you there, Rhea.)

However as for the website itself, we are looking to build a new template for the website to give it a more modern look and feel. We're taking volunteer requests for a

small task force of people who can help with the design process, basically to give their feedback on things they'd like to see the new website do. Ideas that have been floated around include A) An online store B) Online storage space for the district officers and C) Online mass mailings possibly moving in-house from Constant Contact"

As usual if any issues feel free to report them to me, and thanks everyone!

Quality Events Chair Report: Presented and Submitted by Lori High, DTM, Quality Events Chair

The Quality Events Chair has been used in D26 for almost 2-years now, based on feedback and successful events I think D26 would say adding this Chair role has been helpful. Quality Events Chair assists with TLI's and Conferences, this is the last Fall conference as we know! As with any toastmaster event evaluations are important to improving what we do. In the Conference program there are yellow and green evaluation forms, we would REALLY appreciate if you would take 2 minutes and share your feedback. We positioned boxes for you to drop them off OR just leave at the back table in any room. It is with your help that we can improve the role and continue to assist District 26.

Extension Chair Report (Vacant): Presented and Submitted by Mike Akins, DTM, Acting Extension Chair

Club Extension Chair, Vacant (Mike Akins, DTM, Acting)

- Denver Extension Coordinator: Eric Pollock, ACB, CL
- Eastern Extension Coordinator: Vacant (Mike Akins acting)
- Foothills Extension Coordinator: Vacant (Mike Akins acting)
- Metro Extension Coordinator: Mark Krekeler, ACG, CLB
- Northern Extension Coordinator: Vacant (Mike Akins acting)
- Southern Extension Coordinator: Michael Pierson, DTM
- Urban Extension Coordinator: Tina Hubis, ATM, AL

4 Clubs chartered in Sept and Oct; all Sponsors and Mentors assigned: Speak & Influence, Broomfield, CO (F8); Twin Peaks Toasters, Longmont, CO (E4); Earth Speaks, Denver, CO (D4) and SPeakers, Centennial, CO (M3)

4 Clubs expected to charter in 2017: Charter Communications, Greenwood Village, CO, DU Speaks, Denver, CO, Wheat Toast, Wheat Ridge, CO and Yellowstone, Cody, WY

15 Clubs are in Kickoff meeting and/or Start-up stage

Retention Chair, Report: Presented and Submitted by Colette Smith, DTM, Retention Chair

Retention NEEDS YOU!

If you love helping clubs in need find their path once again. If you are STOKED about Toastmasters and all it has to offer then Retention needs you. Perhaps you already have your DTM and are looking for a new and bold way to serve

We need Division Retention Coordinators for the following areas: Eastern, Foothills, Northern, Southern, and Urban. Wow! That is FIVE Divisions in need of help. Do you live or currently attend a club in one of these Divisions and want to see how you too can serve please see me!

What has the Retention Team done so far? I want to give a shout out to Jacqueline Smith, Denver Retention Coordinator and Pat Condon, Metro Division Coordinator. Both of these amazing Toastmasters have been busy working with their Division Directors and Area Directors in order to connect Clubs in need with Coaches.

We have appointed three new Club Coaches so far this term; Ray Pezolt with Carbon Valley, Marcia Sprague with See You Speak Boulder, and Glen Knight with Quail Lake Toastmasters. I can't wait to see these two clubs grow!

Currently District 26 has 31 Clubs who qualify for a Club Coach. This does not include clubs with zero members or clubs who've already stated that they don't want a Club Coach or clubs already working with a Coach.

If you have never experienced helping a club thrive or serving the District at a higher level then I encourage you to Be a Servant Leader and Join the Retention Team as a Coordinator or Club Coach.

Break Out of Clubs Qualify for Club Coach Assignment

Denver Division: Davita Toastmasters, Long View Masters of the Toast, Proudly Speaking, The Encredible Toastmasters, Front & Center and Janus Capital Group

Eastern Division: Morgan County Club, Colorado State University TM, Liberty Toastmasters North and See You Speak TM Club

Foothills Division: Summit Club, Black Canyon Voices and Western Slope Liberty TM

Metro Division: DTC Speakeasies, Meridan Mid-Day Toastmasters, and Talkin' Dish

Northern Division: Sweet Talkers Club, Energy Capital Toastmasters, Pioneer Toastmasters Club, Morning Tour TM Club, Pathfinder Club and Laramie Morning Club

Southern Division: 21st Century Toastmasters, TOP Class Toastmasters and New Life Toastmasters

Urban Division: Jackson Keynoters, Toast of Greenwood Village, Defenders of Speech, Absolutely Articulate, Toast of DIA and Toast A Matics

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Rhea Thompson, DTM

There is no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS: Rhea Thompson, DTM

There is no new business.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Rhea Thompson, DTM

Beth Boaz, Dawn Yawn Club #3218

The Gavel Club is for people who cannot join a regular club. Our District has two such clubs for prisoners at The Denver Women Facility on Havana and Smith Road and The Colorado Correctional Facility at Camp George West in Golden. These programs always need more volunteers. You'll find it very rewarding to help people reintegrate into society after being released from prison and very inspirational to see them working to get all the benefits that we take for granted in Toastmaster. If you are interested in helping with either of these programs, please contact Beth Boaz or Alan Swartz.

Angela Schnaubelt, Spirited Speakers, Club #1440289

People are asking her me to start a new club, which she is interested in doing. It will be a forum for people to talk about "taboo" subjects that aren't talked about at conservative clubs. A few relationship coaches, sex therapists, and healers that wok with angels and aliens are in her tribe and have a serious interest in starting this club. It will be founded in downtown Littleton and a site has been located. The club would be ideal for those looking for a second club to practice/experiment with speeches that have wacky topics.

Joyce Feustel, Timberline Toastmasters #1965

The next Toastmasters Networking Event will be held at 5-7 p.m. on November 16 at "Howl at the Moon" which is located in the "Denver Chophouse and Brewery" building and across from Coors Field. Parking is available downtown. It's a wonderful venue, a lot of fun and an interesting experience. She challenged you to come or to invite people to a relaxed setting, to visit and to listen to great speakers.

Next Meeting: Rhea Thompson, DTM

The next meeting of the of District 26 Council and Business Meeting is tentatively scheduled for May 19, 2018 at a location to be determined.

Meeting Adjourned: Rhea Thompson, DTM

Meeting adjourned at 4:22 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Cynthia Cunningham, ACS, ALB
D26 Administration Manager
November 19, 2017