



TOASTMASTERS District 46 Newsletter

Together, Let's Transform Lives.

Toastmaster Year 2020/2021. Issue #9 June 2021

Welcome to the ninth edition of your District 46 Newsletter. This month, we hear from our Choir Master, who talks about the unique challenges of performing remotely. In the Member Corner, we learn about good works and service opportunities from District 46's newest partner. For our next newsletters, **we are looking for content contributors and editors**. Do you have an idea for a story? Do you have a link that other Toastmasters should know about? [Let us know!](#)

Introductions-----from your District Director

The end of our Toastmasters year is approaching, along with your Trio's time in office. My colleagues this past year, Jan-Paul, Evelyn, and Osama will take their new roles on July 1. Congratulations to them, along with my thanks for their generous help and support this past year. Congratulations also to our new District Directors, Nicole Howerton, Philip Kao, Prashant Arora, Suzie Iwadare, and Robert Dong. We wish all of you, including our new Area Directors all the best in the coming year. Last but not least, I want to thank all of you Toastmasters in District 46 for giving me the honor to serve as your District Director. I have enjoyed working with every one of you.

I encourage every one of you to consider taking a leadership role in the District or even in your club. As your Director, I have learned so much that I can immediately apply to my life and career. If anything is standing in your way, I recommend that you listen to the podcast of District 46's friend (and past International President) Pat Johnson, "Ontological Coaching". She will explain in detail how to recognize and eliminate obstacles that we ourselves throw in our way. Sample our growing number of podcasts and check out our podcasting club, too. You'll be fascinated by this new medium of communication and will see how it can raise your speaking skills to an even higher level: Go to <https://toastmasters46.org/> and click the **Transformational Pathways** logo.

What a Year! Covid-19 took precious lives and disrupted everything familiar, including our cherished traditions of in-person meetings and conviviality. But, our best practices and lessons learned will serve us long into the future, even as we cautiously glimpse the end of this Pandemic.

- We called upon all of our ingenuity, perhaps none better than our choir members, to feel human contact over computer networks.
- We successfully rewrote and delivered our club officer training — remotely.
- We held conferences, events, and social gatherings — remotely.
- We chartered new clubs based on your interests and attracted guests from around the world to our clubs' meetings.
- We founded our District's presence on Instagram, Facebook, and LinkedIn and re-invigorated our website.
- We became podcasters, establishing our own District podcast and organizing a club devoted to that emerging and vital field.
- We published this newsletter, showcasing some unique clubs and Toastmasters and their contributions to our District.
- We didn't shrink in this challenging economic environment. Our members seemed to appreciate the value of what we teach even more.
- We continued to deal with the challenges of attracting and retaining members as well as lower than expected Pathways participation. Your trio (and you) met these challenges with Pathways training sessions and many incentives to attract and retain members. [Patricia Kidwingira, DTM](#)



-----from your Choir Master



One group of Toastmasters has been particularly resourceful in adapting to the strange world of remote get-togethers. Those resourceful Toastmasters make up the District’s choir, led by Mary Nishimoto, DTM, who is also President of Times Toastmasters.

According to Mary, “Zoom is a challenging platform...The last time we performed ‘New York, New York,’ we had several choir members sing solo lines— with some opportunities for the group to join as a chorus—and that sounded much better. Nobody minded...The non-members who sang along enjoyed it even more. We’ve done only 1 song, ‘New York, New York’ (with modified lyrics).”

“Interested individuals can just contact me and I will keep their names and emails on file. What’s important is that you like to sing: you don’t have to be trained as a singer or read music (although it does help). We sing as we’re needed.”

Watch choir members perform modified lyrics of “New York, New York,” e.g., “Start paying your dues...” at the [District 46 60th Anniversary Performance](#) (about 6:30 in). tmmarynishimoto@gmail.com

Keep an eye on the [District Calendar](#) for details on upcoming events in June, including:

- June 1: Club Officer Training begins
- June 19:
 - District Executive Committee Meeting #5
 - Club Growth Committee meeting
- Dates TBD: Incoming Division and Area Director 2021-2022 Training



Patricia Kidwingira | DTM
Toastmasters District 46
Director

Mary Shackleton
Rotary District 7230
Governor

Goodwill Toastmasters Offers a World of Service and Communication Opportunities

The Goodwill club, a collaboration between Toastmasters District 46 and Rotary International District 7230, has chartered and is welcoming new members. At a demo meeting last March, Rotary District 7230 Governor Mary Shackleton delivered her Icebreaker speech, “Power of Partnerships”, describing past experiences as a Toastmaster. District 46 Toastmaster Michael Sachs spoke about “Life as a Toastmaster and Rotarian”. Both speeches were examples of how this club is perfect for anyone interested in the values and principles of Toastmasters and Rotary International and where they intersect — communication and service.

The mission statements of both organizations emphasize communication and service as the intersection of their values and principles:

Toastmasters: *We empower individuals to become more effective communicators and leaders.*

Rotary International: *We provide service to others, promote integrity, and advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through its fellowship of business, professional and community leaders.*

Goodwill Toastmasters is just one manifestation of a worldwide collaboration between the two organizations.

“Make connections locally and learn new skills,” advised Mark Daniel Maloney, 2019-2020 Rotary International President as collaboration efforts started.

Club membership is a special opportunity for Rotarians to learn communication and leadership skills. Toastmasters International is now developing a special 8-unit course for Rotarians.

Club membership also a special opportunity for Toastmasters to learn about and get involved with Rotary service projects. Here is just one example of those projects: In the early months of the Covid-19 pandemic, the Rotarian Million Mask Challenge started operating in the New York metropolitan area, supplying more than a million masks to first responders and essential workers during that time of most critical need. Read more about that successful program here:

<https://blog.rotary.org/2020/12/30/million-mask-challenge-displays-power-of-rotary-network/>



Read about more of Rotary District 7230’s community service projects in District 46’s geographical area:

<https://rotary7230.org/page/club-corner>

The club is open to all Toastmasters, Rotary and Rotaract (Rotarian youth) members, as well as those just interested in Rotary or Toastmasters. The club meets on Saturday morning. Contact any of the following for more information:

pkidwingira@gmail.com, mshackleton@hotmail.com, or janpaul.roodbol.tm@gmail.com.