



WHERE LEADERS ARE MADE

## DISTRICT 13 TOASTMASTERS

### *From the District*

Hello District 13!

A primary objective of clubs is to provide the best possible member experience so that existing members are retained and new members join. How can you create the best possible member experience in your club? First impressions are crucial. Every new and prospective member's initial interaction with your club should be a positive one.



Toastmasters defines these decisive times when initial impressions are being created as [Moments of Truth](#). When was [Moments of Truth](#). last presented your club? If it has been six months or more, it should be presented again.

Club Officers, have you started completing the [Club Success Plan](#)? Earning recognition for a club isn't something anyone accomplishes alone. It takes a team of people who are dedicated to a common goal, have a plan and execute it well. They share responsibility for their tasks and depend on one another to achieve them. These teams don't only include club officers; clubs may also form other committees to help carry out specific aspects of the Club Success Plan.

The club executive committee determines what the club will accomplish this year and in years to come. The vision should be both attainable and inspiring so that other club members are motivated to get involved and help the committee's efforts.

Don't forget to focus on your personal goals. What goals are you working towards in the 2018-2019 Toastmasters year? I love Pathways and am working to earn Leadership Development Level 5 and Pathways Mentor Program by February 2019. Your goals no matter how big or small are important for you to work towards. I know you can do it!

Sincerely,

Jennifer Sell, DTM  
District 13 Director, 2018-2019  
[DD@d13tm.com](mailto:DD@d13tm.com)

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## *Welcome to the District 13 Family!*

The first club to join the District 13 family in the 2018-19 Toastmasters year is the Allegheny County Airport



Club, #7032806 in  
Pittsburgh, PA.

## *Region Realignment*

Just like Clubs are in Areas and Divisions in their Districts; Districts are in Regions. Toastmasters International realigned districts to balance the size of regions to ensure that equitable support for all districts is provided worldwide. **District 13 moved from Region 7 to Region 6 on July 1, 2018.** [Click here](#) for more information and view the region map.

## *Speech Contests - IMPORTANT*

The Toastmasters International Board of Director's wants districts to focus on strengthening their clubs and has instructed all districts not to hold fall speech contests or fall conferences.

Following the lead of Toastmasters International, the District Executive Committee met on Saturday, July 14, 2018 and voted to not hold fall speech contests at the Area and Division levels for this Toastmasters year. Please note per World Headquarters, clubs can choose to hold fall speech contests within their clubs and call them a speech event, speech-a-thon, etc., they can't be called speech contests. Clubs do not have to hold a speech event. Areas and Divisions cannot hold fall speech contests or events.

The district will be holding a fall marketing, education, and awards event. Districts are required to hold the International Speech Contest in the spring. We will be evaluating which speech contests will be held at the 2019 Spring Conference and will have more to report to the membership at the district fall marketing, education, and awards event.

The district mission is we build new clubs and support all clubs in achieving excellence. In the 2017-2018 Toastmasters year, District 13 lost 10 clubs and we had a decline in membership; this year it is especially important for District 13 to work on strengthening our clubs. You may contact the District Director [dd@d13tm.com](mailto:dd@d13tm.com) or Program Quality Director [pqd@d13tm.com](mailto:pqd@d13tm.com) with questions or concerns.

Let's direct our focus and efforts on education and membership – Strong, Quality Clubs!

## *Area Directors*

The Area Directors will be visiting every club in District 13. Let the Area Directors know about your clubs successes and challenges as well as members who want to be part of our team. The district is here to provide resources to your club.

## *District Council Meeting*

District council meetings are opportunities to take care of district business. The district council holds at least two regular meetings during each year. One of the required meetings is held in-person between March 15 and June 1. The other required meeting is held as soon as practical after the Toastmasters International Annual Business Meeting, but no later than September 30 in order to approve the district budget and appointed officers for submission to World Headquarters.

