

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 33, No. 14, Late January, 2007

On the web at www.nwtm.org

OFFICERS

President	Donna Hall	
VP-Education	Joel Schanker	
VP-Membership	Lance Kull	
VP-PR	John Clark	336 723-2153
Secretary	Brian Davidson	336-765-5502
Treasurer	Marcia Barney	336 712-8183
Sgt. at Arms	Evander Woo	
Immediate Past	Teddy Burriss	

For more information --
call Marcia Barney at
336 712-8183

**See YOU at our next Meeting
Tuesday January 16, 2007**



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.

~~~ Thoughts from the Editor ~~~

There is a third page on this issue of the newsletter. It is an (I thought) interesting column on over-used words for last year – not that any of us would ever do such a thing.

The start of a New Year is always a time that we make resolutions. For many years, I have refrained from doing such, as a matter of principle. However, this year, I gave in and made some New Year's Resolutions. Feel free to join me. Some of my resolutions include:

- Say "Thank You" to at least one person every day. Try to mean it when you say it.
- Stop exercising, it's a waste of time.
- Procrastinate more. Starting tomorrow.
- Get in a whole NEW rut!
- Spend your summer vacation in Cyberspace.
- Create loose ends.
- Get more toys.
- Don't believe politicians.
- Break at least one traffic law.
- Spread out priorities beyond ability to keep track of them.
- Wait around for opportunity.
- Never make New Year's resolutions again.

Schedule for the January 16, 2007

Kyle Adams.....	Joke Master
Don Barnett.....	Speaker
Butch Barney	Evaluator
Marcia Barney.....	Timer
Teddy Burriss.....	Speaker
John Clark.....	Word Master
Brian Davidson.....	Evaluator
Donna Hall.....	Evaluator
Matthew Hamby	Vote Counter
Karen Harmon.....	Toastmaster
Lance Kull.....	Speaker
David Lagadi.....	Speaker
Barbara Schanker	Evaluator
Derrick Webb	General Evaluator
Elaine Wiles	Table Topics
Debbie Woo	Grammarian
Evander Woo	Evaluator

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

Schedule for the January 30, 2007

Don Barnett.....	Evaluator
Butch Barney	Speaker
Marcia Barney.....	Evaluator
Teddy Burriss.....	Word Master
John Clark.....	Speaker
Pam Christopher	Speaker
Brian Davidson.....	General Evaluator
Donna Hall.....	Speaker
Karl Hastings.....	Joke Master
Karen Harmon.....	Evaluator
Lance Kull.....	Vote Counter
Joel Schanker	Toastmaster
Derrick Webb	Timer
Elaine Wiles	Grammarian
Debbie Woo	Evaluator
Evander Woo	Table Topics

The January 2, 2006 Meeting

by Debbie Woo, asst. to the Secretary

The January 2, 2007 meeting of Northwestern Toastmasters was called to order by our Vice President of Education Joel Schanker. Joel happily substituted for our President, Donna Hall. He welcomed our visitor Deanna to our meeting. Hopefully Deanna will become our newest Toastmaster member. Joel also discussed our upcoming January 30, 2007 meeting, which will fall on the fifth Tuesday of this month. Joel will be Toastmaster for the January 30, 2007 meeting with a theme of "Better Speaker." Joel recessed the meeting until 6:45. After the recess, Joel introduced our Toastmaster for the evening, Teddy Burriss, who began the meeting with his them of "Anew For You."

Word Master Karl was called on by TM Teddy for the word of the evening which was "tenuous". I am happy to report that there were no "tenuous" speakers.

Table Topics Masters, Joel Schanker, who played many roles in our meeting (thanks Joel), asked some great questions for our impromptu speakers Matthew Hamby, Zoltan Rab and Debbie Woo. All speakers kept within the allotted speaking time limits.

Joel then relinquished control of the meeting back to TM Teddy. Our first prepared speaker of the evening was wonderful Karen Harmon. Karen's speech, "Better Business Meetings" was for her #7 speech out of the Basic Manual. By the end of her speech I was ready to go out and buy the book she used as a reference, "Death by Meetings" but the Wake Forest game had already begun so football won over a trip to Barnes and Noble. Our next speaker, lovely Barbara Schanker, spoke on "The Winning Proposal" from the Persuasive Speaking Manual. It was a great speech but unfortunately ran longer than the allotted speaking time, however, Barbara had all of us ready to book a cruise!

TM Teddy then introduced the General Evaluator Butch Barney. Butch acknowledged that we had a good session and gave everyone good advice on how it could have been better. He then introduced the evaluators for the evening, beginning with John Clark who had some great suggests for Barbara. Our next evaluator, Marcia Barney gave good advice to Karen Harmon. The suggestions from both evaluators were greatly appreciated.

