



April 2006

Volume 44, Issue 3

Toastmasters International - District 66

STEP UP!

The Dominion Traveler

Find Your Voice. Serve Your World.

A Message from your District Governor Sal Asad, DTM



As we approach the last two months of our TM year, our District's journey continues and many of our challenges are still lying ahead: How many of our members will attain their educational goals (CTM, ATM, DTM, CL and AL)? How many of our Clubs, Areas and Divisions will be distinguished this year? Will our District continue the legacy of being distinguished for the seventh year in a

row? Are our members **STEPPING UP!**

? Are they **Finding Your Voice and Serving their World.**

These questions will be answered officially by TMI reports at the end of June. But we do not have to wait till that time to know that. Why don't we strive to achieve our goals at all levels by the time we gather at the District Spring Conference on May 19 in Harrisonburg? Why not celebrate our success at that time? We can achieve this through a D66 team effort. I thank each and every one of you for the excellent team spirit exhibited throughout the year.

We made a good progress thus far this year. But we are not there yet. Our District Dashboard for the Critical Success Factors as of April 15 appears on page 2. Yes, we are approaching our goals but we are not at the finish line. The District needs 7 more paid clubs (three of those are targeted to be new clubs), make 40 payments, and achieve 2 more ATMs and 40 more CTMs to meet its goals of being distinguished. These are achievable goals for the District but they start at the club level and are initiated by our members achieving their educational goals and our District Team chartering new clubs.

I would like to invite each and every one of you to attend the District Conference in Harrisonburg from May 19 – May 21. Our LGET, Theresa Butler, has been working hard to plan one of the best conferences ever. Please take a moment to look up the program and register at the District website, www.District66.org (see more write-up about the conference in this newsletter).

I would also like to remind you that during our Spring Conference we conduct the Annual Business Meeting where we elect new District Officers who will be carrying the District torch for the TM year that starts on July 1, 2006. I would like to take this opportunity to thank those candidates (see Candidates' Forum in this issue for more details) who are stepping up to run for offices. As a reminder each club is entitled to two votes that can be cast by the club president and the VP of Education or their designees through a District Proxy. Please make every effort to ensure that your club is represented. We must achieve a quorum at the annual business meeting to conduct the election. I am looking forward to meeting each of you at the President's Reception Friday night at the Spring Conference. In the meantime don't forget to

STEP UP, *Find Your Voice and Serve Your World.*

Sal Asad, DTM, DG

*If I am Right, Tell Me and Support Me;
If I am Wrong, Tell me and Help Me.*

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- > 2006 District Spring Proxy Certificate
- > 2006 District Spring Conference Registration Form

District Dashboard as of April 15

District Club Status					
Club Base	Clubs Lost	Clubs Added	Total Paid Clubs	Year End Target	Clubs needed to reach Target
113	10	10	109	116	7
District Membership Status					
New	Renewal	Chartered	Total	Year-end Target	Payments needed to reach target
706	3571	245	4522	4562	40
District ATM / CTM Status					
ATM	ATM Year-end Target	ATM Needed to reach target	CTM	CTM Year-end Target	CTM needed to reach target
42	44	2	116	156	40

Spice for Our Journey to Distinguished Theresa Butler, LGET, ATMS/CL

To the honorable District 66 Toastmasters,

Our journey towards Distinguished status has been consistently assertive and energetic. The leadership and teamwork that has been demonstrated this year has been impressively visible and highly appreciated. Many of our leaders old and new continue to “Step Up” in on-going “On-The-Job” training to ensure “Distinguished” Clubs, Area and Divisions.

However, as of this Newsletter our “Educational Goals” are lagging behind the mark. While we continue to move towards our goal, we must increase our stride in order to reach our target of 156 CTM’s and 44 ATM’s. Presently we have 106 CTM’s and 39 ATM’s.

Those clubs submitting CTM’s and ATM’s that post between April 15 to May 15th or with prove that the award has been submitted will receive a free copy of the New Leader Manual. With 2 months left in this year we must continue with tenacity to reach our Education Goals.

Let’s Spice it up District 66!

Are you a member of a 4 + 4 Club? By – Alice Blake, DTM Lt. Governor – Marketing

Are you a member of a 4 + 4 Club? Has your club added 4 new members – and added 4 more new members?

