

# 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. 15, Early February, 2007

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

## OFFICERS

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Sgt. at Arms	Evander Woo	
Immediate Past	Teddy Burriss	

For more information --  
call Marcia Barney at  
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**See YOU at our next Meeting  
Tuesday February 6, 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.***

### ~~~ Welcome New Members! ~~~

Northwestern Toastmasters has two new members - Diana Garcia and Evelyn Ries. Toastmasters hope your experience will be both educational and enjoyable. A few years ago, our District Governor introduced the phrase "Empowerment, Enlightenment, Fun" as his theme. We hope you experience all three.

### ~~~ Welcome Guests! ~~~

We had two guests at the January 30, 2007 meeting - - Scott Anderson and Craig Thrift. We all (southern for all of us) hope you enjoyed the meeting and look forward to seeing you again soon.

### ~~~ Dues are Due ~~~

Northwestern Toastmasters semiannual dues are due. Please give Treasurer Marcia Barney your check for \$31.50 during the month of February. If you're going to be out of the country or otherwise indisposed, please mail it to her:

Marcia Barney  
3501 Lakefield Court  
Clemmons, NC 27012

Make your check payable to: "Northwestern Toastmasters".

### ~~~ Rejects from the Word Master ~~~

Intoxication: Euphoria at getting a tax refund, which lasts until you realize that it was your money to start with.

Reintarnation: Coming back to life as a hillbilly.

## Schedule for the February 6, 2007

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

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

## Schedule for the February 20, 2007

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

**1ne January 16, 2007 meeting**

by John Clark, humble asst. to the Secretary

The meeting was called to order by our President, Donna Hall. Donna welcomed our visitor, Evelyn Ries and the members of Northwestern. Under "New Business" Joel Schanker, VP of Education, announced that the International Speech and Table Topics Contest would be held at the Club level in March. Under "Announcements" Pam Christopher (District 37 Lt. Governor of Education) announced that she has been nominated to run for District 37 Governor for the 2007-2008 Toastmaster year. Karen Harmon announced that she has a schedule problem and, as a result, needs to resign from Northwestern. Donna Hall demonstrated her Toastmaster skills when she thanked Karen for telling us, rather than just disappearing and expressed the view that all of us hope she will be able to return soon.

After a brief recess, Donna called the meeting back to order. (Some members called the meeting something else, but I didn't hear what.) Donna introduced our Toastmaster of the Meeting, Karen Harmon. Karen user the theme "Unique Benefits of Northwestern" as her swan song. Karen then called on our Word Master, John Clark, who gave us the word "Debilitating" as our word of the day.

Karen called on Table Topics Master Elaine Wiles. Elaine explained the purpose of Table Topics and called on -

- Joel Schanker to explain the benefits of speech contests.
  - Asked Kyle Adams to select Speaking, Listening or Thinking as a goal and explain why.
  - John Clark to explain the value of Table Topics
  - Butch Barney to explain the value of Evaluations
- Karen called on Marcia Barney for a timely report of the time used by each speaker.

Karen introduced our prepared speakers for the meeting. - Don Barnett gave speech number 5 from the basic manual as he talked about "White Water Rafting."

- Teddy Burriss presented speech number 5 from the Story Telling Manual as the told us about telegraphs, spam and "Civil War e-mail."

After the prepared speeches, Marcia again gave a timely report of the speakers times. Karen then called on our General Evaluator was Derrick Webb. In addition to evaluating the general flow of the meeting, Derrick called on Pam Christopher to evaluate Don's speech and Donna Hall to evaluate Teddy's speech.

Derrick then called on our Grammarian, Debbie Woo and our Word Master, John Clark, before returning control of the meeting to our Toastmaster, Karen Harmon.

Karen quickly wrapped up the meeting and returned control to the Presiding Officer, Donna Hall.

Donna announced the winners of tonight's contest.

- Best Table Topics went to Butch Barney
- Best Prepared Speaker went to Don Barnett
- Best Evaluator went to Pam Christopher.

Donna concluded the meeting by calling on our Joke Master, Kyle Adams, who regaled us with a story of Joel (the mighty hunter) Schanker.

(Please be on the lookout for our Secretary, Brian Davidson. He does a much better job than I do.)

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**1ne January 30, 2007 meeting**

by Brian Davidson, Secretary

This meeting of Northwestern Toastmasters was called to order by President Donna Hall. President Hall welcomed our newest member Diana Garcia. She also introduced guests Scott Anderson and Craig Thrift. President Hall then asked for the Officer's Reports. VP of Education Joel Schanker reviewed future roles and responsibilities of the membership for the next couple of meetings. (Please see summary of future roles on Page 1 of this newsletter). Joel also reminded the members of the upcoming International Speech Contest and that the Club Contest will be March 6<sup>th</sup>. The location of the Club Contest is still to be determined. (Please see Joel if you are interested in participating in the upcoming contests). President Hall recessed the meeting until 6:45 pm.

After the recess, Donna introduced the Toastmaster for the evening, Joel Schanker, who opened with a speech to introduce the meeting topic "Better Speaking".

Word Master Teddy Burriss was called on by TM Joel. Teddy challenged us to use the word "urbane" during our speaking roles.

Table Topics Master Evander Woo was introduced by TM Joel. Evander offered some topics for discussion to Karl Hastings, Barbara Schanker, Matthew Hamby and Lance Kull. According to the Timer's report, presented by Donna Hall, all of the speaking times were within the allotted time limits.