Since Butch Barney did such a fantastic job as General Evaluator, he was asked to come back to the lectern to do the Grammarian report. I saw a lot of money exchanging hands (from our hands to Marcia Barney's). Word master Karl reported that Joel, John and Barney were neither "flimsy or without substance" and each used the word of the meeting correctly.

TM Teddy wrapped up the educational part of the meeting and turned the lectern back to Joel who received a report from the Vote Counter Zoltan. The best Table Topics ribbon went to Zoltan Rab and Best Speaker ribbon to Karen Harmon. Best Evaluator ribbon went to none other Marcia Barney. The meeting ended with a "Yadkinville joke" from Joke master Matthew Hamby. Joel ended the meeting by asking for a few words from our visitor and then everyone rushed home to watch the Wake Forest game. Happy New Year!

Give It A Try.

By Vice President Of Education, Joel Schanker



It is that time of the year again to give it a try. The International Speech and Table Topics contests will take place in March. Many of our newer members have completed the six projects needed to qualify for the contest. Now is the time to

prepare your contest speech. The topic and structure is totally open to the speaker. Although traditionally this has been considered the "serious" speech contest, there are no rules or policies that specify such a choice. However, judging is, after all, a subjective process and subject to the expectations of the judges.

I have heard all of you speak and know that in your unique life experiences are lesson to learn and stories to be told. Now is the time to commit to our contest and start preparing your speech.

Our club has a number of people who have competed on some of the highest levels in Toastmasters. Every one of the members of Northwestern Toastmasters is willing and able to provide advice and assistance if you want it. But first you have to get in the game. Send me an E-mail to let me know that you are going to compete. It may not lead to the World Championships this year but it will be a step on the path to a new level of speaking skills.

The rules are few and easy to follow:

1. Speaker must have completed at least six speeches from the Basic Manual to be eligible.
2. Speakers must be a current dues paying member or a club that is current.
3. The speech must be substantially the original work of the speaker.
4. A speech presented at any competition cannot be previously used at the same level of competition.
5. The speech must be at least four minutes thirty seconds and no more than seven minutes thirty seconds.

Give it a try. The rigidity of the time limits will help you tighten your ideas. The extra practice will demonstrate the benefits that come with sufficient preparation. The formality of the contest format will sharpen your presentation skills. There will be contest winners and contest losers but more importantly we all gain from the commitment to the goals of the contest and the practice in advance. If that is what losing can provide, exactly what is the downside!

GIVE IT A TRY!!!!

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## LSSU issues annual list of banished words

CONTACT: Tom Pink, 906-635-2315, [tpink@lssu.edu](mailto:tpink@lssu.edu);

John Shibley, 906-635-2314, [jshibley@lssu.edu](mailto:jshibley@lssu.edu).

SAULT STE. MARIE, Mich. -- Lake Superior State University proposes an exit strategy for 2006: the 32nd annual List of Words Banished from the Queen's English for Mis-Use, Over-Use and General Uselessness.

On Dec. 31, 1975, former LSSU Public Relations Director Bill Rabe and some colleagues cooked up the whimsical idea to banish overused words and phrases and issued the first list on New Year's Day. Much to the delight of word enthusiasts everywhere, the list has stayed the course into a fourth decade.

Through the years, LSSU has received thousands of nominations for the list, which is closing in on its 1000th banishment.

This year's list is culled from more than 4,500 nominations received mostly through the university's website, [www.lssu.edu/banished](http://www.lssu.edu/banished). Word-watchers target pet peeves from everyday speech, as well as from the news, fields of education, technology, advertising, politics and more. A committee makes a final cut in late December. The list is released on New Year's Day.

So gitmo chipotle-flavored egnog, curl up with an undocumented alien, and cut-and-run to the 2007 list. It won't be coming to a theater near you.

**GITMO** -- The US military's shorthand for a base in Cuba drives a wedge wider than a split infinitive. "When did the notorious Guantanamo Bay Naval Base change to 'Gitmo,' a word that conjures up an image of a fluffy and sweet character from a Japanese anime show?"

-- Marcus W., St. Louis, Missouri.

