



District 63 Newsletter

April 2025

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UPCOMING EVENTS

District 63 Annual Conference April 25-26

[REGISTER TODAY!](#)

D63 Power Hour

May 27, 2025

July 29, 2025

Sept. 23, 2025

Dec. 2, 2025

6 pm CST/7 pm EST

[Register Now!](#)

Semiannual Elections:

Terms run from

July 1 to December 31

and January 1 to June 30

**For more information,
visit our website**

d63.toastmastersdistricts.org

Toastmasters International

www.toastmasters.org

BUILDING TRANSFERABLE SKILLS THROUGH YOUR TOASTMASTERS JOURNEY

By: Kayla Works, District 63 Club Growth Director



Embarking on a Toastmasters journey is transformative and transcends just improved public speaking skills. As you progress through various roles and responsibilities within Toastmasters, you develop a wide range of transferable skills that are invaluable in both personal and professional settings. From leadership and communication to strategic planning and mentorship, the skills honed in Toastmasters can significantly enhance your career trajectory and personal growth.

As a Division Director, you manage multiple areas and clubs, driving membership growth and improving meeting quality. This role requires strategic thinking, effective communication, and

leadership. Mentoring club officers helps you build coaching skills that are valuable in any professional setting! Beginners can start by observing experienced leaders and gradually taking on more responsibilities. What an amazing feeling to have coached individuals to a new level – professionally and personally!

As an Area Director, you guide club officers, conduct club visits, facilitate training sessions, and organize contests. This role enhances your project management, event planning, and training facilitation skills. But it does not just stop there! You will have the opportunity to further your leadership capabilities by mentoring new Area Directors fosters collaboration.

Serving as a club officer develops skills in team coordination, event planning, and public relations. Leading a club to achieve Distinguished Club status involves fostering a positive environment, coordinating meetings, and driving membership growth. Effective communication strategies, such as social media campaigns, enhance visibility and attract new members. Beginners should focus on building a strong team and leveraging various communication channels.

Reflecting on my Toastmasters journey, a pivotal moment was serving as Club President to the Unum Toastmasters Club. Our club faced low membership and engagement, so I launched a campaign to promote our events and achievements. With the help of fellow officers, we attracted new members and increased our engagement and I am proud to say that a once struggling club has become Select Distinguished. This experience boosted my confidence in public relations and taught me the importance of teamwork and perseverance.

For beginners, step out of your comfort zone, seek feedback, and stay committed. Engaging with the Toastmasters community will help you learn and grow, so seek those mentors! What are you waiting for? Today, figure out the best way to make Pathways best fit your Toastmaster's journey towards your destination.

With Love,

Kayla Works

24-25 D63 Club Growth Director



BEAT the CLOCK

Get ready to win with **District 63's May Membership Drive!** From May 1 to June 30, we're on a mission to grow our clubs and achieve the **Beat the Clock Award**. Add five new members and unlock exciting rewards!

KICKOFF EVENT: May 1

TIME: May 1-June 30

LOCATION: [ALL CLUB PARTICIPATION]

Join us for a kickoff event. Have your club create fun activities, and a chances to meet new friends! Let's make this spring a season of growth and success together.

Why Participate?

- Earn the Beat the Clock Ribbon: Display your club's achievement with pride!
- Get a 10% Discount Code: Save on your next club order.
- Build a Stronger Club: Welcome new members and foster a vibrant community.
- The chance to be considered the CHAMPIONS!!!

Don't miss out on this opportunity to shine! Let's "Go for Growth!" and make District 63 the best it can be!

#Toastrasters #SpringIntoSuccess #BeatTheClock #MembershipDrive

SUMMER TLI

Join us for an enriching and empowering session at the **Toastrasters District 63 Toastrasters Leadership Institute (TLI)**! This event is designed to provide valuable training and development opportunities for all Toastrasters members, especially club officers.

DATE: June 28th, 2025

TIME: 9:00 - 2:00 p.m. CST/10:00 - 3:00 p.m. EST

LOCATION: Zoom Meeting

REGISTRATION: <https://form.jotform.com/251033949343962>

AGENDA HIGHLIGHTS:

- **Club Officer Training:** Essential training sessions for club officers to enhance their leadership skills and effectively manage their clubs.