After accepting control of the lectern from back from Evander, TM Joel introduced the first prepared speaker, John Clark, who presented the 3rd speech project from the Entertaining Speaker Manual. John's speech title was "Impromptu Speaking". Next up was Pam Christopher who revisited a project from the basic manual. Pam's speech was titled "Careful Interruption". Butch Barney presented the last prepared speech of the evening titled "Keep Them Listening". As you can see from the theme of the meeting and the speech titles, this was a fifth Tuesday educational session. Great information was provided by our Toastmaster of the evening and all of the prepared speakers. According to Timer Donna Hall, each speaker's speech time was within their requested time limit.

Next, Toastmaster Debbie introduced General Evaluator Brian Davidson. Brian presented his view of how the meeting had progressed and where we could possibly make some improvements. Brian seemed to harp on keeping the meeting moving as scheduled and the importance of each and every one of us trying to stay within our allotted speaking times. Brian then turned to his team of evaluators to help the individual speakers. Don Barnett helped out John with some suggestions on things he might consider to enhance his speech and presentation skills and Marcia Barney sent some suggestions over to Pam with her evaluation. Elaine Wiles finished up the speech evaluations by offering some suggestions to Butch.

After the individual speech evaluations Brian called on Grammarian Zoltan Rab. Zoltan caught our usual mistakes and a few grammatical errors that we sometimes overlook. Zoltan did a great job and dished out the appropriate fines. However, according to Treasurer Marcia

(continued on page 3)

(Secretary's report, continued from page 2)

Barney some of us may be trying to run a tab. Let's remember to fess up on our fines and boost the treasury so that our club supplies and advanced manuals can continue to be provided with the club's funds.

Wordmaster Teddy Burriss presented his report of who was able to use the word of the evening. Teddy presented a fine report but this scribe is not able to report the results because of a failure to take notes. Sorry guys and gals.

After the Wordmaster report General Evaluator Brian turned the meeting over to Toastmaster Joel. TM Joel closed the educational portion of the meeting with a summary of the meeting's topic and his parting remarks. After completing his remarks, TM Joel turned the lectern over to President Hall.

President Hall received a report from Vote Counter Lance Kull. Donna then presented the Best Table Topics Award to Lance. The Best Speaker Award went to Butch Barney and his evaluator Elaine Wiles accepted the Best Evaluator Award. Jokemaster Karl Hastings got some teeth flashing and bellies jiggling with an expertly delivered humorous story. President Hall efficiently wrapped things up and called the .....



MEETING ADJOURNED!

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**A note from the editor.**

Some of us believe that global warming is an "inconvenient truth" while others of us believe that it is just a "convenient lie." No matter which side of the issue you believe, Lance does provide some interesting thought on leadership in his guest editorial of this issue of Northwest Words.

Normally, as Toastmasters, we try to avoid inflammatory comments. Sometimes a partisan statement will cause us to lose part of the audience as they focus on the statement instead of the message that we intended. Keep that in mind and focus on the message in Lance's editorial.

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**More rejects from the Word Master - -**

Bozone (n): The substance surrounding stupid people that stops bright ideas from penetrating. The bozone layer, unfortunately, shows little sign of breaking down in the near future.

Giraffiti: Vandalism spray-painted very, very high.

Sarchasm: The gulf between the author of sarcastic wit and the person who doesn't get it.

Inoculatte: To take coffee intravenously when you are running late.

# The Joy of Procrastination

*By Vice President Of Membership, Lance Kull*



Team! I looked it up and Procrastination is a bone-fide Leadership Technique! It seems like many of our leaders in the past have used procrastination to move us forward in the direction we need to be headed. But often, we have gotten the push a little late, and missed the opportunity. For instance, the Kyoto Protocol was introduced in December 1997 with a push for countries, especially the major industrial countries like the United States, to make a strong effort to reduce greenhouse emissions that seemed to be leading to global warming – and all of it's dire consequences. Our country procrastinated – partly due to uncertainty and partly due to politics and the projected cost – until our President, George W. Bush, flatly turned it down in the Spring of 2001, just 6 years ago. But now, it appears that he finally believes and in the last State-of-the-Union address acknowledges Global Warming as a real problem and a true "inconvenient truth." This is true procrastination leadership.

So should we as Toastmasters adopt the Procrastination Technique in our own leadership style? Is putting it off going to work for us? After all, we aren't going to cause irrevocable environment crises, if we just put off doing our jobs as leaders in our Toastmaster club, right? What's the worst that could happen?

In our part of the whole world and in the history of human kind, will our delay in preparing a speech or will failing to call speakers in advance of a meeting cause civilization to fail? Hardly. But in our part of the world, that part that we CAN control, we DO MAKE A DIFFERENCE. I think it is a little bit better here and now if we do the things we need to do, now, and without procrastinating. Our opportunity to grow in skill as speakers and in our leadership abilities is here and now. We have the perfect venue in our Toastmaster club. We can volunteer to take on additional roles in the meetings. We can tell our VP of Education that we want to speak more frequently, evaluate more, take part more often in Table Topics or even be a club leader for the upcoming year.

We can stretch our arms and break out of the box we are in by competing in the speech contests. They really stretch your abilities – and make you grow – rapidly! We can attend the Toastmaster Leadership Institutes and the Spring and Fall conferences to learn all we can from Toastmasters across the state – and we have some really great Toastmaster-Teachers that are willing to share what they know with you!

It is all here for you. But unfortunately, if you procrastinate, the opportunity for you to stretch and grow will pass you by. All you have to do is ignore it, and hope the melting glaciers don't flood NC before you have a chance to become the Leader you can be!