

The Cornerstone



*Official Bulletin of District 28 Toastmasters Serving
Southeast Michigan, Northwest Ohio, and Southwest Ontario*

Winter 2006

Volume XVII, Issue I

LIGHTS! CAMERA! ACTION!

*Kevin Olmstead
Spring Conference Chair*

Project: Punched-up Script Outline
District 28 Spring Conference

Setting: Kensington Court Hotel, Ann Arbor MI
Time: April 21-22, 2006
Cast: YOU and your fellow District 28 Toastmasters

Exciting Action takes place in five Acts

Act 1: Friday Night

- *Thrilling* Finals of the District Evaluation Contest
- *Enchanting* Friday Fun Night activity fitting theme of Lights! Camera! Action!

Act 2: Saturday Morning

- *Knockout* full breakfast buffet
- *Exquisite* talk by International Director Bill Bienia
- *Gripping* Educational Sessions fitting the theme of communicating in the media
- *Outstanding* Luncheon keynote by 1995 World Champion of Public Speaking Mark Brown

Act 3: Saturday Afternoon

- *Electrifying* District Business Meeting, including the *blood-tingling* election of 2006-2007 District Officers
- *Stimulating* Education Sessions

Act 4: Later Saturday Afternoon

- *Mind-Blowing* Cookie Break
- *Riveting* Finals of the District 28 International Speech Contest, with winner advancing to the Regional Competition in June here in District 28

Act 5: Saturday Evening

- *Magnificent* District Governor's Banquet, with dancing into the night

To give suggestions for fleshing out the script or for getting into the sensational cast, contact the Conference Chair at kevinolmstead76@yahoo.com, or call him at 734-769-7580.



Save the Date for Regional!

District 28 is proud to host Toastmaster International's 2006 Region VI Conference. The conference will be held June 23-24, 2006, at the Doubletree Hotel in Romulus, Michigan. The conference co-chairs are Gloria Hamilton, DTM, and Sheryl Blessing, DTM. Details will be announced, and posted to the District 28 web site (www.d28toastmasters.org). Mark your calendars!

And for International, too!

Toastmaster International's 2006 International Convention will be held August 23-26, 2006, at The Washington Hilton in Washington, D.C.

Mark your calendars, and stay tuned for more information!

A Mid-Year Reflection

*Tony Slawinski, DTM
District 28 Governor*

Many things have been happening since the Toastmaster year began. Club officers were trained, and are being trained again. The fall conference was a huge success, and spring conference planning is underway. Club contest season is upon us, and the area, division and district contests are being planned. We have four new clubs, and several more are not far behind. We have some great leads on future clubs and the inquiries keep coming. We're well ahead of last year.

How are you doing? Are you keeping up with all this? How are you doing on your plans to progress this year personally? Are you involved with helping your club grow? Do you have a 30-second elevator speech about Toastmasters? Have you invited a guest to your club meeting lately?

Our conferences are a great time to polish up any of those skills. It might be a seminar that gets you to

the next level or helps someone conquer a major fear. You are invited to attend and see what Toastmasters has to offer. You might be surprised.

There is still plenty of time to set and attain goals. Maybe that Advanced Toastmaster award is just a few speeches away. Pick up a new manual and plan to get it by year's end. Perhaps it's time to stretch outside the club and offer Speechcraft or Youth Leadership to have others see what Toastmasters has to offer. Or perhaps, you're close to Distinguished Toastmaster, but you haven't been a district officer yet. Let a current district officer know and we'll be glad to get you started.

It is a year to stretch. Stretch to attain goals. Stretch to prepare for more. Stretch beyond where you are today and you'll be surprised where you'll end up. Stretch for Success!

Wanted: Leaders!

*Sheryl Blessing, DTM
Immediate Past District Governor*

District 28 is searching for leaders for the 2006-2007 Toastmaster year. This could be your year to step up, volunteer and take action, and we're ready for you! Don't wait any longer, the time is now!

Why be a District Officer? There are plenty of reasons.

1. Learn – or improve – leadership skills
2. Work in a team environment
3. Strengthen your communication skills
4. Improve your listening skills
5. Meet new people from all over District 28
6. Meet one of the requirements for the Advanced Leader/Distinguished Toastmaster Award

In a nutshell, like everything else "Toastmasters", the reason to be a District Officer is personal growth.

