

# 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. 8, Late October, 2005

On the web at [www.nwtm.org](http://www.nwtm.org)

## OFFICERS

President	Teddy Burriss
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  
336 712-8183

See YOU at our next Meeting  
Tuesday October 18, 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.*

## Welcome Visitors / New Members !

Northwestern Toastmasters had three visitors at our last meeting on October 4. They were Dan Coffey, Joe Bircher and Wendy Sanders.

Wendy is a member of SaraLee Toastmasters and wanted to see other Toastmasters Clubs in action. We hope you enjoyed the meeting and look forward to seeing you again.

Dan Coffey and Joe Bircher must have enjoyed the meeting. They are our two newest members. Welcome to Northwestern Toastmasters Club! We are all looking forward to your first (Icebreaker) speech.

## Division B Contest

The Division B Humorous Speech and Evaluations Contests were held last Thursday night in Greensboro. Joel Schanker, of Northwestern Toastmasters represented Area 21 in both contests.

Be sure to attend the meeting this Tuesday for a report from the Division B Governor, our very own Pam Christopher, DTM.

## Schedule for the October 18, 2005 meeting

THEME: ..... To Be Announced

Toastmaster ..... Randell Jones  
Table Topics ..... David Matthews  
General Evaluator ..... Elaine Wiles

Speaker ..... Joyce Potter  
Speaker ..... Teddy Burriss  
Speaker ..... Butch Barney

Evaluator ..... Brian Davidson  
Evaluator ..... Marcia Barney  
Evaluator ..... Lance Kull

Grammarian ..... Joel Schanker  
Wordmaster ..... Claudia Sortwell  
Timer ..... Barbara Schanker  
Vote Counter ..... David Scruggs  
Jokemaster ..... John Clark

**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.**

## Don't Forget !

There are three meetings in November. (The first, third and fifth Tuesday.) Our VP of Education, Donna Hall, is preparing a special educational session for the fifth Tuesday's meeting.

## The October 4, 2005 Meeting

Donna Hall, VP of Education, was the presiding officer. She conducted the business session with acumen.

Attending the meeting were three guests: Dan Coffey, Joe Bircher and Wendy Sanders. Dan and Joe are now members of Northwestern and Donna has added them to the schedule.

Our Toastmaster of the meeting was Joel Schanker with the theme of "Perfection" – something to keep in mind as we struggle to practice our next speech.

Wordmaster John Clark provided the word "Acumen" for members to use as they spoke. Vote Counting fell into the capable hands of Donna Hall. Our timer was David Matthews. Grammarian for the meeting was Marcia (give-me-a-quarter) Barney. Our General Evaluator was Brian Davidson. Jokemaster was our Donna Hall.

Table Topics master, Butch Barney provided questions about "Stowaway on a spacecraft," "Memory of a childhood friend," "Description of an air-head." and "Your best childhood friend." The speakers were John Clark, Donna Hall (best table topics), Brian Davidson, and Barbara Schanker.

Our prepared speakers of the evening were well prepared as they presented their speeches:

- ü David Scruggs gave speech #1 from the entertaining speakers manual as he talked about "What got you here, won't keep you here." (Which earned best prepared speaker of the evening award.)
- ü Pedro Espino gave speech # 2 from the basic manual as he spoke for 6 min. (The speech was so good that the recording secretary forgot to note the title.)
- ü Joel Schanker gave his revised Humorous speech contest entry – "What Really Bugs Me."

Our General Evaluator, Brian Davidson, did a superb job as he evaluated our meeting. He then called on:

- ü Randell Jones (who earned Best Evaluator of the meeting) to evaluate David's Speech.
- ü David Matthews, who evaluated Pedro's speech.

Brian finished the evaluation session by calling on our Grammarian for the evening, Marcia Barney, and our Wordmaster, John Clark

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### Web site Revision

Did you know that Northwestern Toastmasters has a web site? Check it out at [www.nwtm.org](http://www.nwtm.org) – our web master has just finished revising the site. He has added a "members only" section. Be sure to attend the next meeting, or call John Clark (he is the shy bashful one) for the details.

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Ordinarily, I couldn't care less about where my kitchen wipes were made. But, after seeing the disclosure on the package, I began to wonder. It stated: "Made in Israel or Germany or Mexico."

## Dear Ed



Over the past few meetings, some questions about Toastmasters, Northwestern Toastmasters Club, and our meeting format have been asked. This seems like a good place to answer some of those questions. If you have a question, feel free to

ask – just send an e-mail to your friendly local newsletter editor.

### How does the VP of Education determine the speaking order?

As a general rule, the speaking order is based on the experience of the speaker, with the least experienced speaker going first. It is difficult to enjoy the meeting when you are thinking about your speech. As we develop skill and experience, this becomes easier to handle.

### The Grammarian listens for mis-used words in all who speak during the meeting. Who checks the grammarian?

That is the responsibility of the General Evaluator. (There is a reason for the position being referred to as "General.") The General evaluator has the responsibility for evaluating, and (if necessary) assigning fines to the grammarian.

### Who is eligible for Table Topics questions?

A goal of any Toastmasters meeting is to give as many members as possible the opportunity to speak. Table Topics, in addition to helping us improve impromptu speaking, helps meet that goal. Therefore, the prime candidates are members of Northwestern who do not otherwise have a speaking role. Second choice are members of Northwestern who have only a brief speaking role (such as Wordmaster or Grammarian.) Last choice are those who are assigned Evaluator roles. Members who are prepared speakers (they have enough to think about) and guests should NOT be called on for Table Topics.

### How much experience should a Toastmaster have before being assigned different roles in a meeting?

Anyone who is intelligent enough to join Toastmasters will normally have the skills necessary for almost all roles in a Toastmasters meeting – with these exceptions.

- ü Evaluations are the heart of a Toastmasters meeting. Ergo, a Toastmaster should have plenty of time to observe evaluations and be coached by their mentor before being assigned the role of Evaluator. Normally this experience will be gained by the fifth speech from the basic manual.
- ü General Evaluator and Toastmaster of the meeting may look simple but there are a lot of things to "tie together" if the role is filled correctly. Usually by the time a Toastmaster has done two or three evaluations, it is time to step up the plate and attempt the role. After all, we learn best by doing.