

# DISTRICT 107 NEWSLETTER

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Fellow toastmasters,

We're starting a new Toastmasters year bursting with opportunities and challenges!

This is our last newsletter for this term, and although there's sadness at this moment there is also hope and joy. After two very difficult years, we are finally coming back to in-person meetings and conferences!!

Not all is going to be as it was, and that is good, cause we learned a lot these years!

Hybrid came to stay. On-line presence is no longer an impossible or a strange request. This allows us to grow in ways we never imagined before.

So the future from here, at the end of the year, looks bright and promising!

As for our legacy, we started with clubs in Portugal, Spain and Morocco, and we ended the year with a club in Guiné Bissau and a club ready to join in Gibraltar! Five countries together united under the same District!

I am very proud of our accomplishments and a HUGE THANK YOU to the awesome District Officers who made this possible! You are amazing!

To my core team it's been an incredible ride! You rock!

To the future team, I wish for an amazing year full of opportunities to learn, to grow, to share, and have fun!

I will be there supporting you as Immediate Past District Director.

Let's work hard and play harder

See you all next year!

**Sara Magalhães, DTM**  
**District Director**

Dear friend,

This is almost the end of a chapter for me. A chapter that was opened back in 2016 when I became Area Director. Back then, little did I know the adventures that my leadership track within Toastmasters would bring me. I've grown as a leader, for sure, but also – and most importantly – as a person.

I will not say it was a path of roses all the way. Taking the lead implies making decisions, and deciding also means leaving options behind. Not always easy. Not always correct. Certainly, always thoughtful and considerate. But, as the old adagio says, "walker, there is no path, the path is made by walking", and by walking, by doing, we learn. This is the Toastmasters way.

Going all my way across the ladder from Area Director to Immediate Past District Director as I was serving in the different roles was both **a privilege and an honor**.

Last, but not least, I would like to take advantage of this tribune to encourage you to step up and join any leadership role that you can. It will give you vision, it will provide you strategic thinking and many other skills that you might not even think exist. Start now planning for your future. Ask any of us, past leaders, current leaders. We'll be more than happy to share our experiences with you, about what we learned in every position. Don't wait until the last minute. Remember that the term starts in just a few days... and when we come back from our summer breaks, you'll be asked to start thinking about the following one!

See you in the clubs, at conferences, and at contests.

**Stay well and remember... to step up!**

**Cristina Juesas, DTM**  
**Immediate Past District Director**



**DISTRICT 107**

**District 107 Performance**



Dear members of District 107

We are about to end the 2021-2022 term, which started back on 1 July 2021.

Looking back, I can see that many things happened this year. We seemed to have definitely moved towards meeting in person again, or at least in a hybrid format. As the numbers show, it's true that we are down by 7 clubs and about 150 members. However, we have also welcomed new clubs like Marrakech Orators, and have worked hard with the ones that are about to join our great family.

Before this term ends, I kindly ask you to focus your attention towards a few aspects.

- Go for the last hit, there is still a chance for you to become Distinguished by reaching 5 DCP goals and at least 20 members.
- Recognition: The Club Star Award form has been sent to your officers. One free path for your outstanding member. Make sure you complete it (1 per club) before the deadline (June 19th). The sooner the better for internal handling.
- Make sure your new officers are ready and trained - the future leaders that will drive your clubs during the next term. Transitions between current and future leaders are necessary to ensure continuity and to equip them with valuable resources

for success.

At the District Leadership Team for next term, we have already taken the first steps towards granting the best of transitions and to hit the floor running with the strategy.

- Our Area and Division Directors had their first training back on May 15th, do not hesitate to reach out to us.
- Club Officer Trainings and TLIs are being planned for your new officers.
- Area Success Plans, Division Success Plans (based on the latter) and finally, District Success Plans (based on them) are on their way towards creating the best of strategies for the new term, to support you and your members.

All the best during these last few days. Thank you, the District Officers who supported our areas and divisions. Thank you, the Club Officers who supported our clubs. Thank you, the members who made it all possible.

