

MARCH 1, 2026



D57

# DISTRICT 57 NEWSLETTER

Toastmasters, District 57, Region 1

March 1, 2026

1. [District Director - Have You Been Outstanding?](#)
2. [Public Relations -We are ON THE AIR!](#)
3. [Contest Corner - Contest Schedule](#)
4. [Contest Corner - What Contest Roles Can I Fill at an Area Contest?](#)
5. [Contest Corner - Pathways Projects Related to Contest Roles?](#)
6. [Contest Corner - District 57 Incentives for Contest Roles?](#)
7. [Division Spotlight - Div C](#)
8. [Division Spotlight - Div A](#)
9. [District Alignment - District 206: Honoring Where We've Been, Stepping Into What's Next](#)
10. [District Alignment - What This Means for Your Club?](#)
11. [District Alignment - The Human Side of Change](#)
12. [District Alignment - Moving Forward -Together](#)
13. [District Alignment - District 206 Clubs Effective July 1, 2026](#)
14. [Leadership Role Spotlight - Area Director](#)
15. [We Want YOU on Toastmaster Time TV](#)
16. [D57 Spring Conference](#)



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

<https://d57tm.org>

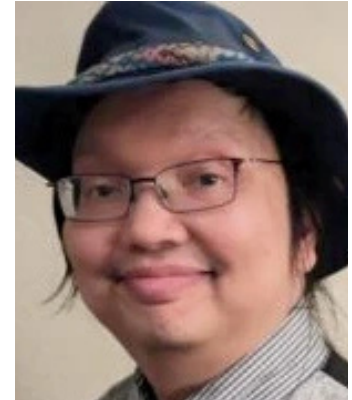
## HAVE YOU BEEN OUTSTANDING?

By Jeffrey Young

March 1, 2026

It's been several months since we rolled out the two Outstanding Achievement award programs for this year; how did the year go by so quickly?

Well, it's time to start checking to see just how awesome you've been as Toastmasters this year. We're talking going above and beyond just giving a few speeches; we're talking about a -lot- of speeches and a club doing more than just meeting expectations.



### Individual Achievement Outstanding Toastmasters Award (OTMA)

The worksheet for the OTMA is [here](#):

Less complicated than previous years, the OTMA this year uses the principle of 'You can do a lot of things, but you don't need to do all of the things and still achieve greatness.' Previous years of OTMA required racking up an impressive points score in all the categories; this should be a little easier because it doesn't require as much completeness.

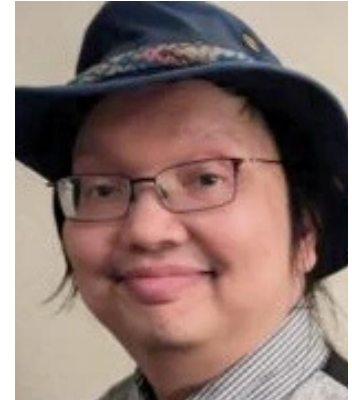
- Complete 3 out of 4 things in a category to complete a category.
- Complete 4 out of 5 categories (Speak, Lead, Instruct, Collaborate, Explore) to achieve your OTMA.
- Submit it by May 31st, with the intention to get awards ordered and delivered in time for the end-of-year party in late July.

## HAVE YOU BEEN OUTSTANDING?

By Jeffrey Young

March 1, 2026

### Toastmasters Club – Above and Beyond



### Club Achievement Outstanding Club Award (OCA)

The worksheet for the OCA is [here](#)

**While we can all agree that clubs that complete 8 DCP points are definitely Outstanding, we would also like to recognize that there's more than just the DCP points worth merit.**

**Independent of the Distinguished Club system, the OCA is designed to recognize clubs who do Toastmasters fellowship things - we've been hearing a lot of clubs have been hosting and staffing the various Area contests. So the eight required points for the OCA award can come from more than just giving speeches and recruiting members. It's about giving back to the Toastmasters community by running Events - Speechcrafts and YLP programs count as well.**

**The reward for your OCA is a custom designed ribbon for your club banner - something no other club in the world outside of District 57 can earn. And as a bonus - this award can go to any club with 8 points - so if you missed your Distinguished Club award because you didn't have enough members, you aren't coming away empty handed.**

**Complete your OCA points by May 31st, 2026.**

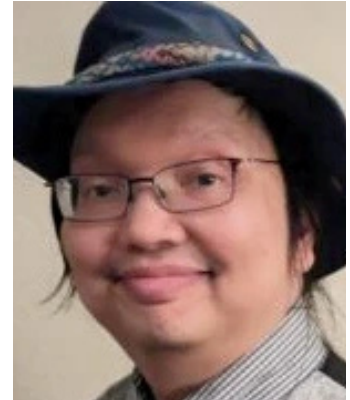
## HAVE YOU BEEN OUTSTANDING?

