



# Palmetto Toastmaster



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## Other TM Resources

Toastmasters International Website  
[www.toastmasters.org](http://www.toastmasters.org)

District 58 Website  
[www.toastmasters-d58.org](http://www.toastmasters-d58.org)

## Fabulous Fall Conference held at the Beach!!!

Toastmasters from around the state gathered at the beach for a weekend full of education, competition and recognition. The event began on Friday afternoon with a meeting of the District Executive Council. On Friday evening Palmetto Mastercrafters, a premier club consisting of advanced toastmasters and individuals who have previously or are currently in district service, hosted a dinner meeting showcasing their extemporaneous and prepared communication skills.

Early Saturday morning we had quite a few laughs as Immediate Past District Governor Fred Broughton, DTM was roasted by several fellow "toasties." Fred with his typical good nature responded merrily to humorous stories about leadership, road trips and dinner etiquette. After we dined on morsels of humor from Cat Angus DTM, PDG Margaret Wan DTM, ID and District Governor Douglas Wilson, DTM Craig Valentine, the 1999 World Champion of Public Speaking, shared the Three G's to Greatness.

During the luncheon five individuals from across the state challenged each other on giving feedback to veteran speaker Kevin Spaulding of Gastonia, NC. John Fallon was judged District 58 2007-2008 Evaluation Champion. Later in the evening six competitors took the stage to display their humorous speaking skills. Chakisse Newton was selected as District 58 2007-2008 Humorous Speech Champion.

The district business meeting allowed club presidents, vice presidents of education and proxy holders to review the 2006-2007 Audit report. The 2007-2008 District Budget was discussed and approved. Ned Wallace, DTM, PID spoke on behalf of Sal Asad International Director Candidate 2008-2010.

Saturday's evening activities included the recognition of four individuals who have completed both the communication and leadership tracks earning the Distinguished Toastmasters Designation. The district applauded as Theresa Dinius, Subbi Mathur, Chakisse Newton and Jennifer Shambrook received hugs from all the DTMS in attendance and accepted their gold badges from District Governor Douglas Wilson.

The fun didn't stop on Saturday night. Sunday morning early birds enjoyed breakfast with Craig as he conducted a special two hour workshop "How to Keep Your Audience on the Edge of their Seats". Many conference attendees were talking about the great job Pat Gann, LGET, DTM and her team did with this fabulous event. If you missed the fall conference you missed a treat. Look for spring conference details on the district website and in the February/March issue of Palmetto Toastmaster.

## Win the Pin....

What pin might you ask? The exceptional limited edition pin in honor of this year's leadership. The pin features a lighthouse with six beacons and six stars. A reproduction appears at the conclusion of this article.

How can I win the pin? You can win the pin by attending District sponsored training, earning an educational award, attending a district conference, recruiting a new member or showing up at an event where the District Governor is also in attendance.

If you have not earned your pin there are still opportunities. If you are due a pin claim it so you can wear it proudly.



Submit your ideas, suggestions and remarks to:

[vida.jennings@att.net](mailto:vida.jennings@att.net)

## From the District Governor



Were you around when the three position light-bulb was introduced? That may have been before some of you were born. Imagine how exciting it was to those who only had seen two positions to light – On and Off. Suddenly, we could choose how much light we needed for living. Now we had low, medium and high positions for the light in our homes. Many of us thought that was so cool.

One click - a little light, to keep from bumping into the furniture. Two clicks – details become visible. Three clicks - a lot of light, for entertaining, reading or playing board games with the family. All in one convenient lighting appliance.

"Big deal!" you might say. "We now have continuously-variable lighting from off to bright. Many more positions than that old style three-way you are bragging about."

Maybe so, but at the time it was a giant leap forward in thinking and a major change to many. It took years for some to accept it.

Our own personal development is like the advancement in home lighting. First, we may be resistant to the fact that we even have a light. It has to be 'discovered' by others and nurtured into existence. Then we only have a few positions to the light we share with others (like the three-way bulb). One day we may discover that our light is infinite and continuously-variable. Our light can shine as brightly as we wish it. We may need a little help on how to control it and where to shine it.

Many of us have discovered our 'light' through Toastmasters. (You knew that was coming, didn't you?) We work together in an 'mutually supportive and positive learning environment' where we can learn to tap into our personal light and shine it into the lives of others.

Marianne Williamson, the spiritual activist, wrote, "As we let our own Light shine, we unconsciously give other people permission to do the same. As we are liberated from our own fear, our presence automatically liberates others."

I encourage each of you to let your light shine brightly. Let it show others how Toastmasters has en'light'ened you and how it can reshape their futures in a positive way. Whether they discover their light to be a three-way bulb or continuously-variable, it will lead to a brighter future for Toastmasters, South Carolina and the world.

You all truly ARE the LIGHT for Toastmaster!!

