



# Applied Physics Lab (APL) Club

**Club 3624**  
**Area 55, Division E**  
**District 18**

## NEWSLETTER

**August 2021**

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### Club Meetings

Every 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday

**Time:** 12 - 1pm

**Location:** Zoom

<https://bit.ly/3wM96E1>

**Website:**

<https://apl.toastmastersclubs.org/>

**Facebook:**

<https://www.facebook.com/APL-Toastmasters-Club-in-Laurel-MD-645950732278949>

**LinkedIn:**

<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/8691296/>

## President's Message by Emilee Romano and Elise Roberts

### Another Great Year for Us!

Despite a challenging year, our club had several successes!

Our successes included hosting twenty-five (25) Zoom meetings, achieving five (5) distinguished goals, increasing membership size by 3 (16 to 19 members), earning three (3) educational awards, adding nine (9) new members, training four (4) club officers and initiating an inaugural mentorship program with five-pairs of mentors/mentees. Hence, we hit several milestones over the last year!

Inside this issue, first learn about your members both new and old. Several share a bit about themselves and their own aspirations or testimonials.

Second, two club activities of establishing a novel mentor program over a 90 day period and understanding our club status from last year (2020-2021) are highlighted.

Third, for the curious amongst us, a decade or more of our club history is revealed in several charts. The four focus areas include our distinguished club goals, educational achievements, leadership training and membership growth. The strength and accomplishments of our club just may amaze you!

Fourth, please congratulate our two members, Laura and Judy, for earning their educational awards. Also, cheer on and support the nine members who have already set their sights on earning their next educational award this coming year.

Fifth, review the upcoming events and meet your new club officers.

Lastly, this year (2021-2022) promises to be full of even more challenges and opportunities. Our theme is "*Shine Your Light and Lead the Way*" to ensure each member and the club grows and achieves their preferred goals.

With a return to normalcy on the horizon starting in September, we will need to learn how to navigate to APL safely, manage technical aspects of hybrid meetings, and aim for even higher aspirations such as becoming a Perfect 10 Club, Dream Team, and much more.

# Welcome to APL Toastmasters

## David Adescavage



Hello, my name is David Adescavage!

*“I joined ... to become more confident ... and gain leadership experience”.*

Professionally, I am an analyst for the Federal Government. I am motivated by the challenge of solving real-world problems where mathematics and scientific principles provide clarity and insight.

Personally, I enjoy our family activities and being involved in my son's sports. I am an avid reader and one of my favorite pastimes is board games.

I joined the APL Toastmasters club in March 2021 to improve my communication skills, become more confident with public speaking, and gain leadership experience.

## Doug Kelly, DTM

Ciao, my name is Doug Kelly.

Professionally, I have been on staff at JHU/APL in the National Security Analysis Department (NSAD) since 2015. My formal education includes a PhD in Computer Science and an MBA in Finance. Cybersecurity is my primary area of expertise. Since 2009, I have taught graduate courses at several universities. I have also been a pro-bono strategy consultant for multiple local area non-profits through [Compass](#). I highly recommend exploring this unique opportunity.

*“... after giving my 1<sup>st</sup> three speeches others immediately noticed my improvement ...”.*



Personally, I enjoy running (my last race was a 5K in July and last long race was the JFK 50-miler in 2016), rowing/biking/skiing with the Capital Rowing club (did 756 kilometers this past January), and doing martial arts (earned 2<sup>nd</sup> degree black belt in Tae Kwon Do in 2015). However, I mostly jog, do yoga, and circuit train now. I am a father to two sons, Mark (age 15) and Zachary (age 20).

In terms of Toastmasters, when I first joined, just after giving my 1<sup>st</sup> three speeches others immediately noticed my improvement before I did. So there really is something there even if you do not see it right away! Over the past decade, my leadership experience includes serving as multiple club officers, being a club coach, an Area Governor, Division Director, District Financial Auditor, and Toastmasters Learning Institute (TLI) instructor in District 36. In June 2020, I attained my Distinguished Toastmaster (DTM) award. In June 2021, I joined the APL club to continue honing my communication and leadership skills even further.

### Grace Kibue-Sharp



Hi, I am Grace Kibue-Sharp!

*“I joined ... to develop and enhance my public persona and confidence ...”*

I am a Project Management Professional with extensive experience in strategic planning, customer relationship building and contract negotiations within the construction industry. I joined JHUAPL - BCFD/FDC department in August 2015 as a senior project manager in construction. My educational background is in architectural design, a field that I earned both my bachelor's and master's degrees in. I am also, currently pursuing an MBA, with a

focus in Real Estate. I believe in continuously improving myself, in an effort to keeping, my skill sharpened and relevant.

Personally, I love traveling to gain new experiences, I also love creating things with my hands and often find myself tinkering around my old, but extremely charming stone house, working on various never ending projects.

I joined the APL Toastmasters club in September 2019 to help me with public speaking and presentations. My goal is to develop and enhance my public persona and confidence, to the point where by, I can speak on a TED stage and tell compelling life stories and adventures.

Hi, I am Latonya Robinson.

Professionally, I am a college recruiter at Johns Hopkins University APL with 15+ years of experience with Agency, Government, & Corporate Recruiting. Recruiting is like solving a puzzle. You know what's needed to obtain the end result. You go through several different pieces (resumes) and study (interview) those pieces until you find the perfect match and put the puzzle together. It is my mission to complete the puzzle every time an opportunity presents itself.

*“I ... desire to motivate others and to help college students ... excel in life ...”*

### Latonya Robinson



Personally, I love to spend time with my two daughters. One is now a college graduate, working, and living on her own, and the other is entering into high school. We enjoy shopping, hanging out in and exploring the DMV, and traveling.

I joined the APL Toastmasters club in the summer of 2020, during the pandemic, to increase my public speaking skills. I have a desire to motivate others and to help college students, especially those of underrepresented communities, excel in life, starting with interviewing and resume writing skills.

### Lorna Alvarez



Hello, my name is Lorna Alvarez.

*“I gave my Ice Breaker in 2014 ... and ... look forward to progressing (this) year.”*

Professionally, I work as an electrical engineer at JHU/APL for Air and the Missile Defense Sector (AMDS/A3D). I have 14 years of experience and extensive background in systems engineering, concept development, analysis of complex systems, and systems of systems. Her expertise includes algorithm development for data fusion, target tracking, radar signal processing applications, electromagnetic propagation, and optics. Her personal portfolio of achievements include significant operational performance impacts spans across radar, electronic warfare, autonomous-flight systems and combat systems.

