

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
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On the web at 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
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**See YOU at our next Meeting
Tuesday February 7, 2006**



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.

Guest(s) !

Our guest at the January 31, 2006 meeting was Graham Johnston of Winston-Salem. Graham, we hope that you enjoyed the meeting and look forward to seeing you again.

Speech Contests

Toastmasters International has two speech contests each spring. The International Speech Contest and Table Topics Contest. These start with contests at each Club. The winners participate in the Area Contests. Winners of the Area Contests are in the Division Contests. Those winners will compete at the District Conference. The winners of the District International Speech contest must use a different speech for the Regional Contest. Finally, winners of the Regional Contests will compete at the Toastmasters International Conference.

This is a great opportunity for those who love the thrill of competition. It is also a great opportunity to help. At each contest level, judges, counters and timers as well as a chief judge and sergeant at arms are needed to make sure the contests run smoothly.

Improved Communication Seminar

ICS will start next month. Be sure to make plans to attend. Detail will be announced at Northwestern Toastmasters Club Meetings.

Schedule for the February 7, 2006 meeting

Toastmaster	Joel Schanker
Table Topics	Lance Kull
General Evaluator	Brian Davidson
Speaker	Pam Christopher
Speaker	Barbara Schanker
Speaker	David Scruggs
Evaluator.....	John Clark
Evaluator.....	Claudia Sortwell
Evaluator.....	Butch Barney
Grammarian.....	Marcia Barney
Wordmaster	Teddy Burriss
Timer	Randell Jones
Vote Counter.....	Joe Bircher
Jokemaster	Donna Hall

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.

Schedule for the February 21, 2006 meeting

Toastmaster	Lance Kull
Table Topics	Elaine Wiles
General Evaluator	Marcia Barney
Speaker	Joe Bircher
Speaker	Derrick Webb
Speaker	Joel Schanker
Evaluator.....	Barbara Schanker
Evaluator.....	Butch Barney
Evaluator.....	Pam Christopher
Grammarian.....	Teddy Burriss
Wordmaster	Joyce Potter
Timer	Donna Hall
Vote Counter.....	Claudia Sortwell
Jokemaster	Brian Davidson

The January 31, 2006 Meeting

President Teddy Burriss was our Presiding Officer for the meeting. The business session ran with its usual efficiency. Lance Kull announced that Northwestern Toastmasters received a complement from the District Leaders on the way we assisted the latest TLI (Toastmasters Leadership Institute) that was held in January of this year. Marcia Barney introduced a motion that we hold an Improved Communication Seminar starting in March. The motion was amended to start just after the Club level International Speech and Table Topics Contests.

Our Toastmaster of the meeting was Butch Barney who provided us interesting facts about United States Presidents.

Toastmaster Barney introduced our Wordmaster, Lance Kull, who gave us the word "Affable."

Next was our Table Topics Master, John Clark who called on Teddy Burriss, Pam Christopher, Lance Kull and Marcia Barney with questions about statements made by our Presidents.

Our first prepared speaker was Joyce Potter who gave speech number three from the basic manual as she defined the "Do's and Don'ts" of Christmas Letter Writing.

Our second prepared speaker was Randell Jones. Randell used us to practice an after dinner speech that he will be giving. Randell's speech was from the Entertaining Speaker Manual.

Our final prepared speaker was Pam Christopher, who explained "My Boyfriends Back" as she gave speech number four from the Specialty Speeches Manual.

General Evaluator Joel Schanker did his usual affable job as he evaluated the meeting, called on the evaluators and carefully evaluated the evaluators:

- ◆ Teddy Burriss Wiles evaluated Joyce's speech
- ◆ Brian Davidson evaluated Randell's speech
- ◆ Marcia Barney evaluated Pam's speech

Joel then called on his support staff:

Grammarians and Wordmaster Lance Kull gave the Grammatician and Wordmaster reports.

Timer Teddy Burriss gave his report.

Every one in Toastmasters is a winner. Winners this night were:

Best Table Topics	Marcia Barney
Best Prepared Speaker	Randell Jones
Best Evaluator	Marcia Barney

In Honor of St. Patrick's Day

Paddy was in New York. He was patiently waiting, and watching the traffic cop on a busy street crossing. The cop stopped the flow of traffic and shouted, "Okay pedestrians". Then he'd allow the traffic to pass. He'd done this several times, and Paddy still stood on the sidewalk.

After the cop had shouted "Pedestrians" for the tenth time, Paddy went over to him and said, "Is it not about time ye let the Catholics across?"

What We Do

by Marcia Barney, DTM



The purpose of joining Toastmasters is to become more effective communicators and leaders. To that end we should know a one-sentence purpose of each part of the program.

Perhaps a prepared sheet - call it a Guest Sheet if you wish - could be quite helpful.

When we have guests there is certainly a need to help them understand the formalities of our meeting and how these procedures help us improve. However, every married person knows the danger of repetition to the skill of effective listening. For the vast majority of experienced Toastmasters in our club, this could prove a death knoll to both effective listening and to efficiently communicating the information. From exposure to each other we also know the temptation of molding an informative one sentence purpose of explanation into an opportunity to become unnecessary eloquent. Subjecting facts to varied, creative eloquence may result in chaotic distortion.

Does each of our members truly understand the purpose of each part of our program to the end - effective communication and leadership - stated at the beginning of this dissertation or are we blinded by individual interest in a specific part of the Toastmaster experience?

Information presented in writing provides quintessential Shakespearean option - to be or not to be informed. Those who wish or need to understand may read the written explanation as they choose. Just as we only grow as communicators and leaders by participation, we improve by effectively investing our time as individually selected.

Quotable Quotes

"It isn't pollution that's harming the environment. It's the impurities in our air and water that are doing it."

--Al Gore, Vice President

"I love California. I practically grew up in Phoenix."

--Dan Quayle

"The word 'genius' isn't applicable in football. A genius is a guy like Norman Einstein."

---Joe Theisman, NFL football quarterback

"Traditionally, most of Australia's imports come from overseas." --Keppel Enderbery

Question: If you could live forever, would you and Why?

Answer: "I would not live forever, because we should not live forever, because if we were supposed to live forever, then we would live forever, but we cannot live forever, which is why I would not live forever,"

-- Heather Whitestone --Miss Alabama in the 1994 Miss USA contest.