



NEWS77

TOASTMASTERS DISTRICT 77



Impactful Resource

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 3 SEPTEMBER 2026

TOASTMASTERS

**Smedley
Membership
Building
Program**

**Club of the
Month
Hub**

**Club
Success
Workshop**

**Free Toast Host
Workshop**

**DEC
Meeting**

**District
Council
Meeting**

Welcomes The Fall Season

DISTRICT MEETINGS

**District 77 's
DEC (District Executive Committee) Meeting
Sunday
September 13, 2026,
4:30 – 5:30 P.M. (CT)
For More Information
Check website: (toastmasters77.org)-events**



**District 77's Business Council Meeting Sunday, September 20, 2026
For More Information check website: (toastmasters77.org)-events**



The DEC (District Executive Council) and the DC (District Council) What's the Difference?



The District Executive Committee, commonly referred to as the “DEC” consists of the following voting members:

- District Director (DD)
- Program Quality Director (PQD)
- Club Growth Director (CGD)
- Administration Manager (AM)
- Financial Manager (FM)
- Public Relations Manager (PRM)
- Logistics Manager (LM) - (non-voting member)
- All Division Directors
- All Area Directors
- Immediate Past District Director/s (IPDD/s)

The District 77 DEC also has a non-voting set of staff participants who may be invited to DEC meetings at the discretion of the District Director. The District Director may invite others to attend DEC meetings who have business to conduct. DEC meeting attendance is by District Director invitation only – no others may attend.

DEC meetings are held at least four times a year and are chaired by the District Director. The DEC is charged with reviewing and approving the District Success Plan, approving the budget, overseeing the financial operations of the District, recommending the assignment of clubs to Areas and Divisions, and reviewing recommendations/reports of district committees (including the audit committee).

District 77 District Council Meeting



The District Council, sometimes referred to as DC, consists of the following voting members:

- All District Executive Committee Members
- District Parliamentarian
- All Club Presidents
- All Club Vice Presidents of Education

District 77 Council Meetings are held twice a year. The District Council's purpose is to:

- gain essential information for planning your club's season
- be aware of district training and support opportunities
- participate in decisions and be able to explain them to your members:
 - Adopt the district budget
 - Confirm District Officers' Appointments
 - Contest types and number of contestants for this season
 - Other initiatives
- address one or more subjects important to you

To be eligible to vote, both the individual Toastmaster and the club he or she belongs to must be in good standing

Entitled to one vote:

Each member of the District Council or club proxy for the Club President or Vice President Education in attendance at the District Council meeting.

Entitled to two votes:

- Any active Club President or the Vice President Education may carry the proxies of both from the club.
- A Toastmaster belonging to two or more clubs may cast one vote for each of two clubs, but is limited to a maximum of two votes, regardless of the number of clubs to which they belong.
- All other Toastmasters (except members of the District Executive Committee) are limited to a maximum of two votes, regardless of the number of clubs to which they belong.

Entitled to three votes:

- Any Toastmaster who is also a member of the District Executive Committee.
- The maximum number of votes that any Toastmaster may cast is three, regardless of the number of clubs to which that Toastmaster belongs.
- There is no provision for a member of the District Executive Committee to assign a proxy.

Weaving Stories Into Your Speeches



Learn how to find and incorporate stories to make your speech sparkle.

By [Lauren Parsons, DTM, AS](#)

I was sitting in the audience at my first-ever Toastmasters District conference, held at the breathtaking Fairmont Le Chateau Montebello near Ottawa, Canada. The venue was stunning, with its rustic charm and roaring log fire, but what truly lit up the room that day was Darren LaCroix, AS.

He had our full attention from the moment he began. Not because he wowed us with facts or figures, but because he told a story. A vulnerable, personal story about bombing onstage, the sting of failure, and how he worked with a coach to rewrite and refine his message—again—until he delivered the winning speech that would change his life, becoming the 2001 World Champion of Public Speaking. It wasn't just inspirational. It was instructional. Through his story, LaCroix showed us that storytelling is a skill we can

develop—and that the right story, told the right way, ***[to finish the article, visit the Toastmasters magazine September 2025 page 20].***

Humor – Finding the Funny

You are seen as a confident speaker when you can tell humorous stories that are self-effacing, making light of your own weaknesses, foibles, and mistakes. We've all fallen short, said the wrong thing, meant well and messed up, and made boneheaded mistakes. Laughing at them is therapeutic.



District 77 Trio represented well at this year's International convention.

