

# 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](http://www.nwtm.org)

## OFFICERS (2008-2009)

President	Craig Thrift	336 764-2024
VP-Education	Don Barnett, CTM	336 940-5486
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
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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.***

## The Secretary's Report for October 7, 2008

by Evander Woo, Secretary



The meeting started on time by President Craig Thrift at 6:30PM. There were no officers' reports. Marcia Barney announced that all the membership dues were in. Joel Schanker announced that he

had received the Winston-Salem Mayor's Council Disability Award for his work with the VIP Toastmasters club. Joel said that Brian Davidson and Don Barnett's names deserved to be on the award too, for their participation in getting the VIP club established. Marcia reminded everyone about the Fall Conference before breaking for a 10 minute recess.

At 6:45PM, the meeting resumed. Craig introduced our Toastmaster for the evening, Butch Barney. The theme for tonight's meeting was "Use of Voice". Butch used the warm-up to start describing the elements of vocal variety – clarity, rate, rhythm, pitch, volume, emphasis, and vitality.

The Wordmaster of the evening was Susan Woo. The timer was John Clark. The vote counter was Jordan Smith.

Butch introduced Evander Woo as the table topics master. The table topics speakers were Joel Schanker, John Clark, Craig Thrift, and Jordan Smith.

Don Barnett and Brian Davidson gave their prepared speeches tonight. Don presented "My Writing Pen" for speech # 2 from the "Entertaining Speaker" manual. Brian presented "Speaking Language" for speech # 1 from the "Public Relations" manual.

Marcia Barney was the general evaluator. After evaluating the meeting, she introduced Lance Kull to evaluate Don's speech and Madan Rangabasyam to evaluate Brian's speech. Jeff Walker evaluated Butch Barney's Toastmaster warm-up "Seven Elements of Vocal Variety", which was based on speech # 4 from the "Speaking to Inform" manual. Then, Marcia evaluated the evaluators.

Elaine Wiles gave the grammarian's report. Susan gave the Wordmaster report.

Marcia returned control of the lectern to Butch for the Toastmaster's wrap-up. Then, Butch returned control of lectern to President Craig Thrift to wrap-up the meeting. Joel Schanker was the joke master.

## Other Club News

Congratulations to Joel Schanker, Brian Davidson and Don Barnett. Joel, with the help of other Northwestern Toastmasters, especially Brian and Don, received an award from the Mayor's Council on Disability for helping found the VIP Toastmasters Club at the Industries for the Blind.

## Message from the Editor

I really do feel guilty for using humor to fill out the columns of our newsletter. Please feel free to let me know of Toastmaster activities - after all this is your newsletter. If it relates to Northwestern or Toastmasters in general, I will be happy to add it to the our newsletter

## District 37 Fall Conference

The Fall Conference this year will take place at the beautiful Hilton Hotel at Research Triangle Park. The theme this year is "Constructing Your Future." There are twelve workshops that feature four major areas: personal leadership development, educational development, club leadership and membership development. These will allow you to construct your future and network with Toastmasters from across the state. In addition to the workshops, see your Division's contestants compete at the Humorous Speech and Evaluation contests, have fun at the Friday night Roast of our Past District Governor, hear keynote speaker 2004 World Champion Randy Harvey and enjoy a good meal!

## Connect through Rapport

By Marcia Barney, DTM

At our Improved Communications Seminar meeting this past Tuesday Joel gave a great deal of good information that should help us get to know our audience before we speak to them as well as adapt to their environment should it change

during the presentation. Now let's take that idea a step further and look at building rapport with our audience - any audience.

There is one word that should become a key part of any presenters vocabulary whether in prepared or impromptu presentations. The word is *yes*. Say it early and say it often. Positive affirmation affects the entire speaking atmosphere. It verifies the importance of your message while making other people feel good. "Yes" shows that you care about your listeners and value their opinions and insights.

Even when discussing a controversial subject, remember the *yes* word. If stating potential objections is important, state them positively. Show that the objections are understandable and why they are invalid - and do so positively. Show respect for the opinion of those who disagree with your position by expressing true empathy. Use anecdotes to show why your position is better or accurate.

A word that can damage rapport is *but*. In the mind of your audience "but" can cancel any previous message. *But* can be a very argumentative word. If used frequently the audience members can start to "wait for the other shoe to drop" - even when you are making unconditionally positive statements.

Sometimes very small words can have very large impacts on the mood and perception of an audience. Keep your message positive and your audience will tend to remain positive toward your message.

Bill Gates recently gave a speech at a High School about the 11 things they did not and will not learn in school. He talks about how feel-good, politically correct teachings created a generation of kids with no concept of reality and how this concept set them up for failure in the real world.

Rule 1: Life is not fair - get used to it!

Rule 2 : The world won't care about your self-esteem. The world will expect you to accomplish something BEFORE you feel good about yourself.

Rule 3 : You will NOT make \$60,000 a year right out of high school. You won't be a vice-president with a car phone until you earn both.

Rule 4 : If you think your teacher is tough, wait till you get a boss.

Rule 5 : Flipping burgers is not beneath your dignity. Your Grandparents had a different word for burger flipping: they called it opportunity.

Rule 6: If you mess up, it's not your parents' fault, so don't whine about your mistakes, learn from them.

Rule 7: Before you were born, your parents weren't as boring as they are now. They got that way from paying your bills, cleaning your clothes and listening to you talk about how cool you thought you were. So before you save the rain forest from the parasites of your parent's generation, try delousing the closet in your own room.

Rule 8: Your school may have done away with winners and losers, but life HAS NOT. In some schools, they have abolished failing grades and they'll give you as MANY TIMES as you want to get the right answer. This doesn't bear the slightest resemblance to ANYTHING in real life.

Rule 9: Life is not divided into semesters. You don't get summers off and very few employers are interested in helping you FIND YOURSELF. Do that on your own time.

Rule 10: Television is NOT real life. In real life people actually have to leave the coffee shop and go to jobs.

Rule 11: Be nice to nerds. Chances are you'll end up working for one.

## Don't You Love A Good Pun?

The roundest knight at king Arthur's round table was Sir Cumference. He acquired his size from too much pi.

I thought I saw an eye doctor on an Alaskan island, but it turned out to be an optical Aleutian.

She was only a whisky maker, but he loved her still.

A rubber band pistol was confiscated from algebra class because it was a weapon of math disruption.

The butcher backed into the meat grinder and got a little behind in his work.

Now matter how much you push the envelope, it'll still be stationery.

A dog gave birth to puppies near the road and was cited for littering.

A grenade thrown into a kitchen in France would result in Linoleum Blownapart.

Two silk worms had a race. They ended up in a tie.

Time flies like an arrow. Fruit flies like a banana.

A hole has been found in the nudist camp wall. The police are looking into it.

