



District 36 Newsletter

September 2021 ♦ Volume 1 ♦ Issue 1

Greetings from the District Director

Bonnie L. Maidak, DTM



Welcome! to this first issue of a revived District 36 Newsletter. It is my goal that it will provide news you can use, reflect the events occurring throughout the district, and serve as an inspiration to you and others for a fantastic 2021-2022 Toastmaster year.

I want to be your partner this year as we build a vibrant District 36 community. The **district team's vision** for this year is:

"District 36 will be a vibrant community of enthusiastic, energetic Toastmasters who are dedicated to helping themselves and others achieve their highest communication and leadership potential."

What do these words mean? A vibrant community is alive, it's growing, it has energy and even synergy among individuals. Sometimes when I attend a club meeting, I arrive still pondering a problem from work or thinking about a confusing (to me although the person who wrote it probably thought it was clearly written) email message.

When I leave the meeting, I am refreshed, re-energized, and ready to solve the problems of the world. This is what I want for you to experience with your club meetings. If this doesn't describe your club meetings, what can YOU do to make it so? Are you the light shining for others or are you the shadow creating darkness?

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During the twenty plus years since I first became a Toastmaster, I have learned so many unexpected lessons. One lesson is how much our attitude makes a difference. I am a much more positive, optimistic, friendly, AND enthusiastic person than who I once was.

Another important part of the district vision for this year is "potential". One definition of potential is *"latent qualities or abilities that may be developed and lead to future success or usefulness."* When I think of who I was as a speaker when I first joined Toastmasters, compared to now, I have definitely developed my latent abilities to not speak in a monotone, to show excitement through my voice and gestures, to move with a purpose. Although I have had success as a leader, I continue to learn new leadership techniques, which I whole-heartedly want to share with you! On the last Tuesday of the month, we will have the **District Director's Leadership Skill Development and Education Series (DD LSDES)** presentations on various leadership topics. Yes, it is a mouthful of words, yet I want to provide opportunities to you to develop your leadership skills and build more awareness of what it means to be a leader.

Stay tuned for more announcements, more energy, more enthusiasm to help you develop your potential!

Program Quality Director's Message

AnnMarie Walker, DTM



Who we are:

The PQD team is a group of like-minded, enthusiastic, energetic District 36 members who are excited to serve you for the 2021-2022 Toastmasters year.

What we do:

We collaborate with the Area Directors, Division Directors,

District Executive in assisting clubs in becoming distinguished by focusing on DCP goals 1-6 and goal 9.

- o Goals 1-6: Educational goals; ensuring all members are enrolled in and working their Paths in Pathways. (Check out the [Toastmasters Pathways](#) Website)
- o Goal 9: Officers' Training; each club officers must complete training twice per Toastmasters year. Summer (June-August) and Winter (November- February) for their specific officer role.
- o Along with Training and Education, we host the District Conference and provide tools and training for Contest.

What's Happening:

Fun and exciting education sessions

- o 1st Sunday of the month until June 2022 (4:30pm-6:00pm) We get together and talk about various fun and educational topics. (have a topic you would like us to share with the members let me know (AnnMarie.Walker@district36.org)
- o Pathways sessions (Oct 2021-May 2022)
- o District Contest (May 2022)
- o District Conference (May 2022)

Can you join us:

Yes, any member can join us! if you are interested in joining the team send an email to AnnMarie.Walker@district36.org.

PQD Team Chair

TLI Chair: Ramu Garapati
Club Quality Chair: David Davis
Contest Chair: Vacant
Conference Chair: Vacant

Save these Dates

1st Sunday of the Month Training (Topics TBD)

- | | |
|---------------|---------------|
| • Oct 3, 2021 | • Mar 6, 2022 |
| • Nov 7, 2021 | • Apr 3, 2022 |
| • Dec 5, 2021 | • May 1, 2022 |
| • Feb 6, 2022 | • Jun 5, 2022 |

1st Sunday

District 36 First Sunday Training Events: Join District 36 **First Sunday of the Month** sessions at 4:30 pm for relevant educational program training opportunities for all club members or officers.

