



2005-2006
Theo W. Black, DTM

Crest O' the Hill #981 (Home)
Nomads #691684
Saturday Morning Live! #9196
Unusual CHR-acters #691612
Humor Mill #330



District Theme: *Find Your Voice. Serve Your World.*

International Officers

Sherri Wood, DTM – Second Year International Director, Region IV
 Cliff Heinsch, DTM – First Year International Director, Region IV
 Dilip Abayasekara – International President

District Officers

(* indicates Award Received)

District Governor	Theo Black, DTM	*Select Distinguished District
Lt Gov. of Ed. & Training	Jeannette Bauch, DTM	*Excellence in Education
Lt Gov. of Marketing	Pat Croal, DTM	*Excellence in Marketing
Public Relations Officer	Lonnie Yohannes, ATM-B	
Treasurer	George Kane, DTM	
Secretary	Terry Ragan, ATM	
Co-Sergeant at Arms	Bob Wagner, DTM	
Co-Sergeant at Arms	Bret Jenkin,	
Immediate Past District Gov.	Mary Swanson, DTM	

Committee Chairs

Area Gov Trainer	Susan Noddin	Nominating Chair	Mary Swanson
Audit	George Deliduka	Parliamentarian Co-Chair	Medard Kaiserschot
Budget & Finance	Cathy Gray	Parliamentarian Co-Chair	Len Glaeser
C & L (PDG)	Keith Hardy	Phone chair MN	Frank Mayers
Chief Judge	Rick Holtmeier	Phone chair ONT	Karolyn Hoard
Club Coach Co-Chair	Linda Larson	Photographer	Bill Clark
Club Coach Co-Chair	Brian Rohrenbach	Photographer	Henry Korpela
Credentials	Steve Lockwood	Photographer	Sherman Kho
Data Coordinator	Kim Keilholtz	Realignment Chair	Waheed Ayinde
Digest Editor	Dan Field	Speakers Bureau	Ray Quinn
Directory	Kim Keilholtz	Speechcraft	Evelyn Genta
District Assistant	Kim Keilholtz	Spring Convention Co-Chair	Mary Swanson
Fall Conf Co-Chair	Joan Watson	Spring Convention Co-Chair	Susan Long
Fall Conf Co-Chair	Rich Andresen	State Fair Chair	Ron Sutliff
Follow-Up Chair	Scott Miller	TELI	Al Anderson
Historian	Judy Southwick	Web Editor	Len Glaeser
ID Visit	Joan Watson	Youth Leadership	Jean Keating
Merchandise Mart	Marilyn Landreth		

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Division Governors

(*PDD = Presidents Distinguished Division)

Central Division Governor	Garry Teigland, DTM	*PDD
Eastern Division Governor	Frank Mayers, DTM	*PDD
Frontier Division Governor	Ann Sullivan, CTM	*PDD
International Division Governor	Henry Korpela, ATM-B	
Metro Division Governor	Joan Estenson, ATM	*PDD
Northern Division Governor	Harriett Beadell, DTM	*PDD
Prairie Division Governor	Anne Groetsch, DTM	*PDD
Rivers Division Governor	Kirk Johnson, DTM	*PDD
Southern Division Governor	Brian Hinton, DTM	*PDD
Western Division Governor	Mark Forsberg, ATM-B	*PDD



Figure 1. 2005-2006 Leadership Team (Standing: Kirk Johnson, George Kane, Mark Forsberg, Judy Southwick, Garry Teigland, Anne Groetsch, Harriet Beadell, Brian Hinton, Frank Mayers, Lonnie Yohannes, Henry Korpela, Joan Estenson, Ann Sullivan, Len Glaeser, Kim Keilholtz, and Cliff Heinsch. Front: Theo Black, Pat Croal, Jeannette Bauch)

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Area Governors

(*PDA = Presidents Distinguished Area, *SDA = Select Distinguished Area, and
* DA = Distinguished Area)

Division	Area	Area Governor	Division	Area	Area Governor
Central	1	Helen Addie * DA	Metro	41	Judy Ring *SDA
	2	Stephen Shaner * DA		42	Terri Kasel * DA
	3	Melissa Holmquist * DA		43	Lesa Kennedy * DA
	4	Debbi Allsup *PDA		44	Kent Hawks *SDA
	5	Bonnie Laabs * DA		45	Carol Dreier
	6	Kaki Steen *SDA		46	Lisa Polachek * DA
Eastern	11	Jean Fabiano * DA	Northern	51	Linda Westrom *SDA
	12	Gretchen Coons *PDA		52	Elizabeth Becker *PDA
	13	Mary Torno		53	Georgia Thometz * DA
	14	Elizabeth Moore * DA		54	Jan Sidla *SDA
	15	Kim Frankhauser *SDA		55	Susan Wagner *SDA
	16	Patrick O'Leary * DA		56	Geraldine Mehta * DA
Frontier	21	Toyin Alowonle * DA	Prairie	61	Robin Eberlein * DA
	22	Mark Stenzel * DA		62	Anthony Farag
	23	Ruth Alliband *PDA		63	Bob Guzek * DA
	24	Bill Usher * DA		64	Rick Holtmeier * DA
	25	Edward Lief		65	Bret Jenkin * DA
	26	Don Bailey	Rivers	71	Sarat Mohaptra *SDA
International	31	Lyndah Korpela * DA		72	Muniesh Khandelwal * DA
	32	Area Council		73	Lesley Ernst *SDA
	33	Al Johnson		74	Kathy Neumiller *PDA
				75	Cathy Sever
Southern	81	Joe Brabeck	Western	91	Ava Tamis * DA
	82	Silvia Spanoyannis * DA		92	Judy Johnson * DA
	83	Jane Schnitzler		93	Elke Stephen *PDA
	84	George Romano *PDA		94	Mike Goering
	85	Terry Ragan *PDA		95	Jim Goodwin * DA
				96	Kristin Nepper * DA

