



# TOASTMASTERS INTERNATIONAL NEWSLETTER

## District News And Events

### District Number 103

November 2020

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#### Upcoming District Events

##### Train-the-Trainer Workshop

Would you like to be a certified D103 trainer? Certified trainers are qualified to give education presentations at District events. If you are ready to elevate your skill set to another level, watch for more information about how to register for this workshop to be conducted online. Save the date: Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup>.

##### Zoom Club Officer Summits

Have you heard about Zoom club officer virtual summits hosted by district leaders? They are a good way to connect with peers, learn best practices, and share ideas.

##### Program Quality Director

Gregg Thompson holds a monthly [VPE Retreat](#) usually on the third Monday every month at 6 pm. Use passcode 'pathways' to connect and gain new insights!

**Club Growth Director** Dionne Leggin will host a [VPM Retreat](#) on Tuesday, November 17<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-7:30 to share best practices on growing club membership and retaining current members. Use passcode GROW2021 to join in.

##### D103 Public Relations Manager

Valerie Smith leads [VPPR Circle](#) Education sessions monthly on the first Wednesday at 6 pm with featured guest PR presentations.

**District Director** Joe McCarty plans a Presidents' Extravaganza on December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6 pm. to discuss challenges and ideas. Look for details coming soon!

These gatherings will help you be successful in serving your club as District leaders and their guests impart experiences and wisdom!



### District 103 Announces "Toastmasters Without Borders" Incentive!

#### Virtual Environment Offers District and Clubs New Source of Members

Past District Director and Club Resource Chair Don Williams, DTM, made a strong case at the October District Executive Council Meeting for D103 Toastmasters clubs to turn the challenges of current conditions into opportunity. With clubs meeting online, many Toastmasters are visiting clubs across the country and in other countries, too. Don cited an analogy of stepping out of your front door to view the neighborhood, and the neighborhood is now the WHOLE, WIDE, WORLD!! Some D103 clubs have already recruited new members from outside the Chicago area. The real truth is that the District is not constrained by City of Chicago or Cook County boundaries. To help capitalize on this exciting growth strategy, Club Growth Director Dionne Leggin has launched a challenge to D103 Toastmasters clubs to promote their clubs globally and build their membership virtually. The top 10 clubs that attract 5 or more out of state and global members will receive a computer light!! This promotion continues until 6/30/2021. **Start inviting and signing up new online club members now!**

#### Winter Toastmasters Leadership Institute Helps Build Resilience!

The Winter TLI, held virtually on Saturday, November 7<sup>th</sup>, brought 145 D103 Toastmasters club officers, members and guests together for an engaging, informative online learning experience. Keynote speaker Pat Johnson, DTM, PIP, sounded a call to action from the start with her speech titled "*Resistance Reaps Resilience*," in which she described behavior strategies that can help us each better thrive and be able to handle the unexpected. Participants then had a chance to attend six different educational sessions including introductory or advanced Pathways; judging speech contests; using FreeToastHost; branding online club meetings; leading a club to success; and embracing resiliency and transformation. After lunch, Pat led a solution-oriented workshop on "*Building and Sustaining Vibrant Corporate and Community Clubs*," sharing her experiences and insights that drew strongly on the Toastmasters Promise to resolve challenges. Club officers later were able to complete mandatory training for their respective club officer roles with the objective to finish their tenure strong and achieve goals for club success. TLI Dean Latrina Oddo and her Zoom Co-Host Sam Sukumar did a superb job of organizing and running the program. **KUDOS** to them and to all the session trainers and presenters!!



**Latrina Oddo**  
TLI Dean



**Pat Johnson**  
Keynote Speaker



**Sam Sukumar**  
Zoom Co-Host