



January 2017 Newsletter

Information from our District Director, Stefano McGhee, DTM

With the holidays behind me, I get that sinking feeling that there are no more big holidays until Memorial Day weekend months from now. Then there are the next two months of winter to look forward to. Still, I have Toastmasters to look forward to. The stories shared in each club about experiences had and those yet to come are something to look forward at every meeting. Clubs are not just speaking and leadership labs, but also places where we connect with each other to help each other step ahead in our lives. We each help each other move ahead in our careers and personal development. You are part of someone else's success. Has someone helped you move ahead? Make sure you tell them! You have all shaped my growth as a leader. Thanks for being part of *my* Toastmasters experience!

District Leader Nominations Closed!

District 31 2017-2018

A small recap of the positions that were up for nomination.

<https://www.toastmasters.org/~media/24562A9E8E1449E7A6900A6676476884.aspx>

Information from our Program Quality Director, Anna Kaufman, DTM

Winter TLIs are in session! 2 down, 3 to go!

There are only 3 TLI sessions left spread between the end of January and the beginning of February! Be sure to register through district31.org and make sure that you club officers are trained. The remaining dates, locations and times are shown below along with links to registration:

[Thu, January 26, 2017 — State Street, Boston; 6pm - 9pm \(light dinner at 5pm, advanced topics included\)](#)

[Tue, January 31, 2017 — NEIT, Warwick, RI; 6pm - 9pm \(light dinner at 5pm\)](#)

[Thu, February 2, 2017 — BJ's, Westborough; 6pm - 9pm \(light dinner at 5pm\)](#)

It's the last chance this Toastmasters year for you to become #tlicertified! Make sure your officers attend one of these sessions to fulfill your club's Distinguished Club Program goal 9! Feel free to share invite non-officers, as well. All info is on this [Winter TLI page](#).

2017 Spring Conference

Register Today!

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/district-31-spring-conference-may-12-13-2017-registration-28307883642>



Great conferences also needs fun, dynamic, engaging and inspiring presenters! If you would like to facilitate your own breakout session, be sure to volunteer!

Are you good "behind the scenes" or organizing events? Get involved in the conference planning!

Both roles are equally important in helping create the best experience for all of our

fellow Toastmasters and guests! To learn more, email anna@district31.org to express interest.

It's contest season once again!

Begin planning your contest now so you can have a fun, fair, and fulfilling contest! We are conducting the Table Topics and the coveted International Speech contests this spring. Clubs need to complete their contest any time before March 11 - find resources and tools on district31.org. Watch the district calendar for area and division contest details.

Contest Deadlines:

Club: March 11

Area: April 1

Division: April 22

Spring into the fun...

May 12 and 13, join us for the [District 31 Spring Conference](#), full of educational sessions, keynote speakers, the culmination of both Table Topics and International speech contests, as well as great food and a chance to network with other Toastmasters.

Pathways Learning Experience Update!!!

As we bring in the new year, it is finally the year that Toastmasters will start implementing the Pathways program parallel period throughout each of the Region across the globe. Although our district will be one of the last to start our parallel period, it is very important to all us in the district to provide you with as much information as possible about the program to ensure a smooth transition into beginning your new path in Toastmasters.

Deb Siwik, ACS, ALS, our Chief Ambassador has provided us with a new introduction video from Toastmasters, introducing the Pathways program which is now available on the [district website here!](#)

This video along with the five part series introduction to the Pathways video is also accessible on YouTube which our District's Youtube channel has included as a playlist and can be [found here!](#) Any future updates regarding the Pathways program

will be posted on the district's website and our Public Relations Manager will also monitor and demonstrations of the program on YouTube under the playlist, [Pathways Learning Experience from Members!](#)

6 months left to earn the Triple Crown

There is still plenty of time to earn a Competent Communicator, Competent Leader, and any advanced award within this Toastmasters year. Start working toward Triple Crown today!

This year's eligible recipients to date:

Richard Andrew Blair

Shawn J. Hanegan

Shawna Hansen

Anna Kaufman

Jacob W. Lam

Susan Lecht

JC Leung

Christopher Nielsen

Allen G. Supynuk

Judith G. Tischler

Kimberly Yach

Qinggong Yue



Looking to learn more advanced communication and leadership topics? Are you willing to come travel to Foxboro, MA do so?

If the answer to both of those questions is yes, then you are in luck! Bruce Pyne, has organized a first of it's kind, Success Fest! An evening of three Success Communication/Leadership Module demonstrations in a single night. The program is as follows:

Presenter #1: Roxanna (Roxie) Billings
Module: The Art of Effective Evaluation

Presenter #2: Deborah (Deb) Siwik
Module: Leadership Part 1: Characteristics of Effective Leaders

Presenter #3: Jane Anderson
Module: How to Conduct Productive Meetings

*This event is planned take place **Tuesday, January 31st 2017 from 6:00 - 9:30pm at the Boyden Library in Foxboro, MA! Food will be provided!** For additional event details, contact Bruce directly at brucegpyne_1@juno.com!*

Chances are, you currently have or want to have a workplace, community, or Toastmasters role or project. Why not apply the HPL principles to support your success and develop yourself as a leader in the process?