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District Clubs – July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2006

(*PDC = Presidents Distinguished Club, *SDC = Select Distinguished Club, and

* DC = Distinguished Club)

Division	Area	Club Name	City	Number	
Central	1	Tale Weavers	Minneapolis	693	*PDC
	1	V.A.M.C.	Minneapolis	3334	
	1	PROS	Minneapolis	4650	
	1	Lunch Bunch	Minneapolis	8136	
	2	System Masters	Bloomington	4554	
	2	Luncheon Linguists	Bloomington	4611	
	2	ToroProse	Bloomington	5369	*SDC
	2	Health Toasters	Bloomington	9648	*PDC
	2	Dynamic Speakers	Bloomington	780805	*PDC
	3	Attention Getters	Edina	987	
	3	Spartan Speakers Wenell	Bloomington	2376	
	3	Realtors	Edina	2512	*SDC
	3	Codetalkers	Bloomington	6227	* DC
	3	Tower Talkers	Bloomington	6849	
	4	Cosmopolitan	Bloomington	515	
	4	Talking Heads	Bloomington	4316	*PDC
	4	Toast of BI	Edina	8754	* DC
	4	Noon Time Expressions	Bloomington	609048	*PDC
	4	Generally Speaking	Bloomington	780801	*PDC
	5	Zephyrus	Richfield	490	
	5	Masters of Gab	Edina	1232	
	5	Eye Openers	Richfield	4106	
	5	Tag Talk	Richfield	6540	* DC
	6	Richfield Legion	Richfield	232	
	6	Humor Mill	Richfield	330	*PDC
	6	Crest O' the Hill	Richfield	981	*PDC
	6	Dan Patch	Richfield	1280	*PDC

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District Clubs – July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2006

(*PDC = Presidents Distinguished Club, *SDC = Select Distinguished Club, and

* DC = Distinguished Club)

Division	Area	Club Name	City	Number	
Eastern	11	King Boreas	Saint Paul	208	*SDC
	11	Vikings	Saint Paul	591	*PDC
	11	Metropolitan	Saint Paul	1696	
	11	Speak Up & Out-GLBT	Saint Paul	2509	
	11	Ralph Smedley Club	Saint Paul	5770	
	12	Midway	Saint Paul	383	
	12	Ordway Orators	Saint Paul	4709	* DC
	12	Public Employees	Saint Paul	7527	* DC
	12	Westside Chats	Saint Paul	758930	*SDC
	13	Victory	Saint Paul	221	
	13	Republican Voices of the Lakes	Saint Paul	435	
	13	Westwinds	Saint Paul	1409	
	13	Los Lagos	Saint Paul	4226	
	13	Saint Paul Speakers	Saint Paul	5886	*PDC
	14	Burlington Northern	Saint Paul	2342	
	14	Centennial Nooners	Saint Paul	3580	*SDC
	14	Heritage	Saint Paul	3676	* DC
	14	Mutual Voices	Saint Paul	3852	*SDC
	14	Toast O' The Town	Saint Paul	3932	
	15	Minnesota Mutual	Saint Paul	560	*PDC
	15	Mears Park	Saint Paul	5133	
	15	Lawson Thrill Speakers	Saint Paul	7507	*PDC
	15	Northland Voices	Saint Paul	687139	
	16	Capitol	Saint Paul	4179	* DC
	16	Cultivated	Saint Paul	4972	*PDC
	16	Free Speech	Saint Paul	7110	
	16	River Park	Saint Paul	9033	* DC

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District Clubs – July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2006

(*PDC = Presidents Distinguished Club, *SDC = Select Distinguished Club, and

* DC = Distinguished Club)

