

Northwest Words

The Official Publication of *Northwestern Toastmasters* Club 2946/37

We meet each first, third, and fifth Tuesday, 6:30 PM - Mayberry's, 50 Miller Street, Winston-Salem, NC

OFFICERS (2009-2010)

President	Don Barnett, AC-B	336 940-5486
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For more information
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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.

That's the Way it Was on Nov. 17, 2009

by **Christa Neuhauser, Secretary**



President Don Barnett opened the business session. The motion to have a Christmas party this year was passed and a committee was formed,

with John Clark as chairman and Christa Neuhauser, Elaine Wiles and Barbie Morgan as supporting members.

Pam Christopher, Toastmaster-of-the-meeting, chose the theme "Being Thankful" for this evening. She was also the Wordmaster of the evening and introduced the word: "*Salient*," which stands for: outstanding, significant. The word was used several times in speeches and comments. The Grammarian was Butch Barney, Craig Thrift the Timer and Ernst Bonaparte the Vote Counter.

Table Topics Master Christa Neuhauser continued with the topic, and centered her questions around the holiday of Thanksgiving. Ernst Bonaparte unveiled what that day "*meant to him personally*," and Craig Thrift recounted "*his funniest Thanksgiving story*". Lance Kull pointed out "*what we should all be thankful for*," and when asked the question "*how would you spend one extra day off*", Florian Neuhauser painted a vivid picture of him and his friends spending this day playing golf and ice hockey.

Two speeches were given this evening:

Barbie Morgan delivered a speech, the Entertainment Speaker, project number 5, which she had given during a neighborhood meeting. The title of her speech was "Won't you be my neighbor". She approached this project by describing the safety and camaraderie in her neighborhood, along with some entertaining stories about her skills as a learning handyman (handywoman).

Marcia Barney gave speech number 1, Specialty Speech: Speaking off the cuff about "Staying Young," she highlighted ten points that she considers most important. In a nutshell, the secret is to keep the body and brain active. She delivered her speech in a confident and convincing manner.

The General Evaluator was Lance Kull. Jeff Walker evaluated Barbie Morgan, and Elaine Wiles analyzed Marcia Barney's performance.

Ernst Bonaparte announced the result of the votes. Award winners of the evening:

- Best Table Topic – Lance Kull
- Best Speaker – Barbie Morgan
- Best Evaluator – Elaine Wiles

Florian Neuhauser entertained the members of the meeting with his theme-related joke of Thanksgiving. The president thanked fellow Toastmasters for a flexible and exciting meeting and adjourned.

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Two bakers lived in a small town. They were highly competitive, but both had many customers. This changed when one baker bought a new bread slicing machine that cut four loaves at once. He could serve people faster, so he soon got all the business in the town.

The other baker was forced to close. The second baker went to the first and asked, "How were you able to get all the business in town? It seems that you got lucky all of a sudden." The first baker replied, "I'm not sure. - -

I think it has something to do with the four-loaf cleaver I found."

## Thanksgiving Time

by John Clark, DTM



About this time each year most newspapers (the ones that are left) as well as on-line web sites, bloggers and all the rest seem compelled to have at least one article describing all the things for which we need to be thankful. Why, I ask, should we be any different? Therefore, it is with great

pride that we, the staff and management, provide our annual "HallowVetranThanksMas" message. There has been much debate about what causes an urge to write such articles. The most frequently cited reasons are either the advent of Christmas Carols or the leftover turkey.

Even if you are the turkey, there are still things for which to be thankful. I remember my sixth grade teacher who taught us that "Yesterday is a cancelled check, tomorrow is a promissory note, but today is ready cash - spend it wisely."

When someone asks us "What are you thankful for?" our first thoughts are the big things, such as living in a country where you can be free or our family and friends. But don't forget the little things, because it is all the little things added together to make the big things.

Some of the little things in Toastmasters that I am thankful for include that hard-hitting evaluation were I learned about my habit of putting my hands in my pocket between gestures. Today, I don't do that because someone was kind enough to help me. What actions of your fellow Toastmasters are you thankful for?

Some of my best friends are Toastmasters. I think that this is because we share a common bond. We understand how Toastmasters works and how we benefit from participating in Toastmasters activities. Think back on your association with Toastmasters - who has helped you progress? AND, Who have you helped progress?

We often say that Toastmasters is not your typical organization. Most organizations are designed to help others, often time a specific group. Toastmasters, however, is designed for purely selfish reasons. We join Toastmasters to help ourselves improve. The big secret is that as we improve ourselves - we do it by helping others.