Personally, I am a black belt in Tae kwon Do, I enjoy running 400 to 500 miles a year. I am a Star Trek fan and am in a journey for technical growth which includes pursuing my Doctorate of Engineering while finding my connection to the workplace on new exciting and challenging areas.

I joined the APL Toastmasters club in April 2021 and have already given my Ice Breaker back in 2014 but have not been active in the club. I recently re-joined the club and I look forward to progressing over the next year.

### Patrick McElvaney

Hello, my name is Patrick McElvaney.

*“I joined ... in 2021 ... to improve my leadership and communication skills.”*

Professionally, I work as a software engineer at JHU/APL for the Air and Missile Defense Sector (AMDS/A4C). I have a background in computer science and biology. For computer science degrees, I have a Masters from Johns Hopkins University and Bachelors from University of Maryland Baltimore College. I am currently developing the Minotaur Mission Processor system for the Ocean Surveillance Initiative. My programming skills include C++, C, Java, and Javascript.



I joined the APL Toastmasters club in February 2021 to improve my leadership and communication skills.

Ryan Carter



Hello, my name is Ryan Carter.

*"I joined ... in 2021 ... am eager to give my Ice Breaker ..."*

Professionally, I work as an additive manufacturing (AM) engineer at JHU/APL for the Research and Exploratory Development Department (REDD/R1K). I specialize in the design of hierarchical structures. I have experience in multiple design and analysis software packages for fabrication including SolidWorks, Creo, Ansys, and Ntopology. I have a Master and Bachelor degrees in Mechanical Engineering.

I joined the APL club in December 2020 to improve my communications and leadership skills. I am eager to give my Ice Breaker speech.

# Testimonials of Veteran APL Toastmasters

## Laura Dougan, IP2



Hello! My name is Laura Dougan.

I first joined Toastmasters in March 2018 to overcome my fear of public speaking and improve my speaking skills professionally.

Professionally, I am a Quality Assurance (QA) Manager for a Columbia, MD based software company, Protech Associates. While I'm still looking to improve my speaking and presentation skills, my goals have shifted to growing my leadership skills, communication, and managerial style.

*"... my goals have shifted to growing my leadership skills ... and managerial style."*

I live in Woodbine, MD with my husband, our golden retriever, Carly, and our new flock of chickens. In my free time, I enjoy reading, riding my Peloton (yes, I joined the bandwagon...), and anything outdoors.

Greetings, my name is Emilee!

I first joined APL Toastmasters in 2014 to improve my communication and leadership skills. Since that time, I've been a Toastmaster in five different clubs in 4 states serving as webmaster, VPE, VPPR, and now as this APL's president. I love meeting members, hearing their stories, and seeing their progress.

*"I've been ... in five different clubs in 4 states ... love meeting members, hearing their stories, seeing their progress ..."*

## Emilee Romano, CC, MS5



Professionally, I work as the Senior Digital Transformation Specialist at Vectorworks, Inc. I hold a master's degree in Business and Technology Management from Stevenson University and a master's degree in Liberal Arts and Sciences from Johns Hopkins University and I'm an aspiring amateur landscape photographer.

I live in Baltimore City with my husband and young son where we enjoy urban hiking, biking, and farming.



## Christine Larsen



Hi, my name is Christine Larsen!

*“I joined in 2019 ... my goal is to ... develop into a competent speaker ...”*

I joined Toastmasters in 2019 to confront my fear of public speaking. I am sorry I waited so long to join! Toastmasters has been welcoming, positive, and supportive in my journey. My goal is to not only conquer my fear, but develop into a competent speaker.

Professionally, I work as a lead business/systems analyst for JHU/APL in the Information Technology Services Department (ITSD/IAS). I have a Bachelor's degree in Accounting from Mount St. Mary's College where I competed in Track and Field as an All American Heptathlete.

I live in Carroll County Maryland with my husband. I enjoy hiking, running, biking, swimming, gardening, photography and woodworking.

## Grace McGonnigal, ACS, ALB

Greetings, my name is Grace!

Professionally, I work for JHU Applied Physics Lab as a software developer for data analysis.

*“I joined in 2006 ... a great experience socially ...”*

Personally, I am married with two grown sons, like to work on home repair projects, take fitness classes, and keep pets.



I joined Toastmasters in 2006, to show progress in a mentoring program. The benefits I've reaped (and/or leadership roles I've held) since joining include learning a lot about meeting skills, extemporaneous speaking, and structuring good talks. It has also been a great experience socially, meeting people at APL and from other career fields.

## Doug Mayton, DTM



Hello, my name is Doug Mayton.

I joined toastmasters in 2004. I was working for a company that allowed a ½-hour lunch. The Human Resources (HR) department wanted to start a toastmasters club and once a week the members would have an hour lunch. I joined.

*“(after) I retired ... become a Distinguished Toastmaster ... want to help other(s) ... achieve their goals”*

When I found how much I enjoyed it and what I could learn I stayed with toastmasters even after I left that company.

It wasn't until I retired that I made a concerted effort to become a Distinguished Toastmaster.

Now I want to help other toastmasters achieve their goals.

My name is Elise Roberts and I work as a statistician at JHU/APL. I heard about Toastmasters from a college friend who is a member with a club in California. As someone who had dreaded giving speeches, I decided to give Toastmasters a shot!

*“... a way to build confidence with speaking ... work on listening skills ...”*

S. Elise Roberts



I have been a member with the APL Toastmasters Club for three years now and I enjoy coming to meetings as a way to build confidence with speaking in front of a group who share some of the same challenges with public speaking as I do. I like having a support network to keep me motivated to improving myself. Additionally, Toastmasters has given me the opportunity to work on my listening skills through giving speech evaluations and to develop my leadership skills with the responsibilities of being a club officer.

For fun, I enjoy going on bike rides around Silver Spring, hanging out on the water (whether that's in a kayak or on the beach!), and learning how to speak French.

Judith Krauthamer, MS5



Greetings  
Toastmasters,

Fellow

*“Toastmasters holds a special place in my heart ... connects everyone ... to become a better communicator ...”*

My name is Judy Krauthamer, and I am a past president of the APL club. I joined TM five years ago to develop the skills that enable active, focused listening. Toastmasters holds a special place in my heart because the one thing that connects everyone in TM is the core desire to become a better communicator. I find it rewarding to be in a group that fosters support and encourages the opportunity to cheer the success of other people.

In my former career I was the director of ocean technology and marine engineering groups. Presently I am an artist ([www.jk-dk.art](http://www.jk-dk.art)) and writer.



