



WHERE LEADERS ARE MADE

D26 LEADERS

Rhea Thompson,
District Director

Marcia Wood, Program
Quality Director

Mike Akins, Club
Growth Director

Darryle Brown,
Immediate Past District
Director

Marieta Ferrington,
Public Relations Manager

Cynthia Cunningham,
Administration Manager

Katrina Johnson,
Finance Manager

OPEN, Extension Chair

Colette Smith, Retention
Chair

Alexander Pyle,
Technology Lead

Greg Harris, Webmaster

Trixie Hunter-Merrill,
Social Media Chair

Ray Mohr, Speakers
Bureau Chair

Lori High, Quality Events
Chair

Michelle Mras,
Newsletter Editor

**Check the District
Calendar**

For District Events

www.D26Toastmasters.org

District 26 Dialogue

Serving Colorado, Wyoming and Western Nebraska

A Message from our

District Director

Rhea Thompson, DTM



Stepping Into A New Toastmasters Year!

The appropriate word is “NEW”! Our new Toastmasters year is upon us. This is an exciting time; a new freshness is in the air!

If you are anything like me, you are looking forward with great anticipation to 2018-2019. New potential for membership growth within our District, new potential for developing lasting relationships and new potential for tackling those crazy challenges that happen at the most inopportune moment in our lives.

A new Toastmasters year represents an opportunity for us to welcome our new team of district leaders. Each of them needs our support. Let's make a commitment to help when called upon, to tell them we believe in them and to thank them for their service to District 26.

This new Toastmasters year will be one of the most memorable in the history of District 26 as members embrace Pathways. We will see members who previously were reluctant to set a personal goal become giants in their own world as they choose a Path specific to their personal needs and desires. A Path that will guide them to success, whether in the business world or in their everyday interaction with family and friends.

Join me in stepping into a new Toastmasters year. We can step into it in our slippers and walk slowly through the year or step into it in our running shoes and challenge our self to make it the BEST year EV-ER!

Division Directors

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

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**A Message from our
 Program Quality Director
 Marcia Wood, DTM**



Keep the Promise - Meet the Challenge

When I joined my first Toastmasters club in 2007, I thought about myself and not about my fellow club members. But, I was immediately asked if I would serve as the Vice President Public Relations. I had no clue what it all meant. My state of ignorance didn't last long. I learned my duties and how I could serve the other club members.

Fast forward to today. I'm the District Director Elect! How did that happen? I would call that colossal scope creep!

Looking ahead to the new Toastmaster program year, let's focus on two goals: to *Keep the Promise and Meet the Challenge*.

Keep the Promise (page 4)

The Toastmasters Promise appears on member applications and other Toastmasters materials. Do you know what the 10 Promises are? Some clubs recite them at the start of each meeting, while other clubs recite them when inducting new members into the club. They are also included in "Moments of Truth," a module in the Successful Club Series, which some clubs present annually.

Meet the Challenge

One of the biggest challenges at this time of year is finding and training new officers. Do you plan to attend a Toastmasters Leadership Institute (TLI)? They happen in various cities on Saturdays in June. Details appear on the District 26 Calendar. I invite you to attend one to learn how to lead your club through a year in which your club and your members achieve success!

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.

Check the District Calendar

For District Events

www.D26Toastmasters.org

Facebook/
D26Toastmasters

Twitter@D26Toastmasters

A Message from Club Growth Director Mike Akins, DTM



Finish the Year Strong

Thank you club Sponsors, Mentors, Coaches, Kickoff Meeting volunteers, Extension and Retention teams, Area Directors and Division Directors for supporting our mission statement: We build new clubs and support all clubs in achieving excellence.

Thanks to your efforts, we've added to the District so far:

15 new clubs

365 charter members

1647 new members

Compared to the previous 13 years (on a percentage basis though April), District membership growth is 2nd best! We've had a great year so far, but let's finish strong so clubs can begin July on solid footing. Run through the 6/30 year-end finish line to meet your personal and clubs goals.

Please welcome this newly chartered club:

Ulteig Multiregional Toastmasters Club #6817738, Closed, Greenwood Village, CO

Chartered 5/7/18 by Grant Lacey and Josh Potts

Many more are in process, so please monitor our Dashboard report.

Please email me if you are interested in chartering, mentoring or coaching a club. One of these is required to complete your Advanced Leadership Silver (ALS) under the Legacy program.

It's been my privilege to learn and serve as your Club Growth Director (CGD) this year. I look forward to supporting the District as your incoming Program Quality Director (PQD).

