



TOASTMASTERS INTERNATIONAL NEWSLETTER

District News And Events

District Number 103

March 2021

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Did You Know? Deadline to Join the Club Banner Parade

Picture your proud club members and the club banner in the Annual Conference virtual parade. Take a Zoom photo to [submit](#) by March 19th so they can bask in the glory! *Looking at you, Club VPPRs!*

Be a Conference Volunteer!

Zoom Masters – Are you skilled at managing virtual meetings on Zoom? Perhaps you are the host for your club's online meetings or have served as Zoom Master of a Speech Contest. Here's a chance to take on a crucial opportunity. Ten co-Zoom Masters are needed to help with the D103 Conference. Working with Chief Zoom Master, Carl DuPlessis, co-Zoom Masters will manage an education session or other special event during the Conference. If you're up for it, you can submit an [application](#) by 3/19.

Education Session Facilitators

– With 7 great education sessions lined up for the D103 Conference, just as many session facilitators are also needed to ensure things go smoothly for the presenters and attendees. You can be part of the "team behind the team" who works with the Zoom Co-Host to make it all happen. You will be the timekeeper for a session on April 24th and also present a certificate of participation to that presenter. [Sign up](#) by March 19th to help this be a valuable experience for all!!



Toastmasters District 103 Annual Conference: Virtual Reboot 2.0!

Top Speaking Pro Patricia Fripp to Headline Event with Three Keynotes

After all the tribulations of 2020 and the Winter of 2021, D103 Toastmasters can enjoy much-needed inspiration and learning at the virtual District Conference on April 23rd - 24th. Prominent national speaker [Patricia Fripp](#), CSP, CPAE, gives three keynotes at the event!

- On Friday evening, she will excite the **Achievers' Awards Ceremony** audience with her keynote speech, "Under the Influence: How Achievers Succeed."
- On Saturday at 10 am, Patricia will give the keynote, "Under the Magnifying Glass: Good to Great Presentations."
- On Saturday at 2 pm that afternoon Patricia will also conduct a **MEGA-Coaching Interactive Session** "Under the Magnifying Glass in Action!" with selected D103 Toastmasters.
- Attendees will have the opportunity to meet and interact with Patricia virtually right after her MEGA-Coaching session for a Q&A Session from 3:15 – 3:45 pm.

D103 Toastmasters members of more than three years who seriously want to upgrade their speaking and presentation skills are invited to [apply](#). Patricia will provide individual coaching on how to deliver a more powerful speech. Even if you don't qualify, you can still learn a lot from her just by viewing the session, too! For a preview, check out this [video](#) as she coaches Toastmasters of District 1. Then be sure to watch her at the Conference!



Patricia Fripp



Mohamad Qayoom

Toastmasters International Director Mohamad Qayoom will give a keynote speech on Saturday evening at a virtual ceremony to honor recipients of **Distinguished Toastmaster** recognition. His title is "Pay It Forward." It should be a fitting cap-off!!

WOW! They Did It!

District Toastmaster Earns DTM Recognition

The first Toastmaster in D103 to attain the Distinguished Toastmaster award in 2021 is now known. Kudos to him on this achievement through leadership and persistence!

- Robert Martin Blue Cross Blue Shield IL Chi 1

The “Super 7” Ribbon Goes to 18 D103 Clubs!

Congratulations to these clubs whose officers all went to required semi-annual training in the second round! They are in a stronger position to successfully lead their clubs.