During February and March, Alice Blake, Lt. Governor – Marketing introduced a new way to encourage membership in Toastmasters. Each Club member was provided an “Invest In YourSelf – Join Toastmasters Today” Button. Members were encouraged to wear the button. Members were also given a flyer that talked about the benefits of Toastmasters:

- Increase self-confidence and overcome the nervousness of speaking before an audience
- Articulate, organize and present ideas logically, clearly, and convincingly
- Professionally prepared education materials and resources
- Increase effective listening skills
- Develop ability to offer feedback that is constructive, supportive, and encouraging
- Network with a diversified group of like-minded, success focused individuals
- Opportunity to continually practice and exposure to sound communication techniques in a encouraging and supportive environment
- Develop leadership skills to prepare you for personal and professional opportunities
- Increased self esteem and unlimited personal growth

At the end of March, 65 Clubs, more than 50% of our Clubs had added at least 4 new, re-instated or dual members. Thirty-one clubs added 4 + 4 members. Special recognition is given to those clubs that added more than 10 members:

Area	Club Number and Name	Members Added
C 3	5688 – Innsbrook Toastmasters	11
C 6	1397 – Richmond Club	12
C 6	2661 – West End Toastmasters Club	15
C 14	243 – Richmond FedMasters club	11
C 14	769176 – Americats Toastmaster Club	12
C 19	855854 -Very Articulate Master Communicators	10
C 21	788711 – Life Connections Program Club	16
E 7	788043 – GEICO Toastmaster Club	12
E 8	771 – Western Branch Toastmaster Club	10
E 11	674 – Voices of Empowerment Toastmasters Club	17
E 11	9041 – Visionaries Club	12
W 1	594729 – Lynchburg City Toastmasters Club	11
W 16	1514 – Blue Ridge Club	14
W 16	7537 – Vinegar Hill Club	13
W 18	595720 – The Best Parts Toastmasters Club	10

Blake - Continued from Page 2

Remember it's not too late for your club to become a member of the 4 + 4 Club. This is a great way to earn 2 points toward become a Distinguished Club. It is also a way to earn a minimum of 20 paid members on June 30, 2006.

Remember – In order for your club to be Distinguished Club or better Club, your club must have a net gain of 5 or a minimum of 20 members on June 30, 2006.



**Step Up and Expand Your World!
By Joy Fisher-Sykes**

The foundation of Toastmasters membership is the club experience. Club meetings provide a feeling of security, connection, and familiarity which makes everyone feel safe to take risks knowing we will always be applauded for our efforts.

It's important to remember the Toastmasters experience extends far beyond the four walls of our club meetings. Though many of us have participated in Area, Division, and District activities, many have not. Why? Attending Toastmasters conferences provides an opportunity to recharge your batteries, network, and learn how to refine club meetings to higher heights of success.

If you have ever wanted to attend a conference but haven't in the past this is your year! Members of District 66 will have the unique distinction of having three major conferences that will take place within or just beyond our borders. Let's all make 2006 the year District 66 steps up like never before! Register today and attend all three Toastmasters conferences – District, Regional, and International. Expand your world even further – attend with a friend. What are you waiting for - register today for these exciting events! We'll see you there!

District 66 Conference - May 19-21, 2006

Conference Registration - www.district66.org
Early Registration through April 19, 2006

Holiday Inn (formerly the Four Seasons Sheraton)
1400 East Market Street, Harrisonburg, VA 22801
Hotel Registration (800) 708-7037 or (540) 433-2521

Region VIII Conference - June 9-10, 2006

Conference Registration - www.region8tm.org
Early Registration through May 1, 2006

Doubletree Hotel - Charlottesville, VA
Hotel Registration (800) 494-9467

International Conference - August 23-26, 2006

Conference Registration - www.toastmasters.org
The Hilton Hotel Washington, D.C. 20009
Hotel Registration (202) 483-3000

**The BEYOND TM club! The best kept secret?
No longer! By Hadis Morkoc, DTM**

Do you want to go BEYOND where you are in your business, private and Toastmasters life? Then consider joining the BEYOND Toastmasters Club in Richmond.

If you are a member in another club, if you have given a minimum of 3 speeches, or just wish to visit, then come and experience BEYOND Toastmasters club.

If you have special intra or extramural projects needing extra time, expert advice, feedback, wish to stoke a long time dormant talent in you which the society suppressed, experienced toastmasters at BEYOND are ready to help you achieve to your heart's content.

If you have a contest speech in preparation, you won at the club, area and even at the divisional level, the BEYOND club can help at it has many times before.

If you need special requirements to be fulfilled for example leadership, ATM, and DTM designations, in particular High Performance Leadership, the BEYOND club can help as it has many toastmasters before.

If you are running for an office, willingly or otherwise, the BEYOND club is ideally suited for you to practice and hone your speech.

If you have business presentation, professional speech, award giving or receiving speeches, workshop, and promotional gathering (including off site), the BEYOND club can help as it has.