By Jeffrey Young

March 1, 2026



## District Bucks



### Cash In On District Bucks

By the way, did you know that if your club has been doing Toastmaster things, you've been earning District Bucks? This year, I've streamlined the system for awarding incentive money in the Incentive Tracker system - and most of you haven't taken advantage of the money in the system waiting for you.

As of 2/19, we've awarded nearly nine thousand dollars to clubs, but only a thousand (and sixty-one cents) has been claimed. Don't leave your club's award money on the table!

**Check out how much your club has available [here](#).**

**Note: In order to claim your District Bucks, you must:**

- Have someone in your club have a Concur account. If you don't, please mail [jeffrey@d57tm.org](mailto:jeffrey@d57tm.org) so I can get you set up with an account.
- Purchase items only from the Toastmasters store or items (supplies, refreshments for Open Houses, other items that benefit the club, not including paying for memberships)
- Save your receipts and file in Concur before May 15th, 2026, or 30 days after purchase, whichever comes first. Your club will have the purchases reimbursed up to the limit of your District Bucks in the system.

<https://d57tm.org>

# PUBLIC RELATIONS



# D57

## D57 – ON AIR!

By Leesa Thompson DTM, PRM

March 1, 2026



March is bringing major energy to D57  
We are ON THE AIR!



We're thrilled about our exciting partnership with Radio Zindagi 1550 AM, reaching thousands of listeners across the Bay Area South Asian community. This is a powerful opportunity to share the Toastmasters story in a bold, consistent way.

### What's Happening?

6 ads per day airing on Radio Zindagi

2 featured ads:

- Shalini sharing her personal Toastmasters testimonial
- George speaking about the benefits of Toastmasters

12 member interviews scheduled!

So far we've featured:

Sally • Shalini • Brendan • Arti • Santosh • Kasey

This is YOUR chance to represent District 57 on the radio. If Toastmasters has strengthened your confidence, leadership, or communication skills, we want your voice on the air!

### Short, Powerful Podcast Reel

The podcast conversation with Sehba and George was intentionally kept under 2 minutes to maximize visibility and shareability as a reel. It's quick, engaging, and designed to spark curiosity and connection.



ARE YOU LOOKING FOR MORE IDEAS TO INCREASE YOUR CLUB'S VISIBILITY? HAVE A CREATIVE IDEA YOU'D LIKE TO EXPLORE? CONTACT [PRM@D57TM.ORG](mailto:PRM@D57TM.ORG), OR REACH OUT DIRECTLY TO LEESA, HANS, SOMY, OR JEFF. I'M ALWAYS HAPPY TO ANSWER QUESTIONS, LISTEN TO IDEAS, SPEAK AT YOUR CLUB—OR HELP CONNECT YOU WITH SOMEONE WHO CAN.

<https://d57tm.org>

# PUBLIC RELATIONS



## D57

## D57 – ON AIR!

By Leesa Thompson DTM, PRM

March 1, 2026



March is bringing major energy to D57  
We are ON THE AIR!



### Easy to Find. Easy to Connect.

Our dedicated landing page – [tmradio.info](https://tmradio.info) – makes it simple for radio listeners to find us, connect with us, and start visiting clubs to discover the one that's the best fit for them.

We are proudly featuring some of our strongest clubs in this campaign – another reason to elevate your club's excellence and showcase your best meetings.

### Boost Membership with Talk Up Toastmasters!

This campaign also aligns perfectly with the Talk Up Toastmasters membership-building incentive. From February 1 to March 31, clubs that add five new, dual, or reinstated members earn a Talk Up Toastmasters ribbon for their banner and a special 10% discount on their next club order from Toastmasters International.

It's a perfect opportunity to grow your club, celebrate your members, and shine in the spotlight – on the air and in your community.

District 57 is showing up boldly, confidently, and consistently – both on the airwaves and in our clubs. Let's keep the momentum going!



[prm@d57tm.org](mailto:prm@d57tm.org)

<https://d57tm.org>

# SPOTLIGHT SEASON



# D57

# Contest Corner

By Kate Mills

March 1, 2026

**CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL D57 CLUBS HOLDING CONTESTS AND SENDING REPRESENTATIVES TO THEIR AREA SPEECH CONTESTS. EVERYONE IS ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND AND SUPPORT THEIR CLUB'S CONTESTANTS AND CONTEST CHAIR.**



