

Northwest Words

The Official Publication of Northwestern Toastmasters Club 2946/37
Meeting each first, third, and fifth Tuesday, 6:30 PM - Mayberry's, 50 Miller Street, Winston-Salem, NC
Volume 32, No. 6, Late September, 2005

On the web at www.nwtm.org

OFFICERS

President	Teddy Burris
VP-Education	Donna Hall
VP-Membership	Joel Schanker
VP-PR	Lance Cull
Secretary	Derrick Webb
Treasurer	Marcia Barney
Sgt. at Arms	Claudia Sortwell

For more information --
call Marcia Barney at
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See YOU at our next Meeting
Tuesday September 20, 2005



The Mission of a Toastmasters Club is to provide a mutually supportive and positive learning environment in which each member has the opportunity to develop and practice communication and leadership skills, which in turn foster self-confidence and personal growth.

And the New Member is.....

Joyce Potter, of Winston-Salem is our newest member. Joyce joined after attending the last meeting. Welcome to Northwestern Toastmasters, Joyce. We all look forward to hearing your IceBreaker Speech.

Our guest at the last meeting was Freida Todd. This was Freida's second visit to Northwestern, so we must be doing something right. Freida, we hope to see more of you in the future.

Dues are Due

Please get your dues to our treasurer, Marcia Barney. It was with great sadness, groaning, gnashing of the teeth as well as a few well-chosen words (what else would you expect from a Toastmaster?) that Marcia announced that Toastmasters International has raised the semi-annual fee. As a result, dues for six months are now \$30.50.

This is the first time in almost six years that Toastmasters International has raised the membership fee. Even with the raise to the new price, membership in Toastmasters is a real bargain for the learning experiences that are provided all members.

Why is it that people always prefer the front of the bus, the middle of the road and the back of the church?

Schedule for the September 20, 2005 meeting

The September 20, 2005 meeting will be a special meeting. Make sure that you are there!

This is our annual Club level Humorous Speech and Evaluation contests.

Our VP of Education, Donna Hall, has made sure that there will be plenty of contestants. Those not competing will be serving as Judges, Counters and all the other parts that make up a contest.

Be there or miss out on a great evening!

Remember: All roles are important! If you can not attend the meeting, then do contact either our VP of Education or the Toastmaster of the meeting.

Coming Soon!

Our VP of Education, Donna Hall, is working to create the schedule for the rest of the year. She will be announcing the schedule at our next few meetings. As soon as the schedule is completed, she will encourage our web master to add the schedule to our web site. So get ready for some great speeches and evaluations between now and the end of the year.

Mark your calendar now for the rest of this years meetings.

October 4	October 18	October 25
November 1	November 15	November 29
December 6	December 20	

and January 3, 2006

Web site Revision

Did you know that Northwestern Toastmasters has a web site? Check it out at www.nwtm.org – our web master has just finished revising the site, including a “members only” section. If you haven’t seen it yet, then call or e-mail John for the details.

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## The September 6, 2005 meeting

President Teddy Burriss conducted the business session. Officer reports included an announcement that the Humorous Speech Contest and the Evaluation contest will be held at our usual meeting place, Mayberys. Treasurer Marcia Barney presented a budget for the coming year. After some discussion and adjustments, it was approved.

Attending the meeting was a second time guest, Freida Todd. Welcome back, Freida! We must be doing something right, if you are back. Also attending was our newest member, Joyce Potter. Welcome to Northwestern Toastmasters!

Our Toastmaster of the meeting was Barbara Schanker with the theme of “Working” – an appropriate theme for the day after Labor Day. Her warm-up included an interesting history of labor and work.

Wordmaster Joel Schanker provided the word “Vocation” for members to use as they spoke. Vote Counting fell into the capable hands of John Clark. Our timer was Donna Hall. Grammarian for the meeting was Randell Jones. Our General Evaluator was David Scruggs. Marcia Barney filled the role of Jokemaster.

Table Topics master, Brian Davidson, provided thought-provoking questions as he asked questions about the best and worst vocation, the number of changes in vocations, the best and worst co-workers. Members called on included Donna Hall, Teddy Burriss, Butch Barney, Joel Schanker, and Randell Jones.

Our first speaker was Pedro Espino, who gave his IceBreaker speech. This first speech from the basic manual gave us the opportunity to learn some fascinating information about Pedro. Pedro won first place as the best prepared speaker of the evening. His evaluator, Butch Barney, won the award for best evaluator of the evening.

Our second and third speakers for the evening would have been David Matthews and Lance Kull. Oh! Well – perhaps next time. Our backup speaker for the evening was John Clark. John used speech # 4 (The Professional Seminar) for 6 minutes to describe the new web site of our Club. Teddy Burriss evaluated John.

Congratulations to all members for making this another memorable Northwestern Toastmasters meeting!

## Op-Ed Report by John Clark



(Background: By tradition, the editorial page of any newspaper is on the left side of an opened paper. “Op-ed” is a term used to refer to articles found opposite (or on the right side of the Editorial Page. Frequently, the articles are also opposite of the Editorial view.)

(Editors Note: John is one of our more outspoken members. There have been times when he speaks too much {or is that another member that I’m thinking of?} At any rate – members and officers are strongly encouraged to submit an article or two. The article can be either a rebuttal to John’s ramblings or something that you think is important to the membership – either way we’ll have the opportunity to read something other than John, the mouth, Clark.)

### A Penny For Your Thoughts, A Quarter For Your Words.

Go to our web site ([www.nwtm.org](http://www.nwtm.org)) click on “Roles” and then click on “Grammarian” – The first part of the page describes what the Grammarian should look for as we talk. The last line of this page says “The grammarian has a great deal of leeway in assigning fines. Normally, the fine is five cents per error, with a maximum of twenty-five cents.”

However; that does not describe our meetings. It seems to be “I think you were a little lax, 25 cents” Friends, we have lowered our uh standards.

I have a lot of great memories from our past meetings (along with some embarrassing moments that we don’t need to dwell upon.) One memory that stands out was the night that the Grammarian said “John – 3 uh’s and one and – 20 cents.” Yeah! I was improving! Here was monetary proof. Another memory was the night that the Grammarian, Marcia Barney, said “John – No filler words, Good work.” I still have, taped to my monitor, the quarter that I “earned” that night.

Assigning a blanket charge of 25 cents to everyone who speaks is debilitating to our members in two ways.

- 1) It lowers the effort of the Grammarian. After all, when I’m the Grammarian, why bother to listen for all the mis-spoken words, when I know everyone is going to get nicked for two-bits.
- 2) It denies our members of feedback on their progress in avoiding filler words. This could be a simple object lesson for members to provide succinct improvement.

Please! Let’s bring back to old ways!