**COMBINED CELEBRITY NAMES** -- Celebrity duos of yore -- BogCall (Bogart and Bacall), Lardy (Laurel and Hardy), and CheeChong (Cheech and Chong) -- just got lucky. "It's bad enough that celebrities have to be the top news stories. Now we've given them obnoxious names such as 'Bragelina,' 'TomKat' and 'Bennifer.'"

-- M. Foster, Port Huron, Michigan.

**AWESOME** -- Given a one-year moratorium in 1984, when the Unicorn Hunters banished it *"during which it is to be rehabilitated until it means 'fear mingled with admiration or reverence; a feeling produced by something majestic."* Many write to tell us there's no hope and it's time for "the full banishment." "The kind of tennis shoes you wear, no matter how cute, don't fit the majestic design of the word."

-- Leila Hill, Damascus, Maryland.

**GONE/WENT MISSING** -- "It makes 'missing' sound like a place you can visit, such as the Poconos. Is the person missing, or not? She went there but maybe she came back. 'Is missing' or 'was missing' would serve us better." -

- Robin Dennis, Flower Mound, Texas.

**PWN or PWNED** -- Thr styff of lemgendz: Gamer defeats gamer, types in "I pwn you" rather than I OWN you. "This word is just an overly used Internet typo. It has been overused to the point that people who play online games are using it in everyday speech."

-- Tory Rowley, Corunna, Michigan.

**NOW PLAYING IN THEATERS** -- Heard in movie advertisements. Where can we see that, again? "How often do movies premiere in Laundromats or other places

besides theaters? I know that when I want to see a movie I think about going to a shoe store."

-- Andrea May, Shreveport, Louisiana.

**WE'RE PREGNANT** -- Grounded for nine months. "Were men feeling left out of the whole morning sickness/huge belly/labor experience? You may both be expecting, but only one of you is pregnant."

-- Sharla Hulsey, Sac City, Iowa

**UNDOCUMENTED ALIEN** -- "If they haven't followed the law to get here, they are by definition 'illegal.' It's like saying a drug dealer is an 'undocumented pharmacist.'"

-- John Varga, Westfield, New Jersey.

**ARMED ROBBERY/DRUG DEAL GONE BAD** -- From the news reports. What degree of "bad" don't we understand? Larry Lillehammer of Bonney Lake, Washington, asks, "After it stopped going well and good?"

**TRUTHINESS** -- "This word, popularized by The Colbert Report and exalted by the American Dialectic Society's Word of the Year in 2005 has been used up. What used to ring true is getting all the truth wrung out of it."

-- Joe Grimm, Detroit, Michigan.

**ASK YOUR DOCTOR** -- The chewable vitamin morphine of marketing. "Ask your doctor if 'fill in the blank' is right for you! Heck, just take one and see if it makes you 'fill in the blank' or get deathly ill."

-- R.C. Amundson, Oakville, Washington.

**CHIPOTLE** -- "Prior to 2005 . . . a roasted jalapeno. Now we have a 'chipotle' burrito with 'chipotle' marinated meat, 'chipotle' peppers, sprinkled with a 'chipotle' seasoning and smothered in a 'chipotle' sauce. Time to give this word a rest."

-- Rob Zeiger, Bristol, Pennsylvania.

**i-ANYTHING** -- 'e-Anything' made the list in 2000. Geoff Steinhart of Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, says tech companies everywhere have picked this apple to the core. "Turn on...tune in...and drop out." "Banish any word that starts with it. i am just tired of it. it's getting old."

-- Brad Butler, Adrian, Michigan.

**SEARCH** -- Quasi-anachronism. "Might as well banish it. The word has been replaced by 'google.'"

-- Michael Raczko, Swanton, Ohio.

**HEALTHY FOOD** -- Point of view is everything. Someone told Joy Wiltzius of Fort Collins, Colorado, that the tuna steak she had for lunch "sounded healthy." Her reply: "If my lunch were healthy, it would still be swimming somewhere. Grilled and nestled in salad greens, it's 'healthful.'"

**BOASTS** -- See classified advertisements for houses, says Morris Conklin of Lisboa, Portugal, as in "master bedroom boasts his-and-her fireplaces -- never 'bathroom apologizes for cracked linoleum,' or 'kitchen laments pathetic placement of electrical outlets.'"

Lake Superior State University is Michigan's smallest public university with an enrollment of 3,000 students. It is known for its academic programs such as fisheries and wildlife management, engineering, teacher education, nursing, criminal justice, fire science and business management.

LSSU accepts nominations for the banished-words list throughout the year. To submit your nomination for the 2008 list, go to [www.lssu.edu/banished](http://www.lssu.edu/banished). -LSSU-