



Gary Schmidt **Immediate Past International President**

Gary Schmidt, DTM, is the Immediate Past International President for Toastmasters International. He is the Public Affairs Manager for Clackamas County, Oregon. He has worked in the arena of politics for several years and has served on staff for two United States Senators from Oregon – Mark Hatfield and Gordon Smith. Schmidt worked as a field office manager, speechwriter, constituent service coordinator and field representative.

The longtime Toastmaster is a member of the Clackamas Stepping Stones club in Clackamas, Oregon.

"My Toastmasters experience has transformed me into a better communicator, a stronger leader and a well-developed person," Schmidt says. "It has taught me that the best way to build organizations is by building people: with confidence, leadership and self-worth." Schmidt, who chose "Toastmasters: Confidence. Leadership. Service." as the theme for his 2009 - 2010 term in office, asked Toastmasters to take action on these concepts. As a result, he says, "You will improve your life, the lives of your fellow members, and the lives of all those in the world who are touched daily by the power of Toastmasters."

For more information about the Immediate Past International President Gary Schmidt, read interviews with him in the *Toastmaster* magazine and the *Oregonian* newspaper.