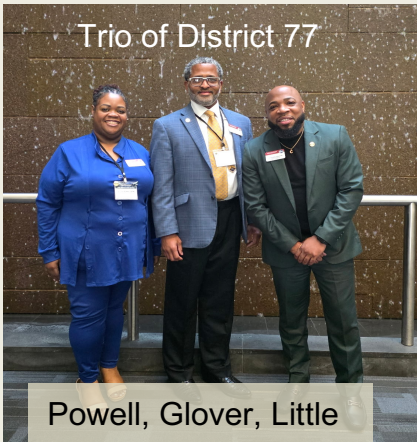


Trinidad & Tobago

District 77 Director Glover



Trio of District 77



Powell, Glover, Little



TM's CEO, Daniel Rex with District 77's Trio



Christopher Little, C.G.D.



Nicole Powell in her class



Newest Toastmaster



Anwesh Banerjee, DTM, Second Vice President.



D.D. Glover, R.D Houser

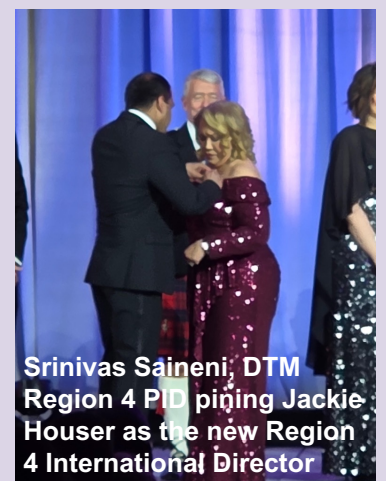


Jennifer Perry-Ruzic, DTM Region 4 Advisor





An Evening To Remember



ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CELEBRATIONS

**Redstone Toastmasters Club
OPEN HOUSE**

THEME
Fall Into Speaking Fair

September 8, 2026 | 6PM CT
Madison Church of Christ
556 Hughes Rd.
Madison, AL

Join us for a fun, fall-inspired evening of interactive speaking activities and a live Toastmasters demonstration designed to help you speak up, connect, and build confidence!

Open to the Public
Virtual + In-Person
Free to Attend
All Experience Levels Welcome
Refreshments Provided

Scan QR Code to RSVP

WELCOME TO DISTRICT 77 !!

QUANTA

QUANTA POWER SPEAKERS
#28680683
AREA N31

In Memoriam

**Kenneth Stephens,
ATMS, CL**



It is with great sadness that we share that Kenneth "Ken" Stephens, ATMS, CL, an exceptionally dedicated member of Redstone Toastmasters, passed away on August 11. Ken was a Toastmaster for more than 10 years, all of them with Redstone Toastmasters Club #1932. He earned the Advanced Toastmaster Silver and Competent Leader designations, served as our club president multiple times, and remained actively involved with the club until his final days. His decades of service, leadership, wisdom, and friendship left a lasting mark on generations of Redstone members.

**INTRODUCING OUR
NEW CLUB
PRESIDENT**

LEADING. INSPIRING. EMPOWERING.

**Casondra
AMOS**
CLUB PRESIDENT

"Casondra brings passion, purpose, and a commitment to excellence. Join us as we embark on an exciting new chapter under her leadership!"

Let's Grow, Lead, and Succeed Together!

**THE BLVD
TOASTMASTERS**

EVERY THURSDAY
11:30 AM

JOIN US ON ZOOM
GROW YOUR VOICE
LEAD YOUR WORLD.

VISITORS ARE
ALWAYS WELCOME!
WE'D LOVE TO
SEE YOU THERE.

**THE BLVD
TOASTMASTERS**

MEET OUR
New
VPE!

We're excited to introduce our new Vice President of Education.

**TM Travis
MAVERICK**

TM Travis Maverick brings passion, purpose, and a commitment to growth that will elevate our club and empower every member on their Toastmasters journey.

COMMUNICATE. LEAD. IMPACT.

LET'S GROW. LET'S LEAD. TOGETHER.

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK
@theblvdtoastmasters



Phil McDade a 20-year member of High Noon TMC #2028. TM McDade completed Level 2 of Leadership Development.



Robyn Thornton a newer member of High Noon TMC #2028 just completed Level 2 of Motivational Strategies.



High Noon Club #2028 officers completed the Club Officer Training for District 77.

Pictured: William Osborn (Treasurer), Eddie Coleman (S.A.A.), Phil McDade (VPPR), Charlene Evers-Kreel (VPM), Jimmy Henderson (President & VP Educ).

Congratulations, Jackie Houser, DTM. First Region 4 New International Director from district 77. Stay tuned for a full article in the next newsletter.

Logistics Manager is needed for District 77.
If you are Interested, please send an email to:
district77gloverg@gmail.com.

