

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. 05, Early September, 2008

On the web at www.nwtm.org

OFFICERS (2008-2009)

President	Craig Thrift	336 764-2024
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VP-Membership	Elaine Wiles, ATM-S	
VP-PR	John Clark, DTM/AL	336 723-2153
Secretary	Evander Woo, CC	
Treasurer	Marcia Barney, DTM/AL	336 712-8183
Sgt. at Arms	Eddy Gaasbeek	336 871-3636
Immediate Past	Brian Davidson, ATM-S	336 765-5502

For more information --
call Marcia Barney at
(336) 712-8183

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.

Guests and New Members

Guests at the August 19th meeting were Mark Perew and Ed Vest. They must have enjoyed the meeting since they are both now our newest members.

Dues Are Due

It's **THAT** time of the year when our semi-annual dues are due. Please bring \$31.50 (cash or check payable to "Northwestern Toastmasters") to the September 2 meeting or mail said check to Marcia Barney, DTM, 3501 Lakefield Court, Clemmons, NC 27012.

Improved Communications Seminar Begins

Our Improved Communications Seminar begins on September 16. This is valuable training for all members as well as those we know who simply need to improve their abilities. Please let Marcia Barney know if you plan to attend. If you would like a reservation form for someone else, let her know and she will be happy to send you a form.

The Secretary's Report

by Evander Woo, Secretary

The theme for the August 19, 2008 Northwestern Toastmasters meeting was "You Never Will If You Won't". President Craig Thrift opened the meeting on time. After the business

session, he introduced our Toastmaster for the evening, Joel Schanker.



In Joel's Toastmaster opening, he compared the accomplishments of the recent Olympic athletes to other aspects of life. Not all the notable participants won the gold medal. But, everyone who competed was a winner for trying to achieve something rather than be spectators who let their lives slip them by.

The Wordmaster for the evening was Barbie Morgan with the word "Zenith".

Barbara Schanker carried on the theme of the meeting as Table Topics Master. Don Barnett was the first table topics speaker and responded to "You will. If you won't, you'll never get there" with his thoughts about dreams and perseverance. Elaine Wiles answered to "Difficult tasks, too difficult to attempt, and did not pursue them" with her reasons for not parasailing, because of her bad back. Marcia Barney was asked to describe a difficult task and how she attempted it anyway. Her response detailed why she believed "no challenge, no fun". Susan Bush described a difficult task that became easier, returning to college as a mature adult.

Our prepared speakers for tonight were Craig Thrift and Butch Barney. Craig's speech was about the history and success of the March of Dimes, an organization that he has participated in for many years. Butch's speech "Lack of Freedom" and how three people overcame what most of us would be considered obstacles to freedom.

Zoltan Rab returned tonight to be our General Evaluator. Unfortunately for us, he would be moving back to Chicago. He gave his evaluation of the meeting, then introduced our evaluators John Clark and Scott Anderson. John evaluated Craig Thrift. Scott evaluated Butch Barney.

Our timer tonight was Jeff Walker. Eddy Gaasbeek was the vote counter. Madan Rangabasyam was the grammarian. Tonight's winners were Marcia Barney for best Table Topics, Scott Anderson for Best Evaluator, and Butch Barney for best speaker. To close the meeting, our Joke Master for the evening was Jeff Walker.

Go for the Gold!

By Craig Thrift, President

Over the past two weeks the world has stopped and watched as top athletes in the world show their passion for a sport they love, competing in the ultimate competition, the Olympics. These athletes have dedicated hours to perfect their abilities. We may not

have the world stage here in Winston-Salem, but we do have Toastmasters who have the passion and dedication that is compared to the athletes in the Olympics. These Toastmasters belong to the Northwestern Club.

The Olympic athletes inspire others to do their best, to set a goal. During the Olympics we heard and saw amazing stories of how athletes over came the odds to become top performers in their sport. We as Toastmasters have entered a "sport" for some of us to overcome our fears, for others to improve and learn.

On September 2nd during our regular meeting we will conduct our Humorous Speech and Evaluator contest. This is a chance for each Northwestern Toastmaster to 'Go for the Gold'. You can show off your funny side by entering the Humorous Speech Contest or show off your serious side by entering the rough and tough contest of Evaluation. Or go for a double and enter both!

We have experienced situations in life that have left us rolling on the floor laughing. From family reunions, your accident-prone buddy, or the dog that hates the UPS truck - or let your imagination run wild and make up a story. Then sharpen up your pencil and enter the Evaluation Contest. Show off your listening skills and your keen eye in observation of a speaker's presentation. Each of these can show your passion and dedication to be the best you can be. Become one of the contestants in our contest on September 2nd. Who knows you may be standing at the top of the podium. Believe in yourself, Go for the Gold and have fun!

One Liners

(How many can you work into a conversation?)

A penny saved is a government oversight.

The real art of conversation is not only to say the right thing at the right time, but also to leave unsaid the wrong thing at the tempting moment.

The older you get, the tougher it is to lose weight, because by then your body and your fat have gotten to be really good friends.

The easiest way to find something lost around the house is to buy a replacement.

"More hay, Trigger?" "No thanks, Roy, I'm stuffed!"

It's lonely at the top, but you eat better.

Always proofread carefully to see if you any words out.

Notes from the Editor

Everything that you are used to seeing in the newsletter is still here. I have just moved things around for several reasons. These include (in no particular order)

- Prevent Boredom.
- Makes adding new information easier.
- Because I can.

I have started listing all active members in the schedule. This should make it easy for you to see what roles you have been assigned. It should also make it easy for the Table Topics Master to find members who do not have a speaking role, since one of the goals of Table Topics is to give as many members as possible an opportunity to speak.

Our web site, www.nwtm.org contains a summary of what is required for all roles. Back in the old days (before computers) this was copied and given to all new members. Today, thanks to the wonderful world of computers, this information is always fresh and never lost. So take advantage of it.

Here is a Trivia Quiz question - Who does not normally vote for Best Table Topics, Best Prepared Speaker and Best Evaluator? Remember - if you are at a meeting, you are entitled to vote. Give up? The answer (according to our web site) is the vote counter. If there is a tie then the vote counter will cast the tie breaking vote. This assures that there will never be a tie.

Feel free to peruse our web site (after all, that's what it's there for) to find more little tidbits that will help lead to a better meeting.

More One Liners

I used to wake up grumpy, but now her new boyfriend does.

Campers: Nature's way of feeding mosquitoes.

They laughed when I said I was going to be a comedian, but they're not laughing now.

We are born naked, wet and hungry. Then things get worse.

Flashlight: A case for holding dead batteries.

Lottery: A tax on people who are bad at math.

There's too much blood in my caffeine system.

Artificial Intelligence usually beats real stupidity.

One good thing about repeating your mistakes is that you know when to cringe.

Hard work has a future payoff. Laziness pays off now.

When there's a will, I want to be in it.