A TOASTMASTER'S PROMISE

As a member of Toastmasters International and my club, I promise...



- To attend club meetings regularly
- To prepare all of my speech and leadership projects to the best of my ability
- To prepare for and fulfill meeting assignments
- To provide fellow members with helpful, constructive evaluations
- To help the club maintain the positive, friendly environment necessary for all members to learn and grow
- To serve my club as an officer when called upon to do so
- To treat my fellow club members and our guests with respect and courtesy
- To bring guests to club meetings so they can see the benefits Toastmasters membership offers
- To adhere to the guidelines and rules for all Toastmasters educational and recognition programs
- To maintain honest and highly ethical standards during the conduct of all Toastmasters activities

RAISE THE BAR! District 26 Incentives 2017-2018

IF YOU ARE A CLUB.....

REACH DISTINGUISHED	YOUR REWARD
Membership renewals submitted and DCP Goals achieved to qualify for Distinguished status on March 31 st	
Achieve President's Distinguished	\$50 Gift Certificate
Achieve Select Distinguished	\$40 Gift Certificate
Achieve Distinguished	\$30 Gift Certificate
<u>Not Distinguished by March 31st - Second Chance!</u>	
Reach Distinguished status by May 31 st	
Achieve President's Distinguished	\$25 Gift Certificate
Achieve Select Distinguished	\$20 Gift Certificate
Achieve Distinguished	\$15 Gift Certificate
PERFECT 10 - All 10 DCP Goals achieved!	\$60 Gift Certificate
TRAIN YOUR OFFICERS	YOUR REWARD
All 7 officers trained at either session	\$25 Gift Certificate
GROW MEMBERS	YOUR REWARD
Achieve all three membership building awards - Smedley, Talk Up Toastmasters & Beat the Clock Awards	\$75 Gift Certificate
Achieve any two consecutive membership building awards (Smedley & Talk Up Toastmasters OR Talk Up Toastmasters & Beat the Clock) - exclusive of earning all three membership awards)	\$40 Gift Certificate

IF YOU ARE A MEMBER...

ATTEND CONFERENCE	YOUR REWARD
Attend Conference for the first time	Where Leaders Are Made Pin
EARN EDUCATIONAL AWARD	YOUR REWARD
Achieve three different Educational Awards (first time achieving this)	Triple Crown Pin (awarded during Hall of Fame event)
Achieve DTM Award	DTM Medallion (awarded during Hall of Fame event)
SPONSOR A MEMBER (MUST PERSONALLY INVITE GUEST WHO LATER BECOMES A MEMBER)	YOUR REWARD
Members must be sponsored within Toastmasters year (July 1-June 30)	
Sponsor 5 members	\$10 online Gift Certificate + blue pin from TMI
Sponsor 10 Members	\$25 online Gift Certificate + burgundy pin from TMI
Sponsor 15 Members	\$50 online Gift Certificate + 25% off next online order

HELP CHARTER A CLUB	YOUR REWARD
Charter a new Club before June 15, 2018	D26 Computer Bag (OR Computer Messenger Bag when inventory of D26 Computer Bag is depleted) + \$50 Gift Certificate
Submit a lead for a new club (member does not charter club) and club charters before June 15, 2018	\$25 Gift Certificate
IF YOU ARE AREA DIRECTOR...	
AREA CLUB VISITS	YOUR REWARD
Submit all Area Club Visit Reports by August 31, 2017 & February 28, 2018	Gold Medallion
Submit all Area Club Visit Reports by September 30, 2017 & March 31, 2018	Silver Medallion
Submit all Area Club Visit Reports by October 31, 2017 & April 30, 2018	Bronze Medallion
Visit all clubs a minimum of three times and have club President's signature on Club Visit Form	\$20 Gift Certificate
IF YOU ARE DIVISION DIRECTOR...	
HEALTHY DIVISION	YOUR REWARD
End the year with 50% + 1 of the division's base clubs earning Distinguished Club or better, with no net loss in clubs. Denver - Base 36; Distinguished Clubs - 19 Eastern - Base 29; Distinguished Clubs - 16 Foothills - Base 39; Distinguished Clubs 21 Metro - Base 28; Distinguished Clubs - 15 Northern - Base 13; Distinguished Clubs - 8 Southern - Base 23; Distinguished Clubs - 13 Urban - Base 20; Distinguished Clubs - 11	Plaque (awarded during Hall of Fame event)
MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS	YOUR REWARD
All Base Clubs within all Areas have a minimum of eight paid membership dues for October renewal period by October 10, 2017	\$50 Gift Certificate
All Base Clubs within all Areas have a minimum of eight paid membership dues for April renewal period by April 10, 2018	\$50 Gift Certificate
IF YOU ARE EXTENSION CHAIR...	
CHARTERING CLUBS	YOUR REWARD
Assist Extension Coordinators in chartering 25 club	\$75 Gift Certificate
Assist Extension Coordinators in chartering 20 clubs	\$40 Gift Certificate
Assist Extension Coordinators in chartering 15 clubs	\$25 Gift Certificate

IF YOU ARE AN EXTENSION COORDINATOR...