District 36 Education & Training Events 2021-2022



Monthly Pathways Training Event

"Choose Your Path Wisely: How to Approach Pathways"

- Wednesday, August 25, 2021 ♦ 7:30 pm to 9 pm
- Friday, September 17, 2021 ♦ 12:00 pm to 1 pm
- Tuesday, October 19, 2021 ♦ 7:30 pm to 9 pm
- Sunday, November 7, 2021 ♦ 4:30 pm to 6 pm
- Saturday, December 4, 2021 ♦ 12:00 pm to 1:30 pm

- Friday, January 14, 2022 ♦ 7:30 pm to 9 pm
- Monday, February 21, 2022 ♦ 7:30 pm to 9 pm
- Tuesday, March 15, 2022 ♦ 7:30 pm to 9 pm
- Tuesday, April 19, 2022 ♦ 12:00 pm to 1 pm
- Wednesday, May 11, 2022 ♦ 7:30 to 9 pm

*Times are U.S. Eastern



Register at

<https://bit.ly/path21-22>

District 36 Winter Toastmasters Leadership Institute (TLI) & Club Officer Training (COT)

- o **December 4, 2021 (Double COT no electives)**
9:00am-11:30am (COT)
12:00-1:30 (Networking)
2:00pm-4:30pm (COT)
- o **January 9, 2022 (COT with electives)**
2:00pm-4:00pm (COT)
4:30pm-6:00pm (Electives)
- o **January 29, 2022 (Double session with electives)**
9:00am-11:30am (COT)
12:00pm-1:30pm (Electives)
2:00pm -4:30pm (COT)
- o **February 10, 2022 (COT)**
6:00pm-8:00 pm

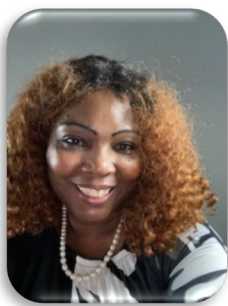
Inquiries:
tli@district36.org

REGISTER NOW
district36.org/tli

District 36 will be a vibrant community of enthusiastic, energetic Toastmasters who are dedicated to helping themselves and others achieve their highest communication and leadership potential.

Club Growth Director Message

Gwen Miller, DTM



Hello District 36 Leadership, we are 2 months in of the Toastmasters year. Now is the time to plan, review and assess the goals that we intended to achieve by years end.

We have a lot of work to do as we operate in our new normal. We have to support a healthy and growing network of clubs that

create positive learning experiences for members. We have to strengthen struggling clubs by building strong relationships with all clubs, assess their needs and proactively provide customized resources early in the year.

If we plan to attract new members to Toastmasters and retain existing members, we have to create vital motivation, and training resources to attract and retain members

The role of Club Growth Director is a job that cannot be done well by just one person and needs the input and skills of our members. I have compiled a team of amazing leaders to assist me with my Club Growth Duties.

These members are:

- **Sonya Ponds:** Club Extension Chair, Sonya is responsible for assisting communities and organizations in forming, Identifying Leads, Sonya is the liaison for the point of contact for New Clubs, and she assist with new club research
- **Lori Bradshaw:** Club Extension Co-Chair, Lori work with Sponsors and Mentors, she will support club sponsors and mentors, assist with club demos, build new clubs and pulls club leads
- **Donna Abramczyk:** Club Retention Chair, Donna is responsible for Identifying Struggling Clubs, assisting with assigning club coaches and tracking our clubs' progress.
- **Ludie LaBoard:** Club Recognition Chair, Ludie is responsible for coordinating our club incentives, tracking our club success plan and our Distinguished Club program
- **Glenda Dickonson:** Club Retention Co-chair, Glenda is responsible for our District Coach Program. Glenda trains, and certifies the Club Coaches.

We are excited about this new Toastmaster Year and all the Great Leaders we are building. Let's get started so we can be true to our District Mission: We build new clubs and support all clubs in achieving excellence.

What are District Dollars?

Or Why You Won't Receive Another TI Gift Certificate from District 36 this Toastmaster Year

**New
\$\$\$**

If you saw the **Early Dues Renewal Rewards** information distributed around the district, you will have seen the reward was a credit of \$50 district dollars. **District dollars?** Is District 36 now printing currency? Of course not!

District 36 Toastmasters
Announcing the first 2021 Membership Growth Incentive

EARLY DUES RENEWAL REWARDS
Deadline: September 20, 2021

We celebrate you!
We celebrate us!
We encourage you to continue your Toastmasters journey with us by renewing your membership today!!