Are you ready to go BEYOND and infuse some enthusiasm in your life? Then come and join us on first, third, and fifth Wednesday's of each month at 6:30 PM at

Piccadilly's
8004 West Broad Street
Richmond, Virginia
GUESTS ARE WELCOME

Contact: Hadis Morkoc
TEL (804) 827-3765 (W)
TEL: (804) 740-5034 (H)
email: hmorkoc@comcast.net

FOR THE LOVE OF TOASTMASTERS
by Chris Al-Amin



“For The Love of Toastmasters” was a Central Division membership activity held February 8, 2006.

One Hundred Toastmasters and guests met at the

Matrix Room, a local club in Richmond’s downtown area. PID and PDG Pat Jordan, PDG Marlon Haskell, District 66’s Lt. Governor of Marketing, Central Division Governor, and Area Governors greeted guests and ensured each received Toastmasters membership information including a listing of all clubs in the Richmond area along with meeting dates and times.

All attendees enjoyed the evening and many Toastmasters declared “What a fun way to go for members? We should make this an annual event.”

All Divisions should try this kind of activity during a special holiday. This was a first for the central division. Thanks to our 100+ members and guests for making this a success.

Eloquent Banner Ceremony by Margie Strum



On a warm fall day in September 2005, the Eloquent Toastmasters Club # 787398, was welcomed into the Toastmasters fold with the traditional Banner Ceremony.

“Being a club officer is a big responsibility,” said Will Snader, past District 66 governor. “For those of you who have taken on this challenge,” Snader continued, “I applaud you. I thank you for your effort, your time, your commitment, and the experience you bring to the job.”

Margie Strum, Area 21 governor and Eloquent club mentor, presented club officer their pins.

“Asserting that formalization of this journey that you’ve undertaken is important,” Snader presented the club charter and banner to Gloria Broom, President, and charter member certificates to members.

Other District Officers attending included Alice Blake, lieutenant governor of marketing; Chris Al-Amin, central division governor; Pat Jordan, past international director;

Jan Leaton, past area 19 governor and sponsor; and John Rogers, president, Tri-City club #8662, and Eloquent club mentor.

Report from District Nominating Committee

On behalf of the District 66 Nominations Committee, I am pleased to present the following candidates for elective office for Toastmaster Year 2006-2007. It is my pleasure to announce that all candidates that stood for election were found to be qualified and through a voting process of the Nominations Committee all candidates’ names were placed on the ballot. On behalf of my fellow Nominations Committee Members, we thank you for allowing us to serve our district.

Other candidates may run from the floor after verification by my committee that they are qualified.

Respectfully submitted,

Will Snader, DTM, IPDG
 Chair, District 66 Nominations Committee, 2005-2006

Office	Candidate
District Governor	Theresa Butler
Lieutenant Governor Education and Training	Alice Blake
	William Weiland
Lieutenant Governor Marketing	Chris Al-Amin
	Susan Way
District Treasurer	Pat Noonan Gorski
Eastern Division Governor	Michael Mercer
Central Division Governor	Sue Brown
	Margie Strum
	Jackie Tompkins
Western Division Governor	David Myers

**Candidates Forum
2006 – 2007**

Candidate for District Governor

Theresa Butler, ATM-G



**Experience in Leadership
Creative In Vision
District Focused
Energetic and Enthusiastic
Virtuous in Character**

Candidates for Lt. Gov of Education and Training

Alice Blake, DTM



I am running for the position of Lt. Governor Education & Training. I am asking for your vote because I feel that I am the better qualified candidate. I have served District 66 in several positions and am currently the Lt. Governor Marketing.

Having served in the position of Lt. Governor Marketing, I feel that the knowledge and skills gained this year will be an asset to the District next year. This year, District 66 has chartered 9 new clubs, thereby "spreading the word of Toastmasters".

We are in the "Dues Renewal Period" and District 66 is on target to be a Distinguished District this year.

I look forward to moving to the next leadership level. I am excited about working with Clubs and members so that they understand the new Leadership Tract and stay on target with all educational goals. Remember vote for A Leader Inspired to Communicate and Educate. – Leading by Example.

Bill Weiland, DTM



Toastmasters has etched more than just a mark on my life, it has created a signature – a signature of service to District 66 and my fellow Toastmasters within. Nearly five years ago when DG-elect Marlon Haskell offered me the position of District Sergeant-at-Arms, I was elated yet somewhat overwhelmed. Very soon thereafter, I was intensively tutored and given moral support by highly experienced TM's and current and former district officers. Since then, dozens of TM's have been tremendous influences and mentors along the way. This is what the Toastmaster leadership experience is supposed to be and what ultimately propelled me into "living the commitment" of serving as both a club and district officer.

