

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. 13, Early January, 2009

On the web at 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
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.

Make a Commitment for 2009



by Marcia Barney, DTM

Some of us will make New Year's Resolutions; however, even those who do not believe in the power of resolutions surely understand the meaning of commitment. In 2009 each of us should commit to improving our communications and leadership abilities - we're Toastmasters.

Improving ourselves is more than belonging to a club or organization. It is actively pursuing goals which, in this case, we have set for ourselves. It is nice and measurable if we commit to becoming a Competent Communicator or making one more step on the Advanced Communicator ladder. But even if we do not wish to make that large a commitment we can commit to fulfilling our duties to the very best of our abilities at each club meeting. These "small" duties are of vital importance to our improvement as well as to the improvement of our fellow club members. Being an evaluator, for example, can help us improve a variety of communications skills while fulfilling the major purpose of helping a fellow member become a better speaker.

Many of us are working diligently toward the Competent Leader Award. The projects in the CL Manual offer a vast resource for polishing leadership skills useful at work, in our community, and at home. Study the Time Management project and you might just have more time to play!

Our VP-Ed Don is most cooperative in trying to reschedule missed speaking assignments for us. However, Don cannot reschedule missed opportunities for self-improvement - once one is gone, it is gone.

Make 2009 the year of commitment to your self-improvement! Try to take advantage of all the numerous opportunities our club offers!

~~~~~

## Congratulations to Jeff Walker

Once again, it's time to update your roster of members. Jeff Walker is now our newest CC (Competent Communicator.) Jeff gave speech number 10 from the Basic Manual at our December 16 meeting.

~~~~~

Congratulations to Mark Perew

Mark Perew was used as an example in the current Toastmasters International article on Success Stories. Mark explained one of the benefits of Toastmasters when he explained "I was laid off in early 2003. That was not a good time to be looking for a job. I credit Toastmasters with getting me employed again within three weeks."

Mark continued, "Interviews are just real-life Table Topics [impromptu speaking] sessions. I knew I had to answer the question that was asked; do it in a limited time; have a beginning, middle and end; use good eye contact; include personal stories; add appropriate humor and connect with the interviewer. My time in Toastmasters made it possible for me to accomplish all that and get a better-paying job."

Good job (no pun intended) Mark! Just one more example of how skills learned in Toastmasters makes a difference in our life.

Secretary's Report for December 2, 2008

by Evander Woo, secretary



Toastmaster for the meeting was Elaine Wiles, who selected the theme "Making a Difference." Our Wordmaster was Angela Rininger, who gave us the word "Appurtenant." The table topics session was led by Jeff Walker, who called on John Clark, Evander Woo, Barbie Morgan and Susan Woo.

After her Toastmaster warm-up, Elaine called on our prepared speakers. Jordan Smith gave speech number three from the Basic Manual. Mark Perew gave speech number four from the Story Telling manual. Joel and Barbara Schanker worked together from the Speaking on Television Manual when Barbara (using speech number three) did an interview of Joel (using speech number three.)

Elaine then called on Lance Kull who served as our General Evaluator. Lance called on John Clark, Brian Davidson, Barbie Morgan, Zoltan Rab and Don Barnett who all did us proud as evaluators.

Our timer for the meeting was Susan Woo. Our vote counter was Jennifer Davis. Our ~~quarter counter~~ grammarian was Evander Woo and our joke master was the kind, wonderful, warm-hearted John Clark.

Every Toastmaster is a winner! Tonight's winners are:

- Table Topics - Barbie Morgan
- Prepared Speaker - Mark Perew
- Best Evaluator - Zoltan Rab

Secretary's Report for December 16, 2008

by Evander Woo, secretary



The weather may have been a bit cold outside, but it was a warm and cozy Toastmasters meeting inside. Our Toastmaster of the meeting was Butch Barney. Following his warm-up, Butch called on our word master for the evening, Jordan Smith, who gave us the word "Torpido."

Our table topics master, Madan Rangabasyam, used a unique technique. He passed out fortune cookies and then called on Brian Davidson, Jordan Smith, Evander Woo and Angela Rininger to open the cookie and comment on the fortune. (John Clark told me after the meeting that he wished he had been called on. John said that he would, instead of opening the cookie, just hold it up to his forehead, concentrate and say "You have great talents. Use them wisely" and then use that as the basis for his Table Topics response.)

Butch then introduced our prepared speakers for the evening. Jeff Walker gave speech number 10 from the Basic Manual. Barbie Morgan gave speech number eight from the Basic Manual. John Clark gave speech number three from the Entertaining Speaker manual.

Our General Evaluator for the evening was Marcia Barney. After her kind words about how well the meeting ran, she called on the evaluators of the prepared speakers, Zoltan Rab, Craig Thrift and Angela Rininger.

