

DECEMBER 1, 2025



# DISTRICT 57 NEWSLETTER

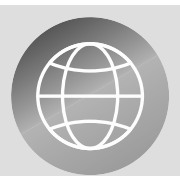
Toastmasters, District 57, Region 1

Dec 1, 2025

1. [Happy Holidays from District 57](#)
2. [District Director - Learn, then lead all about it](#)
3. [Spotlight your club in the Community](#)
4. [Canva Workshop Recap](#)
5. [Capturing Club Joy - Photography Workshop](#)
6. [Understanding D57 Incentives Workshop](#)
7. [Winter TLI Training](#)
8. [Winter TLI Training - What to Expect](#)
9. [Pathways Help](#)



LinkedIn®



Have some news to share?  
Please send your articles  
(250-600 words) to  
Newsletter Editor, Shalini Suravarjjala at [news@d57tm.org](mailto:news@d57tm.org)

<https://d57tm.org>

# DISTRICT 57



## HAPPY HOLIDAYS, DISTRICT 57!

By District 57

Dec 1, 2025

**As we wrap up another incredible year in District 57, we celebrate every speech, every step and every moment of growth.**

**And here's the beautiful truth - growth thrives in joy, play and fun just as much as in practice and discipline.**

**Wishing you a peaceful holiday season and a bright, inspired start to the New Year**

A festive holiday-themed background featuring a stack of wrapped gifts on the left, a string of warm white lights, and several silver and gold ornaments scattered across a wooden surface. In the center, the year "2026" is displayed in large, black, 3D-style numerals.

**2026**

### **District Mission**

We build new clubs and support all clubs in achieving excellence.

### **Club Mission**

We provide a supportive and positive learning experience in which members are empowered to develop communication and leadership skills, resulting in greater self-confidence and personal growth.

<https://d57tm.org>

## LEARN, THEN LEAD ALL ABOUT IT

By Jeffrey Young

Dec 1, 2025

**“Ask the right question, and you’ll get the right answer.”**



Deborah Wiener said that at the Train the Trainer last month. It was a simple remark, but to me it spoke volumes, and inspired this month’s article.

Some of us have learned in life that asking too many questions is a Bad Thing. For the questioner, it shows ignorance. For the recipient, it can come across like an interrogation. We go through our schooling dreading being called on if we didn’t do the homework. A lifelong love of learning can be squelched by being told, ‘that’s a dumb question’ one too many times.

One of my personal mottos is ‘there are no stupid questions except the ones you never ask.’

We ask questions for many reasons, but for one purpose – to gain knowledge.

We learn by observing, asking questions, and listening to the response. We learn by following instructions or using a search engine. The answers are at your fingertips, but once you have them, how often do you share that joy of discovery?

The best kind of leadership, in my opinion, is less about telling people what to do (contrary to notions of how directors and delegators might operate) and more about telling people about what you’ve experienced in ways that grow them. Lived moments become stories, but they can also become teaching lessons. Even stories where we made “suboptimal choices” can become powerful tools that others would possibly make the same mistake without being informed.

Toastmasters gives you the tools to make this happen – there are projects dedicated to research, organization, communicating change, doing media releases, and managing the inevitable interruption along the way. Toastmasters doesn’t have to be just about writing good-sounding speeches, but also expanding your knowledge horizons and those of others.

Give a speech once, and it’s gone. Deliver a speech in front of more audiences, hone and polish the message, clarify the fuzzy points, and you become a thought leader. An influencer. A spokesperson.

Leading Up is sometimes about aiming higher than just finishing a project. It’s about projecting your wisdom further and farther.

**It starts with asking the right question.**

**For the moment, mine is:  
Will we see you at the upcoming TLI on the 13th?**

# PUBLIC RELATIONS



## D57

## SPOTLIGHT YOUR CLUB IN THE COMMUNITY!

By Mari Clark

Dec 1, 2025

Has your Toastmasters club shared its story with the local community lately? Reaching out to nearby newspapers is a fantastic way to showcase member achievements, attract new guests, and highlight the value of confident communication.



A big thank-you to Coastmasters for leading the way and boosting their visibility through recent newspaper coverage—your example shows how powerful local media can be! Many papers welcome human-interest pieces, so a simple press release or invitation to attend a meeting can spark meaningful coverage.

