



WHERE LEADERS ARE MADE

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Communic~8

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District 8

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District 8 is on the web

www.dist8tm.org

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**Register
for the Fall
Conference**

Celebrating Milestones On Your Journey

By Joann York, ACS ALS

"Celebrating Milestones on a Toastmasters Journey" is the theme for the upcoming District 8 Fall Conference being held at the St Louis Union Station Hotel. If you have been a Toastmaster for any duration of time, you have a milestone you have achieved. For a new member, delivering that Icebreaker speech can be a milestone thought never reachable. Once reached striving to achieve the Competent Communicator award or your Competent Leader award can seem like a journey too far to travel. Yet, each one is a destination within each members grasp. Then the journey continues and even reaching the Distinguished Toastmaster (DTM) award is not the end of the line. There is still more to learn, more to grow, and others to help along their journey.

Each journey is unique and begins at different starting points for the path ahead. Some join Toastmasters already unafraid at standing in front of a room full of people, while others like me trembled (literally) at even the thought of such an undertaking. We each have our personal goals to move toward, but it is not a ride that we take alone. No one who joins Toastmasters journeys alone and as we reach our milestone moments we have the joy of celebrating with those who have helped us reach a destination on our journey.

Think of it in train terms, "now boarding—destination self-confident leader," or "now boarding—destination self-confident speaker." To reach these destinations requires more than just purchasing the train ticket. Purchasing your ticket, becoming a member is the start and it gets you on the train. Once on your way, you can punch your ticket and keep moving forward only with your actions. Each speech you deliver brings you closer to the destination of self-confident speaker. Each meeting role, each club officer position, or district leadership role within Toastmasters propels you down your track towards the destination of self-confident leader.

While we journey with you and all want you to succeed, your success is yours to achieve at the speed you select. You can take the slow train ride to the milestone destination of DTM or ride the bullet train. Neither train is the wrong train to take, each journey is unique. I joined Toastmasters in 2007 and my journey has been slow and steady toward that DTM award and hoping to reach destinations both self-confident speaker and self-confident leader. My journey is far from over, but destination DTM is so close I can almost see my DTM medal placed around my neck. Hopefully, a milestone achieved at this conference!

Take your ticket, hop on board with us and enjoy the ride to reaching your milestones! ☺

**Lora Mather, DTM**

District 8 Governor

District 8

EMAIL: DG@dist8tm.org

A Message from the Governor

It is no happenstance that the theme of our conference is "Celebrating Milestones on a Toastmaster's Journey." We chose this theme because D8 has many milestones to celebrate. To date, we have eleven Toastmasters who have earned their Distinguished Toastmaster award. I am so proud of each one of them. Along my Toastmaster journey, each has become a cherished friend.

To further emphasize the importance of celebrating milestones, we have rearranged our conference agenda. Our kick-off event will be our keynote speaker on Friday evening. This leaves Saturday morning open for our D8 Hall of Fame. This will be our award ceremony to honor and celebrate club and member achievements. We have so much to celebrate and only 90 minutes, thus we will be limited on the number of awards to present. For awards earned in 2012-2013, there will be a special table for picking up awards and a special committee to congratulate those honorees.



Success builds upon success. In D8 we have long celebrated the DTM achievements with a special ceremony at our conferences. Last Fall we recognized a record number of DTMs (14) and emphasized our mentor relationships. In several instances both the mentor and mentee received their DTMs. This year we are trying something new, while still holding on to D8 traditions. The Saturday morning Hall of Fame session will close with our traditional DTM line. For those who've not witnessed this tradition, let me explain. At the close, all of our DTM holders present line up and welcome the newest DTMs with a handshake or a hug. All DTMs are encouraged to attend and join in the DTM line.

These are the DTMs earned to date this year:

| | | | | | | | |
|---------|---|----|-----|------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| 503 | E | 7 | DTM | 09/13/2013 | Baldwin, Gert A. | Capital Toastmasters Club | Jefferson City |
| 4492 | E | 7 | DTM | 09/19/2013 | Freeman, Kenneth Don | Columbia Toastmasters | Columbia |
| 4115 | C | 1 | DTM | 09/29/2013 | Kardis, Sandra M. | Smedley Hometown Mem Club | Divernon |
| 970718 | F | 12 | DTM | 07/22/2013 | Calhoun, Lawson H. | Free Speakers | Saint Louis |
| 1392062 | B | 13 | DTM | 07/05/2013 | Price, Howard Lee | Ascension Health Toastmasters | Saint Louis |
| 2587777 | A | 4 | DTM | 08/27/2013 | Kotur, Michael T. | DSAGSL WORD Masters | Saint Louis |
| 2072 | A | 5 | DTM | 09/13/2013 | Burlison, Bill D. | High-Noon Toastmasters Club | Cape Girardeau |
| 1078293 | E | 7 | DTM | 08/01/2013 | Minton, William Kurt | Callaway Community | Fulton |
| 9793 | C | 6 | DTM | 08/13/2013 | Williams, Jeffrey A. | Scott Toastmasters Club | Scott Air Force Base |
| 9793 | C | 6 | DTM | 08/22/2013 | Wood, Yolande M. | Scott Toastmasters Club | Scott Air Force Base |
| 8399 | F | 19 | DTM | 07/23/2013 | Waugh, Leanne M. | Rent-A-Toast Club | Saint Louis |