... Douglas Wilson, DTM, District 58 Governor

## Membership Building Ideas

- Create a holiday invitation and ask each member to hand out invitations to friends and co-workers. Plan your agenda around a holiday theme.
- Post brochures and flyers about your club at local book stores, both new and used.
- Ask your Chamber of Commerce to list your Toastmaster meeting information in their newsletter.
- Send personal notes to members that you haven't seen for awhile. Let them know that you've missed them, and are anxious to have them back.
- Have club business cards made with your meeting date, location, time, and a contact number. Pass them out everywhere.
- Wear your Toastmaster pin on a regular basis, not just at Toastmaster meetings.
- Challenge another club to a membership contest. Loser buys pizza for the winning club



## From the Lieutenant Governor of Education

The Toastmaster Educational experience is like no other. We learn by listening, by watching others, by practice, by evaluation, all in a friendly club atmosphere.

Take for instance, the basic Competent Communication manual, a ten step program designed to help you gain confidence and the skills needed to be an effective communicator. Each project building upon skills learned in the previous project and each designed to help you gain experience and knowledge. After completing this manual you can go on to choose from several Advanced Manuals that can help you develop special skills in Storytelling, Technical presentations, Humor or even Communicating on Television, to name a few.

But wait! Did that DTM at the last meeting say they were speaking from the Basic manual? What gives? Didn't they already do that?

Many advanced Toastmasters repeat the Basic Competent Communication manual on a regular basis. Just ask Patricia Hill, DTM, Past District Governor, or Douglas Wilson DTM, District Governor how many times they have done that manual.

I pale in comparison having only done it about 10 times. Why do we do it? One simple sentence; **"You never stop learning!"**

Each time as an advanced speaker you give a speech from the Basic manual you reinforce a learned skill. It never hurts to review basic speaking skills such as; creating a strong opening and conclusion, using correct grammar, or enhancing your message with effective pauses.

As a **Light for Toastmasters** in your club, by giving a speech from the basic manual, you can help the newer members in your club by inspiring them to complete this manual and go on to become Advanced Communicators. You can also help your club to achieve its Distinguished Club Program goals.

Whether this is your first time through the basic Competent Communication manual or the tenth time, I guarantee that you will benefit from the experience. **"You never stop learning!"**

... Patricia Gann, DTM, Lt. Gov. – Training & Education



## From the Lieutenant Governor of Marketing

Club rebuilding or building – sluggish, lost enthusiasm? Shed those shackles of limitations!! The Holidays are fast approaching!!! Let's have FUN and BE THE LIGHT!!!

Autumn is the season when we proudly celebrate our hard work by adding a DASH of SPICE, and (2) cups of FUN AND FROLIC to club meetings. We want to showcase our prize



### Pulse Check

How many members does your club have who did not complete their October renewals? Do they intend to come back? Has anyone called to remind them? When was the last time they attended a meeting? Has anyone personally talked with them? In this age of technology we rely so much on e-mail. It is important that we retain a personal touch in Toastmasters. Call or handwrite a note to a fellow club member in the next two weeks.

harvest for all to see!

Many clubs have “theme meetings” – which challenge our creativity, inject humor and rip-roaring laughter – we even learn something NEW! Members invite friends and family to come along – you’ll never believe what “John Q” did last week at TOASTMASTERS! It was hilarious!

Let your creative juices and culinary talents provide a savory, festive and lasting impression for visitors “SIMPLY AMAZING” our meetings are. Consider adding:

**FUNMASTERS:** warm and fuzzy members may wish to “let off some steam” – dress-up, get into character, do impressions, solo, trio or quartet song and show off fancy dance steps.

**JOKEMASTERS:** Joke of the Day – sets the tone, breaks the ice and becomes another meeting role and speaking opportunity!

**DISHMASTERS:** Brownies, cookies – WASSAIL – warm cider, finger licking pickings – ask every member to take turns bring a treat to the meeting and a guest.

Encourage innovative and/or different ideas from your members – everyone takes part and invites a guest.

Never cancel an opportunity to meet, to add some SPICE in your life, to have FUN & FROLIC with others: BE the LIGHT for TOASTMASTERS everyday, anywhere –let it shine. You’ll be rejuvenated and so will your members and guests.

Patricia Henley, DTM, Lt. Gov. – Marketing

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## Don't Quit Until You Submit!!!!

Whew, what a relief? You’ve just completed that last project to earn your educational award. It’s been a long haul but some how you made it. You are suddenly overcome with joy.

You begin to celebrate. It is possible you break out in the happy dance or perhaps you burst out in song. You might even run around the building as you experience your adrenaline high.

You have reached your milestone and are ready to rest on your laurels of success. Guess what? You can’t quit yet. The deed is not done until the paperwork is completed. So don’t quit until you submit!!!!

Completing the award, but not submitting the application means you have only gone 95% of the way. You have to make it to the finish line.

Prepare your application and forward to your Vice-President of Education to submit to Toastmasters International. If you are a Club VPE have another officer sign and submit on your behalf. Remember TI accepts award applications online, by fax and snail mail. Remember don’t quit until you submit.