



Jamming with Jen

Q3 Nominations

Do you see a Toastmaster that goes above and beyond . Do they deserve a nomination for the following categories: Toastmaster (Non-Officer), Club Officer, Club, Club Mentor, Area Director, or Division Director. Nominations for Q3 are currently open. If you want to nominate someone, please use the link below.

[Nominate Here!!](#)

Business Meeting

Our business meeting will be held virtually on Saturday, April 26th from 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM Eastern time. This is open to all members, but club President's, Vice President of Education's, and District Leadership team presence is required since they all have votes. Please register using this [link](#) for the business meeting.





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Nominated Candidates 2025-2026

On March 14, 2025, I have been informed by our DLC chair on the nominated candidates for all elected positions for the 2025-2026 Toastmasters year. With that if you have not seen the list of nominated candidates, here are our candidates.

District Director(s)	Veera Raghavendra Sriram
Program Quality Director(s)	Christian Austin
Club Growth Director(s)	David Lintz
Division (A) Director(s)	Sherri Raftery
Division (B) Director(s)	Caroline Yang
Division (C) Director(s)	Shaida Mohamed
Division (D) Director(s)	no candidates
Division (E) Director(s)	Jonathan Shapiro
Division (F) Director(s)	Michael Mateo
Division (G) Director(s)	Lisa Hunt
Public Relations Mgr	Sean DaSilva, Caryl Lattof

We will be having a candidate showcase on Monday, April 21 from 7:00-8:00 PM on Zoom. Please [register](#) to attend. If you cannot attend, the event will be recorded and posted on our website within 48 hours after to give members plenty of time to review prior to the business meeting





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Pathfinder Award

Reminder we have the Pathfinder Award. I encourage everyone this year to earn one. The qualifications for a Pathfinder Award remain the same from the past few years. Members are eligible for the award if they earn completion awards for 5 out of the 7 possible Pathways awards in any Path or combination of Paths during the 2024-2025 Toastmasters program year.

Pathways award categories:

- Level 1
- Level 2
- Level 3
- Level 4
- Level 5
- Pathways Mentor Program
- Distinguished Toastmaster (DTM)





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Community Challenge

Want to earn a free ticket to CLCON25? If so participate in the Community Challenge for your chance of earning a free ticket to CLCON25. Earn points for doing things for the District and the top winner for each quarter wins a free ticket to CLCON25. The top three winners get a bag of free swag from the District via the Toastmasters International store. Check out the link for the list of possible items you can earn points towards.

[Community Challenge](#)

[Submit for Points Here](#)

Gamification Challenge

Are you up for some friendly competition/rivalry amongst your fellow clubs? Have you checked out our leader board of where clubs stand in the District. Check out our leader board on the front page of the website to see where your club stands.

Division	Area	Club Number	Club Name	DCP Point Ranking	Goals Met
E	53	5073971	Shrewsbury Toastmasters	1	10
F	64	675	Quincy Toastmasters Club	1	10
E	55	3993	Framingham / Natick Toastmasters	2	9
G	71	854	Ocean State Club	3	8
G	71	1427152	Rhode Island Active Toastmasters	3	8
G	72	4750180	Fall River Innovators	3	8
A	14	3908	Northshore Toastmasters Club	4	7
B	21	4690	Westford Expressions Club	4	7
C	31	1295807	Somerville Toastmasters	4	7
E	55	4735	Boston West Toastmasters Club	4	7





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CLCON 25: The Power of You





Learn and Be Curious with Veera

International President Spear promoting CLCON25

CLCON 25 offers an unparalleled opportunity to learn from two phenomenal keynote speakers, Craig Valentine and Dr. Farzana Chohan, and to participate in numerous enriching educational sessions. Combine that with the chance to network with fellow Toastmasters, celebrate Hall of Fame inductees, and witness the prestigious Leadership and Communication Award presentation, and you'll return with enhanced skills and invaluable connections.

Register now : <https://unipaygold.unibank.com/transactioninfo.aspx?TID=33965>

Here are several compelling reasons why a Toastmasters member should attend CLCON 25:

1. Learn from World-Class Keynote Speakers:

- Craig Valentine: Gain insights from a renowned storytelling expert and World Champion of Public Speaking. Learn techniques to captivate audiences and deliver impactful messages.
- Dr. Farzana Chohan: Explore the power of communication and leadership from a respected expert. Discover strategies for personal and professional growth.

2. Enhance Your Skills Through Diverse Educational Sessions:

- Participate in multiple educational sessions covering a wide range of topics related to communication, leadership, and personal development.
- Acquire practical tools and techniques that you can immediately apply in your Toastmasters journey and beyond.

3. Experience Unforgettable Entertainment:

- Stand-Up Night: Enjoy a night of laughter and entertainment, providing a fun and relaxed atmosphere to connect with fellow members.





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4. Celebrate Excellence and Inspiration:

- **Hall of Fame:** Witness the recognition of outstanding Toastmasters members who have made significant contributions to the organization.
- **Leadership and Communication Award:** Be inspired by the presentation of a prestigious award, recognizing exceptional leadership and communication skills.

5. Expand Your Professional and Personal Network:

- Connect with Toastmasters members from across the district, building valuable relationships and expanding your network.
- Engage in meaningful conversations and share experiences with like-minded individuals.

6. Invest in Your Personal Growth:

- CLCON 25 offers a unique opportunity for personal and professional development
- Immerse yourself in a supportive and motivating environment that encourages growth and learning.