Hello!

I joined APL Toastmasters somewhere in 2014 after joining JHU/APL as an electrical engineer. I was seeking to overcome lifelong shyness and to become less fearful (more confident) with public speaking. Toastmasters has helped me tremendously on both fronts, and it has additionally given me a useful 'super-power': the ability to (largely) speak without any "umm's" or "uhh's" (excessive "so's" are another story, ☺).

*"I joined ... to overcome ... shyness ... has helped me tremendously ..."*



I've enjoyed the diversity of personalities, talents, and skillsets of the club members, and I grow just as much second-hand from others as I do when engaging first-hand in meetings. I have never attended a meeting (time can be scarce and it must be prioritized) and regretted it!

When I'm not at work developing algorithms or managing projects, I can usually be seen somewhere in Baltimore city, spending time with my wife and / or puppy, running, lifting weights, or doing DIY house improvement projects.

Mary Soules, ACS, ALS



Hi fellow toastmasters and guests!

I joined APL Toastmasters over 10+ years ago to improve my 'elevator pitch' and to give concise feedback with limited preparation time. The benefits I've reaped since joining include gaining confidence in speaking in impromptu situations such as literally updating a government sponsor on an elevator ride, mentoring, leadership skills, and in providing specific feedback to people to help them improve.

*"Because of my experiences ... in Toastmasters ... I'm now a Section Supervisor ..."*

Because of the experiences and confidence I gained in Toastmasters, I am now Assistant Group Supervisor of the Acoustic Systems Group in the Force Projection Sector at JHU/APL. Prior to this, I was Section Supervisor and managed various sized projects, assisted in new business development, and supported a section of diverse staff with varied technical interests.

During my free time I love to read, travel, and scuba dive. Several years ago I became a volunteer diver at the National Aquarium and, thanks to Toastmasters, I enjoyed giving talks to the guests about my love of diving almost as much as getting to feed the fish!

**Sister Mary Raymond**

Hello, my name is Sister Mary Raymond!

Professionally, I am the principal at Mount de Sales Academy, an all-girls high school in Catonsville, Maryland, helping young women to thrive with an excellent education and become confident, compassionate, and faith-filled in today's world.

*"I joined this fantastic ... club ... to model life-long learning ..."*



Personally, I am a Dominican Sister of the Congregation of St. Cecilia, which is based in Nashville, TN.

I joined this fantastic APL Toastmasters Club in the fall of 2019 to model life-long learning and become a more effective speaker in any circumstance.

## Club Event Highlights

### Mentor-Mentee Assignments by Laura Dougan

For the 1<sup>st</sup> time in a while, our club launched a mentor-mentee program this year. This is an advanced project which Laura Dougan initiated.

The purpose is to assign pairs to introduce members to the Pathways program and our APL club. Educationally, these assignments help ensure new members achieve their educational goals and earn awards.

This also helps strengthen club networking relationships and positively impacts overall club success. The pairs have already begun interacting. The assignments and typical oaths are shown next.

#### MENTOR

Grace McGonnigal  
Judy Krauthamer  
Ty Rydl  
Douglas Mayton  
Doug Kelly

#### MENTEE

Sr. Mary Raymond Thye  
Laytona Robinson  
Patrick McElvaney  
David Adescavage  
Ryan Carter

**Figure 1:** Mentor-Mentee Assignments (as of 6/15/2021)

These assignments will be assessed after 90-days. Special thanks to Laura's drive and enthusiasm and members support!

#### The Mentor's Oath

I swear to fulfill, to the best of my ability and judgment, this covenant:

##### **I will ...**

- ... gladly share my Toastmaster's knowledge & experience & be open & honest with my mentee(s) for at least 90-days.
- ... mentor with warmth, sympathy, and understanding and respect the privacy of my mentee(s).
- ... remember that a mentee is a human being who seeks enhanced knowledge and skill in communications and leadership.
- ... not be ashamed to say "I know not," nor will I fail to call on my fellow Toastmasters when needed.
- ... remember that trust is the cornerstone of the successful mentor-mentee relationship.

#### The Mentee's Oath

I swear to fulfill, to the best of my ability and judgment, this covenant:

##### **I will ...**

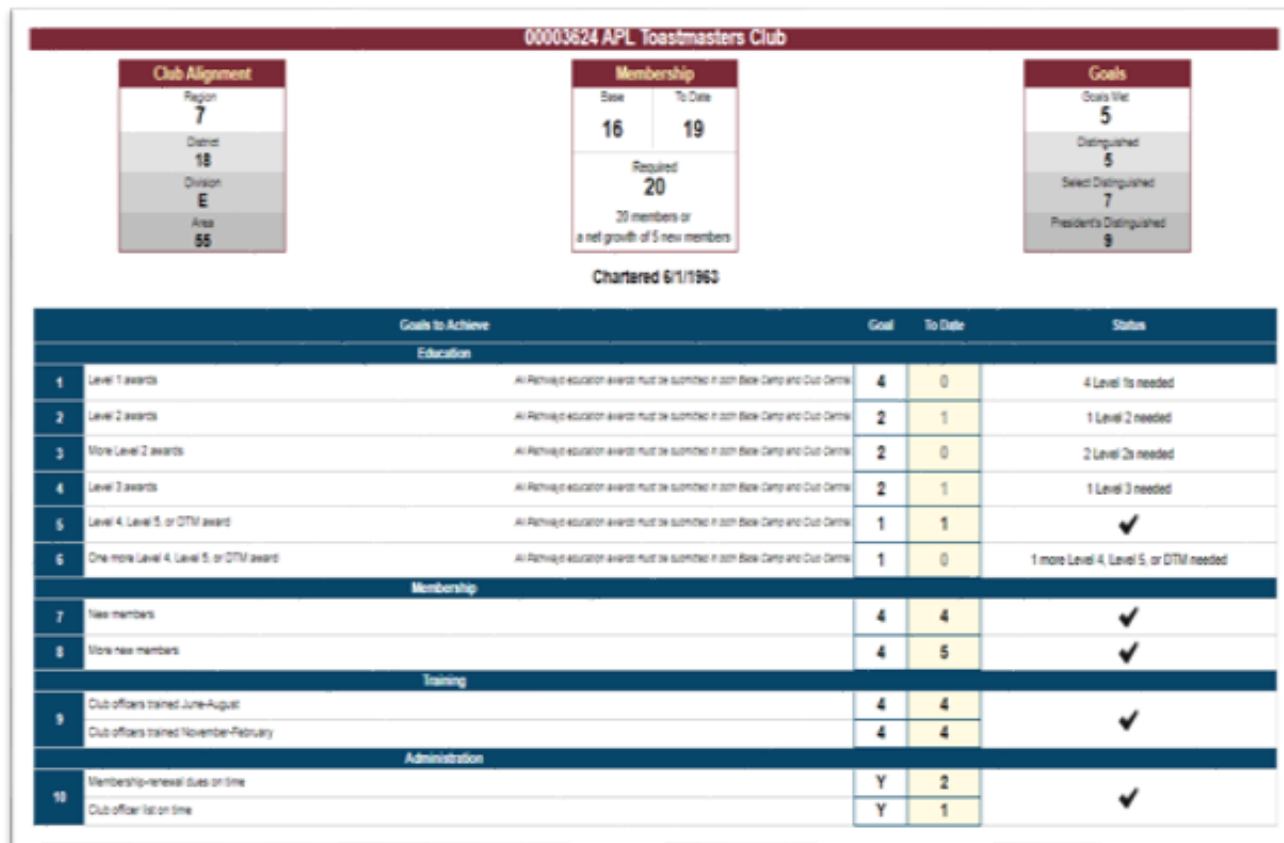
- ... gladly seek answers to my communications & leadership questions from my mentor (& others as needed) for at least 90-days.
- ... make an earnest effort to complete one level (3 projects); however, realizing that it is the journey & mentor-mentee relationship that matters most, not just the goal/award.
- ... remember that trust is the cornerstone of the successful mentor-mentee relationship.

