

Club Growth Director



Rhonda Walthall, DTM

I am writing to you today to introduce myself as a floor candidate for the position of District 37 Club Growth Director. I am relatively new to District 37 but not to Toastmasters International. I joined my first Toastmasters club in May 2005 in San Diego, CA in District 5. I am currently a member of three clubs in two districts: AlphaBravoCollins Club (VPE) and People Growing Together Club (both in District 37) and a founding member of Toast of the Coast Club in District 5.

I have been a member in good standing continuously for 16 years. I have earned the Distinguished Toastmaster designation twice and I am 50% of the way towards completing my first DTM under Pathways. I was privileged to serve as a Learning Master when Pathways was under development.

I have enjoyed being an active member and leader at the club and district levels. I have served in every club officer role at least twice. I have sponsored four new clubs, including AlphaBravoCollins Club in District 37 in November 2020.

At the District level, I have served as the

- District 5 Governor (2011-2012) – Distinguished District, Excellence in Leadership Award from Toastmasters International
- Lt. Governor of Education & Training (2010-2011) – Excellence in Education & Training Award from Toastmasters International
- Lt. Governor of Marketing (2009-2010) – Excellence in Marketing Award from Toastmasters International
- Northern Division Governor (2009-2010) – President’s Distinguished Division, District Governor of the Year
- Area 5 Governor (2008-2009)

Even when I am not serving as a District leader, I can always be found helping with a Speech Contest, with a Conference, or with club officer training. I was fortunate to know Helen Blanchard, the first woman of Toastmasters, while living in San Diego. Helen inspired me to continue serving and mentoring new Toastmasters. On May 1, I was invited to deliver a keynote speech at the District 92 Coronation 2021 Conference in India because I had been an inspiration to the current District 92 Director when he was just starting his Toastmasters journey in 2008. It feels wonderful to be able to give back.

I am eager to serve as the District 37 Club Growth Director because I want to help District 37 to build new clubs and to support existing clubs in achieving excellence. Between the Pathways rollout, the splitting of District 37, and the pandemic, our clubs and district leaders have been challenged to retain and grow membership. I believe that the coming year will be very

different. I am excited by the ability to have virtual clubs and hybrid clubs. I am excited that the pandemic is almost behind us and we will be able to meet in person again soon.

While the title has changed from Lt. Governor of Marketing to Club Growth Director since 2010, I know what it takes to help clubs grow and to achieve the Distinguished District goals. I am excited to bring my experience to District 37 as the Club Growth Director for 2021-2022.

On a personal note, I am a Technical Fellow at Collins Aerospace in Charlotte. I am an author and an inventor. I am a member of the SAE International Board of Directors and a Fellow of the PHM Society. I have served in numerous leadership roles in SAE and in the PHM Society. I enjoy mentoring students and early career engineers through various outreach programs. I earned my Bachelor of Science degree in Aeronautical and Astronautical Engineering from Purdue University and my MBA from Pepperdine University. My husband and I moved to the Charlotte area following my work transfer in late 2016. We love the area and the friendliness of the people we meet each day.

It would be an honor for me to serve as your Club Growth Director 2021-2022. Please consider voting for me.

Rhonda Walthall, DTM