CHARTERING CLUBS	YOUR REWARD
<p>Charter the number of designated clubs by presiding over the Kick-Off Meeting, Organizational Meeting and assisting with charter forms to charter by June 30, 2018</p> <p>Denver - 3 clubs Eastern - 2 clubs Foothills - 2 clubs Metro - 3 clubs Northern - 1 clubs Southern - 2 clubs Urban - 2 clubs</p>	\$50 Gift certificate
Serve in a meeting role for 10 or more Kick-Off meetings, whether or not in your division.	\$15 Gift Certificate

IF YOU ARE RETENTION CHAIR...

RECRUITING EFFORTS	YOUR REWARD
Assist Retention Coordinators in recruiting 30 or more Club Coaches	\$75 Gift Certificate
Assist Retention Coordinators in recruiting 20-29 Club Coaches	\$50 Gift Certificate
Assist Retention Coordinators in recruiting 10-19 Club Coaches	\$25 Gift Certificate

IF YOU ARE A RETENTION COORDINATOR...

RECRUITING EFFORTS	YOUR REWARD
Recruit Club Coaches for all clubs in your Division who qualify for a Club Coach	\$60 Gift Certificate
Recruit Club Coaches for 75% of all clubs in your Division who qualify for a Club Coach	\$40 Gift Certificate
Recruit Club Coaches for 50% of all clubs in your Division who qualify for a Club Coach	\$20 Gift Certificate

IF YOU ARE A CLUB COACH...

REACHING DISTINGUISHED	YOUR REWARD
Club reaches President's Distinguished	\$75 Gift Certificate
Club reaches Select Distinguished	\$50 Gift Certificate
Club reaches Distinguished	\$25 Gift Certificate
MEMBERSHIP GROWTH	YOUR REWARD
Club did not achieve Distinguished status but membership improved	
Help club increase membership by net 3 members by June 30, 2018	\$15 Gift Certificate
Help Club increase membership by net 5 members by June 30, 2018	\$25 Gift Certificate

Toastmasters District 26

Communications and Social Media

Stay up-to-date and engage with us!

District 26 Website

The source of official District 26 information, events, and resources: <https://www.d26toastmasters.org>

Facebook:

“Like” our official Facebook page:

- Click on <https://www.facebook.com/D26Toastmasters> or in the search box on Facebook, search Toastmasters District 26.
- Stay up to date on upcoming events and accomplishments, learn public speaking tips, be inspired, and much more.
- Engage on the page by commenting on, liking, or sharing posts (this increases the reach of the post by sharing it with your Facebook friends)
- Invite your friends to like the page – you never know if it will convince one person to try out Toastmasters! (On the left column of the page, there is an “Invite friends to like this page” link)

Join the Facebook Group:

- If you want to have more private, behind-the-scenes discussions with current District 26 Toastmasters, join the private Facebook groups.

Twitter:

Follow @Toastmasters26 on Twitter or visit <https://twitter.com/toastmasters26>

- Engage with District 26 by letting us know what you are up to in Toastmasters, tweeting links and inspiration, connecting with Toastmasters around the world, providing feedback to others, etc.
- “Live-tweet” Toastmasters conferences and workshops to let people know what you are learning in the moment.

Youtube:

Check out videos from the District at <https://www.youtube.com/District26>

LinkedIn:

LinkedIn is a great place for businesses, nonprofits and professionals to hear about your club and how it can help them to be a better speaker and leader. <https://www.linkedin.com/District26>

Instagram:

Instagram is a place to promote your club through images.

- Check out District 26 on instagram <https://www.instagram.com/district26toastmasters>

Meetup:

Meetup.com is a place to advertise your club meetings.