## Schedule of 2026 Area Speech Contests

Div	Area	Combo	Date	Start	Venue Address
B	B-22	-	Feb 7	4 p.m.	Community of Christ, 1786 2nd Ave, Walnut Creek, 94597
A	A-29	-	Feb 12	7 p.m.	First Baptist Church 6320 Dairy Ave, Newark
E	E-34	E34 & E36	Feb 20	5:30 p.m.	5025 Crow Canyon Rd, San Ramon
E	E-36	E34 & E36	Feb 20	5:30 p.m.	5025 Crow Canyon Rd, San Ramon
D	D-04	D4 & D30	Feb 21	1:30 p.m.	Pinole Library, 2935 Pinole Valley Road, Pinole
D	D-30	D4 & D30	Feb 21	1:30 p.m.	Pinole Library, 2935 Pinole Valley Road, Pinole
A	A-35	-	Feb 24	7 p.m.	Us Together Center, 3755 Washington Blvd., Fremont, 94538
E	E-19	E19 & E28	Feb 24	6:30 p.m.	4530 Sandalwood Drive, Pleasanton
E	E-28	E19 & E28	Feb 24	6:30 p.m.	4530 Sandalwood Drive, Pleasanton
A	A-01	-	Feb 26	5:30 p.m.	Union City Library, 34007 Alvarado-Niles Road, Union City, 94587
D	D-12	D12 & D26	Feb 27	5 p.m.	EBMUD Admin Building 375 Eleventh Street, Oakland, 94607
D	D-26	D12 & D26	Feb 27	5 p.m.	EBMUD Admin Building 375 Eleventh Street, Oakland, 94607
B	B-07	B07 & B21 & B27	Feb 28	4 p.m.	One Concord Center, 2300 Clayton Road, Concord, 94520
B	B-21	B07 & B21 & B27	Feb 28	4 p.m.	One Concord Center, 2300 Clayton Road, Concord, 94520
B	B-27	B07 & B21 & B27	Feb 28	4 p.m.	One Concord Center, 2300 Clayton Road, Concord, 94520
C	C-10	-	Feb 28	12 p.m.	McCarty's Bar, 6951 East Rd Redwood Valley, 95470
C	C-08	-	Mar 01	2 p.m.	Kaiser Hospital 2nd Floor 975 Sereno Dr Vallejo, 94589
C	C-09	C9 & C31	Mar 05	6:15 p.m.	New Life Center, 1315 Rand Street, Petaluma, 95954
C	C-31	C9 & C31	Mar 05	6:15 p.m.	New Life Center – 1315 Rand Street, Petaluma
D	D-03	D03 & D23	Mar 06	6 p.m.	EBMUD, 375 11th Street, Oakland, CA 94607
D	D-23	D03 & D23	Mar 06	6 p.m.	EBMUD, 375 11th Street, Oakland, CA 94607
A	A-13	-	Mar 7	10 a.m.	Us Together Center 3755 Washington Blvd, Fremont 94538
A	A-40	-	Mar 14	10 a.m.	Union City Library, 34007 Alvarado-Niles Road, Union City, 94587

**Reach out to this year's D57 Contest Chair, Kate Mills [katemillstoast@gmail.com](mailto:katemillstoast@gmail.com), to schedule contest training, get help planning your event, or receive clarification about contest procedures.**

<https://d57tm.org>

# Contest Corner

By Kate Mills

March 1, 2026

## WHAT CONTEST ROLES CAN I FILL AT AN AREA CONTEST?

A surprising number of Toastmasters are required to put on a speech contest. We are holding both Table Topics and International Speech Contests this year at every Area Contest. Contest functionaries often serve both contests, even when Areas combine their events.

### These minimum roles must be filled to hold an Area Speech Contest:

- (1) Contest Chair
- (1) Chief Judge
- (1) Contest Toastmaster (+ 1 back-up suggested)
- (2) Sergeant-at-Arms
- (2) Contest Timekeepers
- (2) Ballout Counters
- (5) Voting Judges (+ 2 back-ups suggested)
- (1) Tiebreaker Judge

Contestants, Chief Judges, Voting Judges, and Tiebreaker Judges all have eligibility requirements to participate. You will find the requirements for Contestants on pages 6 & 7, and for Judges on pages 7 & 8 in the [2025-26 SPEECH CONTEST RULEBOOK \(1171\)](#). Please reach out to D57 Contest Chair Kate Mills at [katemillstoast@gmail.com](mailto:katemillstoast@gmail.com) or 510-552-3656 if you aren't sure whether you or your contest volunteer qualifies for the assigned role. We'll figure it out together!

Savvy Contest Chairs assign additional unofficial roles to give their events a power boost of fun:

- **Greeter** - What's not to like about earning a warm, event memory? Send guest book entries to your Area Clubs for follow-up--might be a future new member.
- **Hospitality Coordinator** - Yum. Snacks power up functionaries skipping meals to help you, and say Aloha to guests.
- **Photographer** - Let's get those clubs on their social media! Also, D57 is looking for pictures to commemorate its last contest season.