## Distinguished Club Status Update by Laura Dougan and Doug Kelly

Toastmasters International (TI) rates its clubs on how well we encourage members to pursue their personal public speaking and leadership goals.

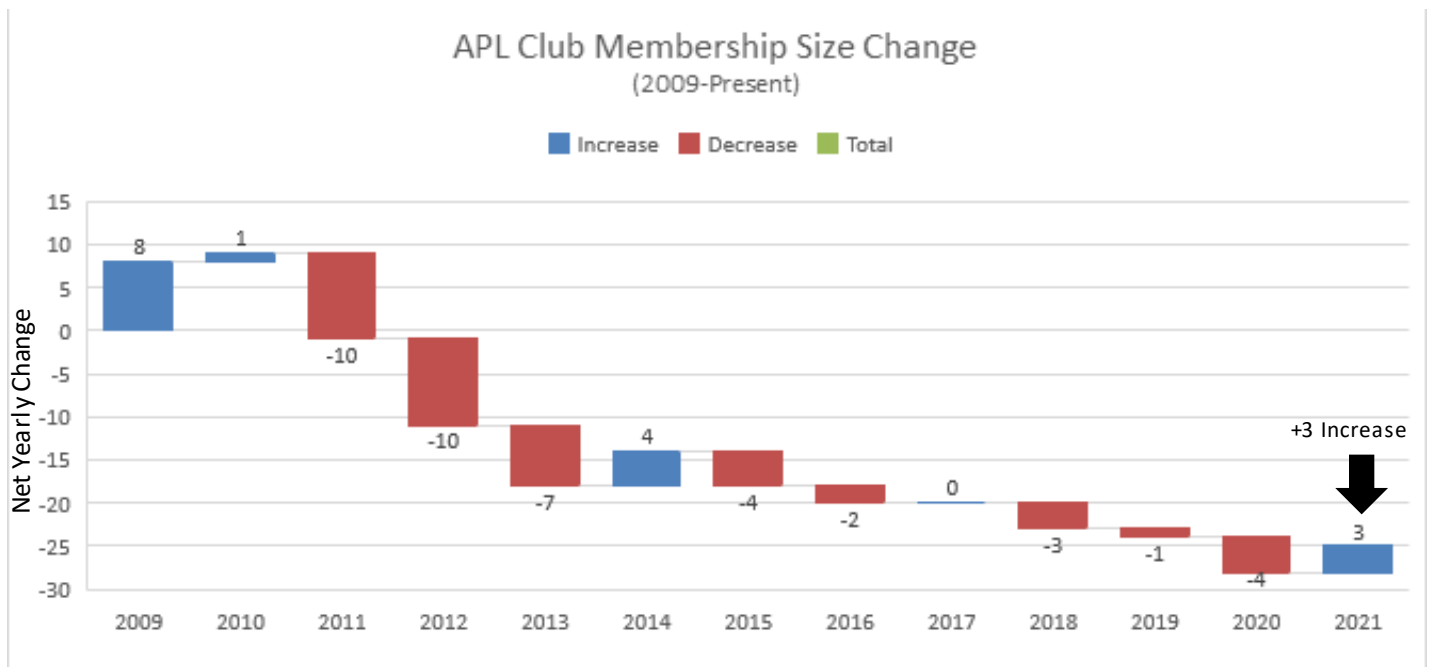
A President's Distinguished Club is the highest rating given to a club. A Distinguished Club is the lowest. In addition, it is critically important that membership increases by 5 members or is at least 20 members to earn any rating.

Achieving a distinguished status rating is a goal our club sets each year. Due to difficulties surrounding the pandemic as many of our members' attendance waned, we fell short of achieving this goal for the 2020-2021 Toastmaster year. Our club achieved 5 out of 10 goals and had 19 total members shown in Figure 3.



**Figure 3:** Our club achieved 5 goals (#5, #7, #8, #9, and #10). Also, our membership increased by 3 (16 to 19)!

Overall, we achieved 5 goals by earning 3 educational awards, adding 9 new members, increasing membership size by 3, training 4 club officers, and renewing dues on-time. Over the past decade, our club has achieved an average of 7 goals per year by earning 5 educational awards, adding 12 new members, decreasing membership size by 2, training 4 club officers, and only missing dues renewal in 2009. Hence, our best feat this year was increasing our membership size in 2021 (+3) which was only bested in 2014 (+4) and 2009 (+8) as illustrated in Figure 4.

