

**Speaker Bio's – Cowtown Quality Roundup 2026**  
**Order: alphabetically by last name**

**Mike Bromberg**

Over the years, Mike has spoken at organizations, associations, schools, and colleges about positive psychology, group leadership and public speaking. His most popular talk is about happiness, the science of it, and action steps we can take to rewire our brains for a happier life.

With degrees in both psychology and communication, Mike has taught public speaking at universities including UT Dallas, done improv in Chicago, performed in plays as an actor, and started his speaking experience as a standup in Northern California back in 2005.

His talks are educational and engaging, hopefully making us think for days long afterward. It has been said that happiness is a moral obligation, and you could inflict unhappiness on people like body odor so why not focus on making the world, or at least your network, a happier place?

Mike is also a member of Kiwanis International where he works with college students in one of their sponsored youth organizations, Circle K International. Mike is a faculty advisor for CKI's UT Dallas club and serves as a regional advisor for the TX-OK district.

**Les Condit**

**Toastmasters:**

Active member of Toastmasters for 13 years with 10 years being in District 25 leadership roles. District 25 encompasses most of North Central Texas, Northwestern Texas, and Northeastern New Mexico.

**Speaking achievements:**

Earned 3 Distinguished Toastmaster (DTM) Awards

Earned over 100 Education Awards from Toastmasters

Named District 25 Division Director of the Year in 2015

Named the District 25 Toastmaster of the Year in 2016.

Placed third in North Texas District 25 International speech contest out of 2000+ members in District 25.

**Education: BSME and MBA**

**Work Experience:**

14 years in Nuclear Power Navy on submarines with 8 as an officer.

30 years of Quality and Engineering roles with 10 years in Management roles.

Currently a Principle SQE with 14 years in New Product Development role.

Senior ASQ member

ASQ Certification: CQE, CMQ&OE, SSBB, CSQP, and SSGB

## **Ted Ditch**

Over 30 years of experience in the medical device and pharmaceutical industry in quality assurance and quality engineering. Started at Pfizer and later first retirement from Alcon. Retired a second time from AmeriPac, a contract packaging company as the Director, Quality Assurance.

Master's in Engineering Management from University of Texas at Arlington.

Senior Member in ASQ with certifications for Quality Engineer (CQE), Six Sigma Black Belt (CSSBB), Quality Auditor (CQA), Quality Improvement Analyst (CQIA) and Quality Manager/Organization Excellence (CMQ)

Exemplar Global certified lead auditor for ISO 9001, ISO 13485 and FSSC 22000, and performs ISO 9001 and ISO 13485 certification audits.

## **Tyler Fisher**

Tyler Fisher is a leadership coach, speaker, and talent development expert dedicated to helping individuals and organizations unlock their full potential. Raised in a blue-collar family and later earning a doctorate in Educational Leadership, his journey reflects a commitment to growth, grit, and purpose-driven leadership.

A former Division I football player at the University of Nebraska, Tyler began his career as a strength and conditioning coach at Nebraska, Drake University, and TCU before shifting his focus to leadership development while completing his graduate degrees.

He later moved into corporate leadership development, where he refined his expertise in coaching, facilitation, and organizational strategy. With more than 5,000 hours of coaching and facilitation experience, Tyler has supported leaders and teams at every level, from front-line managers to senior executives.

## **Ken Frame**

Worked with Lean Six Sigma principles for the last 11 years and in medical textiles and medical device industries for 16 years. He has been working in the City government industry since August 2022.

He currently is the Business Process Manager for Development Services in the City of Fort Worth.

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BS in 2005; MBA in 2007. Also completed Franklin Covey 7 Habits for an Effective People program.

Earned LSSMBB certification December of 2024 from the City of Fort Worth LSS program. Earned CSSBB from the Aveto Business Institute.

## **Maruf Rahman**

Dr. Maruf Rahman is a globally experienced industrial engineer, LSS MBB, and Professor of Practice in the Department of Industrial, Manufacturing, and Systems Engineering at UTA. With over four decades of experience at the intersection of engineering, operations, and applied research, Dr. Rahman is recognized for advancing manufacturing performance, quality systems, and workforce development across academic and corporate environments.

With Industry Leadership and Global Consulting Excellence throughout his career Dr. Rahman has consulted for over 250 manufacturing plants across more than 30 countries, spanning 5 continents. He has led process improvement and quality transformation initiatives for Fortune 500 companies - often serving as a strategic advisor on Lean deployment, Six Sigma execution, supply chain reengineering, and factory turnaround.

Dr. Rahman brings a blend of academic scholarship and industry engagement. He has taught and developed engineering curricula at multiple institutions including Alabama A&M University, the University of Alabama, University of Tennessee, and UTA, focusing on subjects like operations management, quality systems, Six Sigma, engineering economy, and simulation-based productivity improvement.

He is deeply involved in simulation-based education, AI-integrated Lean Six Sigma training, and applied R&D projects, frequently collaborating with local chambers of commerce, workforce boards, and federal agencies (e.g., DOL, NSF).

He is a Certified SS Master Black Belt, a CQA, and a Lead Auditor for ISO 9001:2015 based quality management systems. In addition, he has authored white papers, case studies, and technical training modules on process optimization, and the use of AI in nursing and manufacturing.

## **Stan Renteria**

Stan is currently a Senior Quality Systems Manager at Medtronic. He lives and works in Fort Worth, Texas.

Stan's career has been focused on manufacturing operations and quality, having worked in the automotive, aerospace, telecommunications and medical device industries.