7. Enjoy a Luxurious Setting:

- Experience the comfort and elegance of The Westin Waltham, providing a conducive environment for learning and networking.

8. Revitalize Your Toastmasters Experience:

- Attending CLCON 25 will re-energize your passion for Toastmasters and provide new perspectives on communication and leadership.
- Return to your club with renewed enthusiasm and a wealth of new knowledge.

9. Invest in yourself:

- Attending a conference like CLCON 25 is an investment in yourself, and your future.

CLCON 25 promises a weekend of learning, inspiration, and connection, making it an invaluable experience for any Toastmasters member.

- **#D31LearnandBeCurious**





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Meet Our Keynote Speakers For CLCON 25





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Meet Our Keynote Speakers For CLCON 25

Craig Valentine, MBA, an award-winning speaker and trainer, has traveled the world helping speakers, executives, and salespeople turn their presentations into profits.

Known as the Master Storyteller, he is a professional speaker and has spoken in the

United States, Taiwan, Canada, Jamaica, Qatar (Doha), England, Bahamas, Hong Kong, China, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Australia, India, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, South Africa, Japan, and Ireland, giving as many as 160 presentations per year. He is the 1999 World Champion of Public Speaking for Toastmasters International, winning out of more than 25,000 contestants in 14 countries.

Craig is also the co-author of the Amazon.com #1 Bestseller, World Class Speaking In Action.

He has used his speaking success formulas to:

- Win Salesperson of the Year (3 times) for Glencoe/McGraw-Hill's Mid-Atlantic Division
- Become an award-winning management trainer for one of the most prestigious and largest seminar companies in the United States (averaging an industry-leading 5.85 on a 6.0 rating scale)
- Produce sales years of 233%, 157%, and 152% of goal for Glencoe/McGraw-Hill • sell more than \$8 million in educational resources in a single year
- Won the Rising Star salesperson award as a rookie with Glencoe/McGraw-Hill
- Won Events Manager of the Year for the National Small Business Council
- Won a Congressional Achievement Award from the United States Congress for excellence in communications
- Earned the Distinguished Alumni Award from Johns Hopkins University • receive hundreds of speaking awards from Toronto to Taipei
- Helped the United Way of Central Maryland exceed its \$45 million fundraising goal in the year 2000 by training their Loaned Executives to present with influence
- Ran an employment academy for homeless men in Baltimore City. During his tenure, Craig and his team had a 100% job-placement rate.





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Meet Our Keynote Speakers For CLCON 25

Craig Valentine is the author of the groundbreaking book, *The Nuts and Bolts of Public Speaking*, Co-Author of the book, *World Class Speaking*, and contributing author for the books *Guerrilla Marketing on the Front Lines*, *Success Secrets of the Social Media Marketing Superstars*, *The Speaker's Edge*, and *Guerrilla Marketing Remix*. He has an MBA from Johns Hopkins University and he is certified as a Co-Active Coach and a Guerrilla Marketing Coach. Craig is also the Co-Founder of the World Class Speaking Coach Certification Program which certifies speech coaches around the globe. He is the Founder of the Speak and Prosper 6-Week Series, Co-Founder of the World Class Product Creation Program, and Founder of Craig Valentine's Speak and Prosper Academy. Most recently, Craig founded the Inner Circle for Speakers. Craig has two kids and a wife.





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Dr. Farzana Chohan is an award-winning Thought leader who believes in the power of human excellence. Her purpose-driven work helps organizations in creating strategic, transformational work culture of continuous improvement.

A dynamic leader, who is recognized as a Subject Matter Expert, with professional working experience on two continents. Dr. Farzana is a published author, who writes about the impact of leadership, belonging to work culture and Artificial Intelligence in our world. She is a recipient of the “Presidential Citation” award from Toastmasters International.

Dr. Farzana’s credentials include Doctor of Management, Master’s in Architecture and have valuable experience of serving as Board of Directors of multiple organizations. She is a Distinguished Toastmasters, and has given a TEDx talk.





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CLCON Education Session

AI is more Intelligent than HI : Dr. Farzana Chohan

In our rapidly evolving technological landscape, Artificial Intelligence (AI) has seamlessly integrated into our daily routines. It is essential for us to understand the basics of AI without becoming overwhelmed by complex jargon. This session will address few key topics, including:

A clear definition of Artificial Intelligence, comparison between AI and human intelligence, highlighting the areas where AI excels, interactive insights into the future of AI, and ethical considerations and potential advancements in the field.



A Stand Up Guide for Public Speaking and Workshop with : Steph Dalwin

Steph Dalwin (she/her) is a Boston-based standup comedian. She draws inspiration from her upbringing in a Vietnamese and Jewish household and in everyday situations like shopping while plus size, trips to the grocery store, and her quest for the perfect chicken nugget. Steph regularly performs in the Boston area, and recently performed at the Far From Here Comedy Festival in Toronto.





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The DESIGN of Exceptional Communication : Amanda Greaves

Speaker

Amanda Greaves is a dynamic and entertaining speaker, personal coach & business consultant, author, and interior designer. Through her talks and consulting work Amanda embodies the importance of collaboration, communication, and creativity and is fully committed to serving others on a deep and meaningful level with connection and confidence.

