



District 40 kicks off Speechcraft program in Central Ohio!

COLUMBUS OH, NOVEMBER 15, 2016 – In partnership with Community Properties of Ohio Management Services (CPO Management), several dedicated Toastmasters leaders from throughout the Central Ohio area have kicked off the first session of a specialized Speechcraft program. The kickoff took place on Tuesday, November 15th at the CPO Training Facility, located near downtown Columbus.

For those unfamiliar with Speechcraft...the Speechcraft program is a part of the Success Communication Series. It is designed to teach public speaking skills to members and non-members. During the program, participants have the opportunity to present speeches, introduce other speakers and serve as evaluators. Club members advise and evaluate participants and provide instruction in speech preparation and speaking techniques.

Several incredible leaders from across the District have stepped up to lead the Speechcraft program for CPO Management. They are, as follows: Ron Borland, District Coordinator; Toye Thomas, District Assistant Program Quality Director; Doris Hibbler, Area H73 Director; Gail Kelson, Area B16 Director; Tanisha Jackson, Area B11 Director; Anita Jones, Assistant Area C24 Director; Ann Ruege, City of Columbus Toastmasters; and, Dyana Robenalt, Pickerington Toastmasters.

CPO Program Manager, Robin Green, says that the program will offer their participants the opportunity to improve their professional and interpersonal communication skills and, become founding members of a potential Speaker's Bureau for the organization.

The next program session is scheduled for November 29th in which the participants will give their first speech, the Icebreaker. The entire program is set to run for 6 sessions from November through February and will conclude with a graduation ceremony. Additionally, plans are underway to transition the program into a new club for the CPO organization. Stay tuned for more!

This article serves as the first in a series of six articles to be released regarding the progression of the program.

About Toastmasters International

Toastmasters International is a worldwide nonprofit educational organization that empowers individuals to become more effective communicators and leaders. Headquartered in Rancho Santa Margarita, Calif., the organization's membership exceeds 332,000 in more than 15,400 clubs in 135 countries. Since 1924, Toastmasters International has helped people from diverse backgrounds become more confident speakers, communicators and leaders. For information about local Toastmasters clubs, please visit www.toastmasters.org. Follow [@Toastmasters](https://twitter.com/Toastmasters) on Twitter.

Photo Caption: Doris Hibbler, Coordinator, gives opening remarks to participants.



Photographer Credit: Ann Ruege