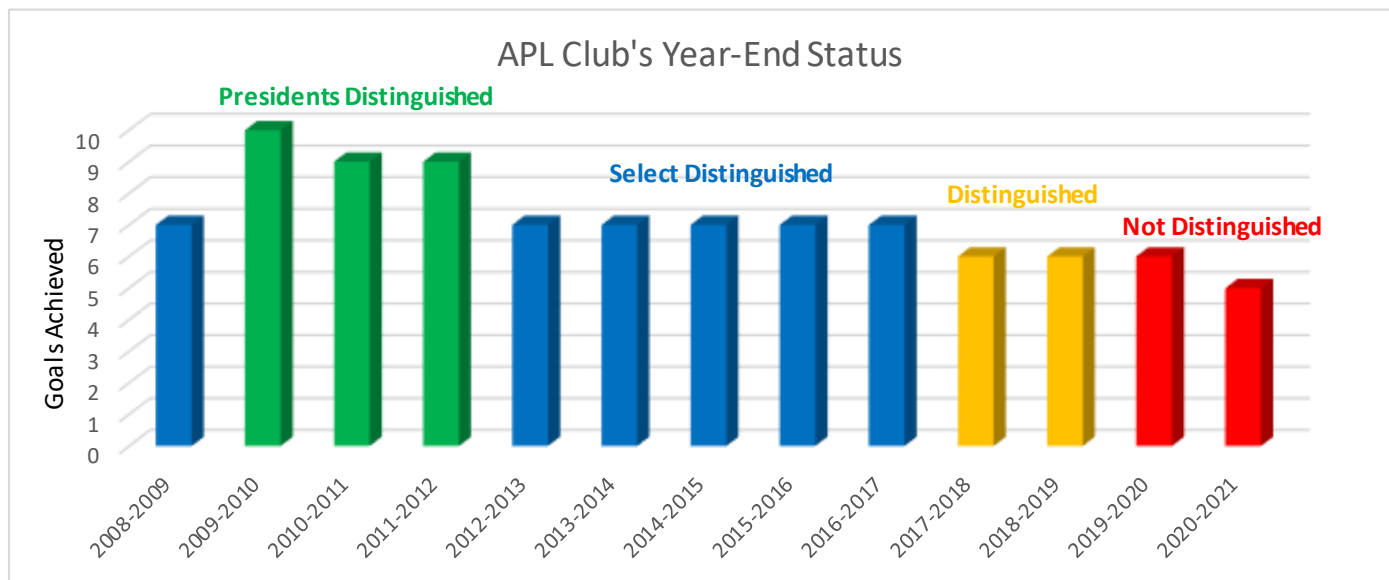


**Figure 4:** The change in membership size did not increase in 9 of 13 years but 2021 saw the largest increase in 7 years!

Clearly, the trend has been fewer and fewer club members over time but this year membership size actually increased by 3! Next, let's examine APL's club history.

## Our Distinguished Club History by Doug Kelly

Over the last 13 years, our club has been a Distinguished Club for 11 years as revealed in Figure 5.



**Figure 5:** APL Club Year-End Status over 13-years (2009-Present).

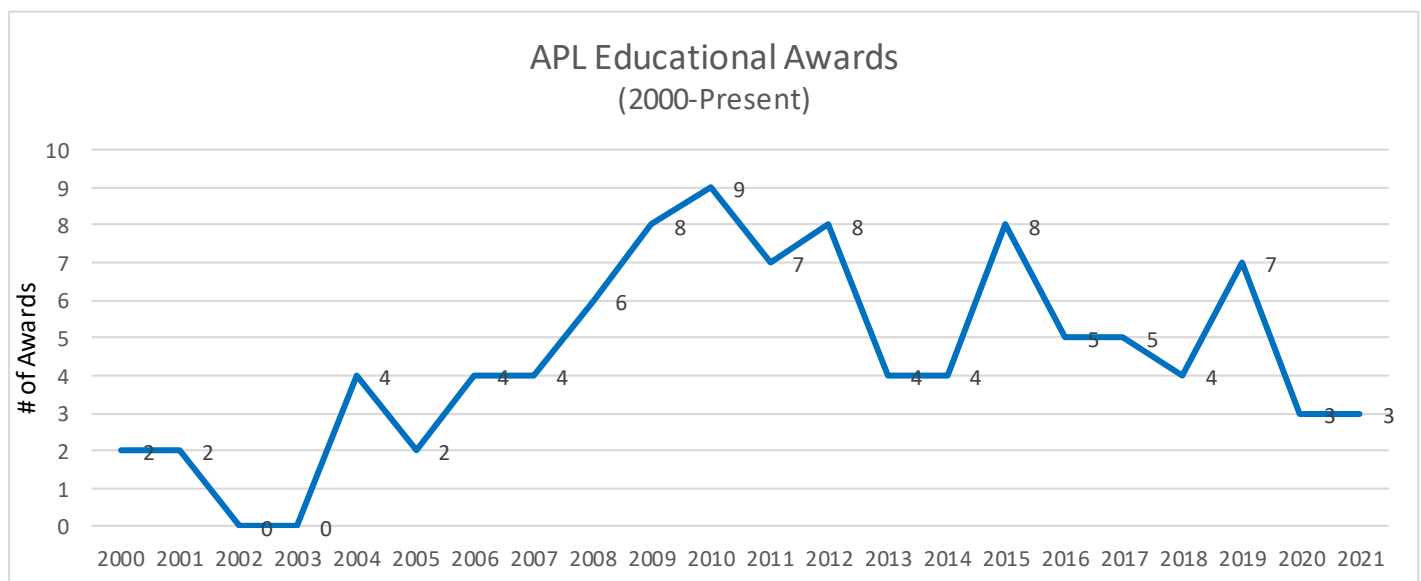
Our club was **Select Distinguished** in 2008-2009. Since 2010, we were **President's Distinguished** 3 years in a row followed by 5 consecutive years of **Select Distinguished**. From 2017-2019, we were **Distinguished**. Recently, despite achieving 5-6 goals, we were **Not Distinguished**. However, if one of our new members had joined our club one day earlier, we would have been **Distinguished** again this year, too. Hence, you belong to a rather high-performing club! This year, if we pull together, we can restore our **Perfect 10** status from over a decade ago in 2010. But it will take a focused, team effort to do so.



## Our Educational Achievement History by Doug Kelly

Education is an important part of every Toastmaster's journey and is a critical aspect of all club meetings. Actively participating in educational programs allows members to gain the valuable practice needed to develop their public speaking, communication, and leadership skills. Since the founding of Toastmasters in 1924, programs have been driven by the experiential learning, peer feedback, mentoring, and self-paced principles.

Today, in the Pathways educational program, members are recognized for every achievement and milestone. One way to measure how well a club develops their members is by counting the number of educational awards issued each year. For the past decade, our club has ensured that, on average, 4 members earned 5 educational awards each and every year. This and the prior decade of educational achievement are depicted in Figure 6.



**Figure 6:** Over 2 decades, as low as 0 and as high as 9 awards were earned by club members. Hence, 4-5 awards per year.

