



Candidate's Name: Shirley Kyles, DTM

Candidate's Office: District Director and Program Quality Director District Number: 43

Toastmaster's member since October 1, 1986

Education: Bachelor of Science Nursing; Master of Public Administration;/Health Services Administration, Master of Business Administration; Graduate of Command and General Staff College; Graduate of Leadership Memphis

Toastmasters' offices held and term of services:

Currently serving as Club Growth Director and Club Secretary Memphis Advance Toastmasters' Club, Area D3 Director, E1 D43 Governor; Area D3 Director; Served in all club level leadership roles. In addition, during my tenure as Club Growth Director, I served in a supplemental leadership role for seven months (August-March) as Division C Director while current Director was on leave.

Toastmasters' Honors and Recognition:

DTM Designation; Division Director of the Year, Select Distinguished Division Director; Distinguished Service Pin awarded from Toastmasters International 30 years of Toastmasters' service; Club President of the Year; Accredo Power Communicators, Club achieved Select Distinguished Club; Distinguished Area Governor E1; Area D3 Director, Club Sponsor for International Paper's Toast of the Tower; Judge, International Speech Contest

Relevant work experiences and how it relates to Toastmasters and your role as District Leader

Corporate Communications Manager, Community Relations, Senior Training Consultant; United States Army, Colonel (Ret), Commands: Medical Task Force Commander, Camp Shelby Joint Forces Training Center; Hospital Commander; Nurse Administrator; Chief Nurse; Executive Officer; Office of The Surgeon General, Program Administrator; Community Boards: Memphis Botanical Gardens, Dress for Success, Girl's Inc., Black Business Association and Child Advocacy Center.

SKILLS

Strategic Planning and Critical Thinking	Organizational Development and Training
Quality Management	Organizing and Priority Setting
Program and Project Management	Communications/Public Relations
Marketing and Sales	Building Teams and Team Facilitation
Managing Through Systems	Analytical Skills
Leadership and Management Skills	Communication Skills/Coaching/Mentoring
Military Leadership / Command Skills	Change Management

Career paths include accomplishments in military, corporate and healthcare administration settings. My experience and skills in management, leadership, strategic planning, program and project management, and team building are synonymous with Toastmasters District Director's competencies. Central to these experiences has been working with diverse teams in large organizations, team building and working across diverse cultures. Skilled at establishing and fostering engaging relationships at all levels of the organization,

My extensive background in military service, healthcare administration, and leadership within Toastmasters International aligns closely with the responsibilities of a District Director. Here is how my skills and experiences relate to this role:

1. Strategic Leadership and Organizational Development:

Nursing Administration and Military Command Experience: These roles required strategic planning, decision-making, and the ability to lead diverse teams—key competencies for overseeing district operations and guiding clubs toward success.

2. Quality Improvement Initiatives: Implementing quality and organizational development programs demonstrates my ability to enhance processes and outcomes, directly applicable to fostering excellence within the district.

3. Community and Public Relation, Communication: My experience in public relations and as community relations' director equips me to effectively promote the Toastmasters brand, engage with the community, and enhance the district's public image.

4. Comprehensive Toastmasters Leadership Experience:

Distinguished Toastmaster Achievement: Attaining the highest recognition in Toastmasters reflects your commitment to personal development and leadership excellence. Division Director of the Year, Select Distinguished Division Director; Club President of the Year; Accredo Power Communicators, Club achieved Select Distinguished Club.

5. Club Growth Director Accomplishments: Success in revitalizing the Toastmasters brand and introducing new members demonstrates the capability to drive membership growth and support club development.

Relevant work experiences and how it relates to Toastmasters and your role as Program Quality Director (PQD)

As a Program Quality Director (PQD) candidate, my leadership, strategic planning, and organizational development experience are powerful assets. Here is how I can leverage those skills to enhance club quality and success:

1. Strategic Leadership for Club Excellence

- My military and corporate experience in problem-solving and quality improvement aligns perfectly with PQD's role in enhancing club success.
- Strategic planning and project management skills provide expertise to develop and implement a strategic plan to improve club health, focusing on membership retention, engagement, and leadership development'. Experienced in analytical skills: Utilize data-driven decision-making to analyze club performance metrics (Distinguished Club Program, member retention rates) and create targeted improvement strategies.

2. Training and Development

- My background in training and organizational development allows me to design high-quality education programs for club officers and members.
- Enhance officer training (TLI) by incorporating advanced leadership, coaching, and communication skills.
- Develop mentorship programs where seasoned members guide newer Toastmasters, increasing retention and engagement.

3. Strengthening Club Culture and Retention

- My experience in team-building and problem-solving can help clubs create inclusive, engaging, and supportive environments for members.
- Team Building Teams: Offer workshops on conflict resolution, leadership dynamics, and effective club meetings to strengthen club cohesion.
- Partner with the Club Growth Director to identify at-risk clubs and implement targeted intervention plans.

