



AMADOR AMBLINGS

Amador Valley Toastmasters #2452, District 57
July 2022 – Vol. 2, No. 3

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AVTM CELEBRATES 65TH ANNIVERSARY



Amador Valley Toastmasters celebrated its 65th anniversary this month but has no plans to retire. Quite the contrary, AVTM is girding for another 60+ year run. The club was officially founded July 1, 1957. That makes AVTM a 'baby boomer' born under the Zodiac sign of Cancer in the Chinese calendar Year of the Rooster. Something to crow about! The top US hit in that month was "Love Letters in the Sand" by Pat Boone.

AVTMers celebrated with an anniversary themed meeting July 14, 2022, led by Toastmaster Candy Mae Estalilla. Appropriately enough, the word of the day was “reminisce” though our reminiscences were well beyond 1957. Still, recollections were very much in the festive spirit of togetherness that has given the club longevity. AVTM’s longest standing member is Jim Volponi, who joined in 1985, which allows him to speak to a bit more than half the club’s history.

NEW OFFICERS TAKE THE HELM



(From left to right: Joy Montgomery, Randy Brown, Mark Triska and Evelyn Lee.)

New officers, elected in June include: Randy Brown, president; Evelyn Lee, vice-president for Education; and James White, treasurer. While the election was not characterized by unbridled enthusiasm, members are relieved to have experienced hands navigating the challenges the club faces.

RANDY’S INAUGURATION ADDRESS



“It is my hope that AVTM continues to have the great personality it currently enjoys, along with growing our membership, while continuing to offer a hybrid format, both for safety and having the possibility of someone joining us from anywhere in the world,” said Randy Brown.

“I also want to ensure that we foster an atmosphere for growth and personal development.”

Go, Randy!

ASHLEY HARKNESS' TM SKILLS ARE NOW LEGION



As if being a member of multiple Toastmaster clubs wasn't enough, Ashley Harkness decided to join the American Legion shortly before Memorial Day. As many of you know from his entertaining stories about military service, Ashley is a US Air Force veteran. The local chapter of the American Legion wasted no time putting Ashley's speaking skills to work.

Coincidentally, Candy Mae Estalilla bumped into Ashley on the job handing out poppies at a Dublin supermarket and she snapped this photo. The encounter reminded her that Memorial Day is not about consumerism but honoring those who served and made the ultimate sacrifice. Candy Mae said she had been thinking about all the members of her family, who over two generations have served in defense of the country. "What a neat coincidence. I needed to buy stamps to send a note and I got to see our dear fellow Toastmaster, Ashley, who was up to something good!" Candy Mae said.



YOUR EVP (NOT UNCLE SAM) WANTS YOU!

When asked how to make the VP of Education job easier, Evelyn said, "I'm eager to hear our members' ideas:

- What meeting themes would you like to see?
- To energize our meetings, any ideas for running some of them differently? (ex: backwards meeting)"

In case you don't have her email for your ideas - evlee100@gmail.com

AMADOR AMBLINGS NEWSLETTER GOES QUARTERLY

AVTM's newsletter *Amador Amblings* will now be quarterly and be supplemented by occasional editions of *Toasty Bits*. The monthly publication schedule was simply unsustainable. But as before, submissions of AVTM news items and ideas are always welcome. This is YOUR newsletter. Send submissions, ideas, kind words and or complaints to: Don.b.johnston@gmail.com and joymontgomery1225@gmail.com

JOY'S FAREWELL ADDRESS

While previous president Joy Montgomery will remain a presence and resource for leadership, she reflected on her term and time in Toastmasters:



"When I was part of a reduction in force at a company where I only stayed because I loved the people I worked with, I felt the pain of being banished from my tribe. That was Lucky Stores Corporate where I had the good luck to be introduced to Toastmasters. Because I participated beyond the club level, attending Area, Division, and District events, I had the additional good luck to have met many Amador Valley Toastmasters.

I never missed a beat. I was at AVTM the week after my termination. Through years of corporate reductions in force, I have had a tribe. I tell people who hire me as a career management coach to find a tribe outside of their workplace. Of course, Toastmasters is at the top of my list since it's not just about the people, but about the desire of the people to help each other.

I would never have thought of myself as a leader until Toastmasters asked me to lead and Toastmasters helped me to develop leadership skills. Even though we did not get our AV quality mostly resolved until the end of my latest term as President and I was not able to use that to our membership building advantage, it has always been an honor to serve this club that has given me so much. I am happy that members stepped up to take on the required roles. I encourage all of you to take advantage of the opportunity to develop leadership skills in a safe and supportive place. There are other roles available. Randy, Evelyn, and James will welcome you to the Team. Oh, the places you will go!"

Thank you, Joy!

LINKS

Managing Editor: Don Johnston Assistant Editors: Candy Mae Estalilla and Joy Montgomery
AVTM Club #2452 Website: <https://avtm.toastmastersclubs.org>

TMI District 57: <https://d57tm.org>

District 57 newsletter: <https://mailchi.mp/d57tm/november2018news-733816?e=d8c2331433>

TMI: <https://www.toastmasters.org>

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