Recommit Renew Revitalize you!

20+ 80 CHALLENGE
CLUB WITH 20+ MEMBERS AS OF 7/1/2021
The first 10 clubs that have at least 80% of the club's active members renew their membership will be rewarded with a credit of \$50 district dollars.

EARLY PAYMENT CHALLENGE
FOR CLUBS WITH 13-19 MEMBERS AS OF 7/1/2021
The first 10 clubs that have at least 12 members renew their membership will be rewarded with a credit of \$50 district dollars.

FOR CLUBS WITH <13 MEMBERS AS OF 7/1/2021
The first 10 clubs that have at least 8 members renew their membership will be rewarded with a credit of \$50 district dollars.

For inquiries and questions, contact Club Growth Director at gwen.miller@district36.org

This year, when a club or individual accomplishes a challenge or goal, instead of receiving a TI gift certificate, 'district dollars' will be credited to the club or individual. The district dollars can be used to purchase items from the TI Store or from other pre-approved vendors / websites. All purchases must follow Protocol 8.4: District Fiscal Management, 8. Other District Expenses which says: "...modest incentives. These items are appropriate if they promote goodwill and a positive atmosphere for the delivery of the Toastmasters program".

Detail are still being finalized, however **all** district dollars purchases must be completed during the 2021-2022 year. The district website will have more information soon.

Be in the Know..... check the following folder on the district google drive to access items from the District team. Examples are the TI-brand approved district virtual zoom backgrounds located in the 2021-2022_District 36 Activities folder.

District Public Shared Folder
<https://bit.ly/D36Resource>

Beyond the District

Submitted by:

- **Lauren Merritt-Taylor**, 2020 Region 7 International Speech Semifinalist
- **Bertram Reed**, 2021 Region 7 International Speech Semifinalist

The World Championship of Public Speaking is one of the most coveted titles amongst the competitive Toastmasters community. Those who seek to be crowned *“World Champion of Public Speaking”* must craft a motivational speech to excite and inspire their audience through seven rounds of competition. It begins with the club, area, division, and district levels, but it will lead to the regional quarterfinals and semifinals before a contestant advances to the final stage with a brand-new speech. If this sounds difficult, then you are correct! Winning several rounds of competition is no small feat. However, do not let this deter you because any contest, on any level, presents the opportunity to build confidence and sharpen your speaking abilities.

I am a 2020 Virtual, International Speech Contest Semifinalist.

I made it through five rounds of competition before speaking on the semifinalist stage. My opponents were some of the strongest speakers from around the world ranging from the United Kingdom to China; it would have been awesome to meet them in Paris for the convention, but I had to settle for the chat feature in Zoom due to COVID-19. I cannot deny my disappointment. I envisioned a completely different semifinalist experience with mingling, photos, and a massive stage based on conversations with past semifinalists. However, it still proved to be beneficial because I learned to shift from speaking in-person to addressing an audience solely on a virtual platform. Virtual speaking added an extra layer of difficulty because I became my own camera, lighting, and sound crew in addition to being my own hair and makeup team; in short, I learned to master my virtual stage.



Contestants have to create a visually appealing experience for those watching from home. This means frequently testing out lighting and sound, purchasing ring lights, microphones, headsets, and other additional tools to set the stage. This caused a bit of anxiety as a contestant because there were no rules about how to compete on Zoom. Naturally, I wanted every element to be as perfect as possible, but you can only fix what you can and adapt to what you cannot. Despite my nerves, I knew this was a chance to be a trailblazer and make Toastmasters history as one of its first online contestants.

So, what do you need to know about competing on a high level beyond District 36? First, a contestant's winning district video recording is sent to the regional quarterfinals; contestants are required to sign a video release form. If a contestant is selected as a quarterfinalist, they will represent their region (along with one other regional quarterfinalist) on the semifinals stage which is one step away from the World Championship. In between waiting for the results of the quarterfinals and semifinals, I spent my time speaking at different clubs around the world. I contacted various clubs on their sites and asked if there was space on the agenda to practice my contest speech. There was overwhelming support from various districts who wanted to assist on my journey, and **current Region 7 Semifinalist, Bertram Reed**, can attest to this.

