Dream Achiever of the Month
Gateway to Dreams Member: Marian Brickner

Marian’s Dream:
Internationally acclaimed animal photographer Marian Brickner had a dream and, with the help and support of her connections at Gateway To Dreams, that dream came true! Marian was fascinated with photographing animals (she currently has 21 books of her photographs published, with more to come!). Marian read a book about Bonobo Apes, written by Frans de Waal and set out to photograph them at the Jacksonville Park Zoo in Florida. She photographed a family of Bonobo Apes at the zoo for 10 years.
Linda, the matriarch of the Bonobo family, gave birth to a baby which the zoo named Lucy. After being moved to a primate park in France, Lucy was now pregnant with her first baby.
Marian had a dream to follow Lucy to France to photograph the mother and baby together. She asked Karen Hoffman at G2D “Am I crazy that I have a dream and I feel I have to go to France to see Lucy and her baby?”.

What was stopping her? What stops a lot of us from pursuing our dreams or goals? Money!

Karen shared a quote “When you know your dreams and, when you share your dreams, people will help you!” Marian seemed hesitant to share her financial situation and Karen asked “How badly do you want to see Lucy?”.
Marian started to sharing her dream of going to France to see Lucy and, over the next several months, people donated from 10 dollars to 400 dollars to allow Marian to pursue her dream.
In September 2014 Marian’s dream was realized! She travelled to France got to photograph Lucy! And it gets even better! The zoo used Marion’s pictures in their marketing materials! Marian travelled to France again in 2015 and saw the brochures in the zoo and the billboard on the highway!
When she returned to G2D, Marion told Karen that even her hair was happy!

What is your dream or goal and could a community of supporting people help you?

Quote of the Month:
“When you know your dreams and, when you share your dreams, people will help you!”
Don’t Miss This Marketing Opportunity For You And Your Business!

Would you like to have your company featured in the Dream Spotlight? Every month we will feature a member and their business for a low fee! Contact Diane Carson at diane@promoxpertz.com for complete information if you would like to be the next featured dreamer!

Monthly Dream spotlight:
Member: Diane Carson
Company: Promo Xpertz LLC
Website: www.gopromoxpertz.com
Phone: 636-458-5241

What is your background? After 20 years as a Marketing Consultant (and extensive experience in PR and Retail Management), I found myself at a crossroads. I had always loved assisting clients with their marketing and trade show promotions and used my retail and marketing skills to help them move their business to the next level.

What is your current business? I am a Marketing Coach for solo entrepreneurs and small businesses, and a Promotional Products Distributor. As a Certified Marketing Consultant, I love to help small businesses to increase their business by becoming the part time marketing department they cannot afford on a full time basis. After an initial assessment, I prepare a one-page marketing action plan with two or three goals (no one can focus on more than three!) along with action items. I meet with my clients twice a month, either in person or teleconference, to move their marketing forward. Most businesses know how to market themselves, they simply don’t have the time. I bring the gift of time and focus to their marketing program.

How did you find G2D? By chance! I had an appointment to go to Lens Crafters at Chesterfield Mall. Curiosity got the better of me and I wandered over to the Gateway To Dreams space to learn more and picked up a flyer that described their programs. After attending the first Connecting and Promoting Women event, I recognized the relationships that were being built and the special bond between all the women in the room and I very much wanted to be a part of the group.

How has G2D impacted you? I have met the most supportive and motivating group of women through the organization. Something magical happens when you walk through their door. Connections are made, particularly those facilitated by Karen Hoffman, that will last a lifetime. The wealth of knowledge, their belief in random acts of kindness and pay it forward cannot help but rub off on anyone who is connected with GTD.

