

# District Director's Corner

## September 2019

Members. Members. MEMBERS! September is the month to add new MEMBERS and renew existing MEMBERS.

**GREAT NEWS** from the Town Hall held by Dan Rex at the 2019 International Convention. (1) Club Central on toastmasters.org will be enhanced so that any club officer will be able to add new members. Formally only VPM and the Treasurer could add members. (2) A member self-service feature will be added in the next six months or so that members can pay dues online by credit card. Both of these enhancements are on the list of most frequently requested.

It is hard to believe that already two months of the 2019-2020 Toastmasters year are gone. Looking at District 37 performance, as a District we are doing well in some areas. One of those areas is member dues. We are 133 member payments ahead of where we were this time last year. 133 member payments is not much for a District who has a goal of 9859 member payments to be Distinguished. But consider this. District 37 missed being a distinguished district by **280 member payments**. What is a member payment? For every new or renewing member who pays dues for six months, District 37 gets credit for one member payment.  $4530 \text{ members} \times 2 \text{ dues periods} = 9,060 \text{ member payments}$ . Consider this. If District 37 continues at the current pace of adding 65 new members per month, being a Smedley Distinguished district is possible. Of course, Toastmasters is not about counting members or payments. It is about providing a unique environment for developing speaking skills, leadership skills and self-confidence. But it all starts with the member. So more members equals a richer experience for us all.

Another area where District 37 is doing well is chartering new clubs. So far for the 2019-2020 Toastmasters year, two new clubs have been chartered.

- ATD Toastmasters, Huntersville, NC – Division B
- Cummins RMEP, Whitakers, NC – Division J

These two clubs added 44 new members to the District 37 Toastmasters family.

**Where could we do better!** I took a look at the District calendar and noted that three clubs out of 233 are advertising their Open Houses in September. Congratulations to **After Five Bell Tower, Bull City and Soaring Eagles** for planning and advertising their open houses. I know there are others, so please add them to the District calendar. You may be surprised at who will show up.

During June, July and August District 37 has been training club officers at Toastmasters Leadership Institutes (TLI) held throughout the North Carolina. 141 out of 233 clubs met the Distinguished Club Goal of having four club officers trained. However **19 clubs had all seven officers trained**. Great job!

Congratulations to the following clubs for an outstanding achievement of having all seven officers trained:

| <b>Division</b> | <b>Area</b> | <b>Club Name</b>                   |
|-----------------|-------------|------------------------------------|
| A               | 3           | Advanced Toastmasters of Asheville |
| A               | 3           | McDowell NC Toastmasters           |
| B               | 11          | People Growing Together            |
| B               | 11          | Eat Your Words Toastmasters        |
| B               | 13          | Etc - Etc Club                     |
| B               | 14          | Wells Fargo CIC Toastmasters Club  |
| D               | 32          | Siemens Eloquent Energizers        |
| D               | 35          | Matthews/Mint Hill Toastmasters    |
| D               | 35          | Stagecoach Speakers Ballantyne     |
| E               | 41          | Chair City Toastmasters Club       |
| G               | 61          | Chapel Hill Toastmasters           |
| G               | 64          | Durham Club                        |
| G               | 65          | Talking Together Toastmasters Club |
| H               | 73          | Pittsboro Toastmasters             |
| I               | 84          | High Noon Toastmasters Club        |
| I               | 84          | In Good Company Toastmasters       |
| J               | 93          | Sound of Freedom Toastmasters      |
| K               | 95          | Top Triangle Toastmasters          |
| K               | 97          | Credit Suisse Speak Up Speak Out   |