

February 2017



# D13

**You're invited to District 13 Toastmasters' Spring Conference April 7th-9th at the Penn Stater in State College!**

**Learn more and register: <http://springconference.d13tm.com/>**

## District Director

Hello District 13, Happy February!

Punxsutawney Phil saw his shadow but we are having great weather for February!!!

The first half of the year went by quickly and I am so proud of everyone for helping to move our District in the right direction in meeting goals:

- getting our officers trained
- planning your contests
- renewing our dues
- building new clubs and
- registering for the Spring Conference!!

We are now in the second half of the year and we want to finish strong!!

I hope you have seen the trio message from Montreal! The trio had a great mid-year training and I would like to share some of the ideas we learned about keeping our clubs healthy and successful!

- Have a club assessment, try to immediately improve the club
- Hold Open Houses
- Encourage officers to attend TLI training
- Invite guest speakers



**TOASTMASTERS**  
INTERNATIONAL

**“We are now in the second half of the year and we want to finish strong!!”**

- Show the World Champion of Public Speaking video
- Invite corporate executives/military officers
- Promote Toastmasters in your community
- Use social media and keep your website updated
- Ask community organizations if you could host a demo meeting (churches, Rotary, Boy Scouts, etc.)
- Always have themed meetings and have fun!
- Make sure all members, especially new, are assigned mentors (some advanced speakers may want mentors)

**Consider holding open houses, inviting guest speakers, sharing the World Champion of Public Speaking's video, and keeping social media updated!**

- Be committed; motivate and team build!

Remember District 13 has PRIDE!!!!  
Personal, Responsibility In Delivering Excellence!  
Dr. Hollis R. Batista, DTM  
District 13 Director



February 2017

# D13

**Spring Conference Theme:  
"Let's get Social! Spring into  
F.U.N! - Finding Unlimited  
Networks!"**

## TOASTMASTERS INTERNATIONAL



### Program Quality Director

Hello Fellow Toastmasters!

I hope you are enjoying this non-traditional weather we are having so far this year! This February is a short month and therefore so are the updates in our newsletter!

#### Club Officer Training

Thank you to those clubs who have had their officers trained at our Winter TLI Session or one of the make-up sessions thus-far!

Club Officer Training Facts:

- The Winter Training of a minimum four club officers is the second part of your Distinguished Club Plan Goal #9.
- We have trained almost half our District leaders to date!
- Additional make up training sessions are scheduled through the month of February. Please see the Events Calendar on our District 13 website for dates, times, and locations.

- Spread the word - Let's get the remaining 50% of our officers trained!

#### Spring Conference

Are you ready to get Social! Join us April 7-9, 2017 at the Penn Stater Hotel and Conference Center for our Spring Conference: "Let's get Social! Spring into F.U.N! - Finding Unlimited Networks!"

Conference Features

- Not one but two of the 2016 World Championship of Public Speaking finalist: Aaron Beverly and Elliott Eddie!
- Six educational workshops presented by some of the best of District 13 Toastmasters!
- The best of the best in our District competing for the District 13 Evaluation and International

Speech Contest titles!

- Food, F.U.N and Fellowship with your fellow Toastmasters from across the District on Friday night and all weekend!

Our Conference co-chairs Chris and Steve Sokolowski are hard at work putting together a fantastic program for you all. If you are interested in helping out with the Conference, please email them at [d13springconf-chair@d13t.com](mailto:d13springconf-chair@d13t.com). More details will be shared as available on our Spring Conference page of the D13tm.com website so check back often!

Early Bird Registration is available on Eventbrite now through February 13, 2017. Regular conference rates will be in effect for one month afterward. Don't Delay, register today!

Dues Renewal period approaching:

- Semi-annual dues are due to Toastmasters Inter-

national by March 31, 2017

- To remain a club in good standing, you must submit a minimum of eight membership payments by that date
- Reminder: A Toastmaster must be a member in good standing from a club in good standing in order to compete in the International and Evaluation Contests!

I look forward to seeing you at the Spring Conference in April if not sooner!

All the best,

Francine

Francine Milligan, DTM  
District 13 Toastmasters  
Program Quality Director, 2016-2017





When is Your Open House? Plan One Today!

Start planning early for the best results. Here are some ideas to help you have the best one yet:

## 1 - Organize a committee:

- Find out who in your club needs a CL project (such as organize or help organize a club special event).
- Put together a PR campaign with your VPPR Officer.

## 2 - Get all members involved

- Share the plan.
- Review the moments of truth standards - these are found in your Club Leadership Handbook.
- All members greet guests.
- Arrange a fun themed meeting - all meeting roles filled in advance.
- Invite a guest speaker 5-7 minute manual speech with evaluator.

## 3 - Promote the event

- Flyers - distribute to members to post in the community or at their workplace.
- Social media, Eventbrite, MeetUp.com
- Local papers - press release, article

## 4 - Arrange for greeters

- Have lots of guest kits made in advance.
- Ask guests how they found out about the meeting.
- Introduce both guests and members (30 seconds why they joined).

## 5 - At the meeting

- Have an easy fun table topics session, invite guests to try (ask them first).
- Hold a special session for guests (VPM) during the break/beginning/end of meeting - explain the benefits of joining your club and answer questions.

## Measure your results

- Process memberships promptly.
- Follow-up with guests.
- Invite guests to future meetings by phone or email.