Virtual District Council will be on Sunday, September 23, 2018 and no proxies are not allowed. The District Council will vote to approve the district budget and appointed officers for submission to World Headquarters.

The District Council is the Club Presidents, Vice President Education, and District Executive Committee.

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## *Toastmasters International Convention*



Nate Stephens, DTM will be representing District 13 in a semifinal International Speech contest. This contest will be held on August 23 at the International Convention in Chicago. This is the first time that Nate has competed in a semifinals contest. Nate has been a member of Toastmasters for over 15 years and has belonged to clubs in three different districts. In addition to Toastmasters, Nate's interests include hiking, biking, and improv comedy.

## *Annual Business Meeting*



*Your Vote is Important!*

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Your club has important votes to cast during the Annual Business Meeting at the Toastmasters International Convention in Chicago, Illinois on Saturday, August 25. Clubs will vote to elect international officers and directors as well as Proposal A.

The District Director, Program Quality Director, and Club Growth Director are interviewing the International Officer and International Director candidates on Sunday, August 19, 2018.

Clubs can send a delegate or *Club Presidents and Secretaries* you can designate the District Director as your club proxy.

To assign the club votes, go to Club Central at [www.toastmasters.org](http://www.toastmasters.org), log in, choose the club(s) you are assigning proxies for and click on Club Proxy.

Please do not instruct the delegate how to vote. The District Director, Program Quality Director, and Club Growth Director are interviewing all of the candidates to make the best decision for our district

If you have already made your candidate selections, you are able to go back in and change them.

For a list of FAQs, please visit [www.toastmasters.org/proxyquestions](http://www.toastmasters.org/proxyquestions) .

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## *District Fall Events*

### **Save the Date!**

October 13th - Fall Marketing, Education and Awards Event

More information coming soon

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## *Club Officer Training*

Why Not Me? Club Officer Training – July 14, 2018 at Westmoreland Community College.

Toastmaster Josh shared his theme - Why Not Me?

Each of us brings a unique set of abilities and perspectives which helps to make us stronger as a group. Grow your abilities as a club leader and to learn how to help others develop their leadership abilities and lifting us all to heights we might not have even imagined.

Thank you Josh, and the Club Officer Training Team for a good and successful day!

To all club officers and members who attended. District 13 and all its clubs sincerely appreciates your attendance! Whether you are a club officer or member you are a leader, and your leadership is key to the success of each member, club, and the district!

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## *Smedley Award*

### ***Program Dates: August 1 - September 30***

Can your club add five new, dual, or reinstated members with a join date between August 1 and September 30? Accomplish this goal and you'll qualify to receive a "Smedley Award" ribbon, named in honor of Ralph Smedley, which you can display on your club's banner. Qualifying clubs can also earn a special discount code for 10-percent off their next club order.\*

Applications and payments for members with a join date between August 1 and September 30 must be received at World Headquarters or online no later than September 30. The addition of transfer and charter members does not count toward "Smedley Award" credit.

The winning clubs will be revealed online within a few weeks of the submission deadline.

***\*The discount code expires six months from the date of issue and is not valid with any other offer.***

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## *A Toastmaster's Promise*

**As a member of Toastmasters International and my club, I promise**

- To attend club meetings regularly
- To prepare all of my projects to the best of my ability, basing them on the

Toastmasters education program

- To prepare for and fulfill meeting assignments
  - To provide fellow members with helpful, constructive evaluations
  - To help the club maintain the positive, friendly environment necessary for all members to learn and grow
  - To serve my club as an officer when called upon to do so
  - To treat my fellow club members and our guests with respect and courtesy
  - To bring guests to club meetings so they can see the benefits Toastmasters membership offers
  - To adhere to the guidelines and rules for all Toastmasters education and recognition programs
  - To act within Toastmasters' core values of integrity, respect, service and excellence during the conduct of all Toastmasters activities
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District 13 Toastmasters

[www.d13tm.com](http://www.d13tm.com)

See what's happening on our social sites:

