

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. 17, Early March, 2008

On the web at www.nwtm.org

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For more information --
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**See YOU at our next Meeting
Tuesday -- March 4, 2008**



Schedule for the March 4, 2008 Meeting

Scott Anderson.....	Speaker
Don Barnett.....	Evaluator
Butch Barney.....	Joke Master
Marcia Barney.....	Evaluator
Teddy Burriss.....	available
Pam Christopher.....	Speaker
John Clark.....	Toastmaster
Brian Davidson.....	General Evaluator
Donna Hall.....	available
Mary Jones.....	Grammarian
Lance Kull.....	available
Susan Lippow.....	Table Topics Master
Fran Oakes.....	available
Zoltan Rab.....	Timer
Evelyn Ries.....	available
Barbara Schanker.....	Evaluator
Joel Schanker.....	Speaker
David Scruggs.....	available
Christine Sternjacob.....	available
Craig Thrift.....	available
Jeff Walker.....	Speaker
Derrick Webb.....	Vote Counter
Elaine Wiles.....	Elaine Wiles
Evander Woo.....	Wordmaster

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.

Schedule for the March 18, 2008 Meeting

This will be the Club level International Speech Contest. The winner will compete at the Area level contest. Then, it's on to the Division, District, Regional and the International Contest.

For more information talk to our Vice President of Education, Evander Woo.

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

~~~~ New Member ~~~~

Our newest member is Eddy Gaasbeek. Eddy lives in Sandy Ridge. He has chosen Joel as his mentor. Welcome to Northsestern, Eddy!

~~~~ Dues Are Due ~~~~

Our semi-annual dues are due and need to be must be to our club Treasurer **on or before** the next NWTM meeting on October 2. Those who have paid so far are: Barbara and Joel Schanker, John Clark, Elaine Wiles, Mary Jones, Pam Christopher, Butch Barney, Marcia Barney. If your name does not appear on that illustrious list, please send a check for \$31.50 (payable to "Northwestern Toastmasters") to:

Marcia Barney, DTM
3501 Lakefield Court
Clemmons, NC 27012

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A guy goes into a bar, orders four shots of the most expensive 30-year-old single malt Scotch whisky and downs them one after the other. The bartender says, "You seem to be in a great hurry." The guy says, "You would be too if you had what I have." The bartender asks, "What have you got?" "Fifty cents," is the reply.

## February 5, 2008 Meeting Notes

by Scott Anderson, Secretary



Evander Woo opened the Northwestern Toastmasters Club meeting on February 19, 2008.

Three guests were in attendance: Nancy Guenther, Eddie Gaasbeek and Susan Booth. Nancy spoke about the Area 21 International Speech Contest. The event will occur on Saturday April 5th at the Big Shotz Tavern on Stratford Rd. from 11am to 2pm. Volunteers are still needed as well as a judge from our club.

Evander introduced the Toastmaster for the evening, Zoltan Rab. Zoltan's theme for the meeting was focus. He began by talking about three kinds of focus required in Tae Kwon Do. They are mind, body, and eye. He stated this kind of focus is the same focus required for a successful speech. We must be aware of the audience at all times, this is mind focus. We must control and use our body language deliberately, this is body focus. Finally, we must maintain eye contact with the audience, this is eye focus.

Zoltan introduced Craig Thrift the Wordmaster. The word of the meeting was prodigious. Prodigious means extraordinary in size.

Next, the meeting moved to table topics. John Clark was the table topics master. He began by asking Joel Schanker to give an example of a time where he needed more focus. Joel "could not quite put his finger on an example" which caused uproarious laughter. He later transitioned to addressing the political climate. Joel gave a rather informed and brilliant analysis of the current political situation which can be summed up best by his lucid yet wry observation, "ideas are obscured by the din of statistical noise." John then asked Don Barnett if humans can have auto focus. He agreed that this was possible citing the proclivity of humans to focus on cues in a hyper sensitive manner. John asked Evander Woo to give an example of when a leader or manager should have focused more on an issue. Evander used this opportunity to answer the rather important question of why government toilet seats cost six hundred dollars. Evander pointed to the lack of project management leadership as the main culprit for flushing all that money away.

Elaine Wiles was the first prepared speaker for the evening. This was an oratorical speech. She read the Inaugural address from our 20<sup>th</sup> president John F. Kennedy. For those who are not familiar with this address; it contains the rather famous line "...ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country."

The second prepared speaker was Butch Barney. This was an after lunch speech entitled "the River is Dirty." Butch spoke about a devastating trend in this country – uneducated voters. Butch wove the phrase the river is dirty throughout his speech while talking about the various presidential candidates.

David was the General Evaluator for the meeting. He reminded us that the purpose for the general evaluator is to evaluate, summarize, and critique the meeting so far. He then began doing just that. The first evaluator he called on was Marcia Barney. She was evaluating Elaine's speech. She rose and thanked Elaine for admitting openly that she was giving someone else's speech. After the laughter died down, she suggested a few changes that could improve Elaine's delivery. The first issue was building suspense around the identity of the original speaker. This competed

with the audience's focus of her delivery. Also, she suggested that greater energy and word emphasis would captivate the audience more. The second Evaluator was Scott Anderson. He was evaluating Butch's speech. Scott called Butch a modern day Mark Twain without the mustache. He commented on the excellent use of humor Butch always seems to effortlessly use to draw the audience in. He also like the repetitive theme of the river is dirty. He suggested that perhaps the structure of the speech could be organized a little more to ensure the audience does not lose focus.

Control of the meeting returned to Evander. Evander announced that Joel won the ribbon for Best Table Topics Speaker. Butch won the ribbon for Best Speaker. Marcia won the ribbon for Best Evaluator. Don Barnett was the Jokemaster for the evening. He taught us the true meaning of the phrase "the car won't start!"

### ~~~~~ **YOU KNOW YOU'RE FROM AROUND HERE IF:**

1. You measure distance in minutes.
2. You've ever had to switch from "heat" to "A/C" in the same day.
3. You use "fix" as a verb. For example: "I'm fixing to go git some more beer."
4. All the festivals across the state are named after a fruit, vegetable, grain, insect or animal.
5. You know what a "DAWG" is.
6. You carry jumper cables in your car. For your OWN car.
7. You only own five spices: salt, pepper, Texas Pete, Tabasco and Ketchup.
8. The local papers cover national and international news on one page, but require 6 pages for local gossip and motorsports.
9. You think that the first day of deer season is a national holiday.
10. You find 100 degrees Fahrenheit "a bit warm".
11. You know all four seasons: Almost Summer, Summer, still Summer and Christmas.
12. Going to Wal-mart is a favorite past time known as "goin' Wal-martin" or off to "Wally World."
13. You describe the first cool snap (below 70 degrees) as good chicken stew weather.
14. A carbonated soft drink isn't a soda, cola or pop... it's a pepsi, regardless of brand or flavor.
15. Fried catfish is the other white meat.
16. You understand these jokes and forward them to your North Carolina friends (and those who just wish they were).