If you are interested in becoming a District Officer for the 2006-2007 Toastmaster year, or you know

someone who would make a great leader (and is qualified), please complete the "District Officer Nominating Form" and return to the Nominations Chair, Sheryl Blessing, DTM.

These forms are available on the District 28 website (www.d28toastmasters.org):

- Mission, Purpose and Qualifications information document
- District Officer Nominating Form (to be filled out by all Candidates, elected and appointed)
- Officer Agreement and Release Form (to be filled out by all Candidates, elected and appointed)

Interviews for elected positions are tentatively set for March 4 at the Holiday Inn Express in Monroe. Individual appointment times to be advised.

Leaders aren't born, they are made...
(Vince Lombardi)

Speech Contest Season Is Here!

This season, the contests are the Evaluation Contest and the International Speech Contest.

For details on how to conduct a speech contest and helpful hints to ensure success, please review the handouts attached to the District 28 web site under "Contests." (Where else?)

The contest schedule:

| | |
|-------------------|------------------------|
| Club Contests | February 1-28, 2006 |
| Area Contests | March 1-25, 2006 |
| Division Contests | March 26-April 7, 2006 |
| District Contests | April 21-22, 2006 |

Club Officer Training

*Todd Brockdorf, DTM
Lt. Governor of Education & Training*

It's that time of year again! No, I'm not talking about the holidays. I'm not talking about the New Year. I'm not talking about those resolutions that you made and broke by the ninth day of January.

I AM talking about Toastmasters CLUB OFFICER TRAINING! Yup, that's right. It's time to earn that Distinguished Club Point. It's time to get training for the final push in the Toastmasters year. It's time to renew those Toastmaster vows, er...wait a sec.... You get the point.

Have we got a DEAL for you! This training is all about YOU! Yeah, that's right. You! You want MEMBERSHIP BUILDING TIPS – we've got them. You want information on the NEW EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM – we've got it. You want to know how to run an EFFECTIVE CONTEST – we'll tell you.

But wait, like any good offer...there's more! Yup, that's right. If you act now, we'll throw in a session on how to JUDGE YOUR CONTEST, we'll add in the coveted SPECIFIC OFFICE TRAINING and we'll even throw in a FREE breakfast. But wait...there's more - as the Super Duper Bonus Offer, you have a chance to attend the Spring Conference for HALF OFF!

With all of this information, the breakfast, AND the Super Duper Bonus Offer, what would you expect to pay? \$100, \$79, MORE!?!?! (are you nuts?). You get all of this for the low, low cost of NOTHING! Yup – zero, zilch, nada!

For those of you who skipped right to the end of this message, without reading the entertaining banter, here are the details:

Club Officer Trainings will be held:

- Saturday, February 11, 2006, Owens Community College, 30335 Oregon Road, Perrysburg, OH 43551, College Hall
Directions are at:
http://www.owens.edu/about_owens/maps.html
- Schedule: 8:00 AM (Registration) 9:00 AM (Start-promptly) until 1:00 PM.

Be there on time for food – first come, first served. Better, yet, get there on time to hear the membership building session; it's first.

Speech Contest Winners

District 28 Table Topics

1st - LaShon Bowers-Bates

2nd - Cliff Suttle

3rd - Bruce Perry

District 28 Humorous Speech

1st – Cathy Howard-Lindemann

2nd – Michael Dean

3rd – Martin Lassers

Membership Building Contests

“Heat Things Up!”

a.k.a. the District 28 Membership Building Contest

During the winter, some animals hibernate, and some plants go dormant. Toastmasters don't hibernate! Don't let your club go dormant! Use this time to "Heat Things Up!" Help your club build its membership AND earn the chance to win TI Gift Certificates. This contest runs January 1-March 30, 2006. For more information, go to: <http://www.d28toastmasters.org/Contests/>

Talk up Toastmasters!

(conducted by Toastmasters International)

During the "Talk up Toastmasters!" membership program, when your club adds five or more members (new, dual or reinstated) to your roster between February 1 and March 31, you'll receive a special "Talk up Toastmasters!" ribbon to display on your club's banner.