Bertram stated, *“in the first three weeks of August alone, [he] spoke more than 40 times... [to clubs] all over the country... [to get more] practice time. [He] found as [he travelled] to many clubs, there [was] a difference in excitement and appreciation [regarding the significance of the] convention and contest.”*



He went on to discuss the level of growth that a Toastmaster can experience through competition and how his time going through the contest cycle was invaluable.

As a new contest cycle begins, new competitors will be stepping up to test their skills in the Evaluation and International Speech Contest. District 36 will have a new Evaluation Contest District Champion and, potentially, a new World Champion next year! This should be an exciting time!

Therefore, I encourage **each club to support their future representatives** by posting a link on your club's website, hosting a watch party for the international convention, assisting with seeking out clubs to practice with, sending out celebratory emails, sharing their upcoming contests on social media, or all of the above. After all, clubs are the foundation of Toastmasters International, and it is the camaraderie within club culture that makes every win worthwhile. So, I hope to see new faces on the virtual stage, and, perhaps, beyond the district!

Greetings from the D36 Public Relations Committee!

Tammy Wylie, Public Relations Manager



Purpose

We are delighted to kick off the Toastmasters year and help share information throughout District 36! First, let's start with the purpose of the Public Relations Committee. I see 4 focus areas for the committee:

- Promote the people, policies, and activities of District 36 in support of the District Trio's vision and goals.
- Inform members of upcoming events, deadlines, activities as directed by the District Trio
- Extend Toastmasters brand and information to non-members via specific social media channels.
- Support the Public Relations efforts of clubs, areas, and divisions as needed.

Website

Our primary method of communication throughout the year will be the District 36 Website <https://district36.org/>. This is the hub of all information for D36. Calendars, policies, documents, etc. can all be found here. We are delighted to work with our excellent webmaster: Sam Nathanson -- he has already improved our security and protected our content as well as updating our page to confirm with TM brand standards (Thanks Sam!). There is plenty of work to be done on the webpage, and Sam needs a backup, preferably someone with webmaster experience.

- Volunteers cheerfully accepted -- contact me and I'll introduce you to Sam.

Social Media

All of our social media channels will point people to the web for accurate information -- so you'll have no need to guess! Our Social Media Team is being headed by Bria Crawford (thanks Bria!). She will need additional team members to work with posting announcements as they come up. We prefer to have 1 or 2 persons for each media type.

Here are our current Social Media channels:

Social Media Stats

As of September 2021

- Facebook (private group) = 518 members
- Twitter = 536 followers
- Linked In = 240 connections
- Meetup = 882 members

- Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/groups/100274863401003> [Note: this is a private group; posts are vetted and content is not shareable]
- Twitter <https://twitter.com/District36Toast>
- Linked In <https://www.linkedin.com/in/district36toastmasters/>
- Meetup <https://www.meetup.com/district36-org/>



We'll use these numbers as our baseline for comparison at the end of the year to see what growth may occur. Volunteers cheerfully accepted! Contact me and I'll introduce you to Bria

Newsletter

Your District Leadership has revived the district newsletter and you can look forward to seeing it appear several times this year. If you have articles or interviews or features, you'd like to contribute, let us know and we'll work with you to get your story out! Our first newsletter is due out by the end of September and you'll see some interesting and up-to-date information there!

We are open to your suggestions and ideas as the year unfolds. Contact me and I'll introduce you to our Newsletter editor.

Thank you for your support!

Be in the Know..... check the following folder on the district google drive to access items from the District team. Examples are the TI-brand approved district virtual zoom backgrounds located in the 2021-2022_District 36 Activities folder.

District Public Shared District Public Shared Folder
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How Does the District Communicate with You?

Submitted by Bonnie L. Maidak, DTM

How does the District Communicate with you?

Imagine trying to inform more than 3,000 individuals about new educational programs and other news from the district. Inherent in the process are things beyond the control of the district such as spam filters, firewalls and individuals' preferences. The district uses

bulk mailing tools such as Constant Contact or Mailchimp because they efficiently allow us to send messages to many individuals with a small amount of effort. Unfortunately, we know that the rate of actually reaching you is low, and even lower is the percentage of members who **open** the message. Can we increase the rate of opening the district broadcast messages? We want to provide value to you with the information contained in these email messages!