**Pablo Garcia, DTM**  
**Program Quality Director**



DISTRICT 107

**THANKS**

**GRACIAS**

**OBRIGADO**

**MERCI**

**شكراً**

**FOR THIS MANDATE**

Fellow toastmasters, the end of the term is near!

This year, we finally had in-person sessions, the district summit, contests and the spring conference. It was great to connect again, and to get to know members who were behind the screen!

At the beginning, we were challenged to spread the Toastmasters lifestyle, and I strongly believe we made good progress. If we continue down this path, we will also improve as toastmasters and become better communicators, leaders, and people - I believe that we can help change the world! Thanks for all of your efforts to change the worlds of each member.

Let's keep up with the good work and continue to spread toastmasters activities while having fun!

**Vanessa Baeta, DTM**  
**PR Manager**



Serving is one of the key components of Toastmasters and through the act of serving we grow. Sounds like a cliché, but it's true.

During this year, I feel that I have served as IT Support in the best way I knew how, both in group and individual projects.

It was an intense year, with unique challenges and responses adapted to these challenges. Among the most important initiatives was the support we provided for hybrid sessions on the Hybrid Corner of our website, where clubs could access information to help them adapt to this new reality.

Another challenge, where the meaning TO SERVE had its maximum exponent, was the creation of our District 107 website. In my view, the main objective was achieved: to be an information aggregator that can be consulted quickly and pleasantly.

IT Support is similar to, excuse me for the exaggerated comparison - BATMAN.

Just like Batman, I have served in the shadows this year - fine-tuning various technical and execution details and assisting Members, Clubs, Areas, Divisions, Districts and more as they arise. Yes, it has been a lot of work, but it's been an amazing year... where we were together again and the passion for toastmasters was redoubled.

In the upcoming toastmaster year, new challenges will appear, new adventures will exist, new friendships will be born... but the feeling of serving to grow will continue!

A hug and thank you for everything you give me.

**Sergio Aguia, DTM**  
**IT Support**

## To lead or not to lead-OF COURSE, HANDS UP ALL THE WAY!!

My calling was to be involved from the very beginning - being part of the club-level leadership team was exciting and, WOW, who could resist a fancy title like VP of Membership. Excuse me for saying that, but it was not about the title in the least!

It was empowering to help TM Malaga thrive - it was an honor! It was also a wonderful way to step into the Leadership path within Toastmasters - the path where I'd immerse myself deeply without even realizing it - I took all the challenges seriously and, of course, learned loads while enjoying the journey. In my case, as co-founder of Toastmasters Malaga, it was a no-brainer to take on a club leadership role - the main goal was to retain the 20 confounding members and to gain many more along the way.

Fast forward a few years later - I became VP of Education followed by President and also took on the roles of Secretary and Sergeant at arms and VPPR when needed. It was truly an honor to serve my club and still help it grow to this day.

Seven years later, I would step out of the "clubble" (club bubble) and pursue District-level roles such as Area and Division Director (both were truly challenging during the pandemic).

However, I craved more, and my wish was granted - to serve and be part of the District Core Team - a team of nine vibrant toasties from Portugal and Spain with a mission and vision to make District 107 achieve excellence.

It's been truly rewarding serving as your District 107s Administration Manager this year. Managing the district's calendar of events, writing up meeting minutes, sending call-to-action emails, meeting agendas and more was quite interesting and it served a very important purpose - to communicate and funnel information from top to bottom.

My biggest takeaway: IN TIMES OF UNCERTAINTY WE ARE BOLD AND RESILIENT. Working with a team that is supportive makes the journey FULFILLING. Although there were pains, there were also many gains (camaraderie, new members, new clubs, new challenges during the pandemic, we all struggled and overcame these matters together, making us stronger in many ways).



**"THIS YEAR, I AM THRILLED TO SERVE AS YOUR CLUB GROWTH DIRECTOR WHERE I HOPE TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE SUCCESS AND WELL-BEING OF OUR DISTRICT TOGETHER WITH YOU!"**

**Claudia Villarreal, DTM  
Administartion Manager**



**DISTRICT 107**

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# DIVE IN RISE TO THE TOP

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MANDATE 2021-2022