Visit the District 77 Website (toastmasters77.org)

Calendar Events

Stay up-to-date with upcoming meetings, contests, and training sessions

Today

< >

September 2026

Month

SUN 30	MON 31	TUE Sep 1	WED 2	THU 3	FRI 4	SAT 5
Smedley Membership Building Program						
• 4:30pm IMPACT 27 DEC 1	• 5:30pm D77 Trio Meeting					
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Smedley Membership Building Program						
	• 5:30pm D77 Trio Meeting	• 6pm Redstone "Fall Into !	Free Toast Host Workshop • 7pm D77 Progress Review			Club Success Workshop
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Smedley Membership Building Program						
• 4:30pm D77 DEC Meeting	• 5:30pm D77 Trio Meeting	• 4pm CGD Team Meetings				
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Smedley Membership Building Program						
• 4:30pm D77 District Cour	• 5:30pm D77 Trio Meeting		• 12pm Protective Paceset			
27	28	29	30	Oct 1	2	3
Smedley Membership Building Program						
	• 5:30pm D77 Trio Meeting • 7pm Bham MOTH Grand					

Toastmasters District 77X

Events shown in time zone: (GMT-05:00) Central Time - Chicago

[Add to Google Calendar](#)

Google Calendar

Click the link Below for Web Site Submissions

<https://forms.gle/vjyPxLnSZt3JxEhE6>



Toastmasters District 77 Public Relations Team

Very Important

Dear Toastmasters,

District 77 is working on an exciting and historic year ahead. The dynamic Public Relations Team and I are actively seeking meaningful and impactful ways to achieve the following key objectives:

**Enhance District Visibility, Amplify Member Success Stories,
Strengthen Media Relations, Expand Digital Presence,
Drive Membership Growth, Support Club Communications.**

The team members who signed up are working in their respective areas to stay on track and fill positions to support District 77's progress. We are excited that a few members have reached out with suggestions for improvement. They not only identified problems but also offered solutions. Currently, we are working on an email platform that will deliver our bulk emails (approximately 1,600 in total) without placing them in the spam, promotion, and other folders on your email.

We need your help as we move forward. To ensure you receive our messages, please: Find the latest information we are sending from the platform (**Sender.Net**) and mark it as not spam or tell your email provider that this mail is not junk. It is addressed as: Public Relations District 77, and it is from email: toastma9@toastmasters77.org. Add us to your contact list. Make sure that your email and name are correct on the Toastmaster International pages.

Lessie Hayes, DTM
d77publicrelations7@gmail.com
601-942-0472



TOASTMASTERS INTERNATIONAL

It is officially renewal season, The October 2026 – March 2027 renewal period is now open.

Dues amount: \$72.00 per member. **Deadline for Distinguished Club Program credit:** October 1, 2026. Minimum requirement: 8 members (including at least 3 renewing members). **Speech contest eligibility:** Contestants must submit their dues before the start of the contest to be eligible. **District Council Meeting eligibility:** Your club must be in good standing for the President and Vice President Education to be eligible to represent and vote at the District Council Meeting.

Free Toast Host Toastmasters Club hosting version 4 update

<https://www.toastmastersclubs.org/welcometoFTH4/>

Free Toast Host is proud and excited to announce that the next version of the Free Toast Host Toastmasters Club hosting version 4 is on its way. The Free Toast Host development team and ambassadors have been hard at work building and testing the new web hosting system.

Free Toast Host 4 has been completely rewritten using new tools on an entirely new framework, and a new template based on Toastmasters International branding. FreeToastHost4 is mobile ready from the beginning, you will be able to access and use your club's FTH4 website using your mobile devices.

Your website moves with you: content, members, meeting history, and settings all migrate to FTH4, and your club keeps its existing web address. Clubs are being migrated in phases, and we'll let you know before your club's turn comes — there is nothing you need to do today. We are looking for clubs to participate in the beta testing, please apply through the new forum category "FTH4 BETA CLUBS".

Yours in Toastmasters Service,

Brian McDonald DTM, PDD, Lead Support and Developer for Free Toast Host.



NEWS77

TOASTMASTERS DISTRICT 77



Impactful Resource

A newsletter for District 77
Toastmasters covering
Alabama, Florida
Panhandle, Louisiana,
Mississippi, Tennessee,
providing inspiring
information for everyone!



Editorial Team

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Newsletter Design Editor

Bradley Harris, DTM, PDG, PRA
Newsletter Copy Editor

Katrice Stubbs
Assistant Copy Editor

Frances Barnes, DTM
PRM Advisor

I = Ignite Your Confidence
M = Master Your Story
P = Practice With Purpose
A = Amplify Your Influence
C = Connect With Community
T = Transform Lives

**We are looking for member achievements, club
achievements, and area, division or district
achievements.**

**To submit information to the Newsletter
click on the link below**

<https://forms.gle/oAPRGKd9RKSdQEZe6>

Contact Us

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