What I have taken from that first SLI - and the following gamut of SLI's, WLI's and conferences - is the overwhelming desire to deliver the same experience of welcoming, wisdom and knowledge to as many TM's as humanly possible throughout my service as a Toastmaster officer, regardless of position. Being in business management most of my life directly involved in facilitating & training, I've found this to be unbelievably rewarding...almost a passion.

As LGET, this is the mechanism by which I intend to create massive energy, motivate flexibility, enhance camaraderie and inspire global organizational Toastmaster excellence. I want to rebuild every district club back to charter strength, inspire and motivate new leadership through innovative and resourceful education and repackage the Toastmaster experience into a highly marketable, enjoyable and developmental event for all members.

Candidates for Lt. Gov. Marketing

Chris Al-Amin, ATM-G

I have recently completed my requirements for Distinguished Toastmaster. As I complete my term as Central Division Governor, I would like to continue working with District 66 and run for the position of Lt. Governor – Marketing.



This year I realized that I want to serve another year with the district. Serving as the Lt. Governor – Marketing will allow me to help District 66 Focus on the Members."

Continued on page 6

I have served in many officer positions at the Club level and has also served as Area Governor and Central Division Governor. I have served as a Mentor for a new club, trained Club officers and served as a judge at all levels including Regional. As Central Division Governor, I lead and encouraged 8 Area Governors whose Areas had different needs. In this position I assisted with Demo meetings and worked with low member clubs to rebuild the club and help the Club devise a plan to become "Distinguished".

I had the opportunity to work with members outside her home club, St. James Platinum Speakers. I see the need for the District to Focus on the Member. My vision is a District with Our Focus on the Member!

Motto: Put your Heart Into It! Our members are the Heart of District 66.

Susan Way, DTM



I am a candidate for 2006-2007 District 66 Lt. Governor Marketing. I am the current District 66 Sergeant-at-Arms and have been a member of Toastmasters since June 1998. I served in a many leadership positions within District 66. As Central Division Governor, I led the Central Division to President's Distinguished. Serving as Area 14 Governor and Area 6 Governor, I led the Areas to President's Distinguished and Distinguished, respectively. I have served in all seven club officer positions and led two clubs to President's Distinguished while serving as Club President.

I have proven leadership, organizational, and planning skills that will benefit District 66. I am committed to Toastmasters and being a servant leader. I live in Chesterfield County, Virginia, I am an animal lover, like to fish, and rehabilitates domestic animals.

Candidate for District Treasurer

Pat Noona Gorski, DTM

My name is Pat Noona Gorski and I am asking you to vote for me for the position of District Treasurer.



School:
BA, General Studies,
Accounting Major
MS, Information Technology

Experience:

- Serving as Audit Committee Chair for D66 during 2005-2006.
- Served as District Treasurer for eight (8) Different District 36 Governors.
- Served as Region VII Treasurer for two (2) International Directors, Districts 27 and 36.
- Since 1990 have been an instructor at D36 Toastmasters Leadership Institute teaching fellow toastmasters how to be a Club Treasurer.
- Instructor for D66 Toastmasters Leadership Institute teaching fellow toastmasters how to be a Club Treasurer and inspire new members of why they should become a club officer.
- Auditor for the Federal Government as a General Investigator for the Federal Maritime Commission.

I will be dedicated to district 66 and continue to be a team player and a trainer. What qualifies me: I have the experience!

Candidates for Central Division Governor

Sue Brown, ATM-S



Seems like Spring Conferences are turning in to big events for me ... at last year's conference I gave my CTM speech and this year I'm running for Central Division Governor. As my year of serving as Area 20 Governor comes to an end, I want to continue to serve Toastmasters and the District and that is why I'm running for Central Division Governor. During my time in Toastmasters I've served as President of my home club, conducted programs and trainings to fellow Toastmasters and started the Area 20 newsletter. I've also held leadership positions with other organizations (ABWA and Lions) and with the Associate Group at my work.

The theme of my campaign is "encourage". To me it's the way of thinking about how to work with others. Sharing ideas and information is how we can encourage others to act. Leaders also encourage others when they lead by example and that is what I hope to do. I also picked this theme as I've been encouraged by several Toastmasters and it's my way of passing that along to others. I like that the word "encourage" has "courage" in it, which is what it takes to try something new and to step out of your comfort zone. Toastmasters provides the positive and supportive environment in which to step out and try -- be it with communication or leadership. My commitment to all is that I will do the best job possible and that I will make my decisions based on the needs of the division and the district for its immediate and long-term future.