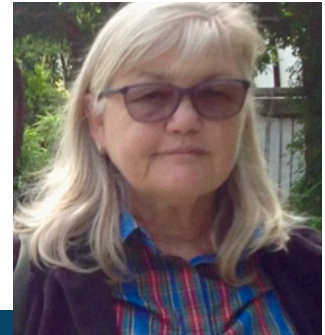


# Contest Corner

By Kate Mills

March 1, 2026

## ARE THERE ANY PATHWAYS PROJECTS RELATED TO CONTEST ROLES?



Besides fulfilling your *Toastmasters Promise*, members can complete Pathways projects by taking contest roles. Log into Toastmasters International and go to Basecamp. Some contests are more complicated than others. Here are some possible Pathways projects that could apply:

### **Contest Chair**

- Level 2 - Managing Time
- Level 3 - Planning and Implementing
- Level 3 - Successful Collaboration
- Level 3 - Develop a Communication Plan
- Level 4 - Leading your Team
- Level 4 - Motivate Others
- Level 4 - Manage Projects Successfully
- Level 4 - Public Relations Strategy

### **Contest Toastmaster**

- Level 3 - Deliver Social Speeches

### **Contest Chief Judge**

- Level 3 - Develop a Communication Plan
- Level 4 - Leading Your Team
- Level 4 - Manage Projects Successfully

### **Coaching a Contest Chair**

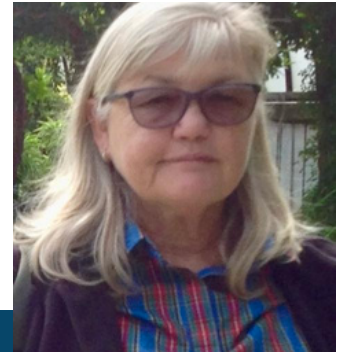
- Level 4 - Mentoring
- Level 4 - Improvement through Positive Coaching

# Contest Corner

By Kate Mills

March 1, 2026

## WHAT ABOUT DISTRICT 57 INCENTIVES FOR CONTEST ROLES?



Points are available in multiple categories for contest roles in the *District 57 **Outstanding Toastmaster Award (OTMA)***.

Go to the [D57 OTMA](#) form, save a copy for yourself, and then start adding up your points to earn the award.

Why not make your Toastmasters year and the last D57 Contest Season the best it can be? Have a little fun and build up your network for your Toastmaster journey.

If you have any questions about contests, or have decided to take a role and need training, you can reach this year's D57 Contest Chair Kate Mills at [katemillstoast@gmail.com](mailto:katemillstoast@gmail.com).



# D57 Divison C

By Ray Gowan

March 1, 2026



Old Hop Kiln Surrounded by Vineyard



## D57's most Northern Division

**Yes, Toastmasters, District 57 has some beautiful country. When it comes to the amount of area D57 contains, over half of D57 is North of the San Pablo Bay. The land of wine, redwood trees, miles of coast line, romantic towns like Mendocino and Ferndale. Did I mention Redwood Trees, Ocean and Wine? We are also the Division that D57 held last year's May Conference (Vallejo) and will repeat with the May 16 Conference this year in Rohnert Park just 10 short miles south of Santa Rosa on Highway 101.**

**Division C consists of 19 clubs. 16 Community clubs and 3 Corporate clubs. Just like all Divisions, some of the clubs struggle for numbers but they survive and serve their community well. Then we have a big club with its problems. Southern Marin Toastmasters.**

# D57 Divison C

By Ray Gowan

March 1, 2026



Old Hop Kiln Surrounded by Vineyard



## D57's most Northern Division

### How can a big club have problems?

Tony, the Southern Marin VPE, describes:

We have what you might call "good" problems. As of 02.17.2026, we have 45 active members. We frequently have guests who quickly become members because they love the welcoming and supportive nature of our membership. At first glance, that seems like a great thing, however our high member count sometimes makes it difficult to reserve a slot for a speaking role because of the high level of competition. We have a rather long meeting (1 hour and 45 minutes) so we are experimenting with adding more speaker roles. We currently have 2 speaker slots and may go to 3 to accommodate more members per meeting.

### Can there be successful small clubs in a rural area?

Yes. We have the Tenacious Talkers that is in Lakeport. Lakeport is in Lake County. Lake County contains one of the best Bass fishing lakes in the USA. However its population is only 68,000 people. How do they survive? Currently their meetings are strictly online. But also, as we see with so many clubs, they have one person that is the driving force for the club. That person for the Tenacious Talkers is Greg Scott DTM, PID. He is also the District 205 District Leadership Committee (DLC) Chair. He calls Toastmasters "My Mental Vitamin." Greg is a testament of what Toastmasters can do for one's life and a great cheerleader for Toastmasters.

# DIVISION SPOTLIGHT



## D57

# D57 Divison C

By Ray Gowan

March 1, 2026



Old Hop Kiln Surrounded by Vineyard



## D57's most Northern Division

I, Ray Gowan, Division C Director, feel like Division C has had a successful year so far. My area directors have encouraged all of the clubs to have a Club Success Plan. Unfortunately, 3 of the clubs that may have needed it the most did not make a plan. That makes it difficult to get help for the club because a Club Coach will not receive any credit for their effort. This year, I hope that at least 12 of the 19 clubs will be distinguished. All of us from the Division C Council live in the Division. This really helps in a Division that is spread out as much as Division C, because we know the area's demographics. There is a range of experience among the Directors, but we help each other and can contribute to the health of the Division C Council and the Division. Ultimately, this helps District 57.

