

# 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 34, No. 8, Late October, 2007

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

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For more information --  
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336 712-8183

**See YOU at our next Meeting  
Tuesday -- October 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.***

### ~~~ **Dues Are Were Due** ~~~

Our semi-annual dues are due and must be to our club Treasurer **on or before** the next NWTM meeting on October 2m 2007. If you wish to continue the benefits of being a member of Northwestern Toastmasters then please see Marcia Barney. She will consider allowing members to rejoin on a case by case basis.

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

## Strange (Collected) Thoughts

Last night I played a blank tape at full blast. The mime next door went nuts.

If a person with multiple personalities threatens suicide, is that considered a hostage situation?

If a cow laughed, would milk come out her nose?

If olive oil comes from olives, where does baby oil come from?

So what's the speed of dark?

Why don't they just make mouse-flavored cat food?

If you're sending someone some Styrofoam, what do you pack it in?

### Schedule for the October 16, 2007 Meeting

Scott Anderson.....	Table Topics
Don Barnett.....	General Evaluator
Butch Barney .....	Evaluator
Marcia Barney.....	Evaluator
Teddy Burriss.....	Toastmaster
Pam Christopher .....	Timer
John Clark.....	Evaluator
Brian Davidson.....	Speaker
Donna Hall.....	Joke Master
Matthew Hamby .....	Grammarians
Mary Jones .....	Speaker
Lance Kull.....	Evaluator
Susan Lippow.....	Speaker
Zoltan Rab .....	Speaker
Christine Sternjacob.....	Wordmaster
Jeff Walker.....	Evaluator
Derrick Webb .....	Evaluator
Elaine Wiles .....	Vote Counter
Evander Woo .....	Speaker

### Schedule for the October 30, 2007 Meeting

Scott Anderson.....	Evaluator
Don Barnett.....	Speaker
Butch Barney .....	Table Topics
Teddy Burriss.....	Evaluator
Pam Christopher .....	Speaker
John Clark.....	Grammarians
Donna Hall.....	Evaluator
Susan Lippow.....	Word Master
Mary Jones .....	Timer
Fran Oakes.....	Speaker
Zoltan Rab .....	Evaluator
Barbara Schanker .....	Toast Master
Joel Schanker .....	Evaluator
Christine Sternjacob.....	Speaker
Craig Thrift .....	Vote Counter
Jeff Walker.....	Joke Master
Derrick Webb .....	Evaluator
Elaine Wiles .....	Speaker
Evander Woo .....	General Evaluator

## October 2, 2007 Meeting Notes

by Scott Anderson, Secretary



There was a computer "glitch" and the meeting notes are not available. Hopefully the Secretary and the newsletter editor will have solved the problem and we will publish the meeting notes in the next issue of Northwest Words.

### More Strange (Collected) Thoughts

I just got skylights put in my place. The people who live above me are furious.

Why do they sterilize needles for lethal injections?

Do they have reserved parking for non-handicapped people at the Special Olympics?

When a man talks dirty to a woman, it's sexual harassment. When a woman talks dirty to a man, it's \$3.95 per minute.

If it's tourist season, why can't we shoot them?

Isn't Disney World a people trap operated by a mouse?

Since light travels faster than sound, isn't that why some people appear bright until you hear them speak?

How come abbreviated is such a long word?

If it's zero degrees outside today and it's supposed to be twice as cold tomorrow, how cold is it going to be?

Why do you press harder on a remote-control when you know the battery is dead?

Why are they called buildings, when they're already finished? Shouldn't they be called built?

Why are they called apartments, when they're all stuck together?

Why do banks charge you a "non-sufficient funds fee" on money they already know you don't have?

If the universe is everything, and scientists say that the universe is expanding, what is it expanding into?

If you got into a taxi and the driver started driving backward, would the taxi driver end up owing you money?

What would a chair look like if your knees bent the other way?

If a tree falls in the forest and no one is around to see it, do the other trees make fun of it?

When two airplanes almost collide why do they call it a near miss? It sounds like a near hit to me!

Why are there 5 syllables in the word "monosyllabic"?

## Ready Aim, Fire

by Joel Schanker



There is an interesting conversation in Alice In Wonderland between Alice and the Cheshire Cat. "Would you tell me, please, which way I ought to go from here?"

"That depends a good deal on where you want to get to," said the Cat.

"I don't much care where --" said Alice.

"Then it doesn't matter which way you go," said the

Cat

I do not believe that your experience will be much different in Toastmasters. If you do not have an idea of what you want to accomplish, then it really doesn't matter how you go about it. However, if you take a moment to consider why you are in Toastmasters, then you can successfully translate the *why* into *what*. What do you want to accomplish that will satisfy why you joined Toastmasters?

Once you have specific goals in mind, you can start planning how to get them. Whatever your goals are, Toastmasters has one or more manuals that will deliver the skill set necessary to make it happen. If you want to develop leadership skills, you will want to complete the leadership manual. You might also want to set goals that include holding club level office, then area, then division or district. If you want to speak more effectively at work, you might select the manual on Technical Presentation. If you want to be less stiff, you could try the Humorous Speaker manual. With specific goals you can complete manuals that target appropriate aspects of speaking. If you are not sure how to get there, talk to someone who has already been down the path and let them share their experiences.

After you set your goals, this best is now in front of you. Hard work and fun rarely mix in this day and age, but in Toastmasters you are working in front of people who are on the same path you are. They have made every one of the mistakes you will make but they still succeeded. They will applaud before you utter one word because they know what it takes to stand up there. Where else can you guarantee that unsuccessful efforts are not only unpenalized but get you the advise and feedback that will allow you to improve.

Life is rarely as complicated as we think. The old processes still work. Know where you want to go. Pick specific paths to get you there. Then, step out and move resolutely forward, stopping along the way to check your position and admire the scenery around you.

### Even More Strange (Collected) Thoughts

Why do they call it the Department of Interior when they are in charge of everything outdoors?

Why do scientists call it research when looking for something new?

If vegetarians eat vegetables, what do humanitarians eat?