If you have a gmail account, it is possible that the messages are labeled as 'Promotions' in your Google gmail account, and you don't even know that a message has arrived!

This year, to help communicate with you, each district broadcast email message will be posted on the district website as a PDF file. This will allow you to check if you have missed a message or to verify the details of an event or to find that missing registration link.

Check the PR & Media tab for District Communications and see what you missed!

The district wants to hear from you whether you would appreciate hearing about upcoming events via text messages. This will be a new method to communicate with you. At least five times in the last two months, I have thought of messages (quick & short yet timely) that I wanted to share with you to make your journey as a club officer or a club member be easier.

For the text-based communication method, we can do an upload of all club members and let you opt-out **or** do the initial choice of opt-in -- however, this takes longer to reach a critical size of the audience. If you are interested in working with the Public Relations team on a text-based communication method for the district, or you have feedback about participating in a text-based communication method, please write to publicrelations@district36.org.

Updates to the District Website and a New Calendar Display

As Tammy Wylie, Public Relations Manager, wrote in her article, the District 36 Website <https://district36.org/> will be the primary method of communication throughout the year to our members and the public.

If you have looked at the website recently, you can see changes in the font and color palette. **Sam Nathanson**, the district webmaster, has done extensive back-end and front-end improvements on the district website. You might have noticed that the website is faster at displaying pages.

The website now has **generic email addresses** for all district leaders. This allows you to easily contact an area or division director. It also makes it easier to transition from one district administration to another.

More changes involve calendars.

We have switched to using different calendars to display the events happening in the district. This will make it easier to:

- add events to the district website by the district leaders.
- select different calendars to display by clicking the small triangle to the right of the word 'Agenda'.
- subscribe to or add specific calendars. This will allow you to display the calendar(s) on your own computer.

New!

See the Tips in the next column for more details about working with the new calendars.

More updates and refinements will be occurring over the next few weeks for the new calendars and related menu options. Stay tuned for more improvements to the website.

Would you like to receive Texts messages instead of Emails to hear the News from District 36?

Write to publicrelations@district36.org

**VOLUNTEER TO SERVE ON THE
SOCIAL MEDIA COMMITTEE**

Email publicrelations@district36.org

District 36 will be a vibrant community of enthusiastic, energetic Toastmasters who are dedicated to helping themselves and others achieve their highest communication and leadership potential.

District 36 Contest Calendar

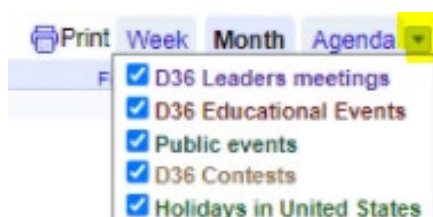
District 36 Contest Calendar

Today: November 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Halloween	First Day of American Election Day			7pm (No title)	7pm Division G contest; 10am (No title) 7pm A21 Rehearsal	
Daylight Saving Time 2pm Division G Eval Co 5pm A24/A25 Rehearsal				Veterans Day 7pm (No title)	7pm A21 Evaluation Co; 10am (No title) 7pm Division C E&F Rel 2pm A24/A25 Evaluatic	
2pm Division C E&F Co; 7pm A22/A23 Rehearsal				7pm (No title)	7pm A22/A23 Evaluatic; 10am (No title)	

Tips on using the virtual calendar:

1. Filter calendars using the dropdown arrow, which you can find at the top right of the calendar.



2. Use the *Week*, *Month*, or *Agenda* buttons at the top right to change the view (Week, Month, Daily Agenda)



3. Change the month, week, or day using the arrow buttons at the top left of the calendar:

District 36 (All Events)



4. Add the calendar to display on your computer by clicking on the +Google calendar at the bottom right corner.



2021-2022 District Leadership Team

Meet the District 36 Team committed to guide and lead the district offering excellent services to its members and clubs

<i>District Director</i>	Bonnie Maidak
<i>Program Quality Director</i>	AnnMarie Walker
<i>Club Growth Director</i>	Gwen Miller
<i>Administration Manager</i>	Janice Strachan
<i>Finance Manager</i>	Scott Meyer
<i>Public Relations Manager</i>	Tammy Wylie
<i>Club Extension Chair</i>	Sonya Ponds
<i>Webmaster</i>	Samuel Nathanson
<i>Logistics Manager</i>	TBD
<i>Club Quality Chair</i>	David Davis
<i>Club Retention Chair</i>	Donna Abramczyk
<i>Club New Source Research Chair</i>	Sonya Ponds
<i>Club Sponsor Chair</i>	Lori Bradshaw
<i>Aide-de-camp / Systems Administrator</i>	Florence Donald
<i>Immediate Past District Director</i>	Sandra Coles-Bell