CONNECT WITH US!

Email: district63communication@gmail.com

Web: <https://d63.toastmastersdistricts.org>

Facebook: [District 63 Toastmasters](#)

X: [District 63 TM](#)

Linkedin: [District Sixty-three](#)

Instagram: [tiDistrict63](#)

YouTube: [District 63 Toastmasters](#)

2025 Conference Info:

toastmastersconference2025.com

DISTRICT 63
LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE
Amplify 2025: Elevating the Leader Within
April 25 & 26, 2025
Hilton BNA Nashville
TOASTMASTERS INTERNATIONAL
Keynote Speaker:

Luisa Montalvo
2024 Toastmasters International World Champion of Public Speaking

- **Educational Workshops:** Interactive workshops covering a range of topics such as public speaking, leadership development, and effective communication.
- **Networking Opportunities:** Connect with fellow Toastmasters from across the district, share experiences, and build lasting relationships.
- **Guest Speakers:** Inspirational talks from experienced Toastmasters and industry leaders.

Whether you are a seasoned Toastmaster or new to the organization, this TLI event promises to provide you with the tools and knowledge to excel in your Toastmasters journey. Don't miss this opportunity to learn, grow, and be inspired!

D63 Amplify

Silent Auction

Help Us Inspire Leaders at Amplify 2025!

We invite your club to contribute to this inspiring experience by creating an Inspiration Basket! These carefully curated baskets will be auctioned to the highest bidder during our Amplify 2025 Silent Auction, with all proceeds dedicated to supporting the conference's success. Help us uplift fellow Toastmasters and aspiring leaders.

What's an Inspiration Basket?


An Inspiration Basket is a thoughtfully curated collection of items that aligns with the theme "Elevate the Leader Within."

Your basket can include:

- ✦ Motivational books or journals
- ✦ Leadership quotes or framed affirmations
- ✦ Personal development tools (e.g., planners, goal-setting cards)
- ✦ Toastmasters-inspired items (e.g., speech timers, mini-gavel)
- ✦ Fun and uplifting treats or self-care items

BE CREATIVE...think of what inspires and elevates a leader!

Deadline & Details

 Due Date: April 23, 2025

To participate, please complete the Google form link in your email.

Contact: Christina Slade: 805-598-1720/ christinaslade1645@gmail.com

Thank you for helping us amplify leadership and inspiration at this year's conference!

Best,
Christina Slade
Silent Auction Chair,
Amplify 2025
D63 Toastmasters



AND THE WINNERS ARE...

Congratulations to Our District 63 Speech Contest Winners!

A huge round of applause to the winners of the **District 63 Area 20, 21, 22, 40, 41, 42 and 43 International and Table Topic Speech Contests!**

International Speech Contest Winners

Division B: 1st - Vasudev Haribal | 2nd - Lindsey Reneau | 3rd - Melissa Spiegler

Division C: 1st - Alexander Poggi | 2nd - Charmaine Lingard | 3rd - Margaret Hodges

Division D: 1st - Darryl Pace | 2nd - Tremale Delano | 3rd - John Mabry

Division E: 1st - Heidi White | 2nd - April Romero | 3rd - Billy Hofacher

Table Topic Speech Contest Winners

Division B: 1st - Mary Vosika | 2nd - Manuela Ptacek | 3rd - Vasudev Haribal

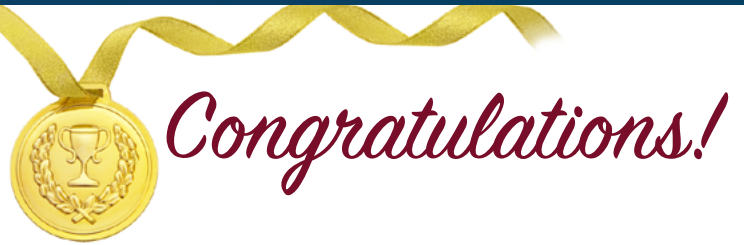
Division C: 1st - Spencer Harrison | 2nd - Jordan Hinton | 3rd - Allen Chesney

Division D: 1st - Stephen Shook | 2nd - Tempra Mosley | 3rd - Atoya Weatherspoon

Division E: 1st - Carolyn Kennedy | 2nd - Heidi White

These outstanding speakers are now advancing to the next round at the **District Level**. District 63 Competition will be held during the District 63 Annual Conference April 25-26, 2025.