The role of evaluator is a great example. When you are the evaluator, you develop your ability to observe, listen and organize your thoughts so that you can show someone else how to improve. By helping someone else, you are helping yourself. That is a win-win situation of which we can all be proud.

## Things I Don't Understand

- Would "postal service" or "good lawyer" be considered oxymorons?
- Why is there an expiration date on 'sour' cream?
- I went to a bookstore and asked the saleswoman, 'where's the self-help section?' She said if she told me, it would defeat the purpose.
- What if there were no hypothetical questions?
- If a deaf person signs swear words, does his mother wash his hands with soap?
- Is there another word for 'synonym'?
- Where do forest rangers go to 'get away from it all'?
- What do you do when you see an endangered animal eating an endangered plant?
- If a parsley farmer is sued, can they garnish his wages?
- Would a fly without wings be called a walk?
- Why do they lock gas station bathrooms? Are they afraid someone will clean them?
- If a turtle doesn't have a shell, is he homeless or naked?
- Can vegetarians eat animal crackers?
- If the police arrest a mime, do they tell him he has the right to remain silent?
- What was the best thing before sliced bread?
- One nice thing about egotists: they don't talk about other people.
- How is it possible to have a civil war?
- If one synchronized swimmer drowns, do the rest drown too?
- If you ate both pasta and antipasto, would you still be hungry?
- If you try to fail, and succeed, which have you done?
- Whose cruel idea was it for the word 'lisp' to have an 's' in it?
- Why is it called tourist season if we can't shoot at them?



~~ Meeting Schedule ~~

Please Note: The Vice President of Education is continually adjusting the schedule to meet the requirements of the members. So, if you need to see the current schedule, contact our VP of ED (see the top of the newsletter for contact information.)

| Member                 | 12 / 01 / 2009    | 12 / 15 / 2009    | 12 / 29 / 2009    | 01 / 05 / 2010    |
|------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Don Barnett, AC-B      | Speaker           | Evaluator         |                   |                   |
| Butch Barney, DTM      | General Evaluator | Toastmaster       | Evaluator         | Evaluator         |
| Marcia Barney, DTM     | Evaluator         | Evaluator         | Speaker           | Grammarian        |
| Ernst Bonaparte        |                   |                   | Vote Counter      | Speaker           |
| Pam Christopher, DTM   |                   | Evaluator         | Grammarian        |                   |
| John Clark, DTM        | Evaluator         |                   | Joke Master       | Evaluator         |
| Brian Davidson AC-S/CL |                   | Grammarian        | Evaluator         | Speaker           |
| Maurice Derbez         | Joke Master       | Speaker           | Word Master       |                   |
| Andy Everhart          | Vote Counter      |                   |                   |                   |
| Ann Everhart           |                   | Speaker           |                   |                   |
| Craig Humphrey         |                   | Joke Master       |                   | Speaker           |
| Greg Jones             | Speaker           |                   |                   | Timer             |
| Lance Kull, DTM        | Evaluator         | Word Master       |                   |                   |
| Bob Lauwers            | Timer             | Speaker           |                   | Word Master       |
| Linda Minney           | Word Master       |                   | Timer             | Joke Master       |
| Barbie Morgan, CC      | Toastmaster       | Timer             | General Evaluator |                   |
| Christa Neuhauser      |                   |                   |                   |                   |
| Florian Neuhauser      | Speaker           |                   |                   |                   |
| Mark Perew, DTM        |                   |                   |                   |                   |
| Zoltan Rab             | Table Topics      | Evaluator         | Speaker           | Evaluator         |
| Madan Rangabasyam      |                   |                   |                   | Vote Counter      |
| Barbara Schanker, AC-S |                   | Speaker           | Evaluator         | Table Topics      |
| Joel Schanker, DTM     |                   | General Evaluator | Toastmaster       | Evaluator         |
| Craig Thrift, CC/CL    | Evaluator         |                   | Table Topics      | Speaker           |
| Jeff Walker, CC        | Grammarian        |                   | Speaker           | Toastmaster       |
| Elaine Wiles, CC-G     | Speaker           | Table Topics      | Evaluator         | General Evaluator |
| Pam Windley            |                   | Vote Counter      | Speaker           |                   |

**Remember: All roles are important! If you can not attend the meeting, then contact our VP of Education.**

Northwestern Toastmasters  
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