Area Director of the Month Awards

July 2021

Clinton Bunch
Area 31 Director

August 2021

Debbie Miller
Area 64 Director

Division Directors Contributions

Division A

Director – John Ojeifo, DTM



Division A Motto: Delivering Service, Promoting Excellence and Integrity.

Vision: I envision a division where all members achieve their individual communication and leadership goals, and all officers deliver the highest quality of service while promoting excellence, integrity, and respect.

Goals: To achieve Distinguished Division A Membership and Education Program goals and ensure that areas and clubs within the division achieve Distinguished status.

Year End Goals: President Distinguished

Division A Team:

- **Mentor** – Arthur Sidney, DTM
- **Area 11 Director:** Isabelle Doe, CC, CL
- **Area 12 Director:** Pamela Timus, DTM
- **Area 13 Director:** Patrick Curtin, DL1
- **Area 14 Director:** Stacey Winingham, CC, CL
- **Area 15 Director:** TBD
- **Area 16 Director:** Melonie McCall, ACS, CL

ADAD (Assistant Division A Director), Program Quality – TBD

ADAD, Club Growth – TBD

ADAD, Communications and Public Relations – TBD

Logistics and Speech Contest Committee Chair - TBD

Contest Dates:

- Areas 11 and 12: Saturday, October 16, 2021
10 am – 12 noon
- Areas 13 and 14: Saturday, October 23, 2021
10 am – 12 noon
- Areas 15 and 16: Saturday, October 30, 2021
10 am – 12 noon
- Division A Evaluation Contest
- Saturday, Nov. 13, 2021, 10 am – 12 noon

My Inspiration: My Toastmasters mentors – Arthur Sidney, DTM and Jill Vanderweit, DTM

I enjoy being a division director because of the numerous opportunities it offers me, including opportunities to serve others, to learn by doing without fear of judgment or criticism, to acquire new knowledge and education, to connect with other people world-wide, and to grow in my personal, professional, and Toastmasters journeys.

Division B

Director – Cris Birch



Vision: Distinguished Division in a President's Distinguished District.

Director's Goals: All Areas Distinguished.

Year End Goal: Distinguished Division.

Division B Team

4 of 5 Area Directors working with clubs, still looking for an Area 22. Director.

- **Area 21 Director:** Chulwoo (Charles) Park
- **Area 22 Director:** VACANT
- **Area 23 Director:** Ida Jagg
- **Area 24 Director:** Bryon L. Garner
- **Area 25 Director:** Hazel Wilson

Contest Dates: Generally, late October to mid-November for Evaluations, Division Contest on December 4.

My Inspiration: All the great District 36 leaders I've worked with since 1983.

I enjoy being a division director because: I get to work with talented and committed people in helping to advance an organization that I've belonged to for almost four decades.

Reflection from the TI Convention

"I watched the semifinals that included our guy Bertram Reed. I was disappointed that he didn't win but the competition was fierce. I watched the International Speech Contest and was surprised that Verity Price (the only female contestant) won. She did deliver her speech well and had an original theme, but I was rooting for the Chinese doctor. [I liked] one educational session. It was under Public Speaking/Stage Presence and was Boosting Your (Online) Charisma: How to Set Their Screens on Fire by Florian Mueck." Mary Ann G

Division Directors Contributions

Division C Director – Pam Person, IP5



Vision: “Division C – “Clever,” “Capable,” and “Confident”. How does this relate to the DCP program?

Division C is:

- **Clever** in that each area and club will find unique ways to meet their goals
- **Capable** in that the areas and clubs know they have the drive to meet their goals
- **Confident** in that each area and club have the power within to meet their goals.

My goals are to continually motivate my Area Directors and clubs to be the best that they can be. This includes conducting current and future training, both individually and group. I will also visit clubs in my division when they do not conflict with district, work or personal events/training.