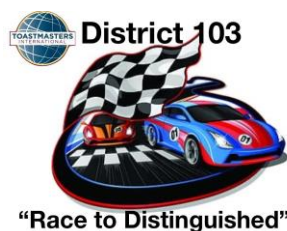
- AT&T Chicago East Toastmasters Club #1594170
- Blue Cross Blue Shield IL Chicago 1 #1545038
- Broadview Toastmasters Club #3303
- Chicago Speakeasy Toastmasters Club #953192
- DIC Toastmasters Club #1456269
- EPA Toastmasters Club #4501
- Loop Trustmasters Club #1567875
- MJM Speakers' Circle Club #6799
- New Faith Toastmasters Club #1924297
- Oak Lawn Toastmasters Club #872531
- Park Forest Toastmasters Club #1717
- Plaza Babblers Toastmasters Club #1426397
- Power Speakers Toastmasters Club #2606161
- Saturday Sunrise Toastmasters Club #8206
- Two-One-Nine Toastmasters Club #3288
- UOP Riverside Toastmasters Club #5365945
- West Suburban Club #930
- Wrightwood-Ashburn Overcomers (WAO) Club #771880

WAY TO GO, OFFICERS!

3 D103 Clubs Are Already in Good Standing!

Hooray for clubs who renewed membership in February!!

- HUD Chicago Toastmasters Club #6786306
- Plaza Babblers Toastmasters Club #1426397
- Wicker Park-Bucktown Toastmasters Club #4569040



10 D103 Clubs Win ‘Distinguished’ Prize In Time!

Program Quality Director Gregg Thompson announced the Top Ten finishers in the District 103 Toastmasters “Race to Distinguished” 1st round incentive program. The January 31st leader board standings were **9 goals** - Loop Trustmasters, Wrightwood-Ashburn Overcomers (WAO) **8 goals** – Michigan Avenue Toastmasters Club **7 goals** – Broadview Toastmasters, HUD Chicago Toastmasters, MSI Chicago Toastmasters, New Faith Toastmasters and Viewmasters **6 goals** – Bold Literary Talkers (BLT) Club and BCBSIL Chicago #2. These clubs qualified for the incentive award of an HD Digital Webcam.

Rounding out the field of 1st round achievers are ten more worthy clubs: **5 goals** – DIC Toastmasters, EPA Club, Maywood Toastmasters, Pathfinders Toastmasters, Power Speakers, SaaSy Speakers, South Loop Speak Freaks, TransUnion Toastmasters, West Suburban Club.

The second leg of this Gran Prix event is now underway. Some front runners have already met the qualifying criteria, including BLT Club, HUD Chicago, Loop Trustmasters, Michigan Avenue Club, Pathfinders, Viewmasters and WAO. Other contenders can meet the challenge goal by signing up enough new members during the [Talk Up Toastmasters](#) incentive program ending March 31st. Just take a look at these amazing awards available to qualifying clubs! *Put the pedal to the medal now!!!*

- **USB Computer Digital Audio Headset!!** Clubs that make it to Distinguished Club status and meet the new members goal on April 30, 2021*
- **Webcam External Light** (for laptop)! Clubs that attain ALL 10 goals by June 1, 2021*

* Additional restrictions apply. See [District 103 website](#) for information.

Area Speech Contests Give Way to the Divisions

Hats off to D103 Area Directors for staging Speech Contests online!!! They did a marvelous job of making it possible for speech contestants to compete despite multiple challenges and horrid weather. All Area winners now advance to Division level Speech Contests during March to determine who moves on to District Finals. Division contests will also be held online. Divisions B (Mary Szabo, Chair) and F (Valerie Lyons, Chair) held entertaining, engaging contests with excellent contestants on March 5th and 6th. Dates of the remaining Division Contest are:

Division C – March 13th, 10 a.m.; Meg Kelly, DTM, Contest Chair

Division G – March 27th, 10 am; Latrina Oddo, ACS, ALB, Contest Chair

Division S – March 28th, 2 p.m.; Jay Shepherd, DTM, Contest Chair

Watch for Constant Contact email invitations or visit the [District 103 calendar](#) frequently for updates and links to join in seeing the contests.

Thrill to the Spectacle of District Speech Contest!