Margie Strum, ATM-B/CL
“LEAPING INTO ACTION”



Club Experience:

- VPE 2000-2001
- President 2003-2005
- Club Select Distinguished VPM 2006-2007

District Experience:

- District Toastmaster of Year 2004-2005
- District Spring Conference Committee 2005
- Area 21 Governor
 - Added one new club (LCP)
 - Mentored Eloquent Club
 - Received District Spirit Award for successfully helping to facilitate and organize the Winter Leadership Institute January 2006.

Goals as Division Governor:

- Continue to foster positive atmospheres amongst clubs.
- Strive for more club interaction with District officers and events.
- Concentrate on strengthening the Area Governor role.

Jackie Tompkins, ATM-B

I am a former Danville native and a current Richmond resident. I am a candidate for Central Division Governor. I



was a District Secretary for two consecutive years. This year, I stepped up to Area 19 Governor, Central Division. Besides overseeing my Area 19 clubs, I participated in club demos, helped start a club for the Hunter Holmes Veterans Medical Center, “Very Articulate Master Communicators,”

which was chartered last January. I am currently a Mentor for the VAMC club and also serve as a Mentor for the Virginia Department of Corrections Club, “Correctionally Speaking,” chartered in January. I am a member of “Opportunity,” a Glen Allen club and have 10 years experience in Toastmasters.

Candidate for Eastern Division Governor

Mike Mercer, ATMG

Being a Toastmaster for almost seven (7) years and during that time having been a member of five different clubs, you can imagine that I've learned a lot, but at the same time, I still have a lot more to learn. It has been a pleasure to be part of District 66 and I look forward to working with all of you in the future as we continue to make District 66 grow.



Candidate for Western Division Governor

David Myers, CTM



Over the past two and a half years, I have been given many priceless gifts; the gift of voice, the gift of leadership and the gift of new friendships. All of this has been attained by the gift of Toastmasters. I can personally attest to the fact that Toastmasters has given me a step up in my profession as a logistics manager at a Fortune 400 retail chain. It has given me the opportunity to share my story of kidney disease and transplantation to thousands of people through the National Kidney Foundation. And Toastmasters has given me the confidence to communicate to all parties in any venue, under any condition. Now it is time for me to give back.

I truly believe that the successes I have shared as Select Distinguished club President with The Best Part Toastmasters and the potential to become a Presidents Distinguished Area 18 Governor had more to do with the spirit of teamwork within these groups than anything I could do on my own. I also believe that that is something I can carry on to the Division level.

I want to thank everyone who has guided me on this path and I will continue to learn and grow as I serve the District in the years to come. Thank you District 66.

District Council: Representation, Voting and Proxies

Each Toastmasters Club has two votes in the district council to be cast by the club president and vice president of education, or any active member of the club if one or neither of these officers can attend a council meeting. Either officer, or the club member, can cast the club's two votes. Either the club president or the club vice president education may designate, in writing, any active member in good standing of the club to act as a proxy or proxies and cast one or both of the club's ballots.

Instructions: The President and Vice President Education (VPE) of every club each gets one vote at the District Business Meeting. If either the President or VPE will be at the Business Meeting, then you do not need the proxy. If you are not absolutely positive that one of these two officers will be there then the enclosed proxy can be signed by the President or VPE and given to a member of your club who is going to the Spring Conference. Have the member(s) present it at the "Credentials Desk" at which time they will be given the two voting slips.

Attention: Club Presidents and VPEs

**Remainder about:
Regional and International Voting Proxies**

By now you should have received from TMI your club proxies for the Regional and the International Business meetings which will be held during the Regional Conference in June and the International Conference in August. If you or any of your club members are not planning on attending any of these conferences, please don't forget to mail these proxies to the District Governor. The proxies are already pre-addressed. You just need to put a stamp and drop in the mail. Please mail your proxies now while thinking about them. If you did not receive your proxies or can't locate them, please contact TMI for duplicate proxies. TMI can issue only one duplicate proxy.

**TAKE OWNERSHIP...Be Counted at
OUR...SPRING CONFERENCE**

May 19 and May 20

**“Answer the Call:
Let Your Voice Serve Your World”**

**It is for you, your friends, relatives and
guests**

**Your participation in the Spring
Conference will Be:**

- Educational
- Inspirational
- Relational
- Fun

**Step Up and Serve that Your Voice May be
heard**

TOASTMASTERS, DISTRICT 66

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Editors:
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Publisher:
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Non Profit
US Postage
PAID
Richmond, VA
Permit No.149