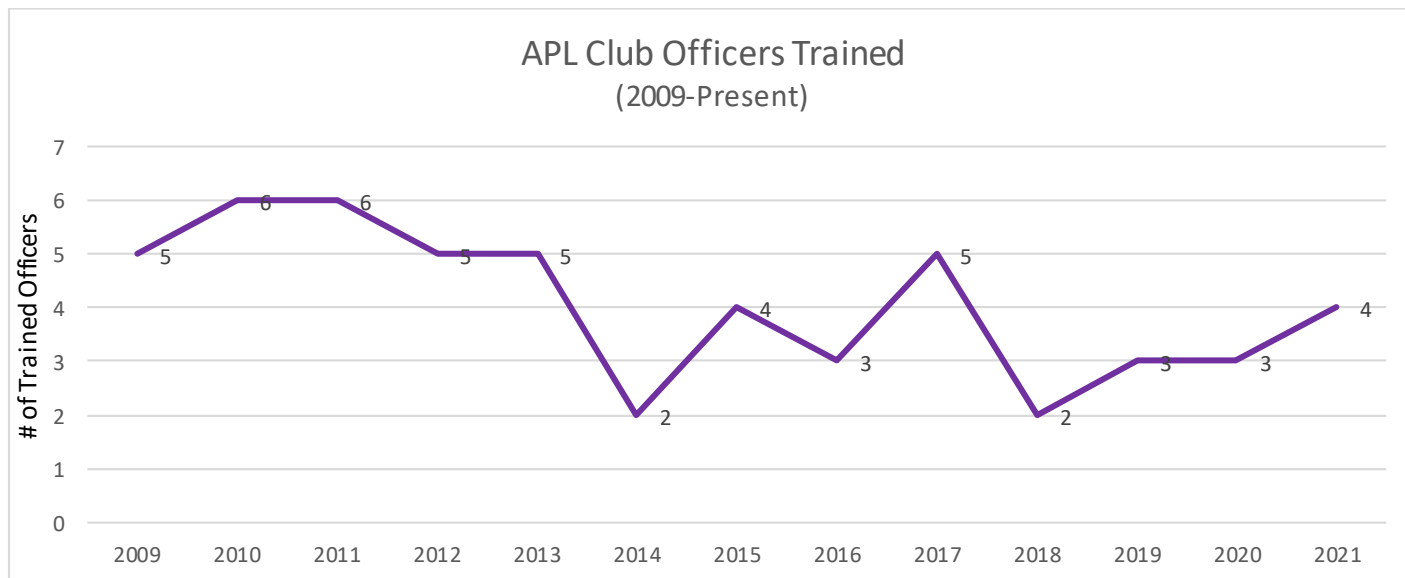
For the first decade (2000-2010), the number of awards mostly increased from a low of 0 to a high of 9. Overall, about 4 awards per year. For the second decade (2011-2021), the number of awards gradually decreased from a high of 8 to a low of 3. Overall, about 5 awards per year.

After analyzing our member's educational goals in July 2021, the VPE and rest of the Executive Committee feel that 10 or more awards this year is achievable!

## Our Leadership Training History by Doug Kelly

Another key aspect of being a successful club is ensuring elected club officers understand their duties and have the right skills. Each district in Toastmasters, therefore, hosts summer and winter sessions through Training Leadership Institute (TLI) events to develop leadership and networking skills.

Toastmasters International (TI) encourages at least 4 officers attend 2 TLI's each year. So how have we done historically? Figure 7 reveals this.



**Figure 7:** Over the past decade, the number of trained club officers has been declining with 5 recent years of fewer than 4.

Clearly, the past decade shows a decreasing trend of officers attending TLI events. In fact, for five years, fewer than 4 officers were trained. This can adversely impact member experience inside and outside of club meetings.

This year, APL club officers are striving to become a Dream Team where all 7 club offices attend TLI twice. Essentially, the more trained officers translates into a more seamless, higher quality and consistent club meeting experience for all guests and members.

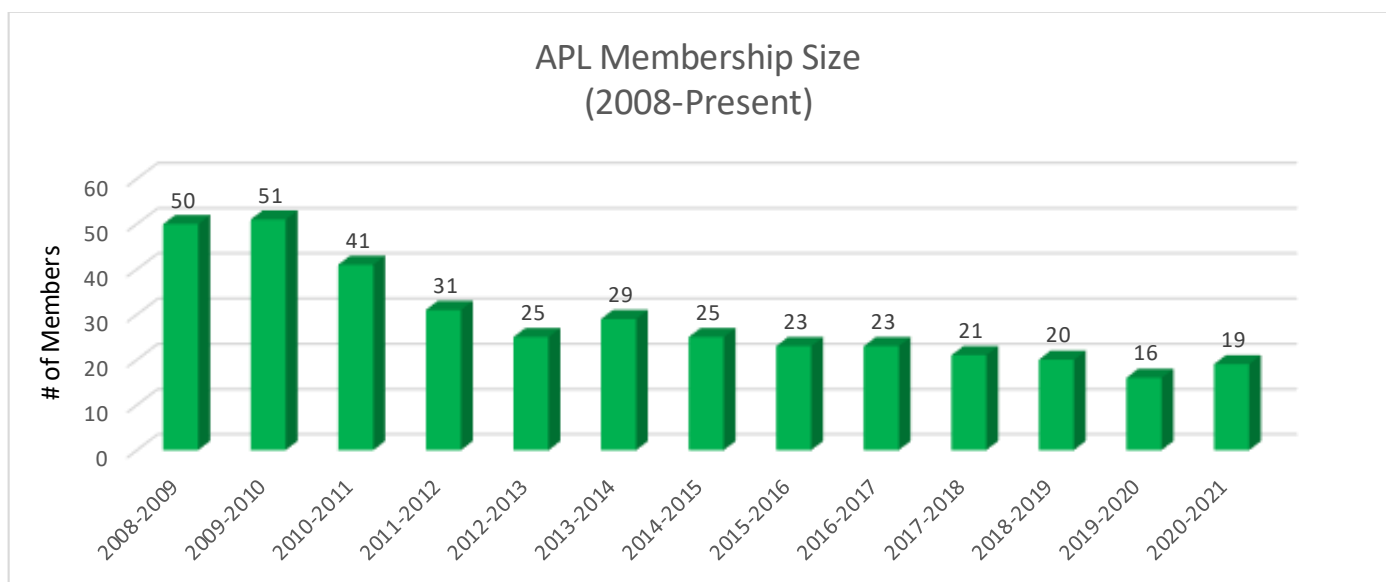
## Our Membership Growth History by Elise Roberts, Doug Kelly and Latonya Robinson

In order to most effectively conduct the educational program, a club should have at least 20 members.