**But mostly we want each Toastmaster member to experience the Toastmasters Club Mission that *"results in greater self-confidence and personal growth."***

<https://d57tm.org>

# D57 Divison A

By Kishore Subramaniam

March 1, 2026

## Area Director Kishore Subramaniam

When I reluctantly took over the role of Area Director, I had no idea what I was signing up for. My initial understanding was that it would require just 2 visits to each club in the year and that I would submit my Area Director visit reports. However, once I started visiting the club, my vision broadened! I could see some clubs doing way better in certain aspects but still missing some fine nuances. There were also some clubs that were struggling with membership but still chugging along. My ability, not just as a leader but as a person who can understand different perspectives, started improving.

My interpersonal skills and my ability to lead without authority also started to improve.

**My favorite memory** about the Area Director role is being the contest chair for the Area Contest. It took significant effort; my planning and networking skills were stretched, but it was the most rewarding experience.

### **Where I struggled:**

Some clubs or some officers in some clubs are not concerned about the mandate to complete officer training.

A recommendation here would be for them to complete the training even before the term begins, rather than during the term.

### **My recommendation to Toastmasters:**

Fulfilling roles for an Area Contest is a huge challenge.

Perhaps Toastmasters should mandate participation in at least 1 Area contest in any role for every Toastmaster in a year.

# D57 Divison A

By Somy Ray

March 1, 2026

## Area Director Somy Ray

Stepping into the role of Area Director in \*\*Toastmasters International District 57 felt like standing at the entrance of a dark tunnel. I carried fear and self-doubt. Was I ready? Could I truly lead clubs and support fellow members? The responsibility seemed overwhelming, and the unknown felt intimidating.

Yet, leadership has a way of stretching us beyond our comfort zones. With each club visit, each conversation, and each challenge, I began to grow. Slowly, uncertainty transformed into confidence. The defining moment was successfully organizing and running our Area Contest.

What once felt daunting became deeply rewarding. Seeing members take the stage, witnessing their courage and growth, reminded me of why we serve.

What moved me most was being called upon to support other areas in leadership roles. That trust meant more than any title. It showed me that growth is visible not just within myself, but to others as well.

The journey truly felt like walking through a dark tunnel. At times, it was scary and unclear. But gradually, with baby steps & finally seeing the light as the tunnel ended, brought immense satisfaction. The quiet moment of patting myself on the back wasn't about pride; it was about gratitude. Gratitude for the lessons, the resilience, and the people who helped & supported me along the way.

This experience has been truly precious. I learned less by leading, but much more by observing others' strengths, their dedication, their grace under pressure.

Leadership does not just build skills; it builds a belief. And that belief leaves a lingering taste for more! Oh, how does it taste?? Curious!! Just toast with

Toastmasters by taking a leadership role at District 57 now!! I promise you would wish for more..

# D57 Division A

By Nethaka Theverapperuma

March 1, 2026

## Area Director Nethaka Theverapperuma

From Fandoms to Leadership: My Journey as One of the World's Youngest Area Directors. When I became Area Director for Area A40 (Division A, District 57) at just 21 years old, I understood I wasn't just taking on a title; I was entering a global arena. Working as a remote Area Director from Sri Lanka, my journey has been a testament to the fact that leadership has no boundaries and certainly no age limits.

### Why Lead at 21?

I didn't join the district team just to fill a seat; I wanted to bridge the gap between youthful energy and established experience. My goal was to show that you don't need a long career to offer value, mentorship, and strategic vision to a group of clubs.

### Lessons from the Field (and the Screen)

Completing my first round of club visits was eye-opening. Even with the physical distance, the warmth of the members in Area A40 was clear. I've learned that the heart of Toastmasters isn't just "public speaking"—it's building community. Each club has its own identity, and as an Area Director, you aren't just an auditor; you are a consultant, a cheerleader, and a friend.

### Crafting "Loremasters"

The best part of my term so far has been working alongside my friends and seniors, DTM Daniel Waas and TM Uthpala Gamage, to start a new specialty club: Loremasters. This club, focused on fandoms, has been a passion project that merges creative storytelling with the Toastmasters structure. Watching an idea slowly grow from a late-night chat into a vibrant community is the most rewarding success a leader can hope for.

### Your Turn

To my fellow members: Don't wait until you feel "ready" to lead. The role of Area Director offers a unique perspective on Toastmasters that you can't get at the club level. You develop:

- Cross-cultural communication skills.
- Strategic management skills.
- Networking opportunities with leaders worldwide.