Member Recognition Corner

Cynthia Cunningham, Administration Manager

April and May Educational Awards

(April 15, 2018 through May 27, 2018)

April Educational Awards (April 15- April 30)

Competent Communicator

Colleen Mahoney
Marvell Lawson
Carlos Lopez
Susan Schulz
Petr Valkoun
Shelby Wood
Catherine Carpenter
Stefan Heinz
Lannie Pihajlic
Ginny Snell
William Davidson
Jessica Shada

Advanced Communicator Bronze

Manuel Solis
Diane Hamilton
Jacquelyn Carioscia
Marian Sisneros
Matt Wells
Krystal Wilder

Advanced Communicator Silver

Jennifer Marcols
Nick Bouzis
Kelsey Robb
Robert Bowen

Advanced Communicator Gold

Michael Conklin
Meg Dyer
Claudette Ere

Competent Leader
Jennifer Marcols
Christie Rewey
Rebecca Stein
Shirley Chan
John Palmer
Xuezhen Wang
Jessica Shada

Advanced Leader Bronze

Dana Morgan Barnes
Concetta Palmieri

Advanced Leader Silver

Dana Morgan Barnes
David Mead

Distinguished Toastmaster

Dana Morgan Barnes

Leadership Excellence

Xuezhen Wang
Clare Kennelley

Triple Crown

Marc April, CL, CC,
LDREXC
Manuel Solis, ACB,
ALB, CL
Kelsey Robb, ACS,
ALB, ACB
Xuezhen Wang, ACS,
LDREXC, CL

May Educational Awards (May 1- 27)

Competent Communicator

Amber Currie
Kelly Schmidt
Joni Fournier
Wendi Friesen
Kim Soulliere
Julie Geller
Pamela Scinto
Del Hobbs
Diane Duffy
Mary Watson
Joan Janis
Keith Horowitz (3/15)
Tracey Decker
Janice Haldi
Krystal McComas
Joanna Burns
Linda Baird

Arthur Porter
Sandra Merrell
Joe Kennedy
Pamela Benson
Emily Brake
Terry Burnham
Suryakanta
Mohapatra
Nicole Glenn
Caroline Armstrong
Eleanor Grannis
Deb Keller

Advanced Communicator Bronze

Don Brent
Peggy Evans
Melanie Smith
Nikolas Hunnicutt
Rita Mohler

Advanced Communicator Silver

Jeff Ruiz
Allison Suerdieck
Alejandro Vera
Dinesh Weerapurage

Advanced Communicator Gold

David Mead
Christopher
Hutchinson
James Owiny

Competent Leader

Penny Alleman
Dolores Stevens
Valerie Cirbo
Dana Morgan Barnes
Cynthia Cunningham
Edith Johnston
Pamela Estes
Lea Kushner
Dia Kline
Kaylin Tencer
Sandra Merrell
Mary Watson
Paul Mrak

Advanced Leader Bronze

Xuezhen Wang
Nancy Adams
Jeff Ruiz
Jean Kelly
Eric Hansen
Louise Watson
James Dent

Advanced Leader Silver

Nic Breen
Clare Kennelley
Carol Shride

Dynamic Leadership 1

Sarah Beasley
Keith Horowitz

Dynamic Leadership 2

Keith Horowitz
Sarah Beasley

Dynamic Leadership 3

Keith Horowitz

Visionary Communication 1

Bonnie Smith

Visionary Communication 2

Bonnie Smith

Visionary Communication 3

Bonnie Smith

Visionary Communication 4

Bonnie Smith

Distinguished Toastmaster

David Mead
Nic Breen

Leadership Excellence

Kevin McCalmon
Nic Breen
Carol Pace

Triple Crown

David Mead, ALS,
ACG, DTM

Dana Morgan Barnes,
ALB, ALS, DTM

Jeff Ruiz, CL, ACB,
ACS

Keith Horowitz, CC,
CL, CC (January)

Keith Horowitz, DL1,
DL2, DL3 (May)

Nic Breen, CL,
LDREXC, ALS

Bonnie Smith, CC,
VC1, VC2

Sarah Beasley, ACG,
DL1, DL2

James Dent, ACS, CL,
ALB

Jean Kelly, CL, ACB,
ALB

Carol Pace, CL, ACG,
LDREXC

Congratulations to the following clubs for reaching a milestone anniversary in June:

Downtown Toasters: 60th
Hear Me Roar: 10th
Speak Up Toastmasters: 10th
TOPCLASS Toastmasters: 10th

Congratulations to the following clubs for achieving the most Distinguished Club Program Goals to date:

President's Distinguished (10)

BodyShops Club
Colorado Springs Toastmasters Club
Dawn Yawn
Thunderbolt Orators Club
21st Century Toastmasters

President's Distinguished (9)