Stan is currently responsible for a 25-member, multi-national, multi-site Enterprise Configuration Management team which executes product and process change control for Medtronic businesses located in six U.S. states and in multiple countries.

As a sidebar, Stan has developed a parallel career in single- and multi-family real estate ventures.

For more than two decades, Stan has actively cultivated his interest in leadership, personal development and people development. He takes the opportunity to sharpen and practice these "soft skills" daily in his effort to add value to people around him. Stan is a continual learner who, in today's talk, will bring leadership and personal development content he has gleaned by studying some of the world's top leadership authorities.

Stan holds an MBA from Florida International University and is an ASQ Senior Member with CQIA and CSSGB certifications.

## Alicia Rizzo

Alicia Rizzo is an operations and process improvement leader with more than a decade of experience in healthcare management. Holding a BS in Medical Laboratory Science, a MS in Healthcare Management and a Lean Six Sigma Black Belt certification, she has spent much of her career helping healthcare organizations streamline operations, improve efficiency, and enhance patient-centered outcomes through data-driven process improvement.

Known for bridging strategy with practical execution, Alicia has led initiatives focused on operational excellence, team development, and systems optimization within complex healthcare environments. She currently serves as the West Regional Laboratory Director for one of the largest nonprofit health care systems in DFW. In addition to her healthcare career, she is also an entrepreneur and co-owner of Kraken Motorsports in Fort Worth, an automotive performance shop that gained regional recognition after winning the 2019 Fort Worth Business Plan Competition.

Alicia brings a unique perspective on leadership, continuous improvement, and building high-performing teams across both healthcare and entrepreneurial settings.

## Chris Sprague

Chris Sprague has worked across multiple industries, spending the majority of his career at Abbott and AbbVie, primarily in Quality Assurance. He served as Head of Quality Control for operations and led the medical device complaints organization, driving quality performance in complex, regulated environments.

Throughout his career, Chris became fascinated by how exceptional leaders achieved outstanding results — even in high-stakes quality settings — while maintaining healthy, sustainable cultures. This observation led to the research behind his book *Lead Without Limits*, which explores practical, evidence-based approaches to improving leadership effectiveness at the peer, team, and organizational levels.

In 2025, Chris co-founded The Enluma Leadership Group to provide data-driven insights and actionable development tools that drive real behavioral change — helping leaders and organizations improve performance while strengthening culture.

Chris holds a PhD in Toxicology from the University of Wisconsin–Madison

## Elisa Gouveia Waldrop

Senior Business Consultant & Operational Excellence Executive

Elisa Gouveia Waldrop is a Lean Six Sigma Master Black Belt with over 20 years of experience driving high-impact digital and operational transformations. Currently a Senior Business Consultant at International Services Inc., she specializes in financial restructuring, efficiency maximization, and the development of custom Value Enhancement Plans for nationwide clients.

Elisa's career spans leadership roles at Dillon Morgan Consulting, the City of Dallas, and Southwestern Health Resources, where she spearheaded large-scale innovation programs and complex process redesigns. Her technical expertise is uniquely broad, merging traditional Six Sigma DMAIC methodologies with cutting-edge strategy deployments, AI Agent Development, and Robotic Process Automation (RPA).

Internationally, she served as Service Quality Country Manager for Halliburton in Angola, where she led a workforce of 1,600 through ISO 9001 certification and achieved a 50% reduction in major operational issues within a single year.

Elisa holds a B.S. in Industrial Engineering from the University of Texas at Arlington, is a registered ISO 9001 Lead Auditor, and is fluent in English, Spanish, and Portuguese.

## Stephen Weller

Stephen began his career in manufacturing, where he was first introduced to Lean and later served as plant Lean manager for two facilities. In 2010, he transitioned into health care consulting within surgical services—a move that sparked his passion for improving care delivery. Since then, Stephen has specialized in surgical services optimization, partnering with more than 50 hospitals across the Americas to enhance operations, support clinical teams, and elevate patient care.

He is the author of six books, including two focused on Lean—*The Progressive Machine: Before We Called It Lean* and *The Progressive Hospital: A Lean Hope*. His contributions also include co-authoring a *Nursing Administration Quarterly* article on workplace violence and supporting Dr. Marshall Steele's book *Orthopedics and Spine: Innovative Strategies for Service Line Success*.

Stephen currently serves as the Coverage Administration Director for Care Coverage at Baylor Scott & White Health, where he oversees Process Improvement, Strategic Alignment, Huddle Management, Vendor Management, and related functions. He holds master's degrees in management and business administration.

## **Thom Williams**

Thom Williams is a continuous improvement and data leader, building and applying critical thinking, systems thinking, strategic thinking, data literacy and change management for over 30 years.

Thom has supported multiple industries as a Master Black Belt, including medical device manufacturing, telecommunications, and financial services.

Thom received his Bachelor of Science degree (Nuclear Engineering Physics) from the United States Military Academy and Masters of Science degree (Statistics) from Colorado State University.

## **Brian Wish**

Dr. Brian E. Wish has over 25 years of experience as a Quality Engineer and Quality Manager and is an ASQ CQE and CSSBB. He has held a variety of internal and external auditing roles at Lockheed Martin Aeronautics and is recognized as an Associate LM Fellow.

He is certified for third-party audits by Exemplar Global (QMS Lead Auditor) for ISO 9001 & ISO 14001, as well as by Probitas (IAQG Aerospace Experienced Auditor) for AS9100 & AS9110. He is also an IAQG Certification Oversight Assessor.

He holds a PhD from the University of Texas at Arlington, teaches graduate classes at Tarleton State University, and recently retired as a Colonel from the US Air Force Reserve.