There's still time for more members to submit their paperwork for their DTM. How close are you?

Another change at the conference, we would like to present a slide show of each club with a picture of your club members in front of your club banner. This will replace the parade of banners. Help us make this change by sending a photo (jpg format) of your club members in front of your banner to: DG@dist8tm.org.

So much to celebrate and the year has just begun. Keep working toward your individual goal and make your efforts count toward your club's success plan. ☺

**Sandra Kardis, DTM**Lt. Governor Education & Training
District 8

A Message from the LGET

It is fall, and your mind is filled with thoughts of the District 8 2013 Fall Conference scheduled for November 22-23 at the St. Louis Union Station Hotel. Here are a couple of historical facts about it. On September 1, 1894, St Louis Union Station opened as the largest, most beautiful terminal in the U.S. After World War II, the general public began choosing other forms of transportation, and the last train pulled out of St. Louis Union Station. In 1976, it was designated a National Historic Landmark. After a \$150 million restoration, it reopened in 1985. The St. Louis Union Station Hotel is housed in the head house where the District 8 train stops for our activities.

Enjoy all the grandeur of a bygone era seamlessly blended with a modern hospitality experience! On Friday evening, November 22, our first conference stop is our keynote speaker, Thomas Dowd. Thomas' speech is "Transformation Time with Transformation Tom." Tom is a two-time reigning Table Topics Champion, winning in both 2012 and 2013. After a buffet dinner, we will hear the best of District 8's Table Topics contestants.

Saturday, November 23 is going to be filled with many stops. The morning begins with a continental breakfast where Tom Coscia, PDG, will be leading the "roast" of Curtis Scroggins, IPDG. I think the most famous railroad story of all is that of Casey Jones. Do you have an interesting story to share about Curtis? 2012-2013 Toastmaster education and leadership and membership awards will be presented by Lora Mather, District 8 Governor, Sandy Kardis and Alan Shaner, International Director Region 5. Lora will also be recognizing our newest DTMs. Do you know how many Toastmasters earned their DTMs since July 1, 2013? Attend the District Council meeting to find out what's going on in District 8.

After a buffet lunch, Alan Shaner will present an interactive workshop, "Members: Get Them and Keep Them," in which he will present ideas that will help draw members to our clubs, discuss what it will take to keep members active and thriving in our clubs, and how to improve the image of our clubs. Education Co-Chairs are planning many interesting educational sessions. Confirmed presenters include Jerry Evans—"From Fear to Fear—Less in Speaking," Jason Finks—"Adult Learning Tips and Tricks," Dr. Camesha Hill-Carter—"Destiny Living: Using Toastmasters As a Vehicle to Your Dream," and Suzanne Lee and panel—"Debate Panel."

After dinner, we will hear the best of District 8's Humorous Speech contestants. I know their humor will top this joke. Q: What do you call a train that eats toffee? A: A chew, chew train. Source: <http://www.jokes4us.com/miscellaneousjokes/trainjokes.html>.

Have you delivered a manual speech about the conference at your club as a means to persuade your fellow club members to attend the conference? You will receive a 10% discount on your registration by mailing me your completed evaluation. Email me for details.

Compete for a prize for traveling the farthest distance to the conference. You must bring a copy of your documented mileage to qualify.

*(Continued on page 4)*

**Debra Morrissey, DTM**Lieutenant Governor Marketing
District 8

A Message From the LGM

HELP WANTED!

I am happy to report that District 8 is off to a great start in meeting our goal of chartering 20 new Toastmasters clubs this year! The previous record for new clubs (I believe) in District 8 was 16 in one year. Since July 1, Top Talk Toastmasters, ROi Toastmasters, WWT-HQ Toastmasters and Triton Toastmasters have chartered. I have been receiving leads from Toastmasters International and from many of you, as well as the leads that Sandy left me from last year. That means that we all need to work together as part of the Marketing Team.