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Coaches Corner: Cathy Sexton

• Name: Cathy Sexton – Tactic Coach
• Company: The Productivity Experts
  • Type of coach: Tactic Business Coaching & Individual Productivity
  • People I coach: Small Business owners from Solo to 15 employees who want to reduce stress, get more done and make more money!
  • Something personal others might not know about me: I am a quilter I enjoy going to quilting retreats for relaxation and to sew
  • Something professional about me: I am a reforming workaholic and passionate about helping other business owners not to go down the same road.

• A coaching tip: When creating your to-do list also jot down the length of time it will take to complete so you know when you can work it into your schedule. If it is going to take 45min or longer it needs to be an appointment on your calendar. (Key point don’t stand yourself up!)

Contact Info
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Phone: 314-267-3969
Website: www.TheProductivityExperts.com
Member Events

One of the benefits of membership at the upper level is that you can hold events at the Business Lodge!

Here is a list of member only events coming up in September:

G2D Member Leslie Greenman:
Join us in the Millionaire Mindset Series where 21 experts from around the world, including Leslie Greenman, will be sharing what it takes to have a Millionaire Mindset and how YOU can create more money flow in your business ASAP.
Join us here:
http://millionairemindsetwomen.com/?-join=leslie_greenman
Leslie Greenman’s interview will be aired on September 16th. All these interviews are available for people to listen and learn from at no cost from September 5th to September 25th.

G2D Member Sonja Shin:
Media Workshop - Thursday, September 29th, 1-3:30pm
Get an insider’s perspective on how to get media exposure and learn how to get on TV for free (vs. the $4000-5000 some channels will charge you) from Media Coach Sonja Shin, who has produced for The Today Show at 30 Rock in NYC and reported the news at TV stations in San Francisco, Seattle and St. Louis. She has hosted her own daily talk radio show and regularly appears on Fox 2 News as a beauty & wellness expert (she has an audience of about 30,000 viewers with each appearance). In this interactive work-

shop, you will learn how to create your own press release and the do’s and don’ts of what to do when on TV. $99 or get the Early Bird Special of $85 by registering by Friday 9/23 at http://www.sonjashin.com/workshops

Art of Abundant Living Mini-Retreat -
Wednesday, September 14th, 6:30pm-8:30pm
Join us for this kick-off mini-retreat where we will create a sacred space where you can decompress and learn how to experience more peace of mind, hear divine guidance and less mind chatter from the inner critic. Transformation Coach Sonja Shin will lead you through a very relaxing meditation experience that will help you feel amazingly peaceful and help you allow Grace to flow through you more easily (miracles are a regular result of these experiences). You will also learn three simple, easy things you can add to your diet to improve your mood and feel happier each day from Wellness Warrior Sarah Ludlow. $20 at the door, $15 in advance. Register at http://www.mayyoushine.com/workshops/

Please go to the Gateway To Dreams website homepage and click on the Calendar link at the top navigation bar:
http://www.gatewaytodreams.org/
Do you have a dream? Are you longing for “something better” in your life, but aren’t sure how to make it happen?

Our community of dream champions is here to provide the support you need to uncover your dreams AND help you put a plan in action to go for your dreams!

It’s been said that a dream without a plan is just a wish. Gateway To Dreams believes that when you know and express your dreams and goals, people will help you achieve them! Whether your dream involves life, career or business, Gateway To Dreams can help you put a plan into action with the connections, resources and guidance to take your dream from wish to reality.

Gateway To Dreams is a collaborative, non-profit community created to facilitate positivity and possibilities in the St. Louis Metro Area. We are committed to helping people flourish in all areas of their lives. Whether it’s personal, career, or business, we provide the comprehensive resources of expert coaching, mentoring, targeted programs, and strategic connections necessary for dreamers to pursue AND achieve their dreams.

We believe:
• There is power in community
• There is hope in coming together to support one another
• The possibilities are endless when we stop focusing on obstacles to success and seemingly insurmountable problems and develop a solutions mindset – paying it forward and generously sharing who we know and what we know with each other to make dreams come true

Pictured is just a part of this dream community, the dream movement that first began meeting weekly in July 2013.

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