Marcia completed the evaluation session by calling on our grammarian, Brian Davidson who not only pointed out our shortcomings in the areas of clear speaking, but also worked with the treasurer to fill the coffers.

Our timer for the evening was Susan Woo and our vote counter was Mark Perew. The meeting concluded with our joke master report from Mark Perew.

- Tonight's winners were:
- Table Topics - Brian Davidson
 - Prepared Speaker - John Clark
 - Evaluator - Angela Rininger

Secretary's Report for December 30, 2008

by Evander Woo, secretary



President Craig Thrift presided over the meeting. There were no officer reports for the evening. After a ten-minute recess, Craig introduced Zoltan Rab as the Toastmaster for the evening.

The night's theme was "When It Is Difficult to Help". Zoltan used speech number 7 from the basic manual (researching your subject) for his warm-up.

Susan Woo performed the duties of Wordmaster and timer. Craig doubled as the vote counter.

Pam Christopher led Table Topics as the Master. The table topics speakers were Susan Woo, Evander Woo, and John Clark.

There were three prepared speeches. The first two were a combined project between Barbara and Joel Schanker from the television communications manual. Barbara did project 2 and Joel did project 3 from the manual. The third speech was given by Barbie Morgan to complete speech 10 from the basic manual.

The general evaluator was our own John Clark. He evaluated the session from the being through table topics. To evaluate the individual prepared speakers, he introduced Butch Barney to evaluate Barbara Schanker, Marcia Barney to evaluate Joel Schanker, Elaine Wiles to evaluate Barbie Morgan, and Pam Christopher to evaluate Zoltan Rab's warm-up.

Evander Woo gave the grammarian's report.

The best table topics speaker was John Clark. The best evaluator was Marcia Barney. The best speaker was Barbie Morgan.

John concluded the meeting as joke master.

A Sunday school teacher said to her children, "We have been learning how powerful kings and queens were in Bible times. But, there is a higher power. Can anybody tell me what it is?" One child blurted out, "Aces!"

If you are going to try cross-country skiing, start with a small country.

I know I got a lot of exercise the last few years..... just getting over the hill.

~~~ Potential Speech Ideas ~~~

Law of Mechanical Repair - After your hands become coated with grease, your nose will begin to itch.

Law of Gravity - Any tool, when dropped, will roll to the least accessible corner.

Law of Probability - The probability of being watched is directly proportional to the stupidity of your act.

Law of Random Numbers - If you dial a wrong number, you never get a busy signal and someone always answers.

Law of the Alibi - If you tell the boss you were late for work because you had a flat tire, the very next morning you will have a flat tire.

Variation Law - If you change lines (or traffic lanes), the one you were in will always move faster than the one you are in now.

Law of the Bath - When the body is fully immersed in water, the telephone rings.

Law of Close Encounters - The probability of meeting someone you know increases dramatically when you are with someone you don't want to be seen with.

Law of the Result - When you try to prove to someone that a machine won't work, it will.

Law of Biomechanics - The severity of the itch is inversely proportional to the reach.

Law of the Theater - At any event, the people whose seats are furthest from the aisle arrive last.

The Starbucks Law - As soon as you sit down to a cup of hot coffee, your boss will ask you to do something which will last until the coffee is cold.

Murphy's Law of Lockers - If there are only two people in a locker room, they will have adjacent lockers.

Law of Physical Surfaces - The chances of an open-faced jelly sandwich landing face down on a floor covering are directly correlated to the newness and cost of the carpet/rug.

Law of Logical Argument - Anything is possible if you don't know what you are talking about.

Brown's Law of Physical Appearance - If the shoe fits, it's ugly.

Oliver's Law of Public Speaking - A closed mouth gathers no feet.

Wilson's Law of Commercial Marketing Strategy - As soon as you find a product that you really like, they will stop making it.

Doctors' Law - If you don't feel well, make an appointment to go to the doctor, by the time you get there you'll feel better. Don't make an appointment and you'll stay sick.

Groucho Marx Quotes (Julius Henry "Groucho" Marx (October 2, 1890 - August 19, 1977), was an American comedian and film star, famed as a master of wit. He made 15 feature films with his siblings, the Marx Brothers, and also had a successful solo career, most notably as the host of the radio and television game show *You Bet Your Life*.)

- ⇒ I must confess, I was born at a very early age.
- ⇒ I never forget a face, but in your case I'll be glad to make an exception.
- ⇒ I remember the first time I had sex - I kept the receipt.
- ⇒ If I held you any closer I would be on the other side of you.
- ⇒ In Hollywood, brides keep the bouquets and throw away the groom.
- ⇒ Marriage is a wonderful institution, but who wants to live in an institution?
- ⇒ My mother loved children - she would have given anything if I had been one.