4. Community and Organizational Partnerships

- Expand on my existing partnerships (libraries, community agencies, Homeland Security, Youth Villages,) to provide clubs with access to resources, guest speakers, and networking opportunities.
- Use my experience in communication and branding to help clubs improve their public image and outreach efforts.

5. Project and Change Management

- As someone skilled in project management, I can streamline club operations and introduce best practices to help clubs run efficiently.
- Implement change management techniques to help clubs transition through leadership changes, membership challenges, and post-pandemic rebuilding efforts

6. Coaching & Leadership Development

- Offer leadership development initiatives that prepare club officers for success, ensuring a strong leadership pipeline for the district.
- Encourage clubs to foster a growth mindset, adapting to change and embracing new opportunities for improvement.

What experience do you have in strategy planning?

Strategic Leadership and Organizational Development:

Nursing Administration and Military Command Experience: These roles have required strategic planning, decision-making, and the ability to lead diverse teams—key competencies for overseeing district operations and guiding clubs toward success. Developed community relation strategic plans for an operating budget of 2,5 million dollars. Managed all community service initiatives through projects in education, diversity, housing, arts, health, and environment. As Director of Surgery for Saint Joseph Hospital, developed a strategic plan and managed project for establishing the first Same Day Surgical Center in the Memphis healthcare community. While serving as Medical Task Force Commander, development a strategic plan for procurement of funds for renovation of clinical facilities, upgrading medical equipment and clinical space to provide access to quality healthcare. This procurement,

estimated to be over 1.5 million dollars contributed significantly to improvement in Soldiers' processing for deployment and redeployment, health, and safety

What experience do you have in developing procedures

Experience in developing policies and procedures in corporations, military and healthcare settings.

What lessons did you learn from previous leadership.

The lessons learned from previous leadership reinforced the value and strength of challenges in building resilience. Despite roadblock, barriers, lack of support, and necessary resource to completely carry out your responsibility, still maintain determination, integrity, and respect. Continue to be accessible, approachable, accountable and relatable Find the small nuggets that will you the greatest SUCCESS in your Toastmaster Journey. Leaders are leaders only because there are members in Toastmasters and the only reason for their existence is to provide resources and support to members that empower them to achieve their personal and professional goals. In volunteer organization there is no place for authority and control, only collaboration. Members hold the power of choice,

Why do you want to serve as a District Director and Program Quality Director?

I am passionate about Toastmasters as evident by my devotion of 39 years of service as a Toastmasters in District 43. In a 1968 sermon, Dr, Martin Luther King, Jr, famously stated, "if I can help somebody as I pass along, if I can cheer somebody with a word or song, then my living will not be in vain.". I will be a member centered and people centered director with the focus on empowering every member to achieve their personal and professional goals. Toastmasters has been central in every direction of my professional careers and personal life. I want give back to every member of District 43 what Toastmaster has given me: confidence, communication, leadership, and public speaking skills. From that, I have enjoyed a Terrific and fun Toastmaster Journey.

My extensive leadership experience, demonstrates commitment to member empowerment, and a strategic vision which makes me an exemplary candidate for District Director. My focus on creating an environment where members can achieve their personal and professional goals aligns seamlessly with the core values and mission of Toastmasters International.

In your opinion, what are the district mission's major objectives and how would you work to achieve them?

The major objectives of Toastmasters district mission are supporting and enhancing the Toastmasters experience for both clubs and individual members. Key elements include:

1. Building New Clubs and Supporting Existing Clubs:
A core objective to expand the reach of Toastmasters by establishing new clubs and ensuring the success of existing ones.
2. Enhancing Club Performance:
Districts to focus on improving the quality and performance of clubs, ensuring they provide a valuable learning environment.
3. Extending the Network:
Expanding the network of Toastmasters clubs allows more people to benefit from the program.
4. Focusing on Educational and Membership Goals:
Districts work to achieve the educational and membership goals set by Toastmasters International.
- 5 Ensuring Club Responsibilities to Members:
A crucial objective is to ensure that each club effectively fulfills its responsibilities to its individual members.
6. Providing Training and Leadership Development:

In essence, the district mission is about facilitating the growth and success of Toastmasters clubs, which in turn empowers individuals to develop their communication and leadership skills.

Additional Information about you

Currently a Registered Nurse Clinician, with Cigna, Accredo Specialty Pharmacy, Rheumatoid and Autoimmune Team, provide clinical support and education to patients with autoimmune conditions (soon be doing my last encore). There are several words frequently seen in evaluations from my managers, and Commanding officers: Determination, Compassionate, Integrity, Tenacity and "always smiling." The greatest gift received is my two great-granddaughters and great-grandson (wished I had had them first). Personal achievements, 50 State Marathoner, an official Marathon Maniac, completing 47 marathons and multiple half marathons, and a Ski Diver. Community service involvement: St Jude Hero and volunteer, Girls on the Run and Prison Ministry. Serves as an Elder in my church for the Families with Special Needs Ministry, I liked my high school so that I named my dog after it, "Melrose", and liked my college as well, so my dog is the same mascot, a Black and Tan Coon Hound a "Smoky". Traveling is my passion.