

# 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 35, No. 03, Early August, 2008

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

## OFFICERS (2008-2009)

President	Craig Thrift	336 764-2024
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VP-Membership	Elaine Wiles, ATM-S	
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Sgt. at Arms	Eddy Gaasbeek	336 871-3636
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For more information --  
call Marcia Barney at  
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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 August 5, 2008 Meeting

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

## Schedule for the August 19, 2008 Meeting

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

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

The dead batteries were given out free of charge.  
A dentist and a manicurist fought tooth and nail.  
A bicycle can't stand alone; it is two tired.  
A will is a dead giveaway.  
A backward poet writes inverse.

## Guests

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Guests at the July 29 Meeting included our new Area Governor Kimberly Netter and DTM Mark Perew. Mar has just moved to this area -- from California

## July 15, 2008 Meeting Notes

by Evander Woo, Secretary



The July 15, 2008 meeting at Mayberry's started on time at 6:30PM by our President Craig Thrift. We had one guest tonight. After a 10 minute recess, the meeting resumed at 6:45PM by VP of Education Don Barnett, who introduced Craig as our Toastmaster for the evening.

Craig set the theme "The Art of Giving" by talking about organ donation, the ultimate gift. Our Wordmaster for the evening was Barbie Morgan, who presented the word "benevolent" to tie in the theme for the night.

Our Table Topics Master was Brian Davidson, who selected Eddy Gaasbeek, Barbie Morgan, and Madan Rangabasyam as our impromptu speakers.

Angela Rininger was the first prepared speaker for the evening. She spoke about the "Benefits of Home Purchase", a topic fresh in her mind as she and her husband have been planning to buy a house.

Barbara Schanker spoke about "Too Good to Be True", explaining how things were not what they seemed to be.

Jeff Walker talked about the current state of the economy in "What's in Your Wallet?"

Elaine Wiles did an interpretive reading about three nurses in "Excerpts from a Play".

Butch Barney lead the evaluation session as our illustrious general evaluation. Pam Christopher evaluated Angela's speech. Marcia Barney evaluated Barbara's speech. Joel Schanker evaluated Elaine's speech. Saving the best for last, Don Barnett evaluated Craig's Toastmaster speech.

Our timer tonight was Eddy Gaasbeek. Susan Bush was the vote counter. Barbie also served as grammarian.

The best table topics speaker was Madan Rangabasyam. The best evaluator was Joel Schanker. The best speaker was Elaine Wiles.

Closing out the meeting was joke master Evander Woo.

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## July 29, 2008 Meeting Notes

by Evander Woo, Secretary



Since this was the third Tuesday of the month, we held an extra meeting geared toward education. The night's theme was "What Now?", but the focus was on progressing from the icebreaker speech to Distinguished Toastmaster (DTM).

Our illustrious President Craig Thrift started the meeting on time and introduced two special guests tonight, Area Governor Kimberly Netter and DTM Mark Perew, whom had moved to Winston from California.

Brian Davidson, Past President, was the Toastmaster of the evening. He explained what it meant to be a Toastmaster and what one can achieve as a Toastmaster in his prepared speech.

Jeff Walker was the Wordmaster. The word for the evening was "venerable".

## July 29 Meeting Notes (continued)

Secretary Evander Woo was the Table Topics Master. He had asked four fellow Toastmasters to describe the important steps from doing an Icebreaker to becoming a DTM. Eddie was given a comparison of doing an icebreaker to learning to drive for the first time and asked why that first step was important to Toastmasters. He replied with his unique response about his driving. Butch Barney was asked to explain why Toastmasters was more than just making speeches, which he described in his usual manner. Joel Schanker was asked if the communications and leadership paths were equally important, to which he responded that the communications path was more important. The final question of the evening was to describe what it was like to become a DTM, which Lance Kull answered without giving away his acceptance speech for a DTM award.

Three icebreaker speeches were presented tonight.

Susan Bush was the first to speak. She was nervous, like most of us were on that first speech. Susan persevered with the encouragement given by Lance and Joel while she was at the lectern and gave "the first icebreaker to be given a standing ovation", words straight from Marcia's mouth.

Madan Rangabasyam, an experienced traveler who grew up in India, had compared his life in India to America. Imagine if you lived somewhere that at least four of your relatives in your town know your every move, not necessarily the same four each time. He had used the term "you all", to emphasize that southern India wasn't much different the southern US.

Princess Edwards gave a presentation about her first name. She had wanted to change it in her youth, because she didn't feel worthy of what it implied. Despite having a royal title as a name, she demonstrated that she was a humble, hardworking person worthy of her namesake.