Email the District 31 HPL Committee at d31hpl@gmail.com right now to take your leadership to the next level!

Information from our Club Growth Director, Stacey Shipman, DTM

District 31 Voices

TM Karen Recore, CC did an amazing job as our Fall Conference's Entertainment Chair by not only making us laugh herself but by also providing us additional laughter via ventriloquist Brian Tiernan! Karen showed great leadership and networking in organizing and executing a spectacular showing at the 2016 Fall Conference.

Using the same network and skills acquired at the conference, Karen was able to bring it a step further through the Newport Coffee Cup Project which was featured the Newport Daily News on December 1, 2016! In a perfect display of how Toastmasters can help you professionally, Karen organized a fundraiser to raise money and awareness for elderly Newport residents in need!

To read TM Karen's article in full, visit [Newport Daily News here](#)



Upcoming Sample Meetings

Oracle

100 Crosby Dr, Bedford, MA 01730

January 11, 2017

12pm - 1pm

Dues will be due soon!

While dues are not due until April 1, please consider having these conversations NOW with your members to ensure there are no surprises. If you need support or want to talk about this increase please contact me.

Are you hosting an open house this Spring?

An open house is a great way to promote your Toastmasters club and bring in new members. To support your efforts, District 31 will provide a \$50 reimbursement for food, materials, advertising. (Note: MA clubs- use the tax exempt form **as tax is not reimbursable**). Please submit your reimbursement request within 15 days of the expense to Stefano McGhee, District 31 Director (stefano@district31.org)

(Clubs may apply for the \$50 reimbursement **two** times per Toastmasters year: once between **July - December** and once between **January - June**.)

Do you or your club members have a Toastmasters story to share? You could see your name in print! Email Stacey Shipman, Club Growth Director to share your Toastmasters related story or good news! stacey@district31.org.

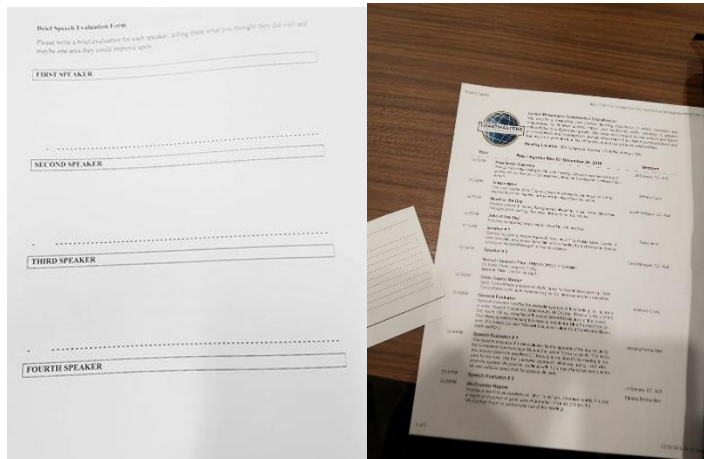
Information from our Public Relations Manager, Anthony Alexander

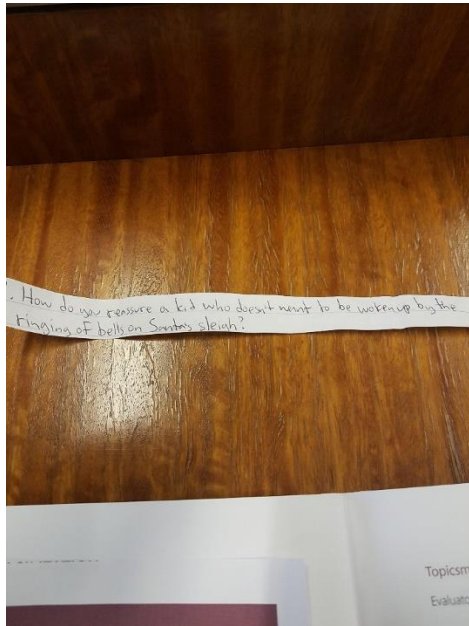
Toastcrashers Update!

We have finally hit the double digits of crashed clubs! During the holiday season I was able to find some time to crash both Instant Messengers Toastmasters and Boston Seaport Toastmasters! Both clubs brought both fantastic speeches and holiday spirit to their clubs including 1 exceptional Icebreakers speech (ironic considering the day it was presented it was roughly 17 degrees outside...brrrr!)



One trend that I am seeing out of clubs that I do crash is that more and more clubs give members/guests short evaluation sheets to give to the prepared speakers! This is an awesome tool to help new and seasoned speakers alike and I encourage all clubs to adopt this practice.





In wrapping up December's crashes I also had the privilege to hear and see a string trio on my way out of my 11th crash playing holiday music!



For more pictures and video, check out our [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) pages!

YouTube Features/Updates:

Stacey Shipman, DTM featured on YouTube!

