

# Northwest Words

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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)

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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.*

## Be Courageous

by Pam Christopher, DTM,PDG,IDC



At the zoo, a man watched as an attendant entered a wildcat cage through a door on the opposite side. He had nothing in his hands but a broom. Carefully closing the door, he proceeded to sweep the floor of the cage. The onlooker observed that the worker

had no weapon to ward off an attack by the beast. In fact, when he got to the corner of the cage where the wildcat was lying, he poked the animal with the broom. The wildcat hissed at him and then lay down in another corner of the enclosure.

He remarked to the attendant, "You certainly are a brave man."

"No I ain't brave," he replied as he continued to sweep. "Well, then, that cat must be tame." "No," came the reply, "he ain't tame."

"If you aren't brave and the wildcat isn't tame, then I can't understand why he doesn't attack you."

The man chuckled, then replied with an air of confidence, "Mister, he's old -- and he ain't got no teeth."

Sometimes it may seem like our audience has very sharp teeth. We see teeth so sharp that our voice begins to quiver. Our insides begin to rumble and we want to run out the door.

When this begins to happen, just remember: everyone feels a little nervousness in front of a group. That is a GOOD THING! Use that feeling to connect with your audience. Why? There is a perfect reason for this. When you cease to feel that little bit of nervousness, you become "too big for your pants." When this happens, watch out! There WILL be wildcat around the corner.....and he WILL have teeth!

## New Member

Our newest member is Craig Humphrey Craig lives in Lewisville and is employed by Case Closed Investigations. Craig's contact information is on the members only page of our web site. Craig, we all hope that this will be an enjoyable learning experience for you.

## Guests

Recent guests to our meetings include Ankit Tibrewala and Ken Bell. We hope you enjoyed the meetings and look forward to seeing you again.

## Area Contest

The Area Contest will be March 28th at Winston-Salem Industries For The Blind. This is the same location as our last Area Contest. If you need directions, contact Joel Schanker or any officer. The doors open at 9:00 am and the contests start at 10:00 am. We should adjourn no later than 12:00 noon. There will be no admission charge.

## Working on the Competent Leader Manual?

If you are working in the CL manual (and if you are not, then why not?) talk with our Vice President of Publicity, John Clark. He can always use help and that help will get you credit for helping with the newsletter (Northwest Words) or our web site, or both. John claims that the work is not only not difficult, it is also mostly painless.

# Secretary's Report for February 17, 2009

by Evander Woo, Secretary



President Craig Thrift presided over our business session with his usual flair. After a brief recess, our Table Topics Contest began. Our Contestants were (in order of speaking) Mark Perew, Zoltan Rab, Madan Rangabasyam, Joel Schanker, Jeff Walker and Don Barnett.

Following the Table Topics Contest, Craig continued his role of Toastmaster; He introduced the Toastmasters who would be responsible for the success of the meeting.

Our timer - Jordan Smith;  
Our Vote Counter - Princess Edwards;  
Our Grammarian - Don Barnett; and  
Our Wordmaster - Jennifer Davis, who gave us the word of the day, Spontaneity.

Our prepared speakers for the evening were Craig Thrift, Eddy Gaasbeek, Elaine Wiles and Marcia Barney. After the speeches, Craig called on our General Evaluator for the meeting - Lance Kull. After effusively praising the meeting quality, quantity and timeliness, Lance called on the evaluators for the prepared speakers.

§ Barbara Schanker evaluated Eddy Gaasbeek;  
§ Mark Perew evaluated Elaine Wiles;  
§ John Clark evaluated Marcia Barney.  
After continuing to heap praise on the outstanding work of the evaluators, Lance called on the other members of his evaluation team. Don Barnett gave the grammarians report, followed by Jennifer Davis with the Wordmaster report.

Tonight's winners were:

Best Speaker - Marcia Barney  
Best Evaluator - Mark Perew  
Best Table Topics - Joel Schanker.  
Second Place (and alternate to the Area Contest) - Mark Perew. Third place winner was Don Barnett.



## Economic Notice (in case you missed it.)

Due to recent budget cuts and the cost of electricity, gas and oil, as well as current market conditions and the continued decline of the U.S. economy, The Light at the End of the Tunnel has been turned off. We apologize for the inconvenience.



A linguistics professor was lecturing to his class one day. "In English," he said, "A double negative forms a positive. In some languages, though, such as Russian, a double negative is still a negative. However, there is no language wherein a double positive can form a negative."  
A voice from the back of the room piped up, "Yeah, right."



An Englishman goes to Australia for a tourist trip and at the border he is asked if he had ever stayed in jail or had been arrested. His reply - - "I did not know that was still required."

Ever notice that the laws of household physics are every bit as real as every other law in the universe? Here are a few examples:

1. A child's eagerness to assist in any project varies in inverse proportion to the ability to actually do the work involved.
2. Leftovers always expand to fill all available containers plus one.
3. A newly washed window gathers dirt at double the speed of an unwashed window.
4. The availability of a ballpoint pen is inversely proportional to how badly it is needed.
5. The same clutter that will fill a one-car garage will fill a two-car garage.
6. Three children plus two cookies equals a fight.
7. The potential for disaster is in direct proportion to the number of TV remote controls divided by the number of viewers.
8. The number of doors left open varies inversely with the outdoor temperature.
9. The capacity of any hot water heater is equal to one and one-half sibling showers.
10. What goes up must come down, except for bubble gum, kites and slightly used Rice Krispies.
11. Place two children in a room full of toys and they will both want to play with the same toy.