My Year End Goal is to reach at least Distinguished status.

Division C Team

- **Area 31 Director:** Clinton Bunch
- **Area 32 Director:** Michael “Mike” Porth
- **Area 33 Director:** Girish Adake
- **Area 34 Director:** Paula Hagan
- **Area 35 Director:** Alvin Collins III
- **Area 36 Director:** Giovanna Jones

Contest Dates:

- Area 31/33 - October 10, 2021;
- Area 32/35 - October 17, 2021;
- Area 34/36 - October 24, 2021;
- Division C - November 14, 2021

My Inspiration: Toni Ward and Arthur Sidney. I worked with both during my Area Director stint and I clicked immediately with both individually and professionally. They both supported and encouraged me to become a Division Director:

I enjoy motivating individuals and encouraging them to be the best they can be. Although two of my Area Directors are members of my clubs, I have made it clear to my Area Directors that everyone will be treated equally with no favoritism. I am protective over my Area Directors in that I want to ensure that they are not stressed or overwhelmed. Division C is a team and they are working as a team on each contest.

Division D Director – David Alexander, DTM



Division D Team

- **Area 41 Director:** VACANT
- **Area 42 Director:** VACANT
- **Area 43 Director:** VACANT
- **Area 44 Director:** Rosanne Douglas
- **Area 45 Director:** Nicole Edwards
- **Area 46 Director:** Julie Bockarie

Note: Information was not provided to meet publication deadline.

Reflection from the 2021 Toastmasters International Convention

“I found the Presentation/Stage Presence educational track extremely helpful. All 4 sessions (and the panel discussion afterward) were led by accomplished presenters and included tips that were unique and new to me.” Jill V

“I enjoyed the conference as I could attend all the sessions. The Education Sessions on demand was a big plus as if you wanted to and I did go back and revisit the sessions. The International Speech contest was the same so you could go back and watch them later. The accredited speakers were outstanding and the business meeting was well organized and brief (I did miss the in- person dancing). overall, I think it was a great way to attend the conference and select what you wanted to see and not miss anything and was able to rewatch sessions and the pricing was in my budget.

Division Directors Contributions

Division E

Director – Robert L. Behr, ACB, ALB, VC5



Vision: Exceptional Communication and Leadership. That is what Division E represents to me and what I want to promote. My vision is one where all clubs are supported and vigorously pursue their education goals.

My Goals are 1) to visit every club in Division E by the end of September; and 2) to support and motivate the Division E Area Directors to provide superior service to the Clubs and individual members in their Area.

Year End Goal Distinguished.

Division E Team:

- **Area 51 Director:** Patricia Rios
- **Area 52 Director:** Arvind Venugopal
- **Area 53 Director:** Melissa Charles
- **Area 54 Director:** Triguna "Trig" Ghosh
- **Area 55 Director:** Mike Onzay
- **Area 56 Director:** Marleine Myrvil
- **Division E Program Quality Director:** Marisol Rivera

Contests Dates:

- Division E Evaluation Contes, November 20, 2021 at 10:00 am.
- International Speech Contest, April 9, 2022 at 10:00 am.

My Inspiration People with a positive attitude.

I love being a leader, supporting and mentoring leaders, and serving the Toastmasters of Division E and District 36.

Reflection from the TI Convention

"I really enjoyed being able to watch all the semi-final speeches. I also liked not having to choose a limited number of educational sessions, especially not having to choose only one of two great sessions being offered simultaneously. These were definitely the best parts of a virtual conference for me" Norma W.

Division F

Director – Rose Burrell, DTM



Division F Team:

- **Area 61 Director:** Felicite Tchoufa
- **Area 62 Director:** VACANT
- **Area 63 Director:** Sadaf Shehzad
- **Area 64 Director:** Debbie Miller
- **Area 65 Director:** Heejeong Yoon

Note: Information was not provided to meet publication deadline.

Division G

Director – Augusta Inniss



Division G Team:

- **Area 71 Director:** VACANT
- **Area 72 Director:** VACANT
- **Area 73 Director:** VACANT
- **Area 74 Director:** VACANT
- **Area 75 Director:** Ilya Polonchuk
- **Area 76 Director:** Da Zhang

Note: Information was not provided to meet publication deadline.