**If a 21-year-old from Sri Lanka can navigate District 57 from thousands of miles away, imagine what you can do for your local community. Step up, serve, and make a difference. Let's grow together!**

# D57 Division A

By Uthpala Gamage

March 1, 2026

## VPPR LoreMasters Uthpala Gamage

When I was first told about the opportunity to charter a brand-new Toastmasters Club, my anticipation for the reward was overshadowed by the daunting task ahead. As the Vice President of Public Relations in my home club, I already manage a significant workload. I initially assumed that chartering would mean juggling those existing PR duties alongside every other administrative aspect of a club, all resting on the shoulders of just three individuals. However, looking back, that was far from the case. Because this is a specialty club, it centers on something that both TM Nethaka Theverapperuma and I enjoy deeply: exploring the world of fiction through the lens of a Toastmaster. I also owe a great deal of thanks to DTM Daniel Waas for reminding us of our "why." He has been a stellar mentor throughout this journey, guiding us through even the most minuscule of details to ensure everything runs smoothly.

Thanks to his support, we have been able to focus on what we love while engaging in the Toastmasters experience.

# D57 Divison A

By Yashali Abeyasekera

March 1, 2026

## New Club: Once Upon a Speech(OUAS)

Yashali Abeyasekera

I've always been captivated by the worlds created by writers, and the words used to build them. As a form of appreciation for such works, to cultivate a passion in new writers/readers, and to create a space where writers and readers could come together and share their own stories, I came up with the concept of a storytelling club named "Once Upon a Speech".

At first, it was just a dream. An inkling of an idea. Starting a whole club felt like a daunting task. Would anyone show up? Would it die off due to a lack of interest?

But Toastmasters has a good setup. Before starting a club, you hold demo meetings to give visitors (and your team) an idea of how the meetings will go, and also gives you a space to explore new ideas and unique experiences you can add to your club. Since we started, we've been able to explore our scope as a storytelling club through holding themed meetings such as Sinhala literature and Jane Austen. With the right team and guidance from experienced Toastmasters who visit the club, and are able to curate the meetings into a unique identity that can withstand time and become home to free spirit all over the world.

# DISTRICT ALIGNMENT

## District 206: Honoring Where We've Been, Stepping Into What's Next

By Lisa Fairchild , D206 Alignment Committee Chair

March 1, 2026



There are seasons in our Toastmasters journey when things feel steady and familiar... and seasons when something new begins to take shape. This is one of those moments.

Beginning July 1, 2026, the clubs and members of District 57 will be integrated into two new Districts. Thirty-seven clubs from Divisions B, E, and Area C8 will become part of a newly formed district—District 206. (See list of clubs moving to District 206 here) This new district brings together 164 clubs from three current districts: two divisions and one area from District 57, all five divisions from District 39, and one division from District 33.

This realignment was initiated by the Toastmasters International Board of Directors to ensure each district has the ideal number of clubs to effectively support members, develop leaders, and sustain long-term health.

This change is about service.  
It is about creating a structure that can best support clubs—  
not just today, but for years to come.

# DISTRICT ALIGNMENT



## D57

## District 206: Honoring Where We've Been, Stepping Into What's Next

By *Lisa Fairchild*, D206 Alignment Committee Chair

March 1, 2026



### What This Means for Your Club



Let me begin with what matters most: your club will continue to operate just as it does now. Your meeting time. Your members. Your culture. Your rhythm.

What will change is the structure around you. As three districts blend into one, clubs will be placed into new Areas and Divisions alongside clubs that may not have been part of their previous district. This is a natural and necessary part of forming a new district from existing ones. Think of it as expanding the circle.

New connections will form. New leaders will emerge. New opportunities for collaboration and growth will unfold, while what makes your club your club remains untouched.

### The Work Behind the Scenes

Alignment is not new to Toastmasters. Each year, every district proposes and approves a realignment of Divisions and Areas to better support the clubs and members. Our work on the District 206 Alignment Committee is the same, but with a bit more complexity, as it brings together clubs from three different districts. As with an annual realignment, we are tasked with thoughtfully designing a structure for a new District. Our mission is clear: to create a Division and Area structure that best serves all 164 clubs while fully complying with Toastmasters International policies.

We are carefully considering geographic proximity, balanced Areas and Divisions, club strength and growth potential, and the ability for Area Directors to effectively support their clubs.

This process takes time because it matters. A preliminary alignment will be submitted in March, with final adjustments occurring after April renewals, so the structure reflects current club strength and membership. Every D57 club that will be in District 206 belongs in this process and matters.

# DISTRICT ALIGNMENT



## D57

**District 206: Honoring Where We've Been,  
Stepping Into What's Next**

*By Lisa Fairchild , D206 Alignment Committee Chair*

**March 1, 2026**



## The Human Side of Change



Even when change is purposeful and positive, it can still feel uncomfortable. District 57 has been home for many of us for years, even decades. There is history here. There are relationships here. There is identity here. I feel it, and I'm sure many of you do too. And none of that is lost.