Once leads are received, I contact the requester and provide information on starting a Toastmasters club. When a group of prospective members is formed a kick-off or “demo” meeting is arranged. The demo meeting is a mini-meeting, showing all basic parts of a Toastmasters meeting. If there is enough interest, at least twenty people, a new Toastmasters club is chartered. What does that mean to you? It is an opportunity to provide leadership by participating in kick-off meetings, as Club Sponsors, and as Club Mentors. Your participation is needed because all of these are an essential part of getting a new club off to a great start. Additionally, Club Coaches are needed for existing clubs that have low membership.

If you are looking for a worthwhile challenge, join me in helping to develop these clubs. There is so much satisfaction in watching a new Toastmasters club come together and even more satisfaction when you see the members grow and develop the way that we all have.

Send me the contact information for anyone you know interested in forming a club. Step out of your “comfort zone” and share your expertise. Just let me know when you are available and I will find the right club for you to assist. ☺

(Continued from page 3)

Johnny Cash sang “I hear the train a comin’ it’s rollin down the bend,” in his song “**Folsom Prison Blues.**” Engineers do not blow whistles just for fun. Every toot has a meaning, ■■■ signifies approaching station. To get aboard the District 8 train to St Louis Union Station Hotel, complete your registration form and mail it in. It is available in your email account, in this Communic~8, and on District 8 website as a printable and editable form.

A final note to be aware of, the parking at St. Louis Union Station Hotel is not free. Discounted valet parking is \$12.00 per day at the hotel, self-parking is \$14.00 per day and parking behind Union Station is \$12.00 for 6-10 hours or \$1.00 per half-hour. Consider carpooling to share the parking fee.

Sandy ☺



Train Stops at St. Louis Union Station Hotel Celebrating Milestones on a Toastmaster's Journey

Friday Night, November 22, 2013

| | |
|----------------|---|
| 5:00 – 6:15 pm | Registration Hospitality (until 6:15 pm) Bookstore (until 6:00 pm) |
| 6:15 pm | Conference Call to Order |
| 6:15 - 7:15 pm | Keynote, Thomas Dowd |
| 7:30 - 8:15 pm | Dinner Buffet |
| 8:15 pm | Contest Briefings |
| 8:45 – 9:40 pm | Table Topics Contest |
| 9:45 pm | Bookstore and Hospitality open/Bookstore closes at 10:30 pm/Hospitality closes at 12 am |

Saturday, November 23, 2013

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| 7:30 – 8:30 am | Continental Breakfast and Roast of Immediate Past District Governor, Curtis Scroggins Registration (until 10 am) |
| 8:30-10:00 am | Awards Presentation of 2012 – 2013 Toastmaster education and leadership and membership awards and recognition of our newest DTMs Credentials Desk |
| 10:15 – 11:30 am | District Council Meeting |
| 11:30 am – 1:00 pm | Registration *Bookstore until 12 pm |
| 11:45 - 12:45 pm | Lunch |
| 1 - 1:50 pm | Educational session with Alan Shaner |
| 2 - 2:50 pm | Educational Sessions |
| 3 - 3:50 pm | Educational Sessions |
| 4 - 4:50 pm | Educational Sessions |
| 5:00 – 6:45 pm | Registration *Hospitality and Bookstore (until 6:00 pm) |
| 6:15 – 6:45 pm | Briefings for Humorous Speech Contest |
| 7:00 pm | Dignitary Procession Followed by Dinner |
| 8:15 – 9:35 pm | Humorous Speech Contest |
| 9:45 pm | Closing Events |
| 10:00 pm – 12 am | Hospitality Open |

Times for Bookstore and Hospitality are best estimates.
Throughout the conference – General Photographs at District 8 Media Wall.



Do You Recognize These Guys?

One is known for plotting mayhem,
and the other is Sideshow Bob from the Simpsons TV show.

Join us for Breakfast at the Fall Conference where we will all roast
Immediate Past District Governor, Curtis Scroggins - the guy on the left.

Do you have stories to share?
Contact Tom Coscia, DTM, PDG by November 20.
Coscia@peoplepc.com - 314-780-3021

Be Prepared to Take a Number!