Annual Membership Program

(conducted by Toastmasters International)

This program runs July 1 – June 30, and acknowledges individuals who have sponsored 5, 10, 15 or more members (new, dual or reinstated) during the program. Prizes include:

| | |
|---|------------|
| <i>Find Your Voice. Serve Your World.</i> Pin | 5 members |
| Gold Star pin | 10 members |
| Toastmasters necktie or scarf | 15 members |

A little "Bling!" is a good thing! Congratulations to the following individuals, who have thus far sponsored five or more members (new, dual or reinstated):

| | |
|-----------------------|----|
| Kay K. Andiappan | 18 |
| Semant Jain, CTM | 9 |
| Marilyn S. Albee, DTM | 7 |
| Robert J. Brus | 6 |
| Arthur R. Clark, DTM | 5 |
| Karen Holland, DTM | 5 |

For more information, on "Talk up Toastmasters!" or the Annual Membership Program, visit the TI web site: <https://www.toastmasters.org/fupload/media/1620-0506.pdf>

Membership Contest Winners

“A Season to Grow”

This District 28 membership building contest ran July 1 - September 30, 2005. The winners, selected by a random drawing, were:

Smooth Talkers - #7884, Division G, Area 19
Detroit ROCKS! - #1405, Division F, Area 29
Canton Communicators, #788368, Div. G, Area 19
Visteon Presenters - #643490, Division F, Area 28

Each of the clubs were entitled to one free full package registration to District 28's 2005 Fall Conference, held November 18-19, 2005, at the Holiday Inn-Fairlane in Detroit, Michigan.

The Smedley Award

(conducted by Toastmasters International)

Named for TI's founder, Dr. Ralph C. Smedley, The Smedley Award program recognizes clubs that add five or more new members during the months of August and September. The prize is the commemorative Smedley Award banner ribbon. District 28 is proud to announce that the following eight clubs have earned The Smedley Award for 2005-2006:

Dearborn Dynamic (Club # 726, Div. G, Area 14)
Washtenaw (# 3054, Div. C, Area 11)
Powertalkers (# 4506, Div. F, Area 29)
Windsor (# 6416, Div. F, Area 27)
Ann Arbor TM & Friends (# 6563, Div. C, Area 13)
Expressions (# 6602, Div. D, Area 17)
Smooth Talkers (# 7884, Div. G, Area 19)
Ford Toastmasters (# 8085, Div. G, Area 15)

We hope that winning clubs take this opportunity to further publicize this accomplishment by sending a photo and brief article about the award, and its meeting schedule, to local newspapers or the company newsletter. Congratulations to all of you!

*Information compiled by
Karen Holland, DTM
Lt. Governor of Marketing*

The District 28 Marketing Team

*Karen Holland, DTM
Lt. Governor of Marketing*

District 28's Marketing Program for 2005-2006 is designed to provide opportunities for:

- members to improve their leadership skills.
- "more seasoned" Toastmasters to work with newer members (those with as-yet untapped leadership potential) in order to encourage and cultivate our future leaders
- members to work on High Performance Leadership (HPL) projects, serve as a new club mentor or sponsor, conduct educational sessions, and present manual speeches.

Four Marketing Ambassadors work with the Lieutenant Governor of Marketing to build teams of Toastmasters to participate in new club kick-off (a.k.a. "demonstration") meetings. Some Demonstration Team members have prior experience in this area, while others are new to this role. Team members are trained, and the specific group that participates in a particular kick-off meeting is assembled with the type of club in mind (corporate, community, college, etc.). Marketing Ambassadors may use this opportunity to conduct a High Performance Leadership project (a requirement for Advanced Leader certification.) Demonstration Team members have the opportunity to serve as club sponsors and mentors (another requirement for Advanced Leader certification).

The Marketing Ambassadors for 2005-2006 are:

| | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Nancy Zychowicz, CTM | Divisions A&B |
| Kevin Olmstead, DTM | Divisions C&G |
| Bill Roberts, DTM | Divisions D & E |
| Claudia Scott, ATM-S/CL | Division F |

Club Assistance and Club Coach Program

Sometimes, for a variety of reasons, a club finds itself in trouble. Perhaps it's an attendance problem. Perhaps enough members sign up to speak, but then keep canceling. Perhaps there's a problem in the "evaluation department." Have your club's membership levels dropped, and attempts to fix it "in house" have not succeeded? If your club has 12 or fewer members, it may request a Club Coach to help them rebuild. (Coaches are appointed by the District Governor.) If your club has more than 12 members, but still needs help, please speak to your Area Governor, Division Governor, or another member of the Leadership Team.

If you would like to become part of the District 28 Marketing Team, or have a lead regarding where to start a new club, please contact LGM Karen Holland or another member of the Team. Thank you!

Welcome to the District!