Session

Through her signature Keynote: DESIGN, Amanda speaks about the three steps to Exceptional Communication within six areas of connection: Discover, Evaluate, Sense, Identify, Gauge and Navigate. Her witty and inclusive presentation grants the audience the power to assess their own communication style, while simultaneously understanding the style of others, and then learning how to adapt and adjust as needed to reach deeper levels of connection, and higher levels of leadership, understanding, productivity, and fulfillment.

o With entertaining and personal stories that are totally relatable to the audience, Amanda provides valuable information about personal growth and persistence to achieve one's dreams, while also presenting realistic take-aways that the participants can use immediately in their conversations and connections with others.





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Toastmasters is not just Speaking, it's Civic Engagement : Trevor Crippen , DTM Speaker

Trevor Crippen is a two-time Distinguished Toastmaster and a Past District Director for District 31 Toastmasters. He first visited a Toastmasters meeting at his employer in 2014 because he heard there was free pizza in the boardroom, and has since learned this organization can offer so much more than an occasional free lunch. In his time as a Toastmaster, he's given over a hundred speeches, served in dozens of leadership roles and the club and district levels, and he keeps coming back for more. In his day job, he works in corporate rights analysis and intellectual property in the education industry. He lives in a suburb south of Boston with his wife, daughter, and chocolate labrador dog.

Session

Many people feel powerless and disengaged in a world where it feels like we're continually moving further apart from each other. How can we make a difference in this world? Especially when we're all so busy and exhausted all the time? It may seem like Toastmasters should be pretty low on our priority lists given all the other stresses in our lives. However, Toastmasters can fill a void in our lives for civic engagement, community building, and self-empowerment at a time where those things are desperately needed. In addition to the positive impacts we can make on others in the organization, it is also a confidence builder that can help us successfully move into other forms of civic engagement to address the issues we care about. In this session, we will discuss how Toastmasters is "entry-level" civic engagement, why civic engagement like Toastmasters is critical for us as individuals and as a society, and how we can better prioritize Toastmasters (and other civic engagement) in our lives.





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Ace Your Next Interview: Mastering the Art of Interviewing : Maryann Murphy, DTM Speaker

Maryann Murphy, DTM, has been a member of Toastmasters since 2007, and is both the 2024 District 31 Tall Tales Champion and Mentor of the Year. She is the President of South Coast Toastmasters Club and a past President and continuing member of Upper Cape Toastmasters. She is a past Area and Division Governor in District 31, and a past president of the New England chapter of the National Speakers Association. Maryann has worked as a clinical social worker, professional speaker and professional organizer, and as a manager in human services and government positions, she has hired over 2,000 part-time and full-time employees, giving her extensive experience and insight into what is needed to stand out in an interview situation. She is the author of "STOP Wasting Your Precious Time – 60 Easy Strategies for Eliminating Your Biggest Time Wasters at Work", a time management book available on Amazon.

Session

Interviews can be nerve-wracking, but with the right skills, you can turn them into opportunities to shine. Whether you're applying for a job, seeking a promotion, or preparing for any high-stakes conversation, communication is key. As Toastmasters, we learn how to speak effectively in public, but interviewing requires a unique approach—one that you can learn, practice, and perfect. This interactive session will equip you with the tools to confidently navigate interviews and leave a lasting and positive impression. Join us for a hands-on experience where you'll discover how to prepare effectively, avoid common pitfalls, and communicate your value with confidence. Through live coaching, real-time feedback, and practical exercises, you'll gain insights into what to say—and not to say—to position yourself as the ideal candidate. For a more personalized experience, bring your resume and receive tailored feedback to help you shine in your next interview. Don't leave your success to chance—learn how to stand out and make the best possible impression!





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Your Pen...YOUR POWER : Lisa Axios

Speaker:

After years of personal growth and learning from incredible mentors, I've gained valuable insights into leadership, financial wisdom, intentionality, decision-making, time management, empowering others, and, most importantly, leading myself first. These lessons have shaped who I am today and fueled my passion for helping others create authentic, purpose-driven lives. Experienced Marketing with a demonstrated history of working in the real estate industry. Skilled in Negotiation, Luxury Sales, Real Property, and New home sales.

Session:

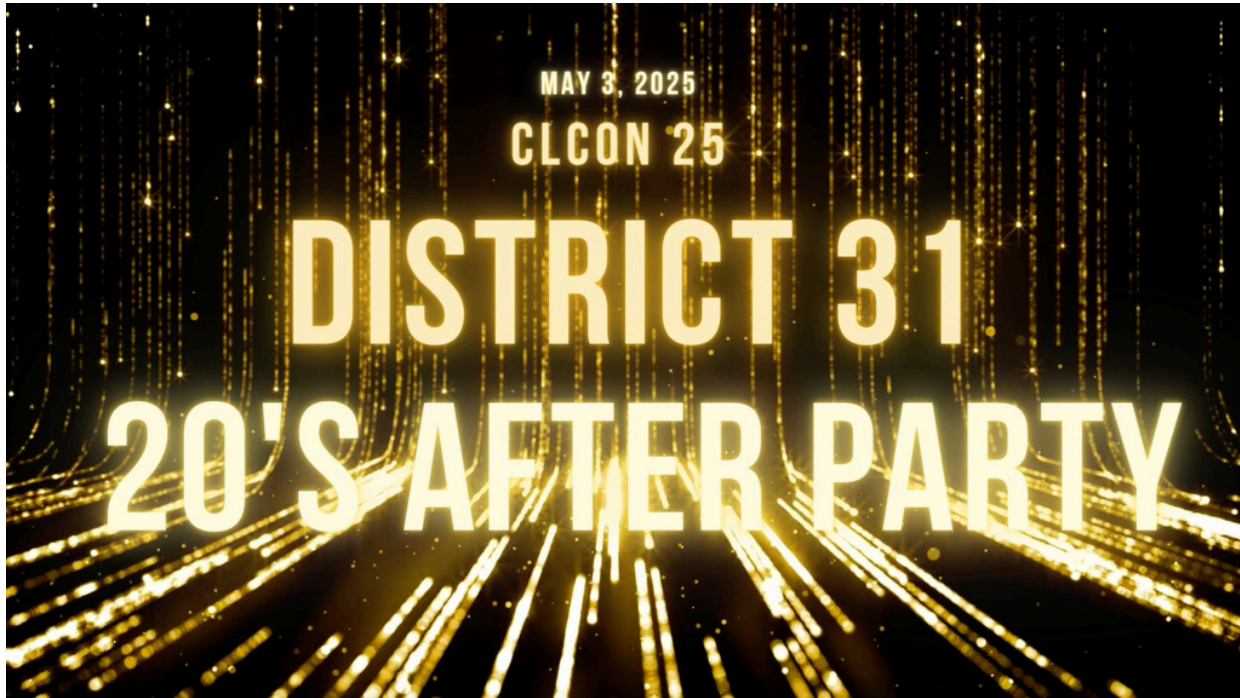
Is a transformative leadership session that reveals how the simple act of writing can unlock clarity, confidence, and unstoppable momentum. Through intentional reflection, goal-setting, and dreaming, participants will discover how putting pen to paper doesn't just capture ideas, it ignites action. Live a Life by Design, Not by Default





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District 31 Social Event: 20's After Party



Dust off your flapper dresses and zoot suits, District 31 is throwing a Roaring 20's themed After Party Social following the second day of CLCON 25! Join fellow Toastmasters on May 3rd at Craft Food Halls, located at 200 5th Ave., Waltham, MA, for an evening of vintage fun and celebration. Get ready to Charleston the night away to the electrifying beats spun by our very own talented Toastmaster, David Gilman, as he delivers a DJ performance that will transport you straight to the jazz age, making this a dazzling conclusion to a fantastic conference weekend.

Register Now:

<https://unipaygold.unibank.com/transactioninfo.aspx?TID=35593>





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Attending a District Speech Contest offers Toastmasters members a unique and valuable experience, packed with benefits that go beyond the typical club meeting. Here's why you should consider attending:

- Witness Exceptional Speaking
- Networking and Connection
- Educational Growth
- Motivation and Inspiration
- Support and Camaraderie

Attending a District Speech Contest is an investment in your personal and professional development. It's an opportunity to learn, connect, and be inspired by the best speakers in your district.

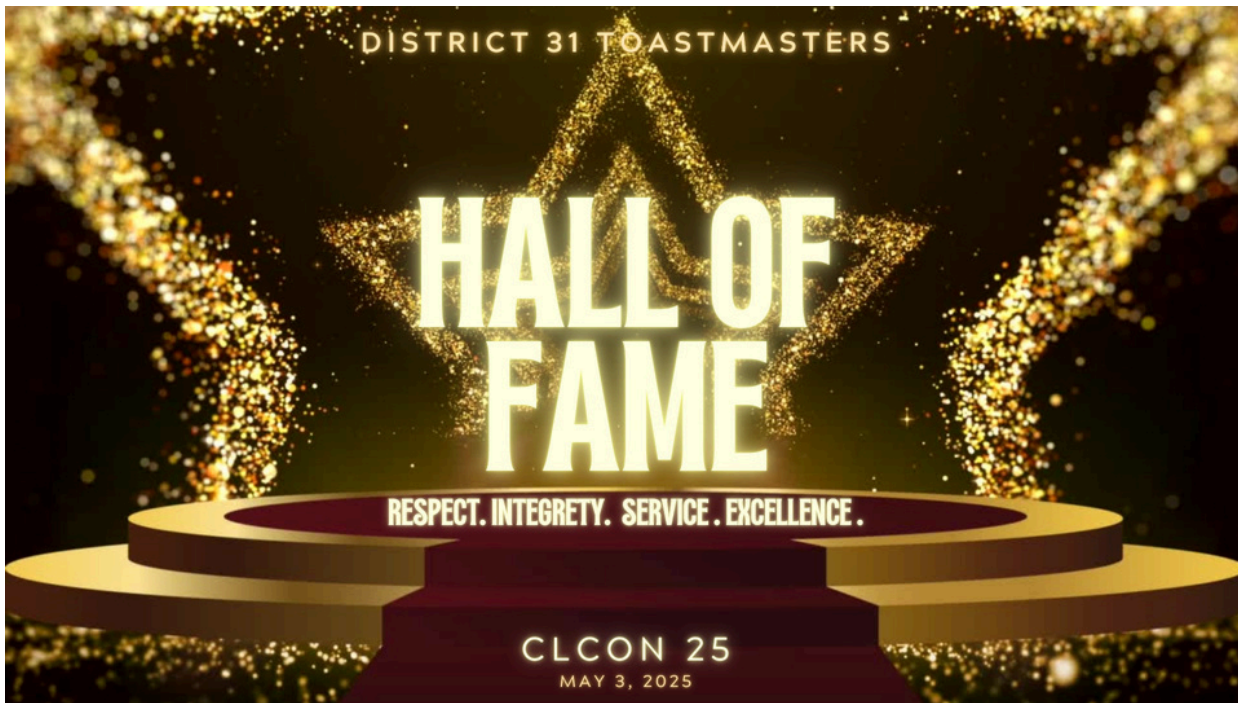
Register Now:

<https://unipaygold.unibank.com/transactioninfo.aspx?TID=3396>





Learn and Be Curious with Veera



Online Speech Contest:

Witness the best speakers from across our district compete for the chance to advance! Prepare to be inspired, entertained, and moved by powerful speeches delivered from the comfort of your own home. Date: Thursday, May 1st Time: 6:00 PM EST Platform: Zoom
What to Expect: Compelling speeches from talented Toastmasters. A showcase of diverse speaking styles and topics. An engaging and interactive online experience. An opportunity to support your fellow Toastmasters. Don't miss this exciting event! Grab your virtual seat and be part of the District 31 Online Speech Contest.

Online Speech Contest Register(\$10) :

<https://unipaygold.unibank.com/transactionInfo.aspx?CustomerID=2343&TransID=35844>





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Parade Of Banners



District 31 clubs, showcase your spirit and pride at CLCON 25's vibrant Parade of Banners on Saturday, May 3rd at 9:00 AM! This is a fantastic opportunity to visually represent your club and connect with fellow Toastmasters from across the district in a lively and celebratory procession. Bring your club banner and a few enthusiastic members to participate in this exciting display of unity and camaraderie, setting an energetic tone for the conference and highlighting the strength and diversity of District 31. Let's make this year's Parade of Banners a memorable highlight of "The Power Of You" conference!





Learn and Be Curious with Veera

Pathways

In the Toastmasters Pathways learning program, Levels 1 and 2 are foundational, playing a crucial role in establishing a member's confidence and skill set. Here's a breakdown of their importance:

Level 1: Mastering Fundamentals

- **Introduction to Core Skills:**

- This level focuses on the essential building blocks of public speaking and evaluation.
- Members learn to organize their thoughts, structure speeches, and provide constructive feedback.

- **Building Confidence:**

- Level 1 is designed to ease new members into public speaking, creating a supportive environment for them to overcome their initial anxieties.
- Successful completion of these projects builds confidence and encourages continued participation.

- **Establishing a Foundation:**

- The skills learned in Level 1 are crucial for all future projects in Pathways. It provides the base upon which all other skills are built.

Level 2: Learning Your Style

- **Developing Personal Style:**

- This level encourages members to explore and refine their unique communication and leadership styles.
- It goes beyond the basics, helping members to understand their strengths and areas for improvement.

- **Introduction to Mentoring:**

- Level 2 often includes projects that introduce the concept of mentoring, which is a key component of the Toastmasters experience.
- This helps members to understand the importance of passing on their knowledge to other members.

- **Expanding Skill Set:**

- Members begin to expand their skill set by tackling more complex projects that require them to adapt their communication and leadership approaches.

In essence, Levels 1 and 2 are vital for establishing a strong foundation in communication and leadership, setting the stage for continued growth and success in Toastmasters.





Christian's Clubhouse

Club Anniversaries

Anniversaries

- 3 Anniversary V.O.L.U.M.E. Toastmasters **Chartered** 04/01/2022
- 3 Anniversary Toastmasters at Abiomed **Chartered** 04/04/2022
- 7 Anniversary Otis Street Orators **Chartered** 04/16/2018
- 7 Anniversary Optum Tech Toasts **Chartered** 04/26/2018
- 12 Anniversary Broadcasters Toastmasters **Chartered** 04/16/2013
- 16 Anniversary South Shore Toastmasters **Chartered** 04/01/2009
- 26 Anniversary Island Foghorns Toastmasters Club **Chartered** 04/01/1999
- 37 Anniversary TM at the FRB - Boston Club **Chartered** 04/01/1988
- 41 Anniversary Voice of Franklin Club **Chartered** 04/01/1984
- 44 Anniversary Paul Revere Toastmasters **Chartered** 04/01/1981
- 48 Anniversary Tri-County Talkers Toastmasters Club **Chartered** 04/01/1977
- 54 Anniversary Whaling City Club **Chartered** 04/01/1971

Milestone Anniversaries

- 1 Anniversary Beantown Toasters Toastmasters **Chartered** 04/14/2024
- 35 Anniversary Wachusett Toastmasters #7677 **Chartered** 04/01/1990
- 55 Anniversary Eastern Middlesex Toastmasters **Chartered** 04/01/1970





Christian's Clubhouse

Club Dues

The next Toastmasters renewal period starts **April 1st**. Thank you for renewing early. A majority of the district clubs made payments on-time (and early). A district club is renewed on-time if at least 8 members renew before the next renewal period. Below are the dates and renewal statistics leading up to the final date for on-time payment:

Date	Deadline	Number of Clubs Renewed	Percent of Clubs (out of 132)
3/1/2025	Two raffle tickets for early renewal pizza party	30	23%
3/15/2025	One raffle ticket for early renewal pizza party	71	54%
3/31/2025	Last day for on-time renewal	114	86%





Christian's Clubhouse

If your club didn't make on-time renewals, it is not too late to get 8 members renewed. For assistance please contact me at cgd@district31.org.