2013 District 8 Fall Conference Registration Form

St. Louis Union Station

Friday, November 22 & Saturday, November 23

Celebrating Milestones on a Toastmaster's Journey

| | | | |
|--|--|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| Main Conference Attendee Information | | | |
| Last Name | MI | First Name | |
| Street Address | | Apt/Unit # | |
| City | State | Zip Code | |
| Home Telephone # () | | Alternate # () | |
| Email Address | | | |
| TI Designation | | Club Name | Club Number |
| First Time Attendee? Yes No | Current Office(s) Held | | |
| 2nd Attendee – Household Member or Non-Toastmaster Guest | | | |
| Last Name | MI | First Name | |
| TI Designation (if applicable) | | Club Name & Number (if applicable): | |
| First Time Attendee? Yes / No | Current Office(s) Held (if applicable) | | |

| Full Registration | | Qty | Subtotal |
|--|--|-----|----------|
| Includes four meals (Friday buffet dinner, Saturday Continental breakfast, lunch and banquet dinner), educational sessions (for Toastmasters) and both contests. | | | |
| Per Attendee (\$90 until 11/2 / \$110 after 11/2) | | | |
| Additional Attendees Each: \$80 / \$100 | | | |
| A La Carte Meals Only, Prices Per Person | | Qty | Subtotal |
| Friday Evening Buffet (\$25 until 11/2; \$30 after 11/2) | | | |
| Saturday Continental Breakfast (\$15 until 11/2; \$20 after 11/2) | | | |
| Saturday Lunch (\$20 until 11/2; \$25 after 11/2) | | | |
| Saturday Dinner (\$35 until 11/2; \$40 after 11/2) | | | |
| A La Carte Educational Sessions & Contests Only Prices Per Person (No Meals) | | | |
| Saturday Educational Sessions (\$15 until 11/2; \$25 after 11/2) | | | |
| Friday Contest (Free Admission) | | | |
| Saturday Contest (\$5 each) | | | |
| Total Amount | | | \$ |



| Meal Options | | | | |
|---|------------|--------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| Saturday Dinner: Circle one for each attendee. For special dietary needs, please email conference@dist8tm.org | Attendee 1 | Beef Sirloin | Herb-Crusted Chicken Breast | Vegetarian Option |
| | Attendee 2 | Beef Sirloin | Herb-Crusted Chicken Breast | Vegetarian Option |

Payment Information

For the Conference: Make checks payable to "District 8 Toastmasters" and send with form by U.S. mail to: District 8 Toastmasters, 732 Goddard Ave, Chesterfield, MO 63005. For credit card payments, send this form to conference@dist8tm.org. An invoice will be emailed to you for payment. *Payment covers conference costs. If you want to stay at the hotel, please make your arrangements and separate payment early.*

For Hotel Reservations: Call the St. Louis Union Station Hotel at 855-271-3620. Ask for the District 8 Toastmasters' room rate of **\$89 per night** (single/double occupancy) available until **Friday November 1, 2013**.



District 8 Proxy

Dear District 8 Club Presidents and Club VPEs

The manual: *"When You Are the President/ Vice President Education"* describes the following standards more fully and explains how to carry them out.

Outside the Club Meeting:

- Attend and vote club's proxy at district council meetings or authorize a club member to do so.

District 8 Credential/Proxy Certificate

District Council Meeting – Saturday 11/23/2013

Union Station, St. Louis, MO

7:45 am Credentials Desk Opens

10: 00 am District Council Business Meeting

At the district council business meeting, each club president and vice president education in attendance is entitled to one vote. However, if either or both officers cannot attend, they may designate, in writing, any other active member of their club to act as proxy or proxies for their club. (Use form below.) No other proxies are valid at this meeting – per Article X, Paragraph (d) of the District Administrative Bylaws.

In the event one of these officers does not attend the meeting and has not designated, in writing, an active member of the club to act as his or her proxy, the officer or proxy holder in attendance is deemed to hold the proxy of the other, and may therefore cast two votes at the meeting. This assures that every club is represented by two votes.

In addition, each district officer, including area governors, in attendance is entitled to one vote. Only district executive committee members carrying either credential or proxy certificates from their club are allowed three votes. All other members are limited to a maximum of two votes each.

Credential or Proxy Certificate (Date) _____

[Must be submitted to Credentials Desk to obtain ballot(s)] Certificate No. _____

1. Club name (print) _____ Club No. _____

2. Your name (print) _____

3. Your office: _____

Club president, club vice president education, area governor, other district office

4. **IF YOU CANNOT ATTEND** (club president and vice president education only), indicate you're duly authorized proxy below (must be an active member of *your* club):

Name (print) _____ Date _____

Signature



Story of D8 - Inspirational Storytelling event

by **Farzana Chohan - Public Relations Officer - D8 TM**

The beautiful day was ordered on September 22nd, 2013 by District 8, for an outdoor "Inspirational Storytelling" event at Chesterfield Amphitheater. The natural setting in the middle of the park with a flowing breeze was perfected by the showcase of some of the best Storytellers from our very own District Toastmasters.

The first story was narrated by **Wendy Clothier**, she told the tale of "Taming the Inner Lion". Her narration became the source of inspiration for other storytellers, who referred back to the importance of taming inner lions during their stories.

