

From the District Director

My Dear District 31 members,

Believe it or not September is upon us. Summer is almost over, many of our children are heading back to school and for some of us we have the privilege to also head back to classes. However, many of us have never stopped the learning process as there have been 140 educational awards issued to District 31 members since July 1, 2015. YES - I DID SAY 140 AWARDS!

Among the awards are 7 new Triple Crown winners and 7 new DTM's and they are Anna Kaufman, Sara C. Adair, Byron M. Mattingly, Eric Holmstedt, Allen G. Supynuk, Scott G. Green and Lisa Shooman. This is very impressive as it shows that we as Toastmasters are continuously working towards improving ourselves both in our communication and leadership skills, many of us never take a break from self growth.

August was a busy month with some of us attending the Toastmasters International convention in Las Vegas. We not only received lots of training but also had the opportunity to attend many interesting and enjoyable breakout sessions, renew old friendships and create new ones. Most of all I would like to say Thank You to our District 31 contestant, Wayne Braverman, who made the district proud with his speech. He put in a lot of hard work and I am sure he found it a very rewarding experience.

Most of us are busy in our clubs creating both the humorous and evaluation contests, this is not only fun it is a fantastic method to improve our skills both as contestants and functionaries. I am looking forward to attending many contests and enjoying the speeches as well as the growth of many of our members. Please remember to have fun, if we are not enjoying what we are doing it becomes a task rather than a pleasure.

September also brings with it the opportunity for us to reinvest in ourselves as we recommit

to our growth and pay our semi-annual dues to Toastmasters. Please get in your payments early, as it is a commitment to yourself for yourself.

Below you will see articles from our Program Quality Director, Stefano McGhee and our Club Growth Director, Anna Kaufman. Take the time to read them as they have lots of important information in them, including a new membership program created by our CGD, Anna.

Thank you for taking the time to read our newsletter. Let's all move forward to a new season of learning, creativity and Fun as we grow in harmony.

I wish my Jewish friends a very Happy and Healthy New Year,
Rick Winer, DTM
District 31 Director

Oh yes one more thing

I am proud to announce that the Immediate Past President of Toastmasters International, Mohammed Murad, will be visiting our district at our November 14th conference! Please make every effort to attend - it will be an experience you won't want to miss.

Program Quality

Contest season is open in District 31

This Fall, the Evaluation and Humorous Speech Contests will take place at the Club, Area, Division and District levels. Any member in good standing is allowed to compete in either or both contests. There is no minimum speech count to compete in these contests. The rule book and other supporting materials can be found at www.District31.org under the Speech Contests link. Contact your Area Director or Stefano@District31.org for questions. Area and Division Directors: contact Stefano to get your event on the District Calendar. The deadlines for the contests are as follows:

Club: September to October 3, 2015

Area: October 3 to October 17, 2015

Division: October 17 to October 31, 2015

District: November 14, 2015

District 31 2015 Fall Conference

The District 31 Fall Conference will take place at the Sheraton in Framingham, Massachusetts. We will be welcoming Immediate Past International President Mohammed Murad, DTM as our keynote speaker. We will also have four breakout sessions, a great lunch, and witness the best speakers of our District compete for the title of best Humorist and Evaluator in the District. [Registration is open](#), so register EARLY to get the best rate as prices will go up as we get closer to the event. It is only \$65 for the month of September.

Don't miss what is sure to be the very best conference you have ever attended. Nearly everyone that attends a District Conference comes back. Join the party! Interested in shaping the party and leading a successful conference team?

Contact Stefano@District31.org to be a part of it!

TLI Credit

Club officers! Did you attend a TLI this Summer? Make sure you get credit! [Check your DCP status online](#) and confirm that

all of your officers received credit. If, after checking with your officers, you discover a discrepancy, contact Stefano@District31.org with the club name, number, name of the officer and where they attended to get credit. You did the work...get the credit. Check in by September 30 to ensure that you get credit.

Club Growth

20.20.20 Challenge – Retention gets Rewarded

Submit 20 member payments by September 20, 2015. For the first 20 clubs to submit 20 member dues, a trio member will visit with your reward ribbon! The second group of 20

clubs will receive their ribbon in the mail, and the next 20 clubs earn a hand-written card from Club Growth Director Anna Kaufman.

Your photo: on the district website?

Newly chartered clubs will be featured on the district website. Want to start a club in your company or community? Interested in participating in a sample meeting? Eager to mentor a new club or coach a struggling one? Looking to learn what it takes to charter a club?

Contact anna@district31.org.

Recruit = Ribbon

Add FIVE new members between August and September to earn the Smedley Award! You still have the whole month of September to hold an open house – which could even be your contest date – to bring in guests and turn them into members, for which the district will reimburse up to \$50 (no tax in MA).

See you all soon!
The District Trio