Our gracious Treasurer Marcia Barney started the evaluation session as our General Evaluator. She gave her personal evaluation of the meeting from the start to table topics.

Don Barnett evaluated Susan Bush. John Clark evaluated Madan Rangabasyam. Butch Barney evaluated Princess Edwards. Elaine Wiles evaluated Brian Davidson's Toastmaster Warm-up.

Our timer for the evening was Scott Anderson. The grammarian was Barbara Schanker.

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### Who Me?

By Brian Davidson



The third Toastmasters meeting I attended the fellow at the lectern called my name. Hold on, I have things to time. I don't really know what I am timing yet but they handed me a stop watch and a wooden box with lights on it. Why does this guy want to know what color of car is a police officer more likely to pull over for speeding? I have all these times written down. Doesn't he want to know about these? TABLE TOPICS!

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## Who Me? (continued from Page 2)

“Uh, I think cops, I mean policemen, uh, are more likely to, uh, stop a red, uh, red like car, uh, reddish. If they don't, uh, stop a, uh, reddish car, uh, they will stop some other, uh, car. Uh, uh, uh, thank you.”

Being able to orally present an organized opinion or statement of fact in front of a group of people in the form of a prepared speech is extremely important. But how often do you have the chance to take a week, days, or hours to prepare the answer to the most important question of your life. Never! Your future employer wants to know why you deserve the job, a young child needs a reassuring response to a difficult question, your teenager wants to.....you must respond and respond well. Table Topics questions offer you the chance to practice thinking quickly, organizing your thoughts and presenting your response. Especially if you are under pressure to present at a business meeting, crowded social setting or in front of your civic club. Numerous resources are available from Toastmasters International and your club members. Until you can get your hands on these materials you might consider some of the following when fielding your next real life or practice Table Topics question.

- Timing Lights and Timer's Report – Use them to your advantage. With practice your responses to Table Topic questions will get longer and more organized. Unfortunately, we sometimes get too long winded. Use timing lights and timer's reports to learn to gauge how long you have been talking.
- Do not judge your response before delivering it. You have been asked a question – answer it! “I don't know about this topic but...”. “I have not had time to prepare...”. Uncertainty is not useful and will be counter productive in presenting your views.
- Build your knowledge base. The more you know the more interesting you will be.
- Presentation – Stay enthused. Use body language. Make eye contact. Use a readily available visual aid.
- Be sensitive to your audience and don't make judgments.
- Humor, if appropriate, is a good tool for not only getting your listener's attention and gaining those few seconds to gather your thoughts.

Imagine presenting a prepared speech and of course you have not memorized every word, you feel a gust of cool air from the vent above your head, your notes are gathered in the burst of air and are floating to the floor three rows into the audience. Your Table Topic skills are not only valuable to answer questions, because two minutes later you leave the stage with your head held high after you just gave the smoothest, most concise and powerful speech closing of your life because you have taken advantage of your Table Topic opportunities and know how to think, organize your thoughts and present before your notes hit the floor.

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## Great truths about life that I have learned

1. Raising teenagers is like nailing JELLO to a tree.
2. There is always a lot to be thankful for if you take time to look for it. For example, I am sitting here thinking how nice it is that wrinkles don't hurt.
3. One reason to smile is that every seven minutes of every day, someone in an aerobics class pulls a hamstring.
4. The best way to keep kids at home is to make the home a pleasant atmosphere and let the air out of their tires.
5. Car sickness is the feeling you get when the monthly car payment is due.
6. Families are like fudge .. mostly sweet with a few nuts.
7. Laughing helps. It's like jogging on the inside.
8. My mind not only wanders, sometimes it leaves completely.
9. If you can remain calm, you just don't have all the facts.
10. You know you're getting old when you stoop to tie your shoes and wonder what else you can do while you're down there.

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## According To Dr. Phil, You may be overweight if . . .

1. You dance and it makes the band skip.
2. You are diagnosed with the flesh-eating virus, and the doctor gives you 22 more years to live.
3. Your driver's license says, 'Picture continued on other side.'
4. You could sell shade.
5. You ran away from home and they had to use all 4 sides of the milk carton for your picture.
6. You learn you were born with a silver shovel in your mouth.
7. Your blood type is Ragu.
8. You put mayonnaise on aspirin.
9. You go to the zoo and the elephants throw you peanuts.
10. When you get to the bottom of a stairway, your tummy takes one more step.

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**It's time to stop laughing and get ready for the meeting on Tuesday. See you there!**