David Evans gave living accounts of "Bad Days." David being the most credible person to talk about NSF, he reminded all of the audience what it means to be blessed in life, despite its most toughest challenges.

Elaine Curry inspired the audience delivering a very impressive message "Don't Give up." Elaine's engaging story had a great impact on the audience.

Gina Willard talked about, "Gifts from My Father." Gina's beautiful story recounted the influence of a father's presence in life as a source of inspiration for listeners.

Vincent Ferguson told an inspirational story about using a popular word Y.O.L.O. His touching story was about how a young man's moment of bad judgment and decision cost him to lose a valuable person in his life.

John Barry told the much needed humorous story titled "Go the Extra Mile." John told a hilariously true tale of winning a pretty girls affection in kindergarten only to lose her affection in the 2nd grade by not being willing to *go the extra mile* and walk her home from school. However the experience proved to be an important lesson learned for John and he enthusiastically encouraged everyone to be willing to *go the extra mile* in order to achieve their life objectives.

Farzana Chohan told a story about a mother. The story "Hand on My Head" reminded us about the protection, encouragement and lifelong love of a mother for a daughter. That love can have a positive influence forever in professional and personal development.

Tony Gartner was rather nostalgic in his "Once Upon a Time" story. He vividly narrated his business travel episodes and encounters with other living species.

Shreya Gopal told the story of her aunt, who is multitalented and kind hearted to her young nieces and everyone else around her. As Shreya captivated the audience, she countered the societal belief that being unable to hear or speak makes someone "disabled," instead they are "Differently Abled" in life.

Matt Prose told the story about the "The Invisible seed" and how that seed can give a new direction and meaning to life.

The storytelling was concluded with a "Thank you" note and gifts to presenters from District Governor Lora Mather.

The trucks by Shaved cone and Bombay Junkie offered food to savor, while the fascinating stories for thought were told by the talented members of District 8.

It was a great day for district members to get together and showcase our talents and stretch ourselves beyond the safety of our home clubs. All attendees had a wonderful time at this outdoor event. It was an enjoyable afternoon and fun to get together with TMs from around District 8 and from as far as Jefferson City. ●

Calling all DTMs and Experienced Toastmasters!

District 8 needs your help and expertise. There are many clubs in District 8 that could benefit from experienced leadership to help them:

- * Conduct quality meetings
- * Attract new members
- * Retain members
- * Encourage members to earn educational awards
- * Meet member's goals
- * Earn Distinguished status



Calling DTMs!

Please consider donating your time to be a virtual coach to a club below charter strength (20) in Area 5 or Division F. The virtual coach is described in "Membership: Taking It to the Maxplan" found under Useful Resources on the District 8 website. Virtual Coach requirements include: attending a Foundation Workshop, coaching by a combination of email and telephone calls at least once every 4 weeks, and attending a Follow-Up Workshop. The club takes ownership for its transformation with the support of two workshops spread over 4 to 8 months and an assigned virtual coach.

This is a great opportunity for an HPL project.

Contact Sandy Kardis at LGET@dist8tm.org. I would like to plan for the Foundation Workshop in mid-December or late January. ☺

Screening the movie "Speak" at educational institutions in District 8 by **Farzana Chohan**



Public Relations Officer - Toastmasters International



District 8 has initiated an effort to screen the movie "Speak" at colleges and universities.

SPEAK is a documentary film about the fear of public speaking and the Toastmasters "World Championship of Public Speaking." Filmmakers embarked on an almost two year journey - conducting hundreds of interviews about public speaking anxiety, and capturing every stage of the tense, highly competitive "World Championship of Public Speaking." It all culminates in a week of fascinating human drama in Calgary, Alberta, after which one person is crowned "World Champion of Public Speaking." Funny, inspiring, moving, and utterly absorbing, SPEAK follows the trail of those brave souls who take on the fear of public speaking – the world's #1 fear – and live to tell the tale.

Screening this movie will be a good benefit to students, faculty and staff alike. They will learn more about enhancing their public speaking and leadership skills by participating in Toastmasters International.

The idea is to try to bring as many Toastmasters from the area as possible to talk with the student/faculty/staff crowd after the viewing and exchange ideas about public speaking.

The District is in contact with several educational institutions and will post the dates and locations for movie screening, as they will be provided by institutions.

All District 8 Toastmasters are invited to attend the event(s) and interact with audiences and guide them down the path to overcoming the fear of public speaking.

<http://speakthemovie.com/> ☺

Celebrating and Recognizing New Clubs

By Sandy Kardis, DTM

Three clubs and their new members were recognized during September. The club banner, Club Charter Certificate and Charter Member Certificates were presented to Let's Talk, Mercy Toastmasters and Fluent Hearts.

