

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
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On the web at www.nwtm.org

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For more information --
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See YOU
at our next Meeting



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 July 1, 2008 Meeting

Scott Anderson.....	Toastmaster
Don Barnett.....	Table Topics
Butch Barney.....	Evaluator
Marcia Barney.....	Evaluator
Susan Bush.....	Word Master
Pam Christopher.....	
John Clark.....	Evaluator
Brian Davidson.....	
Eddy Gaasbeek.....	Speaker
Dale Holder.....	
Mary Jones.....	
Lance Kull.....	Vote Counter
Barbie Morgan.....	
Zoltan Rab.....	
Madan Rangabasyam...	Speaker
Angela Rininger.....	Grammarian
Barbara Schanker.....	Evaluator
Joel Schanker.....	General Evaluator
Mick Scott.....	Speaker
David Scruggs.....	Evaluator
Veronica Sherbourne....	
Craig Thrift.....	
Brenda Tuttle.....	Timer
Jeff Walker.....	Speaker
Derrick Webb.....	
Elaine Wiles.....	
Evander Woo.....	Joke Master

Schedule for the July 15, 2008 Meeting

Scott Anderson.....	Evaluator
Don Barnett.....	
Butch Barney.....	General Evaluator
Marcia Barney.....	Evaluator
Susan Bush.....	
Pam Christopher.....	Evaluator
John Clark.....	Speaker
Brian Davidson.....	Table Topics
Eddy Gaasbeek.....	
Dale Holder.....	
Mary Jones.....	
Lance Kull.....	
Barbie Morgan.....	
Zoltan Rab.....	
Madan Rangabasyam ..	
Angela Rininger.....	Speaker
Barbara Schanker.....	Speaker
Joel Schanker.....	Evaluator
Mick Scott.....	Speaker
David Scruggs.....	Evaluator
Veronica Sherbourne ...	
Craig Thrift.....	
Brenda Tuttle.....	
Jeff Walker.....	Toastmaster
Derrick Webb.....	
Elaine Wiles.....	Speaker
Evander Woo.....	Joke Master

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

The math professor went crazy with the blackboard.
He did a number on it.

The professor discovered that her theory of earthquakes was on shaky ground.

When the smog lifts in Los Angeles, U.C.L.A.



New Members and Guests

Veronica Sherbourne has just earned the title as our newest member. Welcome to Northwestern, Veronica. We all hope you will Northwestern a good investment of your time.

Guests included Guests Jennifer Davis, Tyana Roth, Veronica Scott, and Sue Morgan. Ya-all come back.

June 17, 2008 Meeting Notes

by Marcia Barney, DTM/asst. Secretary

President Brian Davidson



conducted the business meeting with his usual efficient aplomb. The transition of old to new VP seemed to be progressing with a magnanimous amount of gratitude and caution; however, we feel sure

effective efficiency will return soon. Guests Jennifer Davis, Tyana Roth, Veronica Scott, and Sue Morgan were welcomed.

Don Barnett chose "All I Need to Know" as the theme for the meeting and delighted us with a refresher speech on some of life's most important lessons. Scott Anderson gave "tenacious" as the Word-for-the-Day. Craig Thrift did an outstanding job as Table Topics Master, giving a very brief introduction followed by thought-provoking topics to:

- Elaine told us about an important lesson in life.
- Angela's major reading material for lesson is the Bible.
- Scott disclosed a humorous (now) lesson from his younger years.
- Brian finally told us when he learned everything.

Our second (Don gave a prepared speech for his TM Warm-Up) prepared speaker for the evening was by Marcia Barney. Her 6 minute (and 41 seconds) Advanced Professional Speaker #1 was titled "Make Mine Leadership." Four more NWTMs (Elaine, Eddy, Craig and Scott) were convinced to sign-up for the Competent Leadership Program. (Or was that partially because of the arm twisting after the meeting?)

Jeff Walker made his maiden voyage as General Evaluator. John Clark evaluated Don's speech and Butch "I've got the car keys" Barney evaluated Marcia's speech.

Vote Counter Angela announced the winners:

Best Table Topics Speaker - Brian Davidson

Best Evaluator - Butch Barney

Best Speaker - Marcia Barney

A moment of levity was supplied by Jokemaster John Clark.

Finally, members are reminded to bring their Competent Leadership Manuals to the meetings. And away we went into the June daylight.

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Why do we wash bath towels? Aren't we clean when we use them?

Why do we put suits in a garment bag and put garments in a suitcase?

Why doesn't glue stick to the inside of the bottle?

Why doesn't Tarzan have a beard?

I wondered why the baseball was getting bigger. Then it hit me.

Police were called to a day care where a three-year-old was resisting a rest.

## Apologies



by Marcia Barney DTM

Apologies are a part of communications and leadership that can be a real quagmire. They're like a precocious 2-year old: the cutest things alive or a holy terror.

A sincere apology for something you did incorrectly can reopen minds and ears. An unnecessary apology can simply

draw attention to a distraction OR it can create a distraction where none should exist.

For example, if you give someone inaccurate information, an apology and correction is certainly in order. Thinking before you speak, organizing your thoughts, and whenever possible careful planning can avoid a great deal of this type apology.

The unnecessary apology that simply draws attention to a problem is simply best left unsaid. If you cough during a speech everyone knows you coughed and assume that you did so unintentionally, so why draw more attention away from your message?

The third kind of apology is one even Miss Manners would shun for it creates problems. The most prevalent example for communicators is the apology for the speaker. One form is "John Smith was scheduled to give his award winning rendition of *How to Pick Up Indian Princesses* this evening, but he couldn't make it, so I got a Toastmaster friend to fill-in at the last minute." Once that has been said, the speaker has 2 1/2 strikes against her. The audience is already disappointed.

While the Introducer is frequently the culprit in this sinful apology, we can also do it to ourselves. Speakers will say - from the lectern or to members of the audience - "I didn't have time to prepare my speech very well, but I'm giving it anyway." Speaker now has an uphill battle.

Fellow Toastmasters. I've been preparing for every speech for over (well over) 30 years. Whether I took 4 weeks or 4 hours to write it and practice it, an apology is neither necessary nor is it an acceptable excuse for poor performance. Please don't handicap me or any other speaker by offering one!

Forget the apologies! Do the best you can with what you have whenever you do it. Do even better next time!

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Did you hear about the guy whose whole left side was cut off? He's all right now.

To write with a broken pencil is pointless.

The short fortune teller who escaped from prison was a small medium at large.

A thief who stole a calendar got twelve months.