What we are doing is carrying forward the spirit of District 57 into a new and larger community. We are not starting from scratch. We are building from strength. This new district will be shaped by the leaders, members, and clubs who step forward and say, "I'm part of this. I'm helping create what comes next."

Important Alert for Club Presidents and Vice Presidents Education

There is one very important role that club leaders will play in this transition. Club Presidents, Vice Presidents of Education, and District Executive Committee (DEC) members who will be in D206 next year and will serve as voting delegates for District 206.

**Your attendance at the District 206 Business Meeting on May 5, 2026, at 7:00 pm via Zoom is very important. (Zoom registration is coming soon).**

At this meeting, in addition to voting on the adoption of the D206 Alignment proposal, you will cast votes to elect the inaugural District 206 leadership, including:

- District Director
- Program Quality Director
- Club Growth Director
- Division Directors

This is more than a meeting. It is the moment when the leadership of District 206 begins to take shape.

Your presence matters. Your vote matters. Your voice matters.

Please mark your calendars now and plan to attend. Keep an eye out for emails and communications about the Business meeting,

# DISTRICT ALIGNMENT

**District 206: Honoring Where We've Been,  
Stepping Into What's Next**

*By Lisa Fairchild , D206 Alignment Committee Chair*

**March 1, 2026**



## Moving Forward – Together



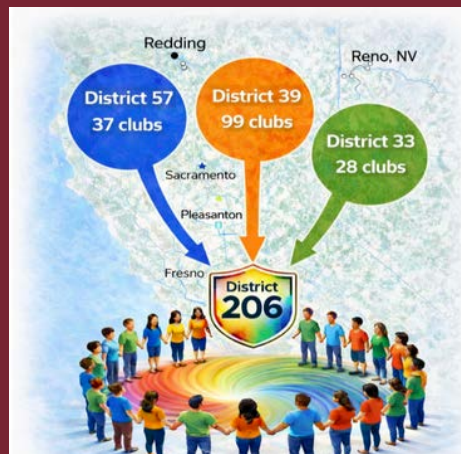
As your Alignment Committee, our commitment is simple. We are approaching this work with care, transparency, and deep respect for the clubs and members we serve.

Change asks us to pause. To acknowledge what has been. To step forward with intention.

District 57 has always been defined by its people—leaders who care, clubs that support one another, and members who say yes to growth. That spirit doesn't end. It expands.

District 206 will not just be a new structure. It will be a new shared home—built by all of us, shaped by all of us, and strengthened by the same commitment that has always defined District 57.

And like all meaningful journeys, we will take this step together.





D57

# DISTRICT ALIGNMENT

District 206: Honoring Where We've Been, Stepping Into What's Next

By Lisa Fairchild , D206 Alignment Committee Chair

March 1, 2026



## District 206 Clubs Effective July 1, 2026



Clubs that will be part of District 206 - effective July 1, 2026			
club_number	club_name	current_division	current_area
2452	Amador Valley Toastmasters Club	E	28
1809	Argonauts	B	7
2080	Capitol Speakers Toastmasters Club	C	8
2332	Chamber Chatters Toastmasters Club	E	28
3972	Confidence Builders Club	B	7
28678387	Cre-Art Toastmasters Club	E	19
684665	Creating Communicators Toastmasters Club	B	27
3427556	CSAA Talkers	B	27
4143	Danville AM Toastmasters Club	B	22
1785	Danville Toastmasters Club 1785	E	36
7854379	Databricks Toastmasters	E	34
4027	Diablo Champagne Breakfast Club	B	22
4582	Diamond Club	E	36
2056	Early Words Toastmasters	B	22
5339	Goal Achievers Toastmasters Club	B	27
4453	Hacienda Park Toastmasters Club	E	19
28676177	Hensel Phelps NorCal Toastmasters	E	28
596430	LaughLovers Comedy Club	B	21
2839	Mare Island Club	C	8
2797	Microcentury Toastmasters Club	E	19
2024	Napa Toastmasters Club	C	8
3038	North Bay Speech Masters	C	8
6814	Pittsburg Speakeasy	B	27
4762	Pleasanton Community Club	E	28
3730917	Power Speakers	E	34
28675648	Quick Connections	E	19
1844967	SaaSMasters	E	34
1401	Speakeasies Club	E	34
7881014	Stagecoach Speakers Transformers	E	28
362	Sunrise Toastmasters	B	7
894013	Swift Plaza Toastmasters	B	7
795293	Tales & Tellers Toastmasters Club	B	21
3179353	Talk and Thrive	E	36
6718	Talksics Toastmasters Club	B	21
6476	Toast Busters Toastmasters Club	B	21
4961420	Tri-Valley Toastmasters	E	36
28675630	Virtual Toasters	E	36
8629	Walnut Creek Toastmasters Club	B	22
400	Word Weavers Toastmasters Club #400	B	7

<https://d57tm.org>

# AREA DIRECTOR

By Shalini Suravarjjala

March 1, 2026



## Who Is an Area Director?

An Area Director is a Toastmaster who chooses to serve beyond their home club. They are a volunteer district leader who supports 4 to 6 clubs within a specific geographic area.