Let's Talk, Toastmasters Club #02991699, chartered on May 9, 2013. The Charter presentation took place on September 5, 2013 at the Tarlton Corporation during their meeting. Assisting with the presentation of charter certificates to club members was club sponsor and club president, Ted Guhr. Ted is Director of Business Development at Tarlton Corporation. Club mentor Nancy Suelflow, ACG, ALB, treated everyone with pretzels. Nate Hart, a senior project engineer, gave his Ice Breaker speech. The club liked the timing device. The club's first exposure to speech contests was hosting the Area 17 Humorous Speech and Table Topics contest on October 1, 2013 at Tarlton Corporation. Michelle Spires and Jerry Chapman, ACG, CL, took photos. In the above photo is Jerry Chapman, club mentor, Ted Guhr, Sandy Kardis, Angela Lovatto, VPE, Michelle Spires, SAA, and Nancy Suelflow, club mentor.



Mercy Toastmasters, Toastmasters Club #03040101, chartered on April 25, 2013. Mercy Toastmasters started with an inquiry to Toastmasters International on September 25, 2012 by Jennifer Harutunian. Stephanie VanGilder was instrumental in scheduling a meeting to help them determine officer structure and to start figuring out logistics of getting the club off the ground as well as collecting applications. They held their charter presentation on September 12, 2013 during their meeting. I really like the quote from Benjamin Franklin that Rakesh Punjabi shared, "Tell me and I forget, teach me and I

may remember, involve me and I learn." Swati Vermani and Jennifer Schempp gave their Ice Breaker speeches. Michael Ayers, club president, assisted with presenting the charter certificates to club members. Michael is Site Administrator Customer Relationship Manager at Sisters of Mercy Health System. Photos of the group were taken by a guest at the meeting. In the photo is: Hermani Gaurav, VPPR, Michael Ayers, Sandy Kardis, Michelle Duffee, Secretary, Rakesh Pujabi, VPE, and Dwayne Miller, ACS, CL, club mentor. Aruna Garlapaty, ACS, ALB, club mentor, was unable to attend.

Fluent Hearts, Toastmasters, Club # 03107492, chartered on April 26, 2013. Dale Fitzpatrick, Phillip Mette, and Lois Hoene from the Lord Effingham Toastmasters club initiated a meeting with Meredith Fulton. Several phone calls and emails led to a conference call to work through the charter paperwork. Their Charter presentation was held during a meeting on September 26, 2013. Tony Kardis took photos. In the photo below is Dale Fitzpatrick, DTM, club sponsor, Philip Mette, ACG, CL, and Lois Hoene, CC, club mentors, Ashley Buehnerkemper, club president, Sandy Kardis, Cyndi Tyler, VPM, Meredith Fulton, club sponsor and Treasurer, and Laura Stewart, VPE. Assisting with the charter certificates was Ashley Buehnerkemper and Meredith Fulton. I was impressed with the chosen Word of the Day, "Dojo", taken from the September 2013 *Toastmaster* article by International President, George Yen, DTM. Ice Breaker speeches were given by Justin Henderson and Sarah Kopca. Patrick Bauer, Heartland Dental Care President and Chief Operations Officer, and Chad Thompson, VP of Administration, visited with members. ●





"Spirit of a D8 Toastmaster"



Call for submission for "Spirit of a D8 Toastmaster" an E-Book -
Print on Demand - Published format!

Spirit of a D8 Toastmaster will be a collection of inspirational short stories of District 8 members. The idea is to tell the story about how becoming part of Toastmasters has impacted life in positive ways personally, professionally and otherwise. Toastmasters come from many unique backgrounds and through the organization overcome fears of public speaking and enhance communication and leadership skills. The confidence gained leads many to a point where one's life changes and he or she becomes known like Susan Caine (author of "Quiet"). Susan Caine was given the golden gavel award at our International Toastmasters Conference in August for her incredible story.

District 8 members have stories of the positive impact of Toastmasters in their lives to share and celebrate with each other. Do you have a story you would like to share?

Calling all Members of District 8 Toastmasters to submit your story for possible inclusion in the book described above, which will be an online E-book and print on demand published book format.

Submission Deadline : November 05, 2013

Submission Guidelines:

- Submission must be your original, personal story (must be true).
- 600—750 words (Less is better.)
- Short biographical information (25—35 words); include your name, professional credentials (MBA, PhD, etc.), Toastmasters credentials (CC, ATM, DTM, PDG, etc.), Club/Area (city, state)
- Your contact information (email, phone, fax)

Note: Any kind of sales promotion in submission is NOT permitted.