Compuators Toastmasters (# 861229, F27) chartered on 1/1/06! Located at the Compuware in Detroit, Club Sponsors are Kizzy Cross and Paula Shelton, ATM-G, and Club Mentors are Susana Woloson, CTM and Damon Dixon, ATM-G.

The UMBS Toastmasters (# 849467, C12) in Ann Arbor, MI, chartered on 11/1/06! Club Sponsors are Kevin Olmstead and James Mann. The Club Mentors are Steve Gorham and Y.S. Kim. UMBS stands for the "University of Michigan Business School."

OHM Toastmasters (# 835665, G14) in Livonia, Michigan, chartered on 9/26/05! Club Sponsors are Marilyn Albee and Vicki Brannon. Club Mentors are Kevin Olmstead and James Mann. Orchard, Hiltz & McCliment is a civil engineering firm.

Barton Malow Company Club (# 786827, D17) in Troy, Michigan, chartered on 8/1/05. Bill Moylan, DTM, is serving as both a sponsor and mentor of the club.

Did You Know?

Toastmasters International has recently announced changes to both the education and leadership program tracks. Information regarding these changes is being presented at Club Officer Training. It is also available on the TI web site (www.toastmasters.org), and in recent issues of the *Toastmaster* magazine.

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To get more information about upcoming events, etc., check out the District 28 web site at www.d28toastmasters.org

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“The D28 Community List” is an excellent way for district members to receive e-mail updates regarding events happening within the District 28 community, reminders about upcoming TI deadlines, and more. To sign up, visit the District 28 web site. (There’s also a collection of prior postings available for review.)

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Updating Club Bylaws: Since Toastmasters International increased club member dues in 2005, and since the dollar amount of club member dues is listed in every club’s Bylaws, every club is supposed to update its Bylaws. This can be done very easily via the TI web site (www.toastmasters.org), within the “Club Business” section.

Speaking of Dues... Collection time for dues renewals seems to sneak up on us, doesn’t it? Dues are “due” to TI by April 1, but it wouldn’t hurt to start collecting them early!

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District 28’s very own Cliff Suttle, ATM/CL (from Dearborn Dynamic and Optimistic Orators) has an article in the January 2006 issue of the *Toastmaster* magazine entitled “*The Science of Silence.*” Cliff, may we have your autograph?

~

You can earn another CTM. Once a member has earned his or her CTM, and started working in advanced manuals, a Toastmaster can still repeat the “basic” manual. It’s rather like pianists practicing the scales – it keeps their “basic skills” sharp. TI rules indicate that a member may earn and receive credit for one CTM each year for each club to which he or she belongs. Cool, eh?

~

Area Governors will be conducting the second round of club visits over the next few months. Each visit will include the completion of the “Area Report of Club Visit Form” with the club officers. Your responses are very important, as they help the District Leadership Team with future planning!

Cornerstone Staff and Publishing Information

The Cornerstone is an information tool for members and the general public of District 28. Comments and ideas are always welcome. Mail them to:

Kevin Olmstead, DTM
2 Northwick Ct.
Ann Arbor, MI 48105

Publisher: Anthony Slawinski, DTM
Managing Editor: Kevin Olmstead, DTM
Lt. Governor Education & Training: Todd Brockdorf, DTM
Lt. Governor Marketing: Karen Holland, DTM

Toastmasters International is the leading movement devoted to making effective oral communication a worldwide reality.

Through its member Clubs, Toastmasters International helps men and women learn the arts of speaking, listening and thinking – vital skills that promote self-actualization, enhance leadership, foster human understanding, and contribute to the betterment of mankind.

It is basic to this mission that Toastmasters International continually expand its worldwide network of Clubs, thereby offering ever-greater numbers of people the opportunity to benefit from its programs.



2006 Spring Conference

April 21-22, 2006

Ann Arbor, MI



LIGHTS! CAMERA! ACTION!

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY!!!!

PELAE MAKE CHECKS/CHEQUES/MONEY ORDERS PAYABLE TO DISTRICT 28 TOASTMASTERS!!!