Colorado Orators League
Downtowners Toastmasters Club
Eloquent Entrepreneurs
Grand Junction Toastmasters Club
Opportunity Talks Toastmasters Club
Parker Toastmasters
Peterson Toastmasters
Ranch Raconteurs Club
Rise 'n Shine Toastmasters
Simply Speaking Toastmasters Club
Solar Speak Club
South Suburban Toastmasters
S-Peak Leaders
Spirited Speakers
Talking Ideas Toastmasters Club
Talk of the Town Toastmasters
Thrillspeakers Toastmasters Club
Toast of Inverness

Select Distinguished (8)

Arrowhead Club
Aurorators Toastmasters Club
Chamber Ad-lib Orators Club
Chemical Weapons Masters
Cherry Creek Toastmasters Club
Colorado State University Toastmasters Club
Daybreak Toastmasters Club
Earlybird Club
El Puente Bilingual Toastmasters Club
Flatirons View Toastmasters
Golden Speak EZ
George Sutton Toastmasters Club

Select Distinguished (8) (Continued)

Highlands Ranch Toastmasters Club
Laramie Morning Club
Highlands Ranch Toastmasters Club
Laramie Morning Club
Lowry Peak Speakers Club
Peak Performance
Pikes Peak Toastmasters Club
Pioneer Toastmasters Club
Rocky Mountain Eagle Toastmasters Club
Seamasters Toastmasters Club
Speak with Ease Club
Sunrise Toastmasters
Timberline Toastmasters
Titan Club
Westminster Communicators Club

Select Distinguished (7)

Artfully Speaking
Cheyenne 798 Toastmasters
Cloud Peak Toastmasters Club
Colorado Xpressionists Club
Currently Speaking Toastmasters
Downtown Toastmasters Club
Greeley Early Risers Toastmasters
5280 Toastmasters Club
Front Range Toastmasters Club
Littleton Toastmasters Club
On Broadway Toastmasters Club
Pueblo Toastmasters Club
Rock Springs Raconteurs Toastmasters
Resource Masters
Rock the Dialogue Toastmasters
Rocky Mountain Toastmasters Club
Speakeasy II Club
Speech Masters Advanced Club
Summit Club
Twin Peaks Toasters
TOPCLASS Toastmasters
WRY Toast Toastmasters Club

Congratulations to the following newly chartered clubs:

Aegon Toast chartered on April 4
Ulteig Multiregional Toastmasters Club chartered on May 7

What's Happening Around the District?

Welcome the 2018-2019 District 26 Leadership Team!

By Rhea Thompson, District Director

We are pleased to announce the newly elected District leaders for 2018-2019.

District TRIO

District Director:	Marcia Wood, DTM
Program Quality Director:	Mike Akins, DTM
Club Growth Director:	Jacqueline Smith, ACG, ALB



Division Directors

Denver Division Director:	Carol Pace, DTM
Eastern Division Director:	Sarah Beasley, DL2
Foothills Division Director:	Terry Ploski, DTM
Metro Division Director:	Randee Ryan, CC
Northern Division Director:	Janice Haldi, DTM, PDG
Southern Division Director:	Glenn Knight, ACS, ALB
Urban Division Director:	David Johnson, DTM
Western Division Director:	Open

Our District Director Elect will be conducting interviews with all those who have expressed an interest in the roles of Administration Manager, Finance Manager, Public Relations Manager, Area Director, Extension Chair, Retention Chair, Extension Coordinators and Retention Coordinators.

These appointments will be announced in next month's District 26 Dialogue. If you have an interest in serving as the Western Division Director, please contact Marcia Wood at tm.marciawood@gmail.com. Stay tuned!



Social Media Spotlight!

One way to share more about our clubs and people is our new Social Media Spotlight! Would you like to be considered for our Social Media Spotlight? Do you know of someone else who might be a good candidate for spotlighting?

Please fill out the information below and you will be added to our list. We will do one spotlight a month pulling from names we receive here.

Please answer as much information as possible, especially your Toastmaster Title and Club (s) name.

[Submission
Form](#)

Tell us more...

We want to celebrate you. We want your events. We want your awards.

We want your accomplishments. We want your speeches.

We want to hear about you - Your achievements, your news, your contributions!

Please help your clubs by letting them know to take pictures, video tape speeches, send me emails about the club, and tag D26 on social media and send me more info. We want to share more about all our clubs, to promote our members, our areas, our divisions!

Email me, Trixie Hunter-Merrill, with this information and I will post it on our Social Media to help generate some buzz in your neck of the woods!

[Contact Me](#)

DISTRICT OPEN HOUSE

Quantity vs. Quality

By: Cynthia Cunningham

I completed the “High-Performance Leadership (“HPL”) Program!” YIPPEE!

