

## Almaty Toastmasters Club Highlights: January-June 2016



### News Digest for January-June 2016

Here is a quick overview of some of the highlights on what's happening beyond our regular weekly meetings within this past half-a-year at Almaty Toastmasters Club - dedicated to those of you, who don't want to miss our news!



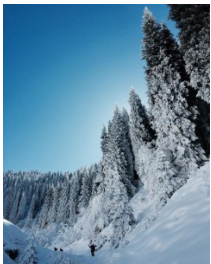
**Christmas dinner on December 30, 2015:** our year kicked off with an amazing one hosted by our Club's President, Tom Bartkoske and his lovely wife, Michele at their home here at the foothills of Almaty mountains. Click this link to our YouTube Channel to watch the video made by our regular member and video blogger - Aiyem Nurseitova. Thank you, Aiyem for this crafty [video: Almaty Toastmasters Member New Years Dinner in December 2015](#)

Thank you to our wonderful hosts - Tom and Michele for the warm and cosy atmosphere of your home, delicious meals, fun games, impromptu holiday speeches during this unforgettable evening!

**Movie Night on January 4, 2016:** over 15 members and guests went on to watch "**The Little Prince**" in English in the first days of this year. A legendary classic prose, where every line is a deep, beautiful metaphor that provokes and provides food for thought for people of all ages created discussions about favorite movies, books and set forth an establishment of our reading club as a consequence a few days later! [Facebook Event: Movie Night "Little Prince" - January 4, 2016](#)

**"25 Books" Reading Club** established on **January 15, 2016:** a book club was created among Toastmasters Club members and guests with an idea of reading at least 25 books a year! We are all set. This Club's opened from the strong initiative, full coordination and our book-reading tracking of Yernur Satybaldiyev, former member of Astana Toastmasters Club, who had officially joined our Club here in April 2016! The reading club also, enjoyed strong support and enthusiasm of Ilyas Batyrov, founding member and Sergeant at Arms of our Club. We appreciate it. Here is a video made by Aiyem, again, for a glimpse at one of those meetings: [video: "25 Books" Reading Club Meeting on April 2, 2016](#)

**Social Event on March 20, 2016:** [Hiking trip to Butakovka Waterfalls.](#) Hiking enthusiasts at Toastmasters cannot forget that last spring trail to Butakovka waterfall - thanks to Daulet Mukanov, our newly elected Sergeant at Arms - for organizing this picturesque hike!



**April 6, 2016:** Business Meeting hosted by the Leadership Team of the Club for its members: training, tips and motivation to be a better public speaker and a great Toastmaster. Follow the link for a video of a [Business Meeting for Members on April 6, 2016](#)

Our after-regular-meeting get-togethers every Wednesday are always fun! Come join us for networking, games, good conversations with our Club members - stay up to learn where we are going after the regular meetings end! Here is the video link to one of Aiyim's wonderful vlogs about it: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=qgKPsbnxzRE](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qgKPsbnxzRE)

**Some of our Club's events in photos:**



We were honored to host Astana Toastmasters Club President - Anuar Zhumabayev!



Our members and guests bike-n-drinks ride in May 2016!



Stay tuned for our new Member Spotlight Feature posts on this website's blog!



Hosting a visitor from Toastmasters Club in New York City - Dilber Shatursun!

**May 4, 2016** marked the visit from USA: Dilber Shatursun, Secretary of Flushing Toastmasters in New York and on **May 11, 2016** for the first time in its brief history, Almaty Toastmasters Club had the privilege of a fellow Toastmaster from another club (all the way from America!) deliver a speech during our regular meeting. Dilber Shatursun, New York's Flushing Toastmasters Club, gave her Competent Communicator Manual's Prepared Speech Project #9.

Follow the link to view Dilber's warm and touching speech: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=2KsfWy-RMVU](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2KsfWy-RMVU)



Gallatin Valley Toastmasters Club in Bozeman, Montana, USA says hello to Almaty Toastmasters Club!

Meanwhile, this April and May, our President - Tom Bartkoske became the Best Table Topics Speaker at the Toastmasters Clubs he visited in China and USA! We are so proud of you, Tom!



Our Toastmasters participated in Almaty Marathon on April 24, 2016 and made us proud!



Toastmasters Club Men Congratulated Ladies with International Women's Day - March 8, 2016. Thank you, Gentlemen!



After-regular meeting outings are held after each Wednesday meeting!



Ladies of Toastmasters Club in Almaty congratulated the Gentlemen with May 7 Day! Here is the video link:

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=nPnE6ytQszY](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nPnE6ytQszY)

**April 27, 2016:** our Club held its elections and a new Leadership Team's term commences on July 1, 2016. Stay tuned to learn who is now on board!

**May 15, 2016:** some old and new Leadership Team members held a meeting to discuss Club Success Plan. Follow our Facebook and Instagram account updates to learn more! We also, had the privilege of a fellow Leadership Team Toastmaster from New York, NY - Dilber Shatursun join us for feedback and advice! Lots of ideas were flowing and decisions made. Stay tuned for the announcement of our new Leadership Team and of novelties we jointly came up with! Here is a photo from this meeting on our Instagram page: [www.instagram.com/p/BFbKGSiKGB1/](http://www.instagram.com/p/BFbKGSiKGB1/)

As you can see, our Club had a busy few months (this is only a few of the highlights!) and it looks like there are more exciting surprises ahead. Here are some ways you can learn our news and receive updates:

**Meeting Review Blogs:** follow our blog posts on this website <http://toastmasters.kz/t-blog> for an overview of the meetings - created for you by our lovely - Aisha Maukembayeva and Gaukhar Zhunussova, PR Committee's very own bloggers and new Leadership Team members! Also, we have launched Member Spotlight Series to feature our members and why they love Toastmasters!

**Almaty Toastmasters Club on Instagram since April 2016:** we are excited to have this new photo & video social media outlet for our news and updates! Follow our Instagram account: [@Almaty.Toastmasters](#) and here is the link to our life in photos! [www.instagram.com/almaty.toastmasters/](http://www.instagram.com/almaty.toastmasters/) and hashtag us along to spread the word out [#AlmatyToastmasters](#)

**Our Facebook page** contains regular updates and news of our Club [www.facebook.com/Almaty.Toastmasters/](http://www.facebook.com/Almaty.Toastmasters/) or if you want to be friends with us there, here is our account to add us on [www.facebook.com/toastmasters.almaty](http://www.facebook.com/toastmasters.almaty)

Stay tuned for more news and a schedule of social events! Also, shhhh....don't tell anyone but we are working on developing news digests into a full-scale newsletter. Please send us your comments, feedback and suggestions - we always welcome ideas and contributions from guests and enthusiasts of Toastmasters! Feel free to e-mail them to us at [almaty.toastmasters@gmail.com](mailto:almaty.toastmasters@gmail.com)

Our Regular Meetings are held every Wednesday from 7:30-9:00 PM at Turan University, room #207 at the following address: 16a-18 Satpaev St. Look forward to seeing you there as you embark on your Toastmasters journey with us!