Last Name _____ First _____

Name _____

Are you a GUEST of a Toastmaster? _____ If you are a Toastmaster, check Designation below:

CTM _____ ATM-B _____ ATM-S _____ ATM-G _____ CL _____ AL _____ DTM _____ None _____

Address _____ City _____

State/Province _____ Postal Code _____ E-mail _____

mail _____

Phone (H) _____ (W) _____

Club Name/Number _____ Area/Division _____

Is this your first District Conference? _____

If you are a current club officer, please tell us which office _____

| Conference Choices | Description | Cost (US \$) | Your Total |
|--|--|---|------------|
| Full package | All Workshops, Evaluation Contest, International Speech Contest, all meals including a FULL Saturday breakfast buffet and Friday Fun Night entertainment | \$99 (by 2/28) \$109 (by 3/31) \$119 (after 4/1) | |
| Friday (only) | Evaluation Contest and Friday Fun Night (<i>casual attire suggested</i>) | \$20 | |
| Saturday (all day, with meals) | All Workshops, International Speech Contest, FULL breakfast, lunch, cookie break and dinner | \$100 | |
| Saturday (all day, without meals) | All Educational Sessions and International Speech Contest | \$30 | |
| Saturday (a.m.) | Morning Workshops, breakfast and lunch | \$30 | |
| Saturday (p.m.) | Lunch, Afternoon Workshops, Cookie Break, International Speech Contest | \$40 | |
| Saturday (lunch only) | Hall of Fame Luncheon | \$20 | |
| Saturday (dinner only) | District Governor's Banquet (<i>semi-formal attire suggested</i>) | \$30 | |
| Saturday (contest only) | International Speech Contest | \$20 | |

DON'T FORGET TO MAKE YOUR MEAL SELECTIONS! (Please circle your choices.)

| Lunch | Dinner |
|--|--|
| Turkey Croissant - or - Vegetable Lavash | Filet Mignon - or - Stuffed Lemon Sole - or - Vegetarian Ratatouille |

Please let us know if you have any special dietary restrictions.

v1.2

Mail Registrations by April 14 to:

Y.S. Kim, Registration Chair
P.O. Box 1191, Dearborn, MI 48121-1191
313-322-7357 <W> / 248-921-4001 <cell>

For more information, contact:

Kevin Olmstead, Conference Chair
734-769-7580 <H> / 734-213-2032 <W>
e-mail kevinolmstead76@yahoo.com

Hotel Information:**The Kensington Court**

610 Hilton Blvd, Ann Arbor, MI 48108
(734) 761-7800

Mention "Toastmasters" for special room rate of \$109 (double or king). **(Toastmasters rate is good through 3/21/06)**

District 28 Conference Workshop Presenters

An electronic version of this form can be obtained by emailing tmb@comcast.net. If selected, you may be asked to provide a photo of yourself for the conference program and/or promotional materials. Please return this form no later than February 24.

Name(s) of presenters: _____

Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____ Alternate Telephone Number: _____

Email address: _____

Please provide a description of your presentation for the conference program in 50 words or less:

Please provide a 150 word or less description of your program including a brief content outline, learning objectives, and benefits to the membership:

Please list your Audio/Video requirements for your program (i.e. - LCD projector to hook up to a laptop, transparency overhead for slides, flip chart, VCR, DVD player, etc.). Note: If you don't request it now, it may not be available later.

Please return completed form to:
E-mail preferred: tmb@comcast.net
Todd Brockdorf, DTM
1522 Oakfield Drive
Ann Arbor, MI 48108

Questions?
Call: 734.678.6088
E-mail: tmb@comcast.net

CALL FOR EDUCATIONAL SESSION PRESENTERS

Region VI 2006 Toastmasters International Conference

Doubletree Hotel, Romulus MI (Detroit Metro airport)

June 23 - 24, 2006

Conference Chairmen – Gloria Hamilton DTM and Sheryl Blessing DTM

Submittal Deadline: February 14, 2006

Complete a separate form for each educational session topic to submit for consideration for the Region VI 2006 Conference.

Sessions are typically 45 minutes in length. If you are chosen to be a presenter, you cannot compete in the 2006 International Speech contest at ANY level. Anyone considering District or Lieutenant Governor position for 2006-2007 is not eligible to present a workshop.

Are you willing to present on Friday morning? Yes No (*circle one*)

Are you willing to present on Friday afternoon? Yes No (*circle one*)

Your Full Name, Designation: _____

District #: _____ Club Name: _____ Club #: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

State/Province: _____ Zip/Postal Code: _____

Work Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____

Cell: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____

Topic: (*circle one*) Leadership Communication Skills Club/District Success Personal Development

Title of Program (*if selected, title will be used in promotional materials*):

Describe the goal of the session and list three objectives:

Goal: _____

Objectives:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

List any audio/visual equipment required for your presentation:

Please complete the reverse of this form.