<https://alamedapost.com/features/alameda-life/coastmasters-toastmasters-returns-coast-guard-island/>

**Let's follow their lead and help our clubs shine!**

<https://d57tm.org>

## Create, Customize, Communicate The Canva Way! Workshop Recap

By Shalini Suravarjjala

Dec 1, 2025

# CANVA WORKSHOP RECAP



Thank you to everyone who joined our Canva Workshop, Create, Customize, Communicate – The Canva Way! We spent two creative hours exploring how to design impactful flyers and social media posts to promote Toastmasters events with confidence.

### Workshop Resources

You can now access:

- The presentation slides [Canva Workshop Presentation](#)
- The design tips and techniques takeaway sheet [Tips takeaway](#)
- Example flyer templates to get you started - Email [yvsdevi@gmail.com](mailto:yvsdevi@gmail.com) if you need these.

### Watch the Recording

The full workshop recording has been uploaded to YouTube so you can pause, rewind, and design at your own pace.

If you have any questions or need support applying what you learned, please contact Shalini Suravarjjala at [yvsdevi@gmail.com](mailto:yvsdevi@gmail.com).

Keep creating, customizing, and communicating – the Canva way!



Here is the youtube link:

<https://youtu.be/Vvoh7AdxCUM>

<https://d57tm.org>

# Capturing Club Joy

By Ed Cullen Past District Director, DTM

Dec 1, 2025

### SHOW THE FUN.

### SHARE THE SPIRIT. GROW YOUR CLUB!

Join District 57 Toastmasters for “Capturing Club Joy,” a fun and practical online workshop designed to help your club earn its Public Relations Incentive – and shine in the spotlight! Learn how to take photos that capture the laughter, learning, and leadership that make your club special.

Discover how to photograph authentic moments that tell your club’s story and attract new members who don’t want to miss out on the Toastmasters experience.

We’ll explore:

- ☛ Now that we’ve got great photos, where do we put them?
- ☛ How can our photos boost visibility and engagement?
- ☛ What makes an image inspire others to join?

Don’t miss this opportunity to celebrate your club’s joy, share its story, and inspire others – one great photo at a time!



Wednesday  
December 3

6–8 PM

Online

All District 57  
Toastmasters &  
guests are  
welcome

“A joyful club is a growing club - let’s show the world what Toastmasters looks like in action!”



Register to RSVP and get the Zoom link:

<https://tinyurl.com/D57PhotographyWorkshopRSVP>

<https://d57tm.org>

## Understanding the D57 Incentive Program Workshop

By Maureen Filler

Dec 1, 2025

### UNLOCK DISTRICT 57 INCENTIVES STRENGTHEN YOUR CLUB!

Are you ready to energize your club, boost engagement, and earn exciting rewards this program year? District 57 invites all Toastmasters, club officers, future leaders, and members to join us for a powerful workshop that will show you exactly how to leverage the District Incentive Program to help your club thrive.

This workshop is designed to make your officer journey easier, your club stronger, and your goals more achievable.



#### What will be covered?

- ✓ Clarity on every club and member incentive available this year
- ✓ Knowledge of where to find accurate, updated incentive information
- ✓ Step-by-step guidance on how to apply for incentives and meet requirements
- ✓ Tools and examples that successful clubs use to earn rewards
- ✓ Strategies to turn incentives into motivation, momentum, and membership growth
- ✓ Confidence to help your club stay on track with education, PR, leadership, and DCP goals



Monday  
December 15  
6–7:30 PM  
Online  
All District 57  
Toastmasters &  
guests are  
welcome

Let's turn potential into progress, and progress into prizes!  
We look forward to seeing you at the workshop.



Register to RSVP and get the Zoom link:  
<https://tinyurl.com/D57IncentivesWorkshopRSVP>

<https://d57tm.org>

# DISTRICT 57 WINTER TLI



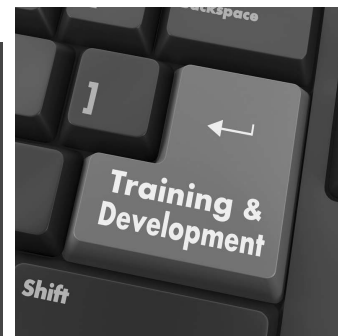
## POWER UP YOUR LEADERSHIP!

