

## 2023 District 57 Nominated Candidates

### District Director Nominated Candidate – Edward M. Cullen



Edward M. Cullen, DTM has been a Toastmasters since April 2011. During that time, he held six of the seven club offices, in various clubs, some offices as many as six times. Ed became an Area Governor in the 2013-2014 Toastmasters year, Division Governor in the 2014–2015-year, Public Relations Manager in 2015-2016 and 2020-2021 years. Some of his greatest personal growth and opportunities to be of service have been in District roles like TLI Dean, Speechcraft Chair, Club Extension Chair, Club Coach, and Pathways Guide/Ambassador. Ed's role as Club Growth Director in 2021-2022 was extremely rewarding in terms of team building and given him a new vantage point. Ed's role as Program Quality Direct 2022-2023 gave him additional insight into the subject of club quality and making every club meeting the best so far.

### Program Quality Director Nominated Candidate – Sally G. Philbin



Sally G. Philbin, DTM is a long-time Toastmaster who earned her Legacy DTM in 2014. She is one of the sparkplugs that started Lakeside Speakeasy Toastmasters. She mentored ScopeMasters of the East Bay, coached A Cut Above Toastmasters to distinguished status. She has been active at the club, area, division, and district levels. In 2021 she served as the District Open House Chair. Last year she served as the D57 Club Extension Chair. This year she serves as the D57 Club Growth Chair. Sally has learned many lessons about what to do and what not to do when trying to start a new club. Her continual interest in the club and member experience supports her leadership goals for establishing stronger clubs.

## Club Growth Director Nominated Candidate – Julie A. Garrett



I remember growing up, that I would be made fun of when speaking in front of the class because of my speech impediment. I got over the speech impediment but not my fear of speaking in front of others, and oh how I wanted to speak in front of the class but just couldn't do it. I found Toastmasters a few years ago and grew out of my fear, which is what I want to continue to do for others. I have really grown in my ability to stand up in front of the room or on the stage and get my message out without that horrible feeling of being made fun of.

I have also grown in other ways thanks to the roles I have taken on both in Toastmasters and outside of Toastmasters. If there is one thing, I have learned in life is that even the best leaders have leaders, the trick is to not only to identify your own leadership style but to recognize the style of leadership that compliments your own in order to have a beneficial relationship with those who lead you. That's right, I have learned to choose who I follow based on leadership styles.

I love taking on opportunities within my community and am an avid volunteer. The two organizations I am most passionate about are the Cope Family Center and CERT. I have volunteered with Cope for about 13 years doing everything from registering people for events, manning information booths, decorating venues and soliciting business to participating in campaigns. As a CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) member I have put in many hours helping our first responders concentrate on major emergency situations such as the Atlas Peak fire by working at the basecamps providing food and drinks, handling supplies or just doing traffic control.

## Club Growth Director Nominated Candidate – Linda Patten



I need your help and support in my run for the Club Growth Director position for 2023-2024. You know me. Here is what I stand for and how I wish to continue the excellent work done this year. Please pass this along to other Toastmasters and encourage them to vote for me.

This past year has seen significant change in Toastmasters since coming out of the COVID restrictions. As there is no real road map as to what will be successful, everyone is working to "get back to normal." The big question is: "What is normal?" Are in person meetings normal; are Zoom meetings still "normal" or is it hybrid meetings that are "normal?" No one really knows at this point, and we are all struggling. As you may know,

District 57 lost 42 clubs this year or the equivalent of 10 area. We are working very diligently to redefine our Divisions and Areas to reflect this change.

What does that mean to you and your club? The New Normal is beginning to form itself and we are all struggling with it. Key to this is how your club individually reacts. Do you know the product you are selling? What? We don't see product! Not true. Toastmasters' product is education, leadership, community and so much more. If you aren't learning and growing with each meeting, then the club and its members stagnant and fade away.

As Club Growth Director for the next year, my promise to you is to not only build new clubs which Sally Philbin and her team has done so successfully this year, but also to revitalize our current clubs with a toolkit of proven strategies and tactics that will bring in new members and support your current members in their quest for excellence in speaking and in leadership. I will not leave you to flounder in the dark and will provide mentors and coaches to bring the personal touch to your club's growth if you request them.

I want to expand your vision of what an excellent club looks like and functions as. Looking back into the successful past and bringing ideas with a twist into today will bring the spirit of community and comradery back into the club experience. With your intense desire to see your club members looking forward to coming to meetings, to taking on roles voluntarily, to being so excited to speak that there is competition for all the roles each time you meet. There is a VIBRANCY to meetings like this.

Wouldn't that be the Toastmasters Club that drew you to join and keeps you coming back? I want this for you!

Join me to Revitalize, Rebuild, Reinvent the Toastmasters Club Experience.

Please Vote for me, Linda Patten for District 57 Club Growth Director for the 2023-2024 year.

## **Division C Director Nominated Candidate – Susan Colborn**



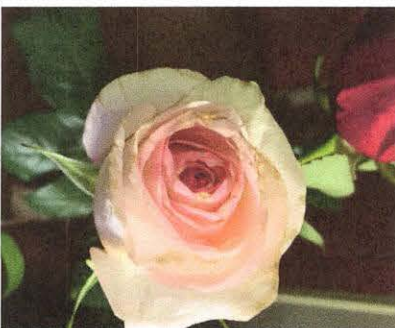
Fellow Toastmasters, I am running for Division C Director. I have been a servant leader in the Northern California Toastmasters community since 2011 when I joined the El Cerrito Toastmasters, and a couple of months later was asked to be Club Vice President of Public Relations. I loved the role, and it is still one of my favorites today. I most sincerely believe that members are the most important people in Toastmasters, and I am honored to be nominated for District 57 leadership. As Division C Director, I will provide oversight and guidance to our team of Area Directors in support of ensuring that each Club, whether in-person or virtual, achieves its mission to provide a supportive and positive learning experience that empowers members to develop as public speakers and leaders.

## **Division E Director Nominated Candidate – Sankar Narayanan**



I am a member of Bioradical Toastmasters Club from 12/1/2012 and also the Immediate Past President of this club. I served in several officer roles as VPE, VPPR, Secretary, SAA, President. For 2022-23, I am serving as Area E4 Director for D57. I completed 2 pathways (Strategic Relationships and Team Collaboration). I am working towards the DTM award. I am happy to help my club members, area club members and D57 so that I can share my knowledge and members are empowered to develop communication and leadership skills.

## **Division F Director Nominated Candidate – Arti Kapoor**



Arti Kapoor is currently a member of Danville Toastmasters Club and serving D57 as an area director in Division F. She has consistently engaged the clubs in her area and is reaching forward for greater communication and leadership opportunities.