

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. 16, Late February, 2007

On the web at www.nwtm.org

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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 20, 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! ~~~

In the last issue, it was announced that we had two guests at our meeting. In this issue, the same two guests are now our newest members.

Be sure that you make both Scott Anderson and Craig Thrift welcome. Scott and Craig – All of use hope that your experience with Northwestern Toastmasters will be both educational and enjoyable.

~~~ 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".

Universal Laws

Law of Probability: The probability of being watched is directly proportional to the stupidity of your act.

Law of the Telephone: If you dial a wrong number, you never get a busy signal.

Law of the Alibi: If you tell the boss you were late for work because you had a flat tire, the very next morning you will have a flat tire.

Law of the Bath: When the body is fully immersed in water, the telephone rings.

Schedule for the February 20, 2007 Meeting

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

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

Schedule for the March 6, 2007 Meeting

This is the Club Level Contest for both the International Speech Contest and the Table Topics Contest. If you have not entered yet, talk with VP of Education, Joel Schanker. There are still a few openings – but they are going quickly.

The winners of this contest will be entered into the Area Level contests on March 14, 2007. Those winners will compete in the Division B Level contest on April 14, 2007. Then it's on to the District Level contests at the Spring Conference.

Northwestern Toastmasters has the reputation of frequently having the winners at these contests. (It must have something to do with the quality of our meetings.) This year will be no different.

So, make plans to attend the different levels of these contests. See you there! While you are making plans, remember – there is always a need for judges, counters, and all the positions that make a contest possible.

The February 6, 2007 meeting by Brian Davidson, Secretary

The meeting was called to order by Vice President of Membership Lance Kull. Presiding Officer Kull reminded the members that it is time to spend some time with Treasure Marcia Barney and settle up your semiannual dues of \$31.50. Please make your check payable to: Northwestern Toastmasters. Immediate Past President Teddy Burriss presented the educational report reminding the membership to review our upcoming meeting roles. Teddy also reminded members to contact Vice President Joel Schanker of your desire to participate in the upcoming NWTM International Speech and Table Topics Contests scheduled for March 6, 2007. The Contests will be held at Mayberry's fine dining establishment. Lance recessed the meeting until 6:45 pm. After the recess, Lance introduced the Toastmaster for the evening, Marcia Barney, who opened with a speech to introduce the meeting topic "Put Your Heart Into It".

Word Master Pam Christopher was introduced by TM Marcia. Pam was not extemporaneous when called to present the word for the evening "extemporaneous".

Table Topics Master Karl Hastings was introduced by TM Marcia. Karl did not hesitate to offer some thoughtful suggestions for discussion to Teddy Burriss, Brian Davidson, Pam Christopher and Evander Woo. According to the multitasking Timer, Evander Woo, all of the speaking times were within the allotted time limits.

After accepting control of the lectern back from Karl, TM Marcia introduced the first prepared speaker, Diana Garcia. Diana presented her Ice Breaker. Congratulations to Diana and thank you for sharing important segments of your life with us. Next up was Matthew Hamby. Matthew's speech was the second project from the Basic Manual. Matthew's speech was titled "Skiing" and he passed on important information about a sport that he enjoys. Kyle Adams worked on her third project from the Basic Manual. Kyle's speech, "Something About Mary", made us take a second to think how quickly and dramatically things can change in life. Zoltan Rab's speech titled "Global Warming" present information and offered some suggestions on this important topic. Zoltan was also working on the third project from the Basic Manual. Debbie Woo presented her ninth project from the Basic Manual. Debbie's speech "To Cell or Not To Cell" put together a lot of the skills she has been working on and she not only used props but she presented a compelling argument to use our cell phones responsibly, especially while operating a motor vehicle.

The timers report presented by Timer Evander indicated that some of the speakers had exceeded their requested target times. The speakers who met their target times were Matthew, Kyle and Zoltan.

Next, Toastmaster Debbie introduced General Evaluator John Clark. John presented his view of how the meeting had progressed and where we could possibly make some improvements. John included in his remarks a reminder of the importance of recognizing the person who has the floor and not holding side discussions while they are speaking. John then turned to his team of evaluators to help the individual speakers. Teddy Burriss helped out Diana with some suggestions on things she might consider to enhance her speech and presentation skills and Lance Kull sent some suggestions over to Matthew with his evaluation. Butch

Barney evaluated Kyle's speech and Brian Davidson evaluated Zoltan's speech. Derrick Webb finished up the speech evaluations by offering some suggestions to Debbie.

After the individual speech evaluations, GE John called on Grammarian Evander Woo who pointed out some grammatical hiccups we had during the meeting and issued the appropriate fines. GE John also obtained a timer's report from Evander. Word Master Pam reported that Marcia, Teddy and John extemporaneously used the word of the evening, "extemporaneous".

Toastmaster Marcia wrapped up the educational portion of the meeting by sticking with her meeting theme "Put Your Heart Into It". She then turned the meeting over to Presiding Officer Lance Kull. Lance obtained the vote count from Vote Counter Evelyn Ries. Lance then presented the Best Table Topics Award to Brian. The Best Evaluator Award went to Butch Barney and the Best Speaker Award went to Kyle. Joke Master Don Barnett invoked some laughter just before Presiding Officer Lance Kull efficiently wrapped things up and called the

MEETING ADJOURNED!



Communication

By Sgt. at Arms Evander Wool



To paraphrase an old Carol King song, "You've have to wake up every morning, with a smile on your face, and show the world that you're beautiful, as beautiful as you feel."

The daily stresses of life can make you feel ugly, even hopeless at times. How do you make yourself feel beautiful again? The first step is to realize that you need to turn yourself around. The second step is to do something about it.

Many people join Toastmasters after they realize the need to develop and improve their communication skills. The reasons for joining are as numerous as the number of members. Some participate to overcome their fear of speaking in front of a group of people. Some realize their existing presentation skills need improvement. Others find that the evaluation process can help them with employee reviews at work.

Despite the thousands of reasons that people have for participating in Toastmasters, there's only one that counts, yours. Experienced Toastmasters can coach you and provide you with many valuable tips for becoming a better communicator. But, the effort to become a better communicator still has to come from you. If you don't feel "beautiful" in your heart about what you are doing, your audience will react accordingly.

Think about the worst thing that's ever happened to you. Then, think about the happiest moment of your life. If today is far from the worst day you've ever had, you have a very good reason to put a smile on your face and show the world how beautiful you can be. If you strive to make each day the happiest day of your life, the world will greatly appreciate you as a person and as a communicator.

The first step is wanting to become a better communicator. The second step is to use the resources from Toastmasters to help you become a better communicator.