District 36 Member Highlight

(We thank Division E Director, Robert Behr, for sharing his impression of Joan's Reflect on her Path speech given at his club, Lewis Smith. Let us know about inspirational stories from your club meetings and a member who we can profile in future newsletter issues.)

Creating Something New: - featuring Joan Taylor

Submitted by Toni Ward, DTM



Many of us are no strangers to meeting online since the pandemic. Also, we had to get familiar with video conferencing tools for our meetings, contests, and conferences. Toastmaster, Joan (pronounced Jo-Ann) Taylor admits that she isn't computer savvy. However, she knows how to maneuver Pathways. She just completed

Level 5 in her Leadership Development path; the last project was about reflecting on your path. Joan not only reflected on her path but also her journey in Toastmasters that led her to a paying gig.

Joan became the Sergeant at Arms for her club. She had to get up to speed on how to operate the Zoom account including creating links, sharing screens—the whole works. After countless hours of coaching and encouraging Joan on Zoom by one of the Past Presidents of her club—Joan was ready to fulfill her Club Officer's duty. Later, she was requested to conduct a Zoom workshop for some teachers. Joan gives credit to Toastmasters and her fellow members for the success of her paying gig. She stated, *"I wouldn't have considered it—if it wasn't for my experience in Toastmasters."*

Joan, a retired teacher explained how Toastmasters is not just for people who are afraid to speak—the slogan says, "Where Leaders Are Made". She went on to say, *"It's bigger than that...you have a community of friends and extended family in Toastmasters."* Some of her other experience in Toastmasters have been competing in an Evaluation Contest and choosing the elective to create a blog ("Retirement & New Beginnings"). Joan expressed, *"You can still learn to do new things. You can lead inside and outside of Toastmasters. Keep your mind growing and creating new challenges."* Joan looks forward to starting her next path in Pathways, Engaging Humor. You can find Joan at Lewis Smith Toastmasters Club. [Toastmasters International -Lewis Smith Toastmasters Club](#)

District 36 Needs Your Help!



**Reasons to Serve
as a District 36
Area Director**

1. Meet new people

2. Progress faster in Pathways by giving more speeches

3. Learn how to motivate others

4. Counts toward Distinguished Toastmaster (DTM) award

5. Learn new tools such as Slack, Google drive, Evernote

6. Receive special recognition as Area Director of the Month

7. Receive homemade baked treats as special rewards of your efforts (My thought is brownies / cookies / etc. might motivate ADs to do their reports earlier than the deadline.)

8. Learn information early from the district & TI that will help your own club grow

9. Learn management skills to help you in your career

10. You'll have fun -- We learn in moments of enjoyment.

11. Paying it forward for everything that Toastmasters has done for me

District 36 will be a vibrant community of enthusiastic, energetic Toastmasters who are dedicated to helping themselves and others achieve their highest communication and leadership potential.

Reflections from 2021 TI Convention

"I enjoyed the virtual platform because it is accommodating to our current lifestyle that we inherited with the COVID-19 Pandemic. Unfortunately, I was unable to attend many of the events live because of the difference between my available schedule and that of the Convention".
..... Desiree P.

"Though I've been a member of Toastmasters since 2007, this was my first convention and the reason I attended this one was because it was virtual and only \$25. [... the presenter] shared my disdain for power point presentations and gave example after example of what to do instead. I was able to take the new ideas and use them in a speech within just two weeks - it opened up a brand-new chapter in my speech/presentation bag of tricks. Jan J.

"I loved that the price was reasonable. I had full access during the International Convention and it continues afterward so I can watch sessions I missed the first time. I really enjoyed the speaker at the opening ceremony. Her life story was amazing and the way she shared it was inspirational. Of course, I watched the semifinal that included Bertram Reed, the District 36 International Speech Contest Winner. He did a terrific speech with a wonderful message. I hope to see him on the international stage again." ...
Janice S.

"Loved the "on-demand" nature of the training sessions. I was able to view all of the sessions which I would not have been able to if we were in person." ...
Tammy W.

"Loved that the Convention cost was reasonably low in 2021; as it was free in 2020. I enjoyed watching the contest speeches." Rose B.



Toastmasters from the Greenbelt Club and other clubs marched in the Greenbelt Labor Day Festival and showed their vibrancy and energy and enthusiasm to spread the word about Toastmasters

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