Division	Area	Club Name	City	Number	
Frontier	21	First Saint Paul	White Bear Lake	167	*PDC
	21	Comedy Club	North Oaks	2665	
	21	Trane Hot Air Vents	White Bear Lake	6477	
	21	Checkmasters	Shoreview	7756	
	22	Land O'Lakes Buttermasters	Arden Hills	1505	
	22	The Hill Speakers	Arden Hills	4415	
	22	Shock Rhythm and Talk	Arden Hills	4805	*SDC
	22	Shoreview Speakeasy	Shoreview	8107	* DC
	23	King of Clubs	Roseville	447	*PDC
	23	The RAT Pack	Roseville	1098	*SDC
	23	MNRPCV	Roseville	1284	*PDC
	23	Capitol Square	Roseville	6042	*SDC
	24	Four Seasons	Roseville	373	*PDC
	24	Midland	Roseville	776	
	24	King Webster	Roseville	2491	
	24	AdLibbers	Roseville	7309	
	25	Wordsmiths	Saint Paul	374	*PDC
	25	Dialoggers	Falcon Heights	2401	
	25	Freethought	Roseville	6913	
	25	Power Speakers	Saint Paul	8293	
	25	Cathedral Hill	Saint Paul	9393	
	26	Unisys	Roseville	66	*PDC
	26	CPC	Saint Paul	809	
	26	Honeywell Astros	Minneapolis	1227	* DC
	26	Early Words	Minneapolis	5006	
	26	NMDP	Minneapolis	7077	
International	31	Greysolon	Duluth	217	*SDC
	31	Duluth	Duluth	1523	*SDC
	31	Riverview	Cloquet	5429	
	31	Harborview	Duluth	5910	
	31	ID Lighthouse	Duluth	693734	
	32	Lakehead	Thunder Bay	2003	
	32	Nanabijou	Thunder Bay	2090	
	32	Voix Du Tonnerre	Thunder Bay	3311	* DC
	32	Silver Tongues of the 55 Plus	Thunder Bay	6537	
	32	Heart Of The Harbour	Thunder Bay	7124	
	32	Westfort	Thunder Bay	9895	
	33	Sunset Country	Fort Frances	5690	
	33	Voyaguers	International Falls	6340	
	33	Quad Cities	Virginia	628326	
	33	Big Wind	Cass Lake	804560	

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District Clubs – July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2006

(*PDC = Presidents Distinguished Club, *SDC = Select Distinguished Club, and

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Division	Area	Club Name	City	Number	
Metro	41	Minneapolis	Minneapolis	75	
	41	Antlers	Minneapolis	725	*SDC
	41	Perfectly Burnt	Minneapolis	855	
	41	Ryan	Minneapolis	6465	* DC
	41	Word Merchants	Minneapolis	6553	*PDC
	42	Russell H Conwell	Minneapolis	82	
	42	Thrivent	Minneapolis	1767	*SDC
	42	Sales & Marketing Execs	Minneapolis	2019	
	42	RollerToasters	Minneapolis	4216	*PDC
	43	Thriftbuilders	Minneapolis	1414	*PDC
	43	One Voice	Minneapolis	4437	*SDC
	43	Voices of American Express	Minneapolis	5338	
	43	Qwestians	Minneapolis	9313	
	43	Stellar Speakers	Minneapolis	719114	
	44	Metro Speakeasy	Minneapolis	1392	
	44	Converse All-Stars	Minneapolis	3107	*SDC
	44	FRB \$peakea\$y	Minneapolis	5348	*SDC
	44	XNSPeakers	Minneapolis	5582	*SDC
	44	Expressly Speaking	Minneapolis	687051	
	45	Gopher	Minneapolis	183	
	45	Power Up	Minneapolis	3939	
	45	Butler Expressors	Minneapolis	4217	
	45	University Speakers	Minneapolis	6594	
	46	Gold Medal	Minneapolis	262	* DC
	46	Thresher Squares	Minneapolis	8783	
	46	Five Star Speakers	Minneapolis	591398	*PDC
	46	Speaking In Bytes	Minneapolis	633024	*SDC

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District Clubs – July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2006

Division	Area	Club Name	City	Number	
Northern	51	Club 500 - Debate	Brooklyn Center	500	
	51	Northwest Wind	Brooklyn Park	692	
	51	High Tech Talkers	Brooklyn Center	1487	*PDC
	51	Happy Talkers	Maple Grove	5172	*PDC
	51	Dirty Rotten Communicators	Maple Grove	762914	* DC
	52	Christopher's	Columbia Heights	958	* DC
	52	Pacemasters	Fridley	1428	*PDC
	52	Anoka	Coon Rapids	2748	*PDC
	52	Northern Orators	Fridley	5584	*PDC
	53	Pillsbury	Golden Valley	1891	* DC
	53	Mills Early Risers	Golden Valley	2312	*PDC
	53	Smooth Talkers	Golden Valley	3699	
	53	Professionally Speaking	Golden Valley	5157	
	53	Legal Eagles	Saint Louis Park	6292	
	54	Sound Bytes	Minnetonka	568	*SDC
	54	TCO Speakos	Golden Valley	7225	
	54	Stock Tockers	Golden Valley	8067	*SDC
	54	Toast of the Towers	Golden Valley	710622	
	55	Pru Toasters	Plymouth	5948	
	55	LDI Torchmasters	New Hope	6235	*SDC
	55	Westside Speakers	Minnetonka	7127	*SDC
	55	Eloquent Engineers	Minnetonka	8133	* DC
	55	LimbGuists	Plymouth	651678	*SDC
	56	Parliamentary Procedure	Crystal	1554	
	56	Sunrisers	Robbinsdale	2140	*PDC
	56	AC Earlyrisers	Robbinsdale	3646	
	56	The Sounding Board	Plymouth	4753	* DC
	56	Tic Talkers	Plymouth	6348	*SDC
Prairie	61	Hazelden	Center City	5554	*SDC
	61	North Branch	North Branch	6190	
	61	Rogers	Rogers	7734	
	61	Fairly Fluent	Wyoming	652257	
	62	Paul Bunyan	Brainerd	922	
	62	Sound Speakers	Saint Cloud	4020	
	62	Daylighters	Saint Cloud	4807	* DC
	62	ING Direct	Collegeville	732571	
	63	Granite City	Saint Cloud	679	
	63	GRE Energizers	Elk River	4749	*PDC
	63	Creative Memories	Saint Cloud	6025	
	63	Saint Cloud VA	Saint Cloud	588511	*SDC
	64	Hutchinson II	Hutchinson	4324	*PDC
	64	Tri-County	Delano	5053	
	64	North of the River Gang	Victoria	5518	
	64	Triple Talk Fling	Delano	8782	
	65	Jim Hand	Marshall	1276	
	65	Speakeasy Schwanies	Marshall	4583	*SDC
	65	Schwans Effortless Delivery	Marshall	4712	
	65	Willmar Area	Willmar	5064	

