

GOODBYE TO 2020 AND WELCOME 2021!



DISTRICT 46's
65TH
ANNIVERSARY

DEAR DISTRICT 46 TOASTMASTERS FAMILY,

December is the month to give and to receive. It is also a time to pause and reflect with gratitude for all the good the year has brought. December in Toastmasters means that we have reached the halfway point in our annual cycle. There is no better time to acknowledge, and honor the remarkable achievements of our District 46 Toastmasters family.

We are living in a time of profound challenge that has required us to change. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic many of our lives have been disrupted. By continuing to act with integrity, speak and listen with respect and serve members with excellence we have risen to the challenges presented. Toastmasters has the potential to change people's lives and that awesome power of our community includes empathy and love.

The opportunities to learn from each other have grown exponentially with virtual meetings. Our clubs have continued to provide safe spaces for all members to progress and achieve their goals. Most of you have met toastmasters from around the world from the comfort of your homes this year. We adapted to Jazz Hands instead of clapping, to using emojis and backgrounds and adjusting our video cameras to present our 'best self'.

Although physically apart, the remote settings paradoxically brought us closer. Many of us attended the Toastmasters International (TI) convention online where the District 46 Choir performed our District 46 song at the TI sing-along.

A strong district leader mentoring program has been introduced with past district 46 Governors and Directors as mentors, which is creating a continuity in leadership and building a foundation for a sustained successful district.

Some of the highlights of the past six months have been visiting the clubs of five of our longest serving members with 37+ years of service each. Truly inspirational and worth saluting our stalwarts. The District 46 Trio joined in celebrating many club anniversaries from 45 years to 10 years and happily recognized our Area and Division Directors of the month.

We recently celebrated the 65th Anniversary of District 46 with Toastmasters International President, Richard Peck. Our very own 1995 District 46 World Champion of Public Speaking, Mark Brown was keynote speaker. Feedback like "Beyond amazing" and "Hearing all of the past district leaders and current District 46 Director touched my heart" confirmed the experience was a big success.

We are readying ourselves for 2021 with new features aimed to improve the toastmasters experience as well as professional development opportunities of our members. In January we have the Winter club officer training, the 2021 Leadership Summit and other training opportunities. February kicks off the contest season at the club level for the International Speech and Table Topics competitions. Clubs also begin collecting dues for April 1st.

There are a variety of incentives that are available to help your club and members. The TI incentive of waiving Charter fees and new member fees, a \$525 savings, is still available for new Chartering Clubs through 1/31/21. Contact CGD for more information.

Lastly in celebration of our members, we are asking for member testimonials. Tell us in a short video recording your 'Why' for joining Toastmasters. Alternatively, send us a message with your photo about how Toastmasters has improved you! The best submissions will be posted on our District website and social media.

For information about our contests, events, incentives and trainings visit the District website: www.toastmasters46.org and like our Facebook page at TMDistrict46.

THE DISTRICT 46 TRIO WISH YOU ALL HEALTH, HAPPINESS, JOY AND PEACE AS WE BID GOODBYE TO 2020 AND WELCOME 2021!



Patricia Kidwingira
District Director



Jan-Paul Roodbol
Program Quality Director



Evelyn Marrero
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