Our very own Club Growth Director has been featured on a new health/wellness webisode series, GoodView, exclusively on YouTube. In this 35 minute video, Stacey is interviewed about her role as a communications coach, presenter and facilitator along with her role as Club Growth Director. [To watch the full video, click here!](#)

Have a video that you would like added to the District's playlist? Reach out to anthony@district31.org to learn more and make sure to subscribe to our channel for [playlist updates and district videos!](#)

Reminder of our other Social media campaign tags! Don't miss out on some awesome prizes

#D31TripleCrown

#GavelGrab

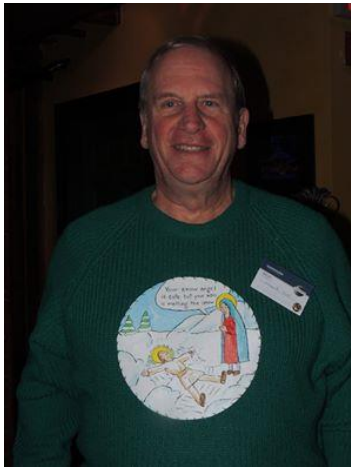
#Youre onfire

#Toasttrotter (If you crash a club, make sure to add this hashtag for credit)

#TLIcertified (for winter session TLI as well)

Stay connected and I hope that every one had a safe and happy holiday season! (see a few of my favorite holiday photos from other District 31 clubs via Facebook! and Instagram)





[Facebook: District 31 Toastmasters](#)

[Twitter: @D31Toastmasters](#)

[Instagram: district31tm](#)

LinkedIn: District 31 Toastmasters (Group)

Flickr: District 31 Toastmasters

[YouTube: District 31 Toastmasters](#)

***Is there a member in your club going above and beyond for Toastmasters that you want to highlight?
Need help securing local media for your club or area? Have you achieved your DTM and want to
share your story?***

I am here to help assist in any way to help put the spotlight on all clubs in the district to both within
Toastmasters and the community. Feel free to reach out to me at anthony@district31.org for any questions or
concerns you may have!

Monthly Educational Awards

Competent Communicator - December 2016

Donald Napolitan, Keynote Speakers Toastmasters

Ana C. Mendez, Ocean State Speaking Network

Bill Kiluk, Mill City Toastmasters

Nicole O'Neal, Sisters Mastering Correct Communication

Rick Baggio, Genzyme Toastmasters Club

Harvey Beker, Copley Square Toastmasters

Rachel Cotton, Sisters Mastering Correct Communication

Shannon Plesh, Citizens Bank Toastmasters Club

Karlene Pierce, Northshore Toastmasters Club

Stephen Davis, Merrimack Toastmasters Club

Carl Edward Priddle, Boston Toastmasters

Lynn Pierog, Merrimack Toastmasters Club

Maureen M. Lynch, Quincy Toastmasters Club

Tom Demerle, Speech Invaders Club

Michelle Farley, Speech Invaders Club

EDWARD SYLVIA, Whaling City Club

Todd Anderson, The Last Word

Allen G. Supynuk, Toastmasters @ MathWorks

Dexter King, Lake Williams Wordsmiths

Robert J. Forbes, Toastmasters @ MIT Club
Mary Shotwell, East Bay Toastmasters Club
Carlos Cesar, Fall River Innovators

Competent Leader - December 2016
Naveen Kanthavelan, AspenTech Toastmasters
Sabina Manandhar, Eclinicaltoast
Cynthia A Orejola, Eclinicaltoast
Peter Aaron Yagmin, AspenTech Toastmasters
Adelbert L. Unser, Keynote Speakers Toastmasters
Ilene Wolfman, Staples Club
Balanagendra Bingi, Toastmasters @ CVS
Venkat R. Mannem, Minutemen Club

Advanced Communicator Bronze - December 2016

David L. Gilman, Sales & Marketing Club
CJ Ferry, Fall River Innovators
Holly Wietgreffe, Speech Invaders Club
Bryan Bentz, Speech Invaders Club
Deborah A. Lindsey, Staples Club

Advanced Leader Bronze - December 2016

Michael Bookman, Somerville Toastmasters
Sara C. Adair, Boston Seaport Toastmasters
Qinggang Yue, TYNGSBOROUGH TOASTMASTERS

Advanced Communicator Silver - December 2016

Sriram Veera Raghavendra, Minutemen Club

Advanced Leader Silver - December 2016

None :-)

Advanced Communicator Gold- December 2016

None :-)

Distinguished Toastmaster - December 2016

None :-)

A BIG Congratulations to all of our award recipients for the month of August!
Keep up the great work!

Introduce your friends to Toastmasters!

Stefano McGhee, DTM, PDG, District 31 Director
Anna Kaufman, DTM, Program Quality Director
Stacey Shipman, DTM, Club Growth Director
Anthony Alexander, ACB, ALB, Public Relations Manager

A good objective of leadership is to help those who are doing poorly to do well
and to help
those who are doing well to do even better. Jim Rohn

Toastmasters - Where Leaders Are Made