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District Clubs – July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2006

(*PDC = Presidents Distinguished Club, *SDC = Select Distinguished Club, and

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Division	Area	Club Name	City	Number	
Rivers	71	Tartan	Maplewood	162	* DC
	71	Stillwater	Stillwater	2377	
	71	Wind Chimes	Maplewood	5751	*PDC
	71	Rise N' Shine	Hudson	7443	*PDC
	71	Discovery	Oakdale	9924	*PDC
	72	Woodwinds	Woodbury	2919	
	72	Positively Outspoken	Woodbury	3998	
	72	Eloquent Nooners	Woodbury	5126	
	72	Political Discourse	Woodbury	7280	*SDC
	72	Saturday Morning LIVE!	Woodbury	9196	*PDC
	73	Big Apple	Lakeville	4619	*SDC
	73	Real Speakers	Burnsville	5637	
	73	Community Spirit	Savage	6742	
	73	Dakota Speakers	Apple Valley	7119	*SDC
	73	Nicollet Speech Builders	Burnsville	619425	
	73	Paint Traders	Lakeville	780786	
	74	The Riverbluffers	Inver Grove Hts	2426	
	74	Voice of Leadership	Eagan	3670	*PDC
	74	Toast of the West	Eagan	5930	*PDC
	74	Westerly Winds	Eagan	8582	*PDC
	74	Postal Toasters	Eagan	654731	*PDC
	75	Word Masters	Eagan	2848	
	75	Blues Communications Plus	Eagan	3561	*SDC
	75	Maximizers	Eagan	4726	*PDC
	75	Eagan Communicators	Eagan	5298	
	75	Speak N' Eagan	Eagan	9893	*PDC

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District Clubs – July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2006

(*PDC = Presidents Distinguished Club, *SDC = Select Distinguished Club, and

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Division	Area	Club Name	City	Number	
Southern	81	Mankato	Mankato	175	
	81	Speaker's University	Windom	826	
	81	New Ulm	New Ulm	4878	
	81	I-90	Fairmont	7191	
	81	B-Town	Mankato	798883	
	82	Minnesota River Valley	Prior Lake	5252	
	82	Shakopee	Shakopee	7215	
	82	Sea Speakers	Shakopee	8194	*SDC
	82	New Prague Area	New Prague	9133	
	83	Owatonna	Owatonna	134	
	83	Albert Lea Area	Albert Lea	534	
	83	Bluff Country	Spring Valley	1181	
	83	Speakers of The House	Owatonna	2248	
	83	Tuesdays With Toastmasters	Austin	8204	
	84	Hiawatha Valley	Red Wing	205	
	84	Rochester Suburban	Rochester	1883	
	84	Pine Island	Pine Island	4535	*PDC
	84	IBM	Rochester	6747	*PDC
	84	Southern MN Mentors	Pine Island	7470	
	85	Mayo Hi Nooners	Rochester	4677	*PDC
	85	Mayo Daybreakers	Rochester	5536	*PDC
	85	Chamber	Rochester	5917	*PDC
	85	Rochester Break Of Day	Rochester	8693	
	85	Chamber Toastmasters Too!	Rochester	9026	
	85	Winona	Winona	762916	*PDC

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District Clubs – July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2006

(*PDC = Presidents Distinguished Club, *SDC = Select Distinguished Club, and

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Division	Area	Club Name	City	Number	
Western	91	Tonka Talkers	Wayzata	2119	
	91	SRF	Plymouth	4375	
	91	Carlsonics	Minnetonka	6393	
	91	Words-of-Mouth	Plymouth	7541	*SDC
	91	Remarkables	Plymouth	8081	
	92	Local Vocals	Minnetonka	814	
	92	H2O Masters	Minnetonka	1440	
	92	Speakeasy	Minnetonka	1789	
	92	Cargill Trade Masters	Minnetonka	5913	* DC
	92	Marsh Winds	Minnetonka	7179	*PDC
	93	Lakers	Minneapolis	388	*SDC
	93	Minneapolis 459	Hopkins	459	
	93	Talking Meds	St Louis Park	5290	*PDC
	93	Super Valued Speakers	Hopkins	5939	*SDC
	93	Whole Wheat	St Louis Park	6144	*PDC
	94	All-American Speakers	Eden Prairie	4687	
	94	Noontime Talkers	Edina	4953	
	94	Twinmasters	Hopkins	8189	
	94	Open Up	Minnetonka	9205	
	94	NOMADs	Eden Prairie	691684	
	95	Speakers Under Pressure	Chanhassen	3096	
	95	MY-T Speakers	Eden Prairie	6446	
	95	Datamasters	Chanhassen	8148	
	95	Speech Worx	Eden Prairie	9103	*SDC
	95	Unusual CHR-Acters	Eden Prairie	691612	* DC
	96	Midday Mumbler	Chanhassen	1000	*PDC
	96	Super Speakers	Eden Prairie	4701	*PDC
	96	Speakers by Design	Eden Prairie	7076	
	96	Speakers After Hours	Eden Prairie	9218	
	96	Speech Recovery	Eden Prairie	9610	