An exciting highlight of the Annual Conference, as always, is sure to be the District Speech Contests. The Evaluation Speech Contest on Friday April 23rd will challenge contestants to give helpful feedback to a guest Target Speaker. The Toastmasters International Speech Contest will be Saturday afternoon, April 24th, when contestants compete to be District 103's 2021 Champion of Public Speaking!! Watch live to see who wins!

Leadership Learning

Future District 103 Leaders Invited to District Executive Council Open House!

Toastmasters interested in growing as leaders within District 103 are invited to the virtual DEC Open House on Saturday, March 20th, at 10 am. **Registration is by invitation only.** Let your Area or Division Director or another District Leader know ASAP if you are ready to take your leadership skill to the next level!

Zoom Club Officer Summits

Club Presidents – **District Director Joe McCarty** plans to do another Presidents' Extravaganza to discuss club leadership topics. The March meeting date is TBA.

Vice Presidents of Education – **Program Quality Director Gregg Thompson** hosts the next monthly VPE Retreat on Friday evening, March 26th at 6 pm. The topic is "How to be a Distinguished club every year!" [Email Gregg](#) to get the meeting link.

Vice Presidents of Membership – **Club Growth Director Dionne Leggin** hosts a [VPM Retreat](#). Look for an email notice of the next one.

VPs of Public Relations – **Valerie Smith, D103 Public Relations Manager**, leads VPPR Circle Education sessions monthly on the first Wednesday each month at 6 pm. The next one will be April 7th. She is coordinating with club VPPRs on joint PR campaigns of District Events that can also draw visitors to club websites. Current focus is the Annual Conference. [Register](#) to join in on the action!!!!

Leadership Panel Discussion – Save The Date!

Toastmasters International Region 8 Director, Mohamad Qayoom, DTM, joins **District Director Joe McCarty, DTM**, on April 10th to discuss impact and opportunities for Toastmasters of District 103 to develop and exercise leadership skills at club level and beyond. They will be joined by a D103 Division Director and an Area Director. Be on the lookout for more details coming your way soon about how you can attend this virtual event. You'll be glad you did!!

TOASTMASTERS
INTERNATIONAL

District #103
Chicago, IL

D103 Senior Advisor Plans Elections Webinar



Senior Advisor Cassandra Lee will lead the latest installment in a series of free webinars covering topics designed to support D103 club members, club leaders, and district leaders in their quests to become better speakers, communicators and leaders for their clubs. This one, "An Inside Look at Club Elections," will prepare you to have all seven (7) club officers in place and submitted to Toastmasters International BEFORE the District 103 Summer Toastmasters Leadership Institute (TLI) on June 12th. That also enables a club to earn its first goal toward achieving Distinguished Club recognition for 2021-2022! In this session, attendees will explore what it takes to prepare for their club elections, and what to do month-by-month to elect new club leaders.

The webinar takes place on Sunday, March 21, 2021 from 3 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. [Register](#) in advance to receive Zoom details for joining the webinar.

District 103 Annual Conference Education Sessions

Be sure to attend the educational sessions, too! Six presenters will share their expertise with workshop topics aligned to the Conference theme, **Power of the Past, Force of the Future**.

- *Yvette Beasley, DTM*, shares how to "Influence by Example";
- *Charles Beavers* helps you bridge the generation gap with "Intergenerational Communication and Mentoring";
- *Kamaria Campbell, DTM*, shows how to leverage "Member-Centric Marketing 101: Put Members at the Center of Your Marketing Strategy";
- *Sima Dahl, DTM*, gives you guidance on "Bankability: 5 Assets Emerging Speakers Need to Go From No Check to Paycheck";
- *Dr. Janice Hooker Fortman, DTM*, explains "Overcoming Fear of Public Speaking Through Using Emotional Intelligence"; and
- *Haseena Shaheed-Jackson* enlightens you on "5 Strategies to Become a Transformational Leader".
- *Linda Patten, DTM*, teaches you "Zoom Etiquette and Beyond".

With all that newfound power at your fingertips, you'll be a force for sure!

Happy International Women's Day

