

D56 MESSENGER

WE BUILD NEW CLUBS AND SUPPORT ALL CLUBS IN ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE



District 56

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DISTRICT DIRECTOR NEWS

THE GIFT OF TOASTMASTERS

Jo Idoux, DTM, District Director

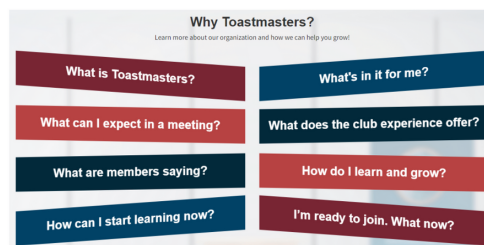
Think back to the first time you ever heard the word, Toastmasters. Did you know what Toastmasters was all about, or did you think it had something to do with breakfast?

In all likelihood, someone introduced you to Toastmasters. For me, a coworker asked if I would support her by attending a meeting. The next thing I knew, I was in a Toastmasters demo meeting. Yes, I am an accidental Toastmaster.

We all have different reasons why we joined Toastmasters. At first, Toastmasters is a gift you give yourself. We begin our Toastmasters journey honing our communication skills through practice, applying feedback, and striving for specific skill mastery. Active Toastmasters rapidly evolve into better versions of themselves by building self-confidence and self-awareness.

Your gift to yourself then becomes a gift to your club. Active Toastmasters grow and learn together. When you join a supportive and positive club in which you are empowered to develop communication and leadership skills, all members can enjoy unlimited personal growth.

The gift of Toastmasters should not stop with you or your club. Share your Toastmasters experience with family, friends, and coworkers. Challenge them to learn more about our organization and how we can help them grow with this "[Why Toastmasters?](#)" web page" Share the Toastmasters' gift that keeps on giving today!



SPRING SPEECH CONTESTS

Chandra R. Munagavalasa, DTM, Program Quality Director

First and foremost, I would like to thank all the club officers who have attended the Club Officer Training (COT). For your club to be a sustainable and quality club, it is important that all 7 of your club officers receive training. District 56 has conducted four 2-round COTs and the last COT was held on Feb 5, 2022. But if you are a club officer who did not attend the training and you are interested in taking the training now, please send an email to pqd@tmd56.org. If we receive 20 or more requests for the training, we will conduct a make-up COT.

By this time, most of the clubs either completed or are busy planning their club Spring Speech Contests - International Speech and Table Topics. Please note that all the Area, Division, and District Speech Contests will be conducted virtually. Visit our [District calendar](#) for the Area and Division Speech Contest schedule.



Due to the increase in COVID cases and for the safety of our District 56 members, this year's Spring Conference will be completely virtual. It will be a 2-day event (May 6 and May 7, 2022) loaded with Keynote Speeches, Educational Sessions, an Annual Business Meeting, Speech Contests, and many more. You don't want to miss this opportunity. The early bird pricing for this event is \$20 per person. Please stay tuned for more information about the Spring Conference.

I am looking forward to seeing you all at the Spring Conference.

CLUB GROWTH DIRECTOR NEWS

LOVING YOUR TOASTMASTERS JOURNEY!

Sharla Ozen, DTM, Club Growth Director

Love is in the Air... February 14th is recognized and celebrated as a day of love internationally. All around the world, people are focused on unique ways to express and show love on that ONE day. I think we can do better than that. Here is my challenge for you...

For the month of February, I am asking all District 56 clubs and members to share your Love of Toastmasters and express themselves by participating in the following challenges:

1st Challenge - "What I love about my Toastmasters journey."

All District 56 members are asked to share on our District 56 Facebook page.

2nd Challenge: "What I love about my Toastmasters Club."

Have club members post on our District 56 Facebook page.



3rd Challenge - "I love to connect and introduce others to Toastmasters."

Talk Up Toastmasters – Gain 5 new members for your club between February 1st - March 31st.

Receive a Talk Up Toastmasters Award ribbon, a 10% discount from TI store, and a \$50 TI gift certificate from District 56. New members must pay for at least 6 months. Be among the first 20 clubs.

4th Challenge - "I love to start clubs."

Any Toastmaster that charters a Toastmasters club by March 31st will receive a \$100 gift certificate from the district.

We have such amazing clubs and talented members. Let's share the Toastmasters experience with others so they can learn and grow also.

ACHIEVEMENT & MILESTONES IN DIVISION P

Elizabeth A. Ruiz, DTM, Division P Director

Know what time it is? We are six weeks past the MIDDLE MARK of our Toastmasters year! Whew. June 30, 2022, will be here before you know it. We are here for you on behalf of the Division P Team as we wind down our Toastmasters year.

Where were you in 1960? The Division P photo spotlight this month goes to JSC Toastmasters. They met for their annual holiday dinner in December. JSC Toastmasters chartered on March 1, 1960, celebrating 62 years strong. What a MILESTONE!