They are usually experienced members who:

- Have served as club officers
- Understand how a club functions
- Want to help other clubs succeed
- Are ready to grow as leaders

**An Area Director is not a judge or inspector. They are a coach, connector, and supporter.**

## What Does an Area Director Do?

An Area Director:

- Visits each club at least twice a year
- Provides constructive and encouraging feedback
- Supports club officers and leadership teams
- Shares district updates, training opportunities, and events
- Helps struggling clubs find practical solutions
- Recognizes and celebrates club achievements

**They serve as the bridge between the clubs and the District.**

# AREA DIRECTOR

By Shalini Suravarjjala

March 1, 2026

## Why This Role Matters to the District

**A strong district is built on strong clubs.**

**Area Directors:**

- **Keep communication flowing between clubs and district leaders**
- **Identify challenges early and offer guidance**
- **Encourage quality meetings and member engagement**
- **Help clubs achieve Distinguished status**
- **Strengthen alignment with Toastmasters goals**

**Without Area Directors, clubs may feel disconnected and unsupported. They help keep everyone moving in the same direction.**



## What Does an Area Director Learn?

Serving as an Area Director is a powerful leadership laboratory. They develop:

- Coaching and mentoring skills
- Conflict resolution abilities
- Strategic thinking
- Time management
- Communication across diverse groups
- The ability to motivate and inspire

**Many District leaders and Distinguished Toastmasters began their journey as Area Directors. Your path to a DTM starts here.**

## What's In It for Members?

You may be wondering: How does this benefit me as a member?

Here's how:

- Stronger Club Experience

When an Area Director visits, they bring fresh perspective, ideas, and encouragement. Your meetings improve.

- More Opportunities

Area Directors share district contests, trainings, and leadership paths. You discover new ways to grow.

- Support During Challenges

If your club faces low membership, officer transitions, or meeting struggles, the Area Director helps guide solutions.

- Broader Network

Members connect beyond their home club, building confidence and community.

# AREA DIRECTOR

By Shalini Suravarjjala

March 1, 2026

## The Bigger Picture



**Area Directors are partners in progress.**

**They listen.  
They support.  
They encourage.  
They connect.**

**When clubs thrive, members grow.  
When members grow, the District succeeds.**

**If you are ready to grow beyond your club and make a wider impact, the Area Director role may be your next meaningful step.**

# TOASTMASTERS TIMES TV



## D57

## We Want YOU on Toastmaster Time TV

*By Justin Paras*

March 1, 2026

Are you itching for an opportunity to speak in a new environment?  
Would you like to see how a TV show is created?  
Does the thought of having one of your 5 to 7 minute speeches professionally recorded free of charge appeal to you?

If you answered “yes” to any of those questions, come join us on District 57’s Toastmaster Time TV show, which has been running since 1997!



We film on the second Monday of every month at the Midpen Media Center in Palo Alto, which is a local public access TV station. We arrive at 7:30 pm and we wrap up by 9:30 pm.

We can accommodate 2 speakers and an evaluator on each show. Any Toastmaster in District 57 can participate.

We are also open to volunteers who are willing to learn and want to work in capacities such as camera operator, floor director, technical director, audio specialist, graphics specialist, etc. We provide free training!

If you’re interested in delivering a speech, being an evaluator, or helping out as a volunteer on the show, please email Justin Paras, one of the show’s hosts at: [justin.paras@gmail.com](mailto:justin.paras@gmail.com)

You can view our past episodes here:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/ToastmasterTimeTV/videos>

We look forward to having you on Toastmaster Time, the show that’s got everybody talking!

<https://d57tm.org>

# D57 SPRING CONFERENCE



## D57

## The Final D57 Spring Conference

By Jeffrey Young

March 1, 2026



- In case you missed it: This year's conference will be held on May 16, 2026, at the Rohnert Park Doubletree (One Doubletree Drive, Rohnert Park, CA 94928), in scenic Sonoma wine country.
- Conference ticketing should be up around the beginning of March.
- This will be a celebration of our last year as District 57, and we are working on partnering with Districts 4, 39, and 33 to include them in our festivities and coordinate our conferences.
- The International Speech and Table Topics Contests will be held in the afternoon and evening at the tail end of the conference.
- Now that we know when and where the conference will be, we're staffing up the folks who will be running the show. If you'd like to help, email the Conference Chairs:
  - Tiffany Dawn Jones ([tiffydawnjones@gmail.com](mailto:tiffydawnjones@gmail.com))
  - Charles Herron ([charles\\_herron@comcast.net](mailto:charles_herron@comcast.net))