

Patti Howard is a native Hoosier and moved to Southern Illinois upon marrying her sweetheart, Jim. Currently, Patti is an IT Analyst with the Department of Veterans Affairs. Prior to her federal government employment, she enjoyed a wide range of employment opportunities which included being an elementary music teacher; manager with Service Master in their Healthcare Division; and as an Administrative Assistant and Safety Officer at the Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge. Patti graduated from Liberty University with a BS in Music Education. She received her master's degree in Non-Profit Administration from the University of Notre Dame.

Her outside interests include beekeeping, hunting/fishing, gardening and being involved at the local political level. She and her husband have 3 Chesapeake Bay Retriever hunting dogs.

Patti joined the Marion VA Toastmasters Club in 2011. She completed her DTM in the legacy program and is currently working on her second DTM in Pathways. She has served within her club as Secretary, VPPR, VPE and President. Always "the teacher", she enjoyed serving as Area 5 Director twice; Club Mentor; and coordinated a speech workshop. In 2019, she was honored as Toastmaster of the Year. She has served as the Alignment Chair and enjoys sharing with others about Toastmasters.

She is currently a member of the Marion VA Toastmasters and the Mount Vernon Toastmasters.