50 for 5

50 FOR 5

- Clubs with a base less than 20 members
- Add 5 new, dual, or reinstated members within a quarter
- Earn a \$50 Toastmasters International store gift certificate

Is your club having difficulty getting the membership base above 20 members? It's the perfect time to grow your club's membership, and get rewarded for your membership building initiatives! Followup with those find-a-club inquiries, invite friends, colleagues or relatives to meetings, demonstrate the value and fun of your meetings, and watch how your guests want to become members.

Reward your club and new members with some new items from the Toastmasters international store

- For clubs with a base less than 20 members
- Add 5 new, dual, or reinstated members within a quarter will earn a \$50 Toastmasters International store gift certificate

Join past winners or the past quarter winners

Quarter 1:

- Westford Expressions Club
- Ocean State Club
- Speak Up Cambridge





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Quarter 2:

- Eastern Middlesex Toastmasters
- Chelmsford Toastmasters Club
- Sales & Marketing Club
- Crimson Toastmasters Club
- Tuesday Toastmasters at MIT Club
- Moderna-Cambridge
- Boston College Toastmasters Club
- Boston Toastmasters
- Boston Seaport Toastmasters
- TM at the FRB - Boston Club
- Leada@Liberty Toastmasters
- Optum Tech Toasts
- Shrewsbury Toastmasters
- Otis Street Orators
- Boston West Toastmasters Club
- Quincy Toastmasters Club
- Rhode Island Active Toastmasters
- Voice of Franklin Club

and be recognized at the District 31 Quarterly Recognition ceremony.

What can you do to help recruit new members? Try running an open house, see the [article in the January newsletter](#) on advertising tips and take advantage of the Open House Reimbursement incentive.





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Open House Reimbursement



Time to run a spring open house. Overcoming the anxiety of public speaking, improving presentation skills or gaining leadership experience is a need that people will always have regardless of the time of year; that is where your club is here to help...and the District is here to support your open house!

1. Run an open house
2. Save receipts and label refreshments, or media purchased specifically for the open house
3. Save an agenda from the event
4. Submit the receipts and agenda to the Fab Four fabfour@district31.org
5. The Fab Four will issue a Concur account to apply for reimbursement
6. District 31 will reimburse the club up to \$50

Need some ideas on advertising your open house. [See the January newsletter article here.](#)

Please contact fabfour@district31.org for reimbursement. Happy Open House'ing!





Christian's Clubhouse

Start a Club Initiative



Know a company or community that could benefit from a Toastmasters club? Has someone been asking about how to form one? We're here to support them and you can **earn up to \$100 of Toastmasters International store gift certificates** by referring them. Here's how it works:

1. Refer a contact at a company or in a community that wants to start a Toastmasters club to **Christian at cgd@district31.org**.
2. If the contact leads to the district doing a demo meeting, you earn a **\$25 Toastmasters International store gift certificate**.
3. You have the first option to sponsor and mentor the new club.
4. If the club charts, you will earn an additional **\$75 Toastmasters International store gift certificate**.

That is \$100 worth of total gift certificates. Think of all the great Toastmasters Swag you could win for yourself or your clubs. Start referring those new club contacts today.





Christian's Clubhouse

District 31 Advanced Clubs



You may have joined District 31 on October 26th and the District 100 Year Expo and participated in the Advanced Club morning workshops, or perhaps you missed the event. The good news is that you can join a District 31 advanced club meeting to experience how an advanced club can help you **bring your speaking and leadership skills to the next level.**

Here is the upcoming schedule of the next meetings for all the District 31 Advanced Clubs in the month of January. Click on the club name to link to each club's home page for more information on how to join a meeting:

[AccelOrators Advanced Toastmasters Club](#) – Thursday, April 3, 7-9 PM

[Seven Hills Advanced Toastmasters](#) – Tuesday, April 15,, 5:30-7 PM

[Advanced Orators Toastmasters Club](#) – Monday, April 14, 7-9 PM

[Advanced Articulators of Andover](#) - Tuesday, April 8, 7-8:30 PM

[Advanced Access Toastmasters Club](#) - Tuesday, April 15, 6:50-9 PM





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District 31 Advanced Clubs Cont.

Please visit the clubs websites to verify meeting times (they may change around the holidays) and to inquire about additional meetings during the month.

For more details about each of the advanced clubs and advanced clubs in general, check out the [District 31 advanced club website](#).

District Open Houses



District open houses are coming back this year! We are planning In-person open houses around the district

The District facilitates and advertises these

Clubs run, guest visit or joint participating clubs

Clubs will team up and work with the district to put on a great meeting for guests that will inquire about attending your club meetings in the future.

March 31 Roslindale Open House

The first District open house of the year was held on March 31st at Roslindale community center, sponsored by JP Toastmasters. The meeting was a lot of fun with pizza, guests, and a special keynote speaker Rep. Sam Montañó, 15th Suffolk District who spoke on "Civic Engagement and Public Speaking." Our other speaker of the evening was Elizabeth Thomas of Quincy Toastmasters,





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who gave an inspiring speech on her Toastmasters journey in the speech "Why Toastmasters?" Susan Susan Harrington, DTM ran the Table Topics session, asking our speakers to pick a number which drew a surprise month that they'd tell us something about—quite the open-ended fun question.

There was a great showing by local District clubs both attending and participating in the meeting. The following clubs were represented at the event;

- Advanced Access
- Boston Speech Party
- Boston University Medical Campus Toastmasters
- Copley Square Toastmasters
- JP Toastmasters
- Toastmasters General
- Toast Wizards

Thank you to all of the participants, contributing to the meeting and the JP Toastmasters for providing the venue and helping set up the meeting!