Some membership turnover is healthy and unavoidable as members relocate, change jobs or encounter other situations that take them away. Our club continually strives to bring in new members to combat this natural turnover, to provide a stronger leadership base and to bring a flow of fresh, new ideas and personalities.

Vital aspects of a distinguished club are to grow membership (+5 members) or stay at charter strength (20+ members) each year by achieving goals #7 and #8 (adding +4 members each).

This is a key task of the Vice President of Membership (VPM). Even without a dedicated VPM club officer in 2020-2021, we still achieved these goals! So a big kudos to our club officers for taking charge. Our membership size history is in Figure 8.

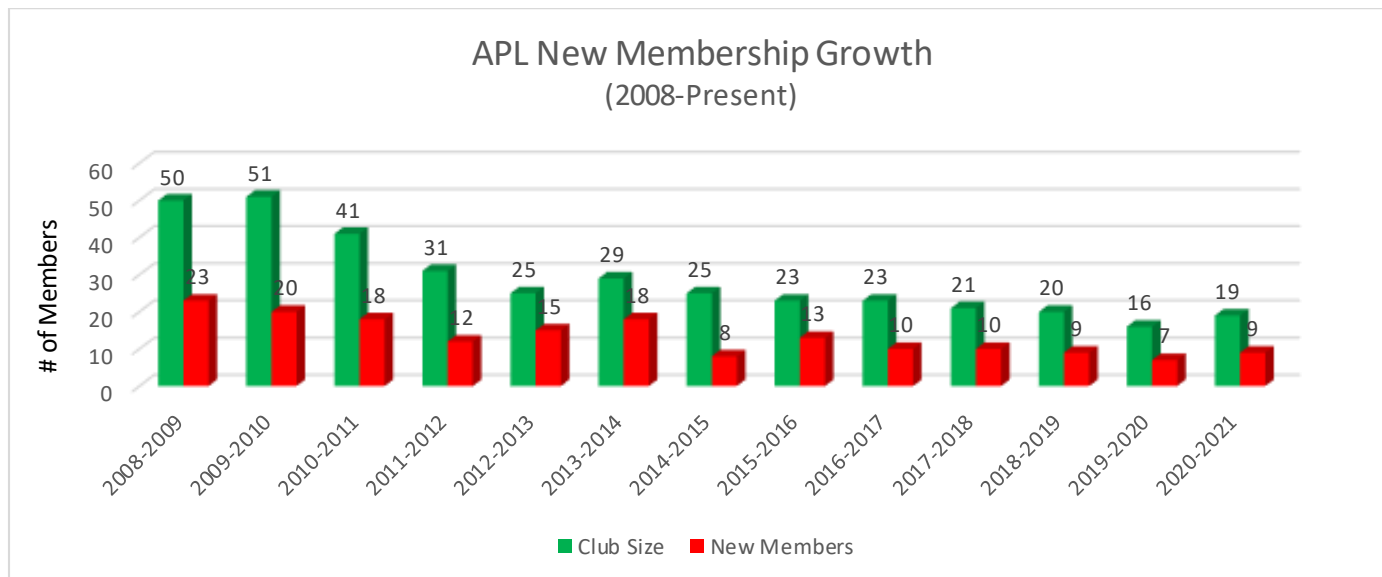


**Figure 8:** APL membership size at charter strength ( $\geq 20$ ) every year except 2020 with a high of 51 and low of 16.

The large membership size in 2008-2010 was when APL's training department paid the Toastmasters International fee, excluding the club fee, for all APL members. The size of club has decreased over time but has remained at charter strength for all but the last two years. In 2020-2021, we were only one member shy of being at charter strength again which is necessary to be a Distinguished Club.

This underscores the continuing need for members to invite guests to meetings, for public relations and other officers to communicate on-going club activities to APL and the larger community, and for all members to play active roles during events such as open houses, speech contests, regular meetings, workshops, and APL club special events.

The benefit in attracting new members is to keep the club vibrant and strong for YOU! Membership growth depends on new members, of course, as shown in Figure 9.



**Figure 8:** APL Club Membership Growth depends on recruiting new members each and every year. A club “refresh”.

As our own history shows, attracting at least nine (9) new members per year while maintaining 20+ membership size is a strong indicator of club success as far as maintaining or becoming a Distinguished Club.

As seen in Figure 8, our best streak of club success began when 23 new members in 2008-2009 and 20 new members in 2009-2010 joined our club. However, this was back when the APL mentoring program and quite a number of APL managers “strongly advised” people to join and paid their fees. Today, even though APL managers might still recommend people join, members pay their own way in terms of Toastmaster International and club fees.

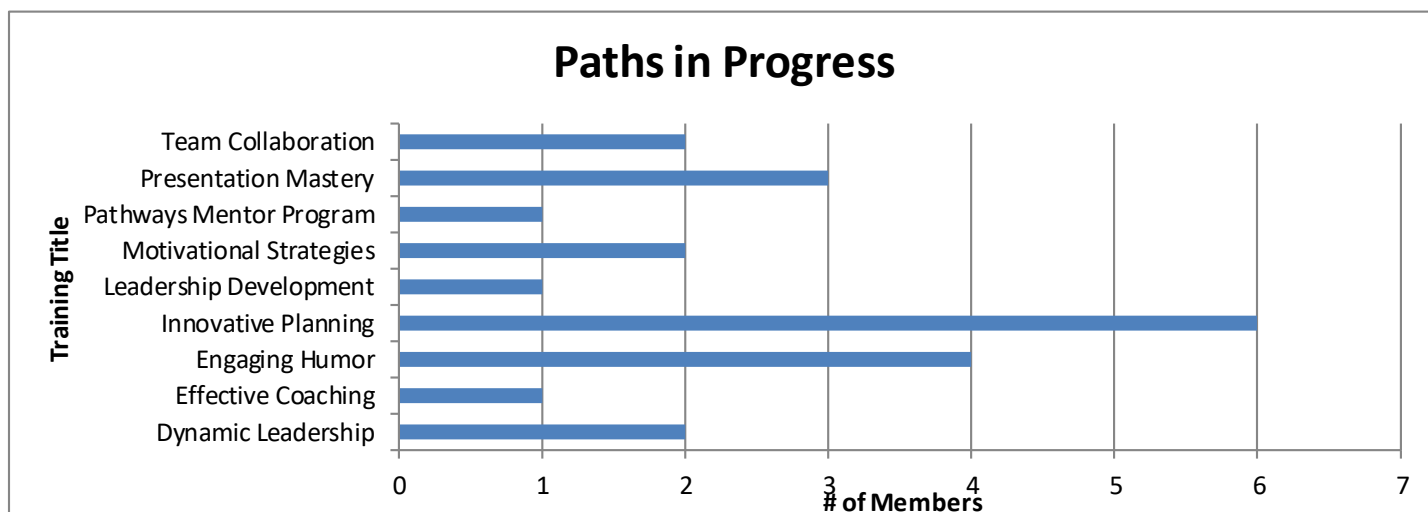
Over the last two years, even though new members were joining, membership size dipped below 20. Hence, this is in part why it was more difficult to earn the Distinguished status. This underscores the need for membership drives, open houses, external communication on club activities, and membership retention efforts.