<https://toastmastersconference2025.com>



Lindsey Reneau (2nd place), Vasudev Haribal (1st place), Robert McClelland, and Melissa Spiegler (3rd place).



Mary Vosika (1st place), Manuela Ptacek (2nd place), Vasudev Haribal (3rd place), Valarie Bouchard, and Michael James.



Division E contestants: April Romero, Carolyn Kennedy, Billy Hofacher, and Heidi White



Stephen Shook (1st place), Tempra Mosley (2nd place), and Atoya Weatherspoon (3rd place)



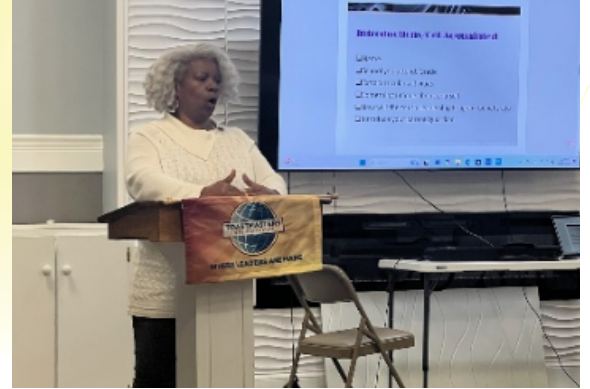
Darryl Pace (1st place), Tremale Delano (2nd place), and John Mabry (3rd place)

CLUB SPOTLIGHT

Chatter Masters and Blue Masters Conduct Youth Leadership Program



YLP Participants – 2025



Carolyn Miller (Blue Masters Toastmaster Club)

Toastmasters believes in developing the communication and leadership potential in every young person. Rising to this mission, the Chatter Masters and Blue Masters Toastmasters Clubs conducted a **Youth Leadership Program (YLP)** in Chattanooga, TN, from January 19 to March 2, 2025.

Sessions were held each Sunday afternoon at New United Baptist Church, with local Toastmasters volunteers leading lessons from the YLP workbook. Topics included Public Speaking, Chairmanship and Parliamentary Procedure, Impromptu Speaking, Organizing Your Speech, Listening, Gestures, and Voice and Vocabulary.

The program welcomed 17 participants aged 13–18 from public, private, charter, and home schools, including students from Hutchins Academy—a mentorship program supporting high school students on their path to college.

Throughout the 8-week program, participants practiced leadership by electing officers to run each session. Midway through, new officers were chosen to give others the chance to lead. Each participant delivered three speeches, building confidence and skill week by week.

The program culminated in a “Show Your Skills” event, where each youth gave a 5-to-7-minute speech on a topic of their choice. One participant even shared how the experience helped prepare them to speak confidently at a large benefit luncheon for their school.

Gay Haliburton of the Chatter Masters Club served as the YLP coordinator. Volunteers included Cynthia Hill-Watson, John Hendricks, and Pam Henry (Chatter Masters); Carolyn Miller (Blue Masters); and Sandy Poggi and Jasmine Cooper (Unum Toastmasters).

This impactful program exemplifies the Toastmasters commitment to empowering the next generation of communicators and leaders through collaboration and community support.



Toastmasters attending the “Show Your Skills Program” (Left to Right) Sandy Poggi, Cynthia Hill-Watson, Wendy McNabb (Area 31 Director), Gay Haliburton and Pam Henry



John Hendricks (Chatter Masters Toastmasters Club)



Sandy Poggi and Jasmine Cooper (Unum Toastmaster)



Power Hour

EMPOWER YOUR JOURNEY, ONE HOUR AT A TIME!