By District 57

Dec 1, 2025

### Your Leadership Journey Starts Here

District 57 is proud to kick off the winter season with one of the most energizing and inspiring events of the year – our Winter Toastmasters Leadership Institute (TLI). Whether you are a brand new officer stepping into your first leadership role or a seasoned Toastmaster eager to grow, this half day training will elevate your skills, deepen your confidence, and strengthen your club’s success for the 2025–2026 term.



#### Why Attend the Winter TLI?

Great clubs are built on strong leaders – and strong leaders sharpen their skills together. This training is essential for all club officers serving through June 30th, 2026, but it is also open to every member who wants to learn, grow, and get inspired. Winter TLI is where we reconnect, refresh our purpose, and take home tools that immediately improve meetings, morale, and member experience

#### A Powerful Keynote to Ignite Your Morning

We are honored to welcome **Karen Burgess, DTM, our Region Advisor**, as the keynote speaker. Karen will share practical insights, proven leadership principles, and the kind of uplifting energy that reminds us why our voices and service matter. Her message is packed with wisdom you can use right away in your club and beyond.

#### Who Should Attend?

- All club officers serving through 6/30/26  
Attendance is required for Distinguished Club Program credit
- Aspiring club officers
- Members who want to grow their leadership, communication, and confidence
- Anyone looking to be inspired and connected

**Mark your calendars, spread the word, and get ready to power up your leadership with District 57!**

Invest four hours in yourself and your club will feel the impact all year long.  
District 57 TLI is more than training. It is motivation, momentum, and mentorship wrapped into one energizing experience.

Register: <https://d57tm.org/event/winter-tli>



**Saturday  
Dec 13, 2025  
9 AM to 1 PM**



<https://d57tm.org>

# DISTRICT 57 WINTER TLI



## POWER UP YOUR LEADERSHIP!

By District 57

Dec 1, 2025

### Your Leadership Journey Starts Here

#### What's in Store at This TLI?

This year's Winter TLI brings a dynamic lineup designed for hands on learning and real world leadership



#### Lightning Talks

Fast paced, high impact mini sessions that spark new ideas, offer fresh approaches to officer responsibilities, and keep you up to date with Toastmasters best practices.

#### Leadership Panel

Hear from experienced leaders who have walked the path, overcome challenges, and led clubs to excellence. This is your chance to ask questions, learn strategies, and gain perspectives only fellow Toastmasters can offer.

#### Officer Breakout Training

Officers will receive focused training tailored to their specific roles, ensuring every club is equipped with clarity, direction, and confidence for the next six months.

#### And More!!

Expect interactive discussions, tools you can take back to your club, and a supportive community atmosphere that makes District 57 shine.

### Open to ALL Toastmasters

Register: <https://d57tm.org/event/winter-tli>



**Saturday**  
**Dec 13, 2025**  
**9 AM to 1 PM**



<https://d57tm.org>

# PATHWAYS SUPPORT GROUP



## PATHWAYS HELP

By Susan Thompson

Dec 1, 2025

Do you need help:

Picking a path?

Navigating Pathways?

Identifying a project that will be appropriate for a speech you want to deliver?

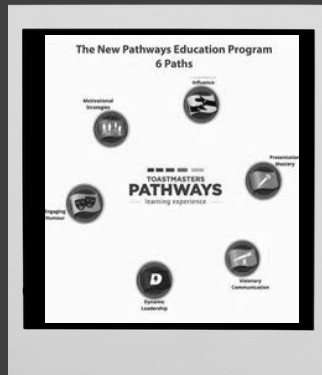
Making Pathways work for you?

Or would you like to share your insights on Pathways and Toastmasters?

Please join us if you need help with Pathways or would like to offer help to others.

We provide individual or small group breakout rooms to offer hands-on assistance.

### Pathway Changes



Wednesday  
December 12, 2025  
6:00 pm PST

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/YPKcMgrhR2GHy8sG49Ur8g>

## You can also visit

<https://district1toastmasters.org/events/maximize-your-pathways-experience/>

<https://d57tm.org>