

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. 14, Late January, 2009

On the web at www.nwtm.org

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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.

New Year - New Resolutions

by John Clark, DTM



During my sojourn with Uncle Sam, I noticed two phrases that were frequently used. RHIP and RHIR. If you were an enlisted man RHIP stood for Rank Has It's Privileges. If you were an officer RHIR stood for Rank Has It's Responsibilities. (I also found some other phrases, but they are

beyond the scope of this article and probably shouldn't be used here anyway.)

When we volunteer to serve as an officer, or fill a meeting role, we have a responsibility to complete the task. More and more, I've noticed that there is scrambling just before the meeting to fill roles for members who accepted a position but are not there to fill it. Granted, there are times that the unexpected occurs. We may have a conflict where something more important prevents us from fulfilling our role. I can not believe that it happens this frequently. I also cannot believe that it happens so suddenly (ie. the last minute) that there is not time, before the meeting, to let the Vice President of Education, The Toastmaster of the Meeting or the General Evaluator know that an emergency exists.

Please look at the schedule - our VP of Education does a great job of both keeping the schedule current and letting all of us know what is on the current schedule. If you know that you cannot be at a meeting, then let him know EARLY so a replacement can be found before the last minute. If you are an officer and cannot attend a meeting, then find someone to deliver you officer's report. Northwestern Toastmasters has a reputation of doing things right. (Plus having fun doing them.) When we are seen trying to fill roles - and have one member listed on the program while another member performs that role, we give an impression that belies our reputation.

Please join with me to rededicate our efforts to make Toastmasters and enjoyable learning experience for all members and guests.

Being assigned a role at a Northwestern Toastmasters meeting is a privilege; filling that role is a responsibility. Ergo, if we think of membership in Northwestern Toastmasters as "Rank" then we truly have both RHIP and RHIR.

Congratulations to Jeff Walker

In the last issue, we congratulated Jeff for obtaining CC (Competent Communicator.) Now it's time, once more to congratulate Jeff for obtaining his CL (Competent Leader) award. Way to go Jeff!

Guests

Ken Bell was a guest at our January 6 meeting. Ken - we hope you enjoyed the meeting and look forward to seeing you again.



Secretary's Report for January 6, 2009

by Evander Woo, Secretary



President Craig Thrift was the presiding officer for our business session. As a special treat for our President, a brief "learn by doing" session was conducted on using **Robert's Rules of Order**. John Clark introduced a motion to add a new role to the education session. After being seconded, Marcia Barney introduced an amendment to the motion. Once the amendment was seconded and approved, various members spoke for and against the original motion as amended. After the vote was called for, Butch Barney requested a division of the house. The original motion was defeated and the meeting, after a recess, moved to the Educational session.

Our Toastmaster for the meeting was Evander Woo, who used the theme "A New Year, A New Beginning." Our Wordmaster was Elaine Wiles, who challenged us to use the word "Conversant." The table topics session was led by Princess Edwards, who called on Pam Christopher, Brian Davidson, Jordan Smith and Don Barnett. All questions revolved around the idea of New Year resolutions.

After his Toastmaster warm-up, Evander called on our prepared speakers, Madan Rangabasyam and Mark Perew. Both speakers gave speeches based on Toastmasters manuals. Their speeches were so interesting that the secretary failed to note their titles.

Our general evaluator was Don Barnett. Don called on Craig Thrift to evaluate Madan's speech and John Clark to evaluate Mark's speech. Elaine gave the wordmaster's report. Brian Davidson provided the grammarian's report.

Timer for the meeting was Susan Woo. Vote counter was Jordan Smith. The meeting ended with the jokemaster's report by Jeff Walker.

Nine-year-old Joey was asked by his mother what he had learned in Sunday School. "Well, Mom, our teacher told us how God sent Moses behind enemy lines on a rescue mission to lead the Israelites out of Egypt. When he got to the Red Sea, he had his army build a pontoon bridge and all the people walked across safely. Then, he radioed headquarters for reinforcements. They sent bombers to blow up the bridge and all the Israelites were saved."

"Now, Joey, is that really what your teacher taught you?" his mother asked.

"Well, no, Mom. But, if I told it the way the teacher did, you'd never believe it!"

I joined a health club last year, spent about 400 bucks. Haven't lost a pound. Apparently you have to go there.

We all get heavier as we get older, because there's a lot more information in our heads. That's my story and I'm sticking to it.



Murphy's Lesser Known Laws

He who laughs last, thinks slowest.

Change is inevitable, except from a vending machine.

Those who live by the sword get shot by those who don't.

Nothing is foolproof to a sufficiently talented fool.

The 50-50-90 rule: Anytime you have a 50-50 chance of getting something right, there's a 90% probability you'll get it wrong.

If you lined up all the cars in the world end to end, someone would be stupid enough to try to pass them, five or six at a time, on a hill, in the fog.

The things that come to those who wait will be the things left by those who got there first.

Give a man a fish and he will eat for a day. Teach a man to fish and he will sit in a boat all day drinking beer.

Flashlight: A case for holding dead batteries.

The shinbone is a device for finding furniture in a dark room.

A fine is a tax for doing wrong. A tax is a fine for doing well.

When you go into court, you are putting yourself in the hands of 12 people who weren't smart enough to get out of jury duty.

Light travels faster than sound. This is why some people appear bright until you hear them speak.

For those of you who are working on the Competent Leader manual, there is a nice Project Matrix listed on page 76 of the manual. It lists each of the roles and the projects which encompass them. Here is a matrix that you may find useful. It contains the same roles and projects, but goes one step further - it lists the page number within the project for each role.

Feel free to print this page and slip it into your Competent Leader manual.

Role	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Speaker				28	33					
Speech Evaluator	12	17	22					52		
Timer				27						
Grammarians	13	17	22	28						
Ah Counter	13									
Table Topics Speaker	12									
Table Topics Master				29	34		46			
General Evaluator		18	23		33		45	53		63
Toastmaster				27	34		45	52		63
Help Organize a Club Speech Contest						38				
Club Speech Contest Chairman										65
Help Organize a Club Special Event						38				
Club Special Event Chairman										65
Help Organize a Club PR Campaign						39				
Club PR Campaign Chairman								51		64
Help Organize a Campaign or Contest						39				
Club Campaign or Contest Chairman								51		64
Help Produce Club Newsletter						40				
Assist Club Web Master						40				
Club Newsletter Editor or Webmaster										66
Befriend a Guest at a Club Meeting							46			
Mentor for a New Member									57	
Mentor for an Existing Member									57	
Guidance Committee Member									58	

Remember that the Ah counter is part of the grammarians' role. Also, if you would like credit for helping produce the Club Newsletter or Assisting the Club Web Master, then please talk with John Clark, VP of PR. He has some fairly painless projects for you to get credit.