Find Your Voice - Serve Your World

New Clubs – July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2006

(*PDC = Presidents Distinguished Club, *SDC = Select Distinguished Club)

Division	Area	Club Name	City	Number	Date	
Central	3	MACMasters Toastmasters	Minneapolis	902590	4/21/2006	
Central	4	Toast to Citi Auto	Bloomington	881413	3/2/2006	
Eastern	12	Blood, Sweat & Cheers	Saint Paul	931264	6/30/2006	
Frontier	23	ITS AFM	New Hope	893071	3/31/2006	
International	33	Mid Range	Hibbing	793012	9/30/2005	*SDC
Metro	43	Stagecoach Speakers-HMMC	Minneapolis	931300	6/30/2006	
Metro	46	Carlson Toastmasters	Minneapolis	863176	2/21/2006	
Northern	52	Ah-Ambient	Minneapolis	841690	9/30/2005	
Prairie	62	Talking Hedgehogs	Onamia	860125	6/8/2006	
Prairie	63	Soaring Eagles	Onamia	860122	6/8/2006	
Rivers	75	Blue Toasters	Eagan	933954	6/30/2006	
Southern	84	Humor-US	Rochester	821458	8/2/2005	*SDC
Southern	85	Faribault Area Toastmasters	Faribault	922405	6/15/2006	
Western	93	Brave Hearts	Minnetonka	867276	1/19/2006	
Western	95	Vital Toastmasters	Minnetonka	818920	7/18/2005	*PDC

Clubs That Failed To Thrive

Division	Area	Club Name	City	Number
Metro	41	Perfectly Burnt	Minneapolis	855
International	32	Lakehead	Thunder Bay	2003
Prairie	62	ING Direct	Saint Cloud	732571

Awards

Don Murray	Linda Samens
Lorin Pollmann	Cultivated Toastmasters
Lou Novak	Garry Teigland
D6 Division Governor of the Year	Mark Forsberg
D6 Area Governor of the Year	Terry Ragan
D6 Toastmaster of the Year	Duane Rivard
Fall '05 Communication and Leadership	Bob "Shoe Bob" Fisher
Spring '06 Communication and Leadership	Judge Pamela G. Alexander

Find Your Voice - Serve Your World

Finding Our Voices

At the Spring Convention of 2004, the district voted to expand the number of Divisions eight to ten. Rosie Davis was appointed to chair the alignment committee which began to meet in November 2004. The committee included Past District Governor Steve Lockwood, George Kane, District Governor Candidate Theo Black, Lieutenant Governor of Education and Training Candidate Jeannette Bauch, Lieutenant Governor of Marketing Candidate Pat Croal, and chair Rosie Davis. During the process, the committee asked the declared candidates for Division Governorships to join the committee and participate in the process. Two new division names were proposed: Rivers and Prairie. All clubs outside the International Division were affected by the reshaping of the Divisional structure. In the end, the committee mapped out an alignment that best met the distances to be managed with the number and locations of the clubs to be served. The ideas and support of the division governor candidates were essential to the eventual acceptance of the new structure. In the end, the new alignment and division names were approved at the Spring 2005 Convention held at Mystic Lake. Rosie Davis was commended for her level-headed pragmatic approach to the realignment process.

<u>C</u> entral	<u>E</u> astern	<u>F</u> rontier	<u>I</u> nternational	<u>M</u> etro
<u>N</u> orthern	<u>P</u> rairie*	<u>R</u> ivers*	<u>S</u> outhern	<u>W</u> estern

The New 10 Division Alignment. * Indicates newly formed Divisions.

In November 2004, three past Distinguished District Governors were asked to serve on a guidance committee for Theo's High Performance Leadership Project. Past District Governor 2000-2001 and Distinguished Toastmaster Len Glaser (Distinguished District), Past District Governor 2001-2002 and Distinguished Toastmaster Cliff Heinsch (Distinguished District), and Past District Governor 2002-2003 and Distinguished Toastmaster Judy Southwick (Distinguished District) provided guidance and feedback throughout the 2005-2006 Toastmasters year, and coincided with the District Leadership planning and key decision making that would affect the 2005-2006 year. Meetings were held in November, December, and January. During that time, a list of district appointees and possible division governor candidates was assembled. The theme for this High Performance Leadership Project was "Get the Right People on the Bus, and Get the Bus Rolling."

In March, semimonthly meeting took place among Theo Black (DG Candidate), Jeannette Bauch (LGET Candidate), Pat Croal (LGM Candidate), and Kim Keilholtz (District Assistant) to begin strategizing for the coming year. One of the key issues to be addressed was the ***proposed 50% dues increase*** announced following the mid-winter Board Meeting in January of 2005. This issue would be voted on at the August 2005 convention. Since the proposal would likely pass, a considerable amount of time was spent planning for this eventuality. In March, Lonnie Yohannes agreed to be the 2005-06 Public Relations Officer. She caught our attention when she contacted WCCO regarding Toastmasters and lined up a 20-minute segment for the District featuring Rosie Davis. Lonnie and her team were among the stars of the 2005-2006 year.

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The following strategies were laid out. First, the educational goals would be met with little extra attention. Jeannette would implement the Magnificent Seven campaign, an incentive to encourage clubs to have all seven officers trained. We would focus efforts on improving the quality of officer training sessions by training the area governors to be our primary officer trainers. Second, we decided that we would apply the bulk of our resources to membership and club building. The dues increase would cause a higher-than-normal attrition rate. It would be higher among for members who belonged to more than one club. Toastmasters claimed that the percentage of dual members in the organization was only 2 to 3 percent. In District 6, our calculations indicated the percentage to be closer to 14%. This was an area of concern. A key strategy would be to promote the organization through public relations and marketing. We wanted the Toastmasters name in front of the public as often and as far and wide as possible. We would also create an awareness campaign for the advanced speaking and leadership opportunities within our advanced clubs. Most of these clubs had a higher concentration of dual members. Our final focus was on club building. We planned to bring in five clubs each quarter for a total of up to 20 clubs. The key was to build clubs early and to maintain a robust pipeline of new club opportunities throughout the year. In this way, we would achieve our goals and be able to turnover several new club projects to the following administration.

At the Mystic Lake Spring Convention in May 2005, the annual Sunday morning Leadership Kickoff Breakfast Meeting was held. Tall Tales and Humorous were selected to be the fall contests. Table Topics and International Speech were selected for the spring contest series. Leadership-learning and camaraderie were the goals accomplished.

On June 18th, the first Area Governor and Division Governor Training was held at Unisys. A new feature was inserted into the training. The Not Quite Ready for District Leadership Players (NQRFDLP) presented the first installment of Days of Our District. These irreverent skits were included in each of our bimonthly training meetings. They provided glimpses of atrocious leadership. The Club President from Hell ... Michigan was a hilarious look at how clubs can do things all wrong. The area and division governors in the audience laughed a lot and picked out lots of areas for improvement.

Friday July 1st marked the official start of the 2005-2006 campaign. Our first TELI of the year was held at the Prime Hotel in Bloomington on July 23. World Champion Ed Tate joined us for the half-day mini convention. ID Sherri Wood and several of the Young Professionals attended from Winnipeg. The 2004-2005 Of-The-Year recipients were honored. Scott Miller was named Division Governor of the Year, Harriet Beadell was named Area Governor of the Year, and George Kane was named Toastmaster of the Year.



Figure 2. Jeanette Bauch with Ed Tate.

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In July, Owatonna Club returned to good standing. This raised our base from 250 clubs to 251 clubs.



Figure 3. Theo Black with Dilip Abayasekara

Golden Gavel Recipient Stephen Covey's book, *The 8th Habit: From Effectiveness to Greatness*. District 6 chose this servant leadership theme as well. Toronto was vibrant and metropolitan, a great choice for the International Convention.

In mid September, Division Contest Season was underway due to an earlier than normal fall conference. On October 22, we held the 3rd of 6 Area and Division Governor Training sessions.

The Fall Conference was held at Madden's Resort near Brainerd on October 14 and 15. The theme was 'Toastmasters: Larger than Life' and featured Paul Bunyan and Babe the Blue Ox. The colors were at their peak as we gathered for a Friday night Tall Tales contest at the rustic Wilson Bay building. We observed a glorious sunset just before the contest got underway. Earl Roethke won the Tall Tales Event with a tale entitled, "A Really Tough Toastmasters Club". Friday Fun Night featured a bonfire and storytelling by the lake.



Figure 4. Tall Tales Winner Earl Roethke



Figure 6. Pat, Jeannette, Bob Fisher, and Theo

Saturday's Humorous Speech Contest was won by Dave Oliver with a speech entitled, "Joining a Cult."

Saturday Luncheon featured Communication and Leadership Recipient Bob "Shoe Bob" Fisher, who gave a brilliant and heartfelt speech about homelessness. Bob had achieved local and national acclaim for starting Bob's Sleep Out, an event that raises over a million dollars annually for homeless shelters.



Figure 5. Theo Black, Jeannette Bauch, Dave Oliver, and Pat Croal

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Figure 7. The Elusive Gilded Gavel (EGG)

The leadership team put together a list of rules and instructions for how the gavel would be captured by clubs. The gavel was presented to the District Toastmaster of the Year's (TMOY) home club, The Nomads #691684 Club President George Kane (TMOY) accepted the gavel as its first owning club, from whence the EGG began its travels. All in all, it was a remarkable fall weekend that will not be soon forgotten.

At the Fall Conference, the District 6 Elusive Gilded Gavel (EGG) was launched. The 'EGG' was fashioned by Lieutenant Governor Marketing Pat Croal's husband Del Meisner.



Figure 8. District Governor Theo Black launches the EGG.

The Holiday Party was held at Theo and Nancy Black's home on December 3. Everyone who attended received a promotional Toastmasters 'Find Your Voice' license plate frame. The White Elephant gift exchange was a hit.