Ideas for your story:

- *How becoming a Toastmaster has significantly changed your life, personally and/or professionally.*
- *Was there a significant impact that Toastmasters had for your job, career, business, or industry?*
- *Did you develop expertise, skills, competencies, or confidence as a result of your membership?*
- *Share your "Success Story" - from stuttering to a professional speaker, from introvert to extrovert.*

Subject Line: **Spirit of a D8 Toastmaster**

Email: **PRO@dist8tm.org** or **livingwell90@yahoo.com**

Farzana Chohan - Public Relations Officer - Toastmasters International - District 8



In case you missed page 8 of your September 2013 Toastmaster Magazine.

With the permission of World Headquarters' we are reprinting the "Meet My Mentor" article featuring our very own District 8 members.

MEET MY MENTOR



Dan Darnall, DTM

No one has the potential to influence a member's experience like a mentor. Mike Kotur, DTM, a member of the DSAGSL WORD Masters club in Saint Louis, Missouri, shares how he has benefited from his mentor, Dan Darnall, DTM, PDG, of the Maritz Toastmasters club in Fenton, Missouri.

Why did you join Toastmasters?

As an independent contractor in project management, I was focused on Toastmasters' leadership path, but through membership I also reaped the benefits of improved communications and professional networking.

Tell us about your mentor.

Dan is a senior director of information technology for Maritz, LLC. We encourage, challenge and support each other, and celebrate successes together. Dan's knowledge, coupled with his dedication to helping others, has energized our mentor/protégé relationship.

How does Dan give feedback?

At first, Dan and I met consistently as he gave me recommendations on how to approach the Toastmasters education program. He continually encourages me

as I strive to meet my professional and personal goals.

Dan is an encourager, a counterpart and a friend. Now we meet occasionally as we work on projects in community involvement, self-development and the higher standards within the Toastmasters program.

What have you accomplished while under Dan's guidance?

I served as club president and coached a club to earn Distinguished recognition. I also served as area and division governor and completed a graduate program in management and leadership.

What is your favorite thing about Dan?

He invests in people and supports them in their mission to develop stronger leadership and communication skills.



MIKE KOTUR, DTM (left), and his mentor, Dan Darnall, DTM, PDG.

Conducting “Moments of Truth”

By Kenny Freeman and Sandy Kardis

You are a member of a great club. Everything runs smoothly. Why dedicate a meeting to Toastmasters “Moments of Truth” module from *The Successful Club Series*? Perhaps you are a member of a club that would like to improve member retention and club quality. Are you willing to conduct this club self-evaluation tool to learn how to recognize and deal with situations critical to club success?

The six critical Toastmasters moments of truth are:

- First Impressions
- Membership Orientation
- Fellowship, Variety and Communication
- Program Planning and Meeting Organization
- Membership Strength
- Achievement Recognition

On October 10th, Kenny Freeman—Division E Governor, conducted the “Moments of Truth” module at the Downtown Toastmasters Club #4492 meeting. The club greatly enjoyed the exercise. Club members took on the task with great enthusiasm. Because of the limited amount of time in their noon meeting, each group made a 5 to 7 minute presentation on their findings and recommendations in four out of six categories to be covered over the next four club meetings. Those reporting will be making the reports as *Competent Communication* manual presentations.

Kenny reported that it was very enjoyable watching the break-out sessions and the members at work. He posted photos and an article on the meeting to his Division E Facebook page in an effort to promote other clubs in Division E to use this program. Kenny is also encouraging Area Governors in Division E to each pick at least one club in their area to present the module.

In my September Communic~8 article, I wrote that Toastmasters International would like every club to present this module during the September 1st to December 31st period and during the January 1st to April 20th period. I did mention that club presidents would need to complete a survey which was my way of tracking clubs to be recognized on the district website and be awarded a certificate. In place of the survey, email me a paragraph sharing when and how your club conducted the “Moments of Truth” module as Kenny Freeman did. Pictures are not required.

Dare to achieve greatness together in your club by speaking the truth and nothing but the truth. Download the “Moments of Truth” manual from the Toastmasters website or from our District 8 website, http://www.dist8tm.org/docs.html#For_Club_Members, and dedicate a meeting to it. Then, listen carefully to the truths that your members share. ☺





District 8 Members Earn Education & Leadership Awards from September 11, 2013 to October 11, 2013