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More District open house events are planned. The next event is:

- **April 30, at Chelmsford Public Library, 25 Boston Rd, Chelmsford, MA 01824. 7-8pm**

We would also like to hold an event in the **north shore, south shore/RI**, and in the **western edge of the district towards Worcester**. If your club is **interested in participating** in an open house, or if you **have a venue that we can use to host an open house**, please contact Christian at cgd@district31.org

The following FAQ answer many common questions:





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District Open Houses FAQs

1. Will the district cover event expenses?

Yes, the district will cover all expenses for the event, including refreshments, supplies, decorations, etc. We just ask club members to help run the event.

2. When similar events have occurred in the past, what were the outcomes?

A couple of District open houses were run last year. The format differed, though. The district ran the event and requested volunteers from in the local area to participate in roles. There was no promotion of specific clubs. If members showed up from other clubs they had the opportunity to network with guests. There were no followup surveys with guests, so we do not have statistics on guests.

3. How many guests do you expect at the event? How many clubs generally participate?

We don't know, since this is the first time the district is using this format. Guests participation will depend on how well we advertise, the theme/speakers connecting with guests. Clubs will organize these aspects of the meeting, and the district will work with the clubs to facilitate implementation. Club participation will depend on how many clubs would like to help organize and run the event.

4. If this event is to attract more guests to multiple clubs, which clubs typically retain these guests as potential members? We are concerned about all clubs mutually benefiting from the collaboration.

That is a legitimate concern if there are multiple clubs trying to attract guests. Clubs will have an opportunity to provide guests with a mission statement or synopsis about the club. How that is built into the events will be up to the organizing clubs. Guests will be encouraged to visit multiple clubs to determine which one is the best fit for them. An analogous event was the district 100 Year event held at the end of October, where Advanced clubs collaborated in the morning to put on workshops. All clubs promoted themselves, and encouraged guests to visit each of their clubs.





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District Open Houses FAQs Cont.

5. How would I turn this into an upper-level Pathways project. Can you give more details on what specific projects you mean?

Please see the events section of this District 31 webpage for ideas:

<https://district31.org/2023-2024-public-relations-projects-jobs/>

6. Would this event happen at a specific time of day or day of the week?

We are surveying interested clubs to gather more information, including the month, time and day of the week.

If your club is **interested in participating** in an open house, or if you **have a venue that we can use to host an open house**, please contact Christian at cgd@district31.org.





Christian's Clubhouse

The Club Growth Team



The club growth team leads the district effort to bring new clubs into the district and helps existing clubs gain and retain members by running fun and engaging meetings.

Join the Club Growth Leadership Team

The club growth team is looking for someone who likes using the phone to communicate with members or guests in your Toastmasters club or at work and would like to help others become more comfortable on the phone:

Phone Out-Reach Chair

- Works with the District Marketing Chair with focus on phone outreach.
- Contacts prospective corporations that should have a club by phone.
- Assists with district phone training

Candidate Background: Experience in phone sales, managing a phone sales team, and/or likes talking to people.

If you would like to join the team, please **contact Christian at** cgd@district31.org.





Christian's Clubhouse

Earn your DTM

Become a Club Sponsor, Mentor, or Coach

If you're not interested in being a chair, there is also the opportunity to become a **club sponsor, mentor, or coach** and earn **Distinguished Toastmaster (DTM) credit**.



The DTM Toolkit

If you'd like to learn more about earning a DTM, keep a lookout for DTM posts showcasing David Lintz's DTM toolkit on the [district homepage](#) under News and Highlights and on District 31 social media—click on the icons in the footer to visit D31 social media sites. The first posts of several are posted:

The DTM Toolkit Series #1:
Who Wants to Become a Distinguished Toastmaster (DTM)?

- Have you been a Toastmaster for a while now?
- Have you set earning a DTM as one of your Toastmasters goals, but are not sure how to get started on a DTM project?
- If this describes you, check out the DTM Toolkit by clicking on the link in the description or scanning the QR code below



- Inside you will find:
 - **Questionnaires** filled out by the Pathways DTMs describing their projects, and how they selected and executed them, along with their contact information
 - **The DTM Project Manual** put out by Toastmasters International
 - **Suggested projects** that would benefit our District
 - **Interviews** with the Pathways DTMs
 - **Club officer training sessions** on selecting and executing DTM projects and on conducting Lessons Learned sessions

For more information, scan the QR code or contact David Lintz
dlintz@verizon.net



Embarking on the next step in your Toastmasters journey is only a click away

The DTM Toolkit Series #2:
Survey Responses from District 31 DTMs



- Do you have questions about selecting and executing a DTM project?
- See surveys filled out by District 31 DTMs describing their projects.