On January 19, the district threesome traveled to Omaha for mid-winter District Officer training January 20th and 21st. The December monthly report indicated that we were on track to be Distinguished. However, we were most concerned about our membership position. At the same point in 2004, the District had 45% membership payments and missed being Distinguished by 28 payments. In 2003 the percentage was also 47% when we made distinguished by over 100 payments. We knew that the second half of the year would be a battle to make our membership goal.

CSF	Percent	Goal	Paid
Clubs (3%)*	97%	258	250 (including 5 low)
Member Payments (2%)	46%	9404	4457
CTMs (3.5%)	48%	322	178
ATMs (1%)	78%	92	82

Figure 9. December 2005 Summary

The weekend following mid-Winter was our fourth Area and Division Governor Training session. We focused our training on membership building, public relations, and club building.

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Figure 10. Pat Croal and David Brooks

The weekend of February 18th was one of the coldest of the winter. On Saturday we hosted our second TELI of the year. Native Texan and 1990 World Champion of Public Speaking, David Brooks was our featured speaker. We treated him to a -10 F Minnesota welcome.

The Spring Division Contest series kicked off in March. The fifth of six Area and Division Governor Training sessions was held March 18. The end of March was a critical membership milestone as the second dues period came to an end.

Spring Convention was held at the Four Points Sheraton Hotel in Minneapolis, May 12-13. The theme was ‘Springtime in Paris: Vive Toastmasters!’ The two-day event featured several beautiful ice sculptures. On Friday night we held the District Table Topics contest. It was won by Jim Fiebke. International Director Sherri Wood provided the keynote address, and Friday Fun Night featured a magician and the No Name Jugglers.



Figure 11. Table Topics Contest Winner Jim Fiebke



Figure 12. Theo with C&L Recipient Judge Pamela Alexander and Keith Hardy

Saturday breakfast featured awards and a keynote address by Craig Valentine.

Communication and Leadership Recipient Judge Pamela Alexander was honored at lunch. She gave an inspirational speech about youthful offenders and the opportunities before us to change lives.



Figure 13. Craig Valentine



Figure 14. Pele Raymond and Theo Black

Craig Valentine entertained us with a plenary session educational that touched on a theme similar to that of Judge Alexander's. The 2005-2006 officers were elected at the annual Business Meeting. Pele Raymond won the International Speech Contest.

The Don Murray Award went to Linda Samens. The Lorin Pollmann Award was awarded to Cultivated Toastmasters, #4972. The Lou Novak Award went to Garry Teigland. The Club Visitor Packet Contest award recipients were: 1st Place - Happy Talkers, 2nd Place -

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Sound Bytes, 3rd Place - GRE Energizers. The 2006 Newsletter Winner was The Morning Toast (St. Paul Speakers). The 2006 Web Contest Winner was Hutchinson II Toastmasters. The 2006 Flyer/Brochure Winner was Noontime Expressions, and the 2006 Other PR Contest Winner was Wordsmiths.

By June 1 it was clear that our plan to achieve Distinguished honors hinged on the number of membership payments yet to arrive in June. At the end of May, the district was 388 (4%) membership payments away from the goal of 9515. Historical statistics indicated that the district would pick up between 350 and 450 members in that last month. A phone call campaign was initiated to encourage clubs to finish the year as a Distinguished Club. For many clubs, finding new members was the key to success.

Region IV Conference

In mid-June, District 6 hosted the 2006 **Region IV Conference** at the Minnetonka Marriott Southwest. Past District Governor Judy Southwick chaired the event with the theme: *The Spirit of Adventure*. On Thursday night Country Joe Racing entertained us with a number of NASCAR racing demonstrations. Local DJ Chris Hawke was our guest announcer.

On Friday morning, District Governor Theo Black welcomed the attendees to the Twin Cities and provided a brief history of District 6. Brian Rohrenbach gave a keynote address, *The Road to Relevance*. The District Trio attended District Officer Training hosted by International President Dilip Abayasekara, World Headquarters Representative Stephanie Demiris, Second Year ID Sherri Wood, and First Year ID Cliff Heinsch. On Friday night, we were visited by Elvis, and entertained by District Contest Winners Earl Roethke and Dave Oliver. World Champion of Public Speaking winner Darren LaCroix finished out the evening with a stand-up comedy routine.



Figure 15. PDG Judy Southwick and Harvey MacKay

At lunch on Saturday, Region IV honored Harvey MacKay with the Communication and Leadership award. The Saturday banquet featured a keynote address by our International Director Sherri Wood. Six Toastmasters competed in the International Speech Contest. District 6 contestant Pele Raymond placed second. The evening ended with dancing. Many District 6 Toastmasters participated throughout this showcase weekend.

The Final Push

Two days before the end of the Toastmasters year, we submitted the final two clubs of the fifteen posted in 2005-2006. Our net gain of seven clubs was assured. As we called clubs, we kept track of the new members each was submitting. By June 28, it was clear that the district would achieve the membership payments needed to be a Distinguished District.

District 6 Toastmasters

A Select Distinguished District



Figure 16. 2005-2006 Lieutenant Governor of Education and Training Jeannette Bauch, District 6 Governor Theo Black, and Lieutenant Governor of Marketing, Pat Croal celebrate success.