# Club Growth Director

Hello fellow Toastmasters!

I hope you and your families are doing well and that you are having a great second half of the 2016-2017 Toastmasters year! Where has the time gone? It seems like we just started the Toastmasters year in July and it is now February.

Welcome new clubs Verbal Espresso and Yappy Hour to the District 13 Toastmasters family!! A **BIG THANK YOU** to the following Club Sponsors and Club Mentors:

### Verbal Espresso

Club Sponsors Rachel Kenyon and Joe Arnold  
Club Mentors Kara Reynolds and Michelle Cunningham

### Yappy Hour

Club Sponsors Hollis Batista and Jennifer Sell  
Club Mentors Hollis Batista and Missie Berteotti

All Toastmasters clubs need new members. Even though your club may currently enjoy a healthy membership, a few months from now that could change as members move, change jobs or reach their objectives.

By adding new members, your club will benefit by:

- Increasing more meeting participation
- Improving learning opportunities
- Adding chances to hone new skills

Conducting a membership-building contest is an easy way to gain new members. Add five new, dual, or reinstated members with a join date between February 1 and March 31, and you'll receive a special "Talk up Toastmasters" ribbon to display on your club's banner. Qualifying clubs can also earn a special discount code for 10-percent off their next club order. (The discount code expires six months from the date of issue and is not valid with any other offer.)

Now is a great time to hold a Great Open House! or Open Houses! A lot of clubs are having successful back-to-back open houses. Visit <http://www.d13tm.com/open-house-in-a-box/> and <http://www.d13tm.com/document-library/> for a lot of great resources. See District 86's Plan for a Great Open House (left sidebar)! Be sure you have guest packets, branded agendas, and guests speakers for your open house.

There are upcoming opportunities for Club Sponsor, Club Mentor, and Club Coach. Reach out to Don Michel, DTM, Club Extension Chair at [d13clubextensionchair@d13tm.com](mailto:d13clubextensionchair@d13tm.com), Trevor Yannayon, DTM, Club Coach Chair at [d13clubcoach@d13tm.com](mailto:d13clubcoach@d13tm.com) or me at [d13cgd@d13tm.com](mailto:d13cgd@d13tm.com). We would be happy to help you or answer your questions.

Let's all Talk Up Toastmasters!

Jennifer Sell, DTM  
Club Growth Director



Welcome  
Verbal  
Espresso  
and  
Yappy  
Hour to  
District 13  
TM!

## In Memoriam – Joe McBride, DTM

Dear District 13,

It is with profound sadness that I share the news that our Distinguished Toastmaster and Area 3 Director, Joe McBride, died on Thursday, February 23, 2017 with his devoted and loving wife Kathy McBride by his side. Kathy said, "We ate dinner and enjoyed the evening, and he went to bed and slipped away."

How fortunate we have been to have shared our lives with this wonderful man. While today is a day of sadness for all of us, it is also a day to appreciate our singular good fortune and thank God for allowing Joe's life to enrich our own in so many ways.

Joe had been a Toastmaster for 34 years in clubs located in Washington State, Idaho, Arkansas, and Texas, as well as District 13.

In 2011 Joe and his wife Kathy made the decision to move to this area to be near grandkids. Joe stated, "But after being a Toastmaster that long, it gets in your blood. Helping people grow, watching people grow, and occasionally seeing growth in yourself keeps us coming back for more."

Joe stated, "Over my business career, I have worked in sales, in retail management, as a stand-up comedian, a professional speaker, college instructor, and a business consultant. Now I look forward to being a part of the success of District 13 Toastmasters."

Joe was a past District 9 Governor, and held every office at the club level. He was a professional speaker, consultant, trainer, and writer. He was the current Area 3 Director, and for a short period of time, held the office of Club Growth Director for District 13 in 2016.

One of the last events he wanted to attend was his Area 3 contest, but he was not feeling well and decided not to attend. Joe, your Toastmasters friends made your contest a success with great speeches, food, and laughter; you would have been proud of your Area 3 Contest.

Contributions may be sent to the Cleveland Clinic in care of the Miller Family Heart & Vascular Institute.

With sincere sympathy,  
Dr. Hollis



### Upcoming Events:

April 7th-9th | District Conference | Penn Stater

For all events visit:  
<http://www.d13tm.com/events>



### Member Highlight: Heather Sotomayor

Heather Sotomayor (SO – TOE – MAY- OR) has been a Toastmaster since April 2011. She has held multiple club officer roles within the BNY Mellon Club and The Next Step club. She is currently a club coach for Culturally Speaking, president at Pitt Public Health, and the Area 34 Director. Heather has shown total dedication to the Toastmasters program and is a believer that it can help change lives. She dove right in to her area director role. The Pitt Public Health club was a struggling club in her area, and she and the dedicated members are working to revitalize the membership base.

Heather has a big heart and is more than willing to help people in need. This is evident in hearing her speeches regarding nature and bees. This was also evident when she was president of BNY Mellon, where her main concern was always about the members. Heather knows that Moments of Truth is a critical tool that every Toastmasters club should use. You don't know where you are going if you don't know where you are.

Learn more at: <http://www.d13tm.com/member-highlight/>



Nominate a member by sending an email to:  
[d13PRM@d13tm.com](mailto:d13PRM@d13tm.com)