Check out the DTM Toolkit

For more information, scan the QR code or contact David Lintz
dlintz@verizon.net



Embarking on the next step in your Toastmasters journey is only a click away





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Christian's Clubhouse

**The DTM Toolkit Series #3:
Get an Early Start**



**DISTINGUISHED
TOASTMASTER**

Early access the DTM manual: Walk through the entire process of selecting and executing a DTM project

Check out the DTM Toolkit
For more information, scan the QR code or contact David Lintz
dlintz@verizon.net



Embarking on the next step in your Toastmasters journey is only a click away

**The DTM Toolkit Series #4:
Ideas For Your Project**



The DTM Project Spreadsheet contains a list of high priority District 31 projects
• Find an interesting project • Help the district

Check out the DTM Toolkit
For more information, scan the QR code or contact David Lintz
dlintz@verizon.net



Embarking on the next step in your Toastmasters journey is only a click away

**The DTM Toolkit Series #5:
DTM Video Interviews**



Learn from the experiences of others: One-on-one D31 DTM video interviews
• Selecting Projects • Executing Projects • Overcoming Obstacles

Check out the DTM Toolkit
For more information, scan the QR code or contact David Lintz
dlintz@verizon.net



Embarking on the next step in your Toastmasters journey is only a click away

**The DTM Toolkit Series #6:
DTM Project Video Snippets**



Table Topics length D31 DTM project snippets:
Preview first, and then watch the full length interview

Check out the DTM Toolkit
For more information, scan the QR code or contact David Lintz
dlintz@verizon.net



Embarking on the next step in your Toastmasters journey is only a click away

**The DTM Toolkit Series #7:
DTM Panel Discussions**



See what the DTMs in the one-on-one videos have to say when they get together for a panel discussion
• Selecting and executing DTM projects • Conducting Lessons Learned

Check out the DTM Toolkit
For more information, scan the QR code or contact David Lintz
dlintz@verizon.net



Embarking on the next step in your Toastmasters journey is only a click away





Christian's Clubhouse

To view the toolkit in its entirety check out the [DTM toolkit](#) for ideas and resources to get started.

Help with Demo Meetings



When clubs express interest in chartering, District 31 members help to put on an introductory demonstration meeting. This is not only a good opportunity to help a new club become successful, it is also an opportunity to do a meeting with a club that you might be considering sponsoring or mentoring in the future.

Please contact Christian at cgd@district31.org if you are interested in any of these positions





Christian's Clubhouse

Club Outreach Co-Chairs

Club officers may have seen an email last month from Club Outreach Co-Chairs Jeanne Cox, Ginny Layton-Leal, and Peter Swan. The club Outreach Co-Chairs periodically reach out to clubs to:

1. Provide you with information about current district events and deadlines.
2. Ask if your club needs district support.
3. [Provide feedback](#) to the district on clubs in need of support
4. Work together with district leaders (Fab Four, Area and Division Directors) to provide support

When you see a future email from them, please let them know if your club needs support, or has feedback for the district. .

Calling for club social media sites



If your club has a social media site that you'd like to feature on District 31 sites, please send the URL to fabfour@district31.org with the **name of your club** and **the Social Media Link**.

Check out the [current list of D31 club links](#).





Shining the Light in D31

Laura Lang Q2 Area Director of the Quarter award!



Laura's Background

Ever felt like you were living in a bubble? I have! I started thinking about how I could enlarge my community and do something that I love. That journey brought me to Toastmasters. Growing as a speaker is a passion of mine and I'm always looking for opportunities to speak and train others. I have a bachelor of arts in Speech Communication from the University of Nebraska - Go Huskers! I am a Starbucks Certified Coffee Master and I enjoy cooking, baking, and hiking. My cat, Georgia, allows me to live with her. Being a momma and grandmama are two of the greatest privileges of my life.

In 2019 I joined a club that was barely surviving, and after my second meeting our Club Coach, Carly Cox invited me to become the Vice President of Education - it was a perfect fit! I've enjoyed serving in several officer roles at Harold Parker Toastmasters and Advanced Articulators of Andover. Helping with the Club officer Trainings has provided me with the opportunity to hone my skills as a facilitator and trainer.

What Laura was recognized for

Among the many things I enjoy about Toastmasters, having the opportunity to invest in others is one of the highlights. I've heard many people ask what they should do after their first pass through Pathways, and my answer is, give a speech that will help the less experienced members of your club. As Toastmasters we are growing as speakers and LEADERS! We have the opportunity to invest our experience and knowledge in others. Being a club officer, Area Director, and helping with the COTs has allowed me to do this - AND I LOVE IT! Area Directors are positioned to help the clubs they are assigned to: I'm here to serve others! I was blessed to work for a company that had a facility that District 31 could use. It was a joy to open the building and provide a place for Toastmasters to meet, connect, and train. And I have enjoyed connecting with a new community of people. "Being a Toastmaster has fed my soul. I hope that I can be a part of assisting others in getting connected with people who desire to become more effective communicators and grow as leaders".





Coffee With Caryl



Pour yourself a cup and get a taste of Coffee with Caryl at caryl31.wordpress.com.

Every week, Caryl explores a new topic or profile, shares best practices and invaluable tips for increasing guests, retaining members, strengthening leadership teams and running high quality meetings. Learn about triumphs (and failures), and fresh perspectives on personal development.

To subscribe and receive notification of the weekly post on Thursdays at 8 am:

From your computer (not a phone!) ...

1. Click on the "+Follow" button on the lower right hand side
2. Then type in your email address and click "sign me up"
3. You'll receive an email to confirm your subscription and you need to click the "Confirm now" button

If you know anybody who would benefit from a personal note about the blog, send an email with subject "Caryl's Blog" and include the name and email in the body to prm@district31.org.





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You were added to this list because you are a member of District 31

Toastmasters.

You'll receive reminders of events (TLIs and conferences), deadlines (dues, officer elections) and other general news about the District. Please consider staying a member of this list to ensure you get timely updates.