This unique program gave me the opportunity and the formula to take my leadership skills to the next level by leading and completing a self-initiated five-part project.

In doing so, I earned the “Leadership Excellence

Award” and satisfied the third of four required criteria for earning the coveted “Advanced Leader Silver” award! When I announced last December at the District Officers Training that I wanted to organize a “District Open House” as my project, I had no idea what I was getting myself into, yet I was certain of the support I would receive from my District 26 Toastmasters family.

You didn’t disappoint me! Both Toastmasters and guests enjoyed one another’s company during the District’s final “Networking Event.” What followed was a profound life lesson’s speech by

Kelsey Robb, an insightful evaluation by Beth Boaz and entertaining responses by Table Topics contestants Rebecca Kallio, Robin McInTosh, Colette Smith and Rick Tucker.



While my vision “to have at least 100 Toastmasters and guests in attendance at the District Open House” fell short, it was the quality, not the quantity that made the project successful!

I credit that success to the expertise of Marieta Ferrington, Joyce Feustel and Lori Simpkins (“Guidance Committee”); the diligence of Fran Myers, Dori Rinehart and Alan Swartz (“Action Team”); the friendliness of Linda Rinehart and Connie Akins (“Greeters”) and the support of EVERYONE who attended.

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! Muchas Gracias, Marieta, for making this possible!



World Champion Lance Miller Keynote Speaker

District 26 Toastmasters Leadership Training June 9, 2018

Are you a club officer for the 2018/2019 program year?

This event is for YOU! Please join us in Aurora, bright and early on June 9.

Toastmasters District 26 is proud to present the 2005 World Champion of Public Speaking Lance Miller as the keynoter for a free Leadership Institute on June 9 in Aurora, Colorado. Lance is visiting Colorado specifically to help train its future Toastmasters Club Officers. You can find more information on the D26 Website Calendar.

Lance will present a seminar titled **“Leadership for a Championship Club.”**

In his seminar, he explains how to manage a Toastmasters Club. This includes what each officer position does and how the executive committee works as a team with each officer contributing critical actions to the club success. Lance reviews the meeting roles in the meeting and explains how each role contributes to the member’s development as a speaker and a leader. Lastly, he reviews practical and proven membership-building actions. Lance delivered this seminar at the 2014 Toastmasters International Convention.



Schedule of Toastmasters Leadership Institutes (TLIs)

All club officers and members are invited to attend one of the Toastmasters Leadership Institutes. Set your clubs goals high and have all seven club officers attend training to receive a \$25 gift certificate to the Toastmasters online store. Clubs thrive when all club officers are trained.

All times include registration. Training begins 30-60 minutes after registration opens. Details and updates can be found on the [District 26 Calendar](#).

IMPORTANT NOTE: If you plan to attend the Aurora TLI on June 9, bring one dollar for parking and KNOW YOUR LICENSE PLATE NUMBER before you come to the payment kiosk.

2 JUNE: Southern Division

Completed

9 JUNE: Denver/ Metro/Foothills/ Urban

7:00AM - 1:00PM, Anschultz Medical Campus Education 2 South Building,
13121 E 17th Avenue, Aurora, Colorado

16 JUNE: Western Division

12:00PM - 4:00PM, Mesa County Public Libraries, 443 N. 6th Street, Grand
Junction, Colorado

23 JUNE: Northern Division

8:00AM - 1:00PM, Laramie County Community College, ARP Building, 1400 E.
College Drive, Cheyenne, Wyoming

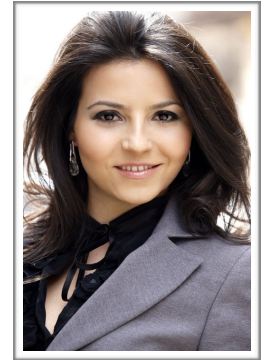
30 JUNE: Eastern Division

12:30PM - 4:30PM, UC Health Medical Center of the Rockies, 2500 Rocky
Mountain Avenue, Loveland, Colorado

4 Tips

How to transfer an idea into a successful event series

By: Marieta Ferrington, Public Relations Manager



As Sallie Krawcheck, CEO and Co-Founder of Ellevest says, “Networking is the No. 1 unwritten rule of success in business.” If you want to successfully organize events then this is even more to the point. Of course it’s important to have a choice venue and talented speakers but nothing is more critical than having the right attendance. This was a struggle as I began the the Toastmasters Networking Event series, and here is what I learned:

- 1) The easiest way to attract a robust crowd is to find at least 4 or 5 people who are perceived as ‘centers-of-influence’ in their communities & industries. These are influencers who have a large and engaged circle of people around them; they are usually active on Social Media and attend & organize networking events themselves. Engage these people first by not only asking them to share your event within their networks, but also by pulling them into the creative process of event panning. Apart from drawing people to your event, these “centers of influence” will also add energy to the room;
- 2) Create a well-rounded marketing strategy that targets your desired audience by using a variety of communication channels – e-mails, social media, video marketing, promotional materials;
- 3) Remember, the first few events are the hardest to organize and bring people to; picture a stick figure pushing a rock over a hill. If you succeed in creating a fun and rewarding experience at the first couple of events, word of mouth will take wing, people will start sharing your invites on their own initiative and you’ll be rockin-&-rollin’.
- 4) Finally, people gravitate around like-minded people and are more likely to turn up to your event if they know other people they *like* are coming as well. Diversity, therefore, provides everyone a friend and a reason to come.

SOCIAL MEDIA FIRST AID

Social Media can be a bandaid or cast, a help or a hindrance. How you use it is up to you. What is done with it, is up to your followers.

by Trisha Trixie Hunter-Merrill

1 CHECK UP

Analyze your social media and find your weakness and build on your strengths. Look at FB Insights, Twitter Insights, Buffer and Google Analytics. What is working now? What could be improved? What posts are reaching and engaging others to comment, like and share?

2 MONITOR

How often do you monitor your Social Media? Once a week? Once a Month? Daily? Each strategy will be different from others in your field. What works for one may not work for all. You may not have the resources to check it as frequently as you would like. Most Important is at least once a month.

3 EMERGENCY CONTACT SHEET

The best thing you can do for you and your team is to have your Social Media Emergency Contact Sheet put together and allow access to the other leaders. I do mine in Google Sheets (like Excel) and SHARE viewing access.

Your contact sheet consists of :

- List of all Social Media you use with URL or Bookmark
- Usernames and passwords for each site
- List of users who have access to those sites or which sites they have access to
- Who is your backup person if you are unable to manage your social media
- List of Social Media you automate and how often you automate, monitor and adjust

5 ACTIVITY LEVEL

When is the best time to post? What demographic works best? How often do I post? This is where you may need to do some testing and trials. When you monitor your social media do them as regular checkups. Check your insights and stats and see what time works best and what demographic and what area will all be in the insights and from there you can create a strategic plan for proper first aid.

6 STRATEGY PRESCRIPTION

Write yourself a Strategy Prescription. Based on your findings ask yourself and answer those questions to determine which social media you need, how often do you post, do you use an automation tool, who will help you, how often will you monitor it and who will make the adjustments?

7 PREVENTION

The best prevention you can do is to be ready. Have a strategy. Do your homework. Compare your competitors. Know Social Media rules. Know your company or Brand rules. Be prepared.

8 EMERGENCY

When do you need to call for help? Whenever you feel like it is out of your control. Seek advice from Social Media experts. Outsource to a Social Media Strategist or similar field.



Why Toastmasters? – A great Table Topic

Dallas Shepard, ALS, ACB, S4 Area Director

Do you struggle as a club to have engaging table topics from time to time.

Have you also noticed that when you have a great response to a table topic it is soon forgotten.

At Colorado Orators League we videoed the response to “Why Toastmasters?” or “What have you learned from Toastmasters?” and placed the video on social media. We not only had a great time with the video taping, but also captured the responses to share with others.

To date we have over 1,300 views, generated momentum for our open house, developed a fun competition for most views in our club and helped refine the fundamental question for members and future members that must all answer. “Why Toastmasters?”

Click on the link to check it out.

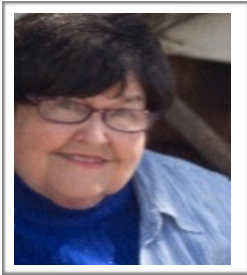
https://www.facebook.com/pg/Toastmasters5618/videos/?ref=page_internal

These videos are not meant to be professional videos, but are an honest answer to the reason members joined toastmasters from new to old timers.

We used a DSLR camera and had some lights set up for effect. If you do not have access to these items, fret not. If a member has a cell phone (who does not?) you are in business.

Don't wait on perfection..... TAKE ACTION.





Come on in - the water is fine

By: Bonnie Ann Smith, DTM

I am working on the last project in Level 5, “Reflect on Your Path”. I wanted to understand Pathways and what changes it would bring as fast as I could. I was a Learning Master for 5 years as it went from Revitalizing our Education Program to what came out as Pathways. Some people might not admit that because no one I know, including myself, is satisfied with its current state as the final product.