Anniversaries:

February

Diamond Club, 18 years
Pasadena Toastmasters, 11 years
Mainland Toastmasters, 6 years
Covestro Toastmasters Baytown, 3 years

March

JSC Toastmasters Club, 62 years
Pearland Toastmasters, 25 years
Clear Lake Area Chamber of Commerce Toastmasters, 24 years
Spaced Out Toastmasters Club, 16 years

Seventeen clubs achieved DCP Goal 9 so far:

Thank you, club officers, for your dedication to training and helping your club become a Distinguished Club.

Eight clubs have 5+ DCP goals earned so far:

We appreciate members who follow through with their Toastmasters Promise. Reach out to your Area or Division Director to help your club reach goals and become Distinguished.

Three clubs have 5+ DCP goals earned and 20+ or +5 members so far:

ANICO Articulators Toastmasters Club
Diamond Club
West Pearland Toastmasters

Two clubs achieved the Membership Excellence Award!

UAGC Orators Toastmasters Club
Young Professional Toastmasters Club

Four clubs achieved 100% Pathways Total Member Rate

Brazosport Club
UHCL Toastmasters
VNS Voices Toastmasters Club
Spaced Out Toastmasters Club

100% of semiannual clubs in Division P submitted Club Officer Lists!

126 Pathways Levels Achieved in Division P, so far!

Round 2 Division P Area Director Visit Reports are 55% complete so far.

Teamwork was achieved by our Division P Team. Congratulations. If your club has not had its round 2 visit by your Area Director, be on the lookout for an email to the Club President announcing the date of the upcoming visit.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL!

Membership dues statements sent to members this month:

Per our Toastmasters Leadership Handbook (p. 20), February is when a club officer sends out membership dues statements to members. Have you renewed your dues yet? Any club officer may enter in a member's credit card payment through Leadership Central: Club Central: Submit Payment – it's open now. Reminder, each club needs 8 or more members paid for the current renewal period – at least 3 of whom are renewing members to remain active (source: Item 377A, toastmasters.org).

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We appreciate YOU.

We want to extend our gratitude to every member of Division P.

Once again, our accomplishment comes on the heels of the Toastmasters Promise of our entire Division. We truly care about each one of you. Reach out to your Area or Division Director if you or your club needs help or training. We are here for YOU.

VP PUBLIC RELATIONS RESOURCES

[FreeToastHost website and WordPress Website Training Videos](#)

[Club Marketing tips](#)

[D56 Breaking News submittal](#)

[D56 Find-A-Club \(Add/Update\)](#)

Sometimes, life gets in the way. If you or another Toastmaster encounters a life event (i.e., the birth of a child, marriage, divorce, family loss, loss of a job, moving to another state, diagnosed with major illness, etc.), please email our [Compassion Outreach Chair](mailto:compassion@tmd56.org) (compassion@tmd56.org) to let us know.

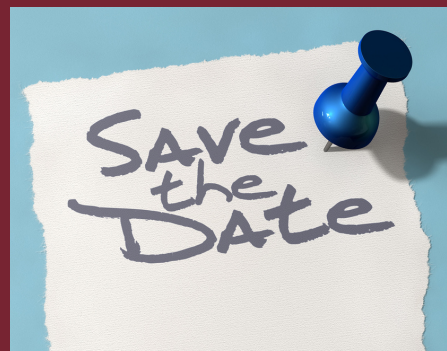


PUBLIC RELATIONS TEAM

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- Newsletter Designer - Cheryl Moralez
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- Social Media Team - Stacey Butler (Chair), Luz Bobadilla, Reshma Khatri
- Internal Communications - Latonia Jones (Manager)
- Google Space - Harold Eaton, DTM (Administrator), Amish Patel

"Shoot for the moon. Even if you miss, you will land among the stars."
Les Brown

UPCOMING EVENTS



February - March

Talk Up Toastmasters Membership Building Program

February 17

D56 Members Matter Most Meeting

Meeting Theme: Loving your Toastmasters

Journey | The Road to Leadership | 5:30 PM CT

February 19

Division M Area Speech Contests | 8:30 AM CT

February 26

Division N Area Speech Contests | 8:30 AM CT

March 5

Division O Area Speech Contests | 8:30 AM CT

March 12

Division P Area Speech Contests | 8:30 AM CT

March 17

D56 Members Matter Most Meeting

Meeting Theme: TBD | 5:30 PM CT

March 19

Division L Area Speech Contests | 8:30 AM CT

Division Q Area Speech Contests | 8:30 AM CT

March 26

Division R Area Speech Contests | 8:30 AM CT



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It is not to be used for solicitation and distribution of non-Toastmasters material or information. This is a bimonthly publication.