Division A

Capital T Toastmasters Club

- Warner, Michael S.—CC

Franklin County Toastmasters

- Gildehaus, Ralph H.—ACB

High-Noon Toastmasters Club

- Burlison, Bill D.—DTM

Marion VA Toastmasters

- Ramos, Shayla—CC

Mastertoasters Club

- Mumelo, Vennittah Khakasa—CL
- Madala, Satish—CL

Webster Groves Toastmasters Club

- Vaught, Daniel A.—CL
- Olson, Rebecca K.—ALB

Division B

B.I.B.L.E. Toastmasters

- Shaw, A. Michael—CC
- Shaw, A. Michael—CL

Plus Factor Club

- Hill-Carter, Camesha N.—ACB

River City Toastmasters Club

- King, Jaine R.—CC

Division C

O'Fallon Toastmasters

- Smith, Louis M.—CL

Smedley Hometown Mem Club

- Kardis, Sandra M.—ACG
- Kardis, Sandra M.—DTM

Division E

Alpha Toastmasters

- Buchanan, Deandra—CL
- Menard, Laurent—CL
- Quinn, Michael K.—CL
- Genovese, Anthony—CL

Capital Toastmasters Club

- Baldwin, Gert A.—ALS
- Baldwin, Gert A.—DTM

Columbia Toastmasters

- Freeman, Kenneth Don—DTM

Good Neighbor Toastmasters Club

- Crawford, Dorrie M.—ACB

MO Univ of Science & Technology

- Clark, Kevin L.—ALB

Shelter Insurance Toastmasters

- Horn, Donald V.—CL
- Cox, Norman L.—CC
- Hurst, Dustin Lee—ACB

Talu Toastmasters Club

- Pitchlyn, Demetrius T.—ACB

Division F

MAC Toastmasters Club

- Hayes, Philip J.—ALB

MOCO Torchmasters

- Finks, Jason—ALB

Primary Conversations

- Allen, Raymond F.—ACS

Wells Fargo Advisors Toastmasters

- Clothier, Wendy Renee—LDREXC

Smedley Hometown Memorial Toastmasters Club

Next meeting: Oct. 26, 2013

Where: 732 Goddard Ave.,
Chesterfield, MO
(same location as the DEC Meeting)

Time: 2:30 pm—4:30 pm

Theme: Afraid of Leadership?

***Where leaders are made—a place
to build your leadership skills!***

Come join us!

**Have you checked out the new
District Governor's "Blog"?**

DG Blog

Calling All Presenters

Would you like to present an educational session or a club officer training session at the Jan. 11, 2014 Membership & Education Leadership Expo (TLI) to be held at the J.C. Penney Conference Center—UMSL?

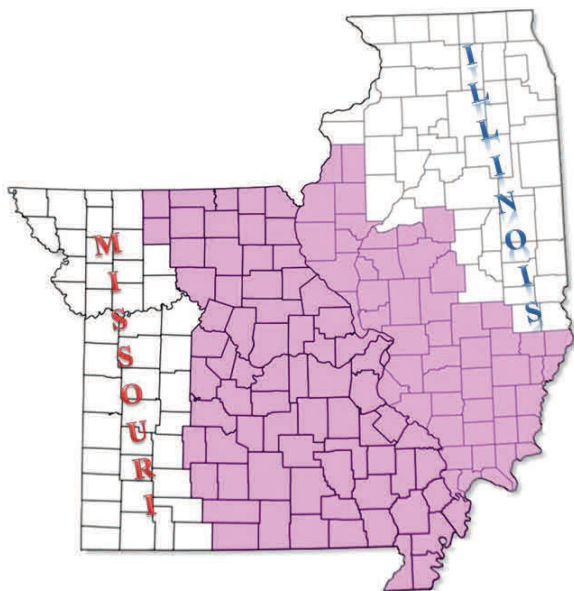
**Contact Elizabeth Link—
lizli25@hotmail.com**

TOASTMASTERS INTERNATIONAL

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TOASTMASTERS
INTERNATIONAL**District 8 is on the web.****www.dist8tm.org****WHERE LEADERS
ARE MADE****The Mission of District 8**We build new clubs and support all clubs
in achieving excellence.**District 8 Calendar**

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Oct. 26, 2013 | Division A Contest |
| Briefings 9:15 am | Thornhill Branch STLC Library |
| Contest 9:30 am | 12863 Willowyc Dr., St. Louis, MO |
| Nov. 9, 2013 | Division C Contest |
| Briefings 10:45 am | Fairview Heights Public Library |
| Contest 11:00 am | 10017 Bunkum Rd., Fairview Heights, IL |
| Nov. 9, 2013 | Division E Contest |
| Briefings 9:45 am | GE Capital Corporation |
| Contest 10:00 am | 1961 Hirst Drive, Moberly, MO |
| Nov. 22-23, 2013 | District 8 Fall Conference |
| | St. Louis Union Station Hotel |
| | St. Louis, MO |
| Jan. 11, 2014 | District 8 TLI |
| * Save the Date! * | JC Penney Conference Center—UMSL |



**District 8 Flying to New Heights
in 2013-2014!
Come Fly With Us!!**