Mark your calendars!
You can attend one or more of the following upcoming sessions:

July 29, 2025 | 8:00 PM EST
September 23, 2025 | 8:00 PM EST
December 2, 2025 | 8:00 PM EST

THE D63 POWER HOUR

District 63 Toastmasters is thrilled to launch **D63 Power Hour**, a dynamic bi-monthly educational series designed to elevate your Toastmasters experience. These focused, high-impact sessions will help sharpen your leadership and communication skills while fostering meaningful connections across clubs.

Why Attend D63 Power Hour?

- Gain valuable insights from seasoned Toastmasters and expert facilitators.
- Enhance your leadership and communication toolkit with practical, actionable strategies.
- Connect and collaborate with fellow District 63 members from across the region.
- Stay motivated and on track with your personal and professional development goals.

This series is **built with YOU in mind**—focused learning in just one hour, every other month!

May's Topic: Navigating the New Member Journey

Be Part of the Journey

Whether you're a new member or a seasoned Toastmaster, D63 Power Hour offers something for everyone. Join us and empower your journey—one hour at a time!

**YOUR
OPINION
MATTERS**

Toastmasters Superstars: Shine Bright Nomination Form

Nominate a District 63 Toastmaster member who has shown exceptional leadership, communication skills, commitment, innovation, support for others, and notable achievements within the district.

<https://form.jotform.com/251064258886062>

Let's go!

SCAN &
VOTE!





MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: JASON COOK

Fellow Toastmasters-

I want to wish you well and I hope you are now enjoying the early beginnings of spring. I for one am glad for warmer weather and sometimes wish we never had snow or ice here in TN, so I am always glad to see it disappear..... but what I do NOT want to see disappear is our teamwork, dedication, and shared goals of working together and trying to keep our district together. With that in mind, I want to personally thank all of you for being members and further express a sincere and deep felt thanks to the DEC members and other leaders who have been working so hard to make sure our speech contests are a success. Your division directors Sonia, Renea, Connie, Jared, and their teams have done a phenomenal job of making sure our members were able to enjoy friendly competitions with one another in a positive environment. Furthermore, let me also acknowledge the hard work that has gone into improving the newsletter, social media presence, and overall visibility of D63. We look a lot better to the outside world than we once did and while that work will have to continue, we have made great progress. We have also continued to work to form better partnerships with organizations like Rotary while serving our communities and working to improve the lives of all whom we touch.

This is the final stretch, the last quarter of the 2024-25 Toastmasters year. Let's work together to make the most of the moment! We should be working within our communities and networks to get the word out about Toastmasters. I would encourage this sort of thing year round, but let's finish the year as strongly as we can. I want the new DEC for the

2025-26 year to be in the best position possible for success and we have to lay the groundwork for that now. The annual conference will be held at the Hilton BNA Nashville on April 25-26. DO NOT MISS OUT! There is still time to register and we hope to have an incredible ingathering of our members from around the state. The reigning World Champion of Public Speaking, Luisa Montalvo, will be the keynote speaker! I had the privilege of being in Anaheim last year when she won and trust me you want to hear this lady in person! A special thanks to Monica and her team for the amazing job they continue to do in pulling all of this together as well!

Finally, it's time to renew your dues! They are due by the end of March! We really need to have as many people complete this as possible before April 1. Please work with your club treasurer if you have any questions. Most member dues can be paid online through the TI website. Let's get this done as soon as we can!

I have been very blessed to serve with an amazing team of leaders this year. I also want to give special recognition to Jeff and Kayla; those two have been wonderful additions to the trio and I know all of you see their hard work and dedication just like I do. As my time in office winds down, I will be grateful that I could serve with such fine people that were as adept at seeing to the needs of our members as they were at putting up with me. Being District Director has been one of the great honors of my life and I hope to follow the lead of other fine people who came before me and continue to serve this amazing group of Toastmasters well into the future.

Have a great weekend and reach out if you need anything. Your trio is here to see YOU succeed.

Yours in Toastmasters service,
Jason Cook
D63 Director
District63communication@gmail.com

MISSED ANYTHING?
CHECK OUT THE DISTRICT'S
WEBSITE FOR PAST CONTENT.

www.d63.toastmastersdistricts.org

GOT AN ANNOUNCEMENT?
SEND IT INTO THE DISTRICT'S
COMMUNICATION SITE.

district63communication@gmail.com