## Congratulations! by Laura Dougan and Doug Kelly

Please say congrats to our two members who achieved three educational awards (IP2, MS3, & MS4) last year. Both also finished all projects for three other level awards (IP3, IP4, & MS5) to be earned this year.

- Laura Dougan – IP2, IP3, IP4
- Judith Krauthamer – MS3, MS4, MS5

Also, let's encourage each member to strive for their next educational award(s) this year, too. The number of members currently making progress along their chosen path is shown in Figure 9.



**Figure 9:** Number of members making progress along their path as of 30 July 2021. Innovative Planning is the most popular.

The three most popular paths are Innovative Planning (IP) with 6 members, Engaging Humor (EH) with 4 members and Presentation Mastery (PM) with 3 members. The middle packers are Team Collaboration (TC), Motivational Strategies (MS), and Dynamic Leadership (DL) each with 2 members. Lastly, we have one member pursuing Effective Coaching, Leadership Development, Visionary Communication or Pathways Mentor Program. Figure 10 reveals the path(s) each member has already picked.



**Figure 10:** Members making progress in a path.

Hence, we have 14 active members currently making progression on 9 out of 11 paths!

However, every member can make progress on a path. Each member should know their path and next award. Indeed, each member along with their number of projects left to their next award on a path is listed in Table 2.

**Table 2:** Member's projects left to earn their next award. An asterisk "\*" means any path may yet be picked.

Name	Projects Left	Next Award
Christine Larsen	2	PM1*
David Andescavage	2	DL1
Doug Kelly	3	TC1
Douglas Mayton	1	EC2
Emilee Romano	2	EH1
Grace McGonnigal	3	TC1
Grace Kibue-Sharp	3	PM1*
Judith Krauthamer	0, 2	MS5, EH1
Latonya Robinson	2	PM1*
Laura Dougan	0, 0, 1	IP3, IP4, IP5
Laurie Abrams	3	PM1*
Lorna Alvarez	3	PM1*
Patrick McElvaney	3	PM1*
Ryan Scheidt	3	PM1*
Ryan Carter	3	PM1*
S. Elise Roberts	3	IP2
Shirley Lenus	3	DL2
Sr. Mary Raymond	2	PM1*
Thomas Drake	3	PM1*
Tyson Rydl	3	IP1*

Members highlighted in **BLUE** are committed to earning their next award before 31 December 2021. For example, Laura has 1 project to go to earn her Innovative Planning Level 5 (IP5) award in November and has already completed her Level 3 (IP3) & Level 4 (IP4) projects. Members highlighted in **GREEN** are committed to earning their next award before 30 June 2022. For instance, Emilee is 2 projects away from her Engaging Humor Level 1 (EH1) award in February.

For members who have yet to decide on a path, working toward their Presentation Mastery Level 1 (PM1) is a respectable default path to pursue. However, all Level 1 (L1) projects are identical for all paths; hence, any other path may be picked instead.

Hypothetically, this year, 16 members could earn a Level 1 (L1) award, 3 members earn a Level 2 (L2), 1 member earn a Level 4 (L3) award, and 2 members earn 3 higher level awards (L4 & L5). This would mean the club earns 4 out of 6 distinguished points. Hence, we would only need 2 members to earn 2 more awards (1 L2 award and 1 L3 award) to earn the remaining 2 distinguished points.

Of course, Toastmasters is a self-paced educational program and each member decides what awards to achieve; however, each award typically requires completing 3 projects which takes between 3 to 5 club meetings. Since we have 10 meetings from August to December, this means at least 20 speaking and evaluator slots. Assuming it takes 5 club meetings for a level 1 award, then, practically, at most 9 members could finish their award before 31 December 2021. However, the club could easily accommodate more speeches based upon the member's interests.

Anyway, your mentors, club officers, and especially the VPE are here to help you achieve your educational goals.



## Upcoming Events/Opportunities:

- 1) Toastmaster Leadership Institute (TLI), August 2021
  - District 18 will be offering officer training opportunities on 29 August. Register today - [toastmasters-d18.org/tli/](http://toastmasters-d18.org/tli/)
- 2) Toastmasters International Convention, 23-28 August. FREE Limited Access Pass. Register today – [Click Here](#), View [Agenda Here](#)
  - Monday, 24 August, 2-6 PM, International President (IP) Deepak Menon, Keynote Speaker
  - Tuesday, 25 August, 2-3:30 PM, International Speech Contest Semifinals – Round 2
  - Wednesday, 26 August, Candidate Showcase, Rounds 3&4 Semifinals
  - Thursday, 27 August, Speaker Showcase, Golden Gavel, Hall of Fame
  - Friday, 28 August, Annual Business Meeting, President's Inauguration

APL Toastmasters held club elections during our June 17 meeting. The new board is comprised of a few seasoned Toastmasters as well as several Toastmasters taking on Toastmaster leadership roles for the first time. The new officers are excited to help grow the club and help members achieve their goals.

### Outgoing Club Officers:

**President:** Elise Roberts

**VP Education:** Laura Dougan, IP2

**VP Membership:** Elise Roberts

**VP Public Relations:** Emilee Romano, MS5

**Secretary:** Douglas Mayton, DTM

**Treasurer:** Tyson Rydl

**Sergeant at Arms:** Grace McGonnigal, ACS, ALB

### Incoming Club Officers:

**President:** Emilee Romano, MS5

**VP Education:** Doug Kelly, DTM

**VP Membership:** Latonya Robinson

**VP Public Relations:** Thomas Drake

**Secretary:** David Andescavage

**Treasurer:** Grace McGonnigal, ACS, ALB

**Sergeant at Arms:** Christine Larsen

**TOASTMASTERS**  
INTERNATIONAL

**Club 3624**  
**Area 55, Division E**  
**District 18**