At 12:30, Saturday July 22, Dilip Abayasekara called to congratulate District 6 for achieving its Distinguished District goals.

That was not all. He also informed us that we had finished number twelve in the world and would be recognized as one of top districts in the world: **Select Distinguished**. The award was a tribute to the collective efforts of the Members, Clubs, Areas, and Divisions of District 6.

Collectively, the District accomplished many significant educational and growth goals throughout the year. District 6 was one of the elites. Only 28 of 76 districts worldwide accomplished the Four Critical Success Factors to be Distinguished. This number was down significantly. In other years the number typically exceeded 40. This decline was in large part due to the dues increase. District 6 finished number 12 out of 76 Districts worldwide.

Summary of the 2005-2006 District 6 year-end results.

District Critical Success Factors	Goal	Actual
Competent Toastmaster Awards	322	507
Advanced Toastmaster Awards	92	228
Net Club Growth of 7	258	263
Membership Payment Growth	9408	9515

Distinguished Divisions

Presidents Distinguished Divisions	9
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Distinguished Areas

Presidents Distinguished Areas	8
Select Distinguished Areas	9
Distinguished Areas	26

Distinguished Clubs

Presidents Distinguished Clubs	55
Select Distinguished Clubs	38
Distinguished Clubs	22

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Educational Awards

	Actual
Competent Toastmaster Awards	507
Advanced Toastmaster Awards Bronze	132
Advanced Toastmaster Awards Silver	68
Advanced Toastmaster Awards Gold	28
Competent Leader Awards	214
Advanced Leader Awards Bronze	20
Excellence in Leadership Awards	25
Distinguished Toastmaster Awards	15



Figure 17. Theo and Nancy Black at the Golden Gavel Head Table 2006 International Convention

The International Convention was held in Washington, D.C. As representative of a Select Distinguished, Nancy and I enjoyed a seat of honor at the head table for the Toastmasters International Convention Golden Gavel Luncheon on August 24th. Author Jim Kouzes was the Golden Gavel recipient. On Friday the 25th, the Toastmasters International Convention Hall of Fame was held. At that awards celebration, Lt. Governor of Education and Training Pat Croal received the Excellence in Marketing Award for her work as the Lt. Governor of Marketing in 2005-2005. District

Governor Jeannette Bauch received the Excellence in Education Award for her work as Lt. Governor of Education and Training in 2005-2006. Finally, Dilip Abayasekara presented a Select Distinguished Award plaque and a ribbon for the District banner.

Henry David Thoreau once said, "Success usually comes to those who are too busy to be looking for it." I think this describes the incredible finish District 6 demonstrated as we closed out the 2005-2006 year.

District 6 was recognized as Select Distinguished District 2005-2006 thanks to the collective efforts of Toastmasters throughout the District.

Well over a year in advance, we established a plan for the district to accomplish the Four Critical Success Factors. We accomplished all four: Competent Toastmaster Awards, Advanced Toastmaster Awards, Club Growth, and Membership Growth. We received additional credit for the collective work of the District: Distinguished Clubs, Distinguished Areas, and Educational Awards submitted by club members.



Figure 18. District 6 Attendees with Dilip Abayasekara Honoring District 6 as a Select Distinguished District

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Our most difficult challenge was to make our membership goal following the 50% increase in dues. It took a lot of coordination at the end of the year, yet we achieved our goal. What was most interesting was the significant growth in new members - members who joined clubs apart from those who joined as part of a chartered club. In preceding years, it was typical to see growth of 7% over the previous year. In 2005-2006, that growth climbed to 15.3%. When one considers that we our membership goal by only 107 payments (0.3% over our goal), the growth was *simply amazing*. We lost a more district members (many of whom were dual members) than normal yet added more new members than were lost.

We owe a debt of gratitude to all of the many leaders who served in 2005-2006. We salute all of the club officers. There were many success stories with the District clubs. The area governors deserve a special thank you. We were impressed by the dedication and caring service these leaders provided. The 2005-2006 class of Division Governors was a very special team. All found their voices and were truly inspirational leaders. We also recognize the many volunteer leaders who made up the district administrative staff by filling one-year assignments. All demonstrated how an effective team operates: one in which each team member puts forth his or her best efforts.

Finally, we want to thank our District Executive Committee. Kim Keilholtz, Lonnie Yohannes, Pat Croal, Jeannette Bauch, and Theo spent many hours brainstorming, planning, and reviewing our progress throughout the year. The work was fun and rewarding.

As we planned for this year, Theo chose to use the High Performance Leadership (HPL) process for planning success. Past 'Distinguished' District Governors Len Glaeser, Cliff Heinsch, and Judy Southwick served as Theo's guidance committee. We thank them for their wisdom, support, and encouragement.



Figure 19. Mementos from the 2005-2006 year.

Anais Nin said that "Your life either expands or contracts, in direct proportion to your courage." We were honored to have worked with so many exceptional Toastmasters. Many *Found Their Voices*. May others continue to follow your example. Our resolute leadership team showed us all how to *Serve Our World*¹ by touching the lives of so many in so many positive ways. We salute the entire 2005-2006 team for putting themselves on the line serving others. As a result, the 2005-2006 District 6 Year was *Simply Amazing*!¹

¹ *Simply Amazing*, the 2006-2007 District Theme.