Looking back what did I learn?

1. This new program has kept the best of the old and added new tools and prospectives.
 - Dr Smedley's vision and our club environments.
 - Internet access, videos, tutorials, new topics
 - In-person presentations used to be the main skills supported. Toastmasters no longer has that limitation.
2. Content of our new education system is good although could be improved.
 - Add explanation that some projects like Understanding Your Communication Style are basically introductions to rather involved subjects.
 - Add evaluation objectives (such as the competencies) to the Evaluation form.
 - Personal Support Systems, or Mentoring - sooner than later.
3. The current automation delivery system leaves much to be desired but does work. Dan Rex, the CEO of Toastmasters International, spoke at the D26 Spring Conference on May 19th. I interpreted him to say Toastmasters are looking at better automation in the future.

Change normally has it's peak of excitement as it approaches followed by it's drop into frustration as we learn how to deal with the changes. As Toastmasters we are a creative group. Let's develop improvements and share our thoughts and ideas.

My personal suggestion:

“Come on in - the water is fine ... we know where the rocks are.”

Montrose Toastmasters Kickoff Meeting

By: Penny Alleman, DTM

What impressed me the most about this kickoff meeting was the commitment and passion that filled the room at this kickoff meeting. The meeting coordinator, Melissa Lowe who had earned her CC in Arizona, had moved to Montrose four months ago and was committed to continuing her journey in Toastmasters. Melissa gathered together a group of community members, some former Toastmasters and others brand new to the program.

By the end of the meeting, everyone was ready to join, and bring friends and family to join at the next meeting so the club could charter as soon as possible.

It was exciting to see the passion of the former members, as they proudly participated in the meeting roles. Another aspect that impressed me was Melissa's mentor, Al Gramando, a three time DTM and member of Signal Peak Club in Casa Grande, Arizona, drove 600 miles to support Melissa.

We also had members from Black Canyon Voices in nearby Delta, as well as Area F2 Director Mary Watson and three members of Grand Junction Toastmasters drove 65 miles to participate. Everyone was eager to motivate and support the new club to charter at the next meeting.

It is exciting to witness the intense passion that the Toastmasters program inspires in each of us.



No culture shock at Toastmasters Roma!

By: Cathy Carpenter, DTM

On February 27, Cathy Carpenter, DTM of Toast of Inverness (club 4128, D26, area U1), visited Rome on vacation and attended a meeting of Toastmasters Roma (club 1399930; D59, area G3), a bilingual club (Italian and English).

She was impressed at how similar the meetings are to her home club! Other than some segments in Italian, which Cathy is learning, it was just like a meeting in Colorado. Everyone was friendly, encouraging, and eager to participate and improve their skills. The meeting was organized with a typical agenda, and they clapped as often and fervently as we do in Denver.

Being a bilingual club, they had “words of the day” both in Italian and English, and they have separate speaking contests for each language. Cathy was able to participate in table topics with an English prompt.

It was a great experience and Cathy will visit again her next time in Rome. She encourages you to seek out Toastmasters on your travels and experience a meeting for yourself!





An Enchanting Visit with Toastmasters in Bangalore, India

By: Michelle Mras, DTM

In April 2018, I attended the Women's Economic Forum in New Delhi, India to receive the Exceptional Women of Excellence Award for Inspiration.

I received a message from a friend, Srividya Nagaraju who shared the TEDx Colorado Springs stage with me in October 2015, asking me to come to her city in Southern India. I didn't allow the opportunity to pass!

We discovered our love of speaking stemmed from our involvement in Toastmasters International. I attended her club, the Indian Institute of Management Bangalore, IIMB Orators Club, Toastmasters District 92.



Toastmasters around the world are truly united under the Toastmasters Promise.

I was welcomed with open arms, surprised to see a paperless meeting - to include voting, and a coffee break to include a snack and networking opportunities. Fabulous experience! I look forward to visiting them again and better yet, to see a few of them at the 2018 International Conference!

WANTED: Articles

By: Michelle Mras, DTM, Newsletter Editor



WHERE LEADERS ARE MADE

What's going on in your Club, Area or Division? Write an article and share a photo. See below for the submission protocol and send it in. If you need help writing, simply ask. Let's share club successes throughout District 26!

DIALOGUE SUBMISSION PROTOCOLS

Articles are limited to 250 words or less.

Send with a photo of yourself or a representation of the event.

The submission deadline is the 15th of each month.

Send articles and photos to the editor newsletter@d26leaders.org.

Please state "D26 newsletter/ month / Title" in the subject line.