

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 for 2011-2012

Christa Neuhauser, CC	President
Jeff Walker	VP-Education
Jessica Pockey	VP-Membership
John Clark, DTM	VP-Public Relations
Elizabeth Stepp, CC	Secretary
Marcia Barney, DTM	Treasurer
Brian Gravely, CC	Sgt. at Arms
On the web at	www.NWTM.org

Volume 38 - Issue 22

Our Next Meeting will be on
April 3, 2012
(Next Tuesday)

For More Information, call
Marcia Barney (336) 712-8183



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.

Schedule of Contests (updated)

Each spring we have an International speech contest and a Table Topics contest.

Division Contests (April, 15, 2012)

District Contests (May 3, 2012)

Corrections, updates and other details, such as time and place, will be included in the newsletter.

Christa Neuhauser First Runner-Up

The Area 51 International Speech Contest and Table Topics Contest were held at Industries for the Blind on Saturday, March 31. Northwestern Toastmaster President Christa Neuhauser declared that she would rather talk to animals than know the future. This answer earned her First Runner-Up status in the Table Topics Contest. Brian Gravely represented our club well with his thought provoking "What's Wrong With Men Today?" but apparently the judges didn't prefer deep thoughts on Saturday morning. Both contests were won by the VIPS club representative.

Butch Barney served as Toastmaster for the Contest. Joel Schanker and Jeff Walker were counters. Pam Christopher was a judge. Don Barnett offered moral (should any be needed) support and Marcia Barney sent muffins (many were needed.) Congratulation, Christa and Brian for a job well done!

Words of Wisdom (from an old Cowboy)

Never take Unfair advantage.

If it's none of your business, stay out of it.

If it ain't bothering you, leave it alone.

Never take down another man's fence.



Brian Gravely, winner of the Club Level International Speech contest, presents the award for Table Topics Contest winner to Club President Christa Neuhauser.

Here are some interesting & true facts:

The largest recorded snowflake was 15 inches wide and 8 inches thick. It fell in Montana in 1887.

The tip of a bullwhip moves so fast that the sound it makes is actually a tiny sonic boom.

Former president Bill Clinton only sent 2 emails in his entire 8 year presidency.

Koalas and humans are the only animals that have fingerprints.

The Way it Was - February 21, 2012



Through the eyes and ears of P. Phantum President Christa Neuhauser started a winning evening in a winning way with an efficient business session. A motion was made, seconded, and passed that NWTM conduct an Improved Communications Workshop beginning May 1. (See accompanying article.) After the recess for dinner Christa introduced **Toastmaster for the Meeting John Clark** with his theme of "Gotcha." John's opening comments were also speech #6 from his Competent Communicator Manual. Wordmaster Jeff Walker gave "hackneyed," overused, as the Word for the Evening. The word was not overused.

Don Barnett served as Table Topics Master for our annual Table Topics Contest. Marcia Barney was the Chief Judge. Don gave the topic "Spring has officially arrived. Many college students are headed for the beaches. Many of them will express their freedom by drinking alcoholic beverages. What action, if any, can be taken to prevent excessive drinking by these young adults?" We heard 5 thought-provoking, humorous, creative, and intriguing responses from our 5 Table Topics Contestants:

- Ø Brian Davidson
- Ø Brian Gravely
- Ø Christa Neuhauser
- Ø Craig Thrift
- Ø Jeff Walker

Prepared speeches were also given by:

Brian Gravely gave his International Speech Contest speech "What's Wrong With Men Today?" and was evaluated by Marcia Barney.

Pam Christopher gave #2 from her Advanced Persuasive Speaking Manual. "Cold Calls" was evaluated by Brian Davidson.

Don Barnett evaluated John's "Gotcha" speech.

Butch Barney served as General Evaluator. In addition to evaluating the meeting he led a short group evaluation of Brian's contest speech.

A record was set for NWTM when Grammarian Marcia Barney suggested that the Table Topics Contestants used no distracting words!

John told the Joke for the meeting.

Winners for the evening were:

Best Evaluator: Marcia Barney

Best Prepared Speaker: Brian Gravely

Winner of the NWTM 2012 Table Topics Contest: Christa Neuhauser

On Walking

Walking can add minutes to your life. This enables you at 85 years old to spend an additional 5 months in a nursing home at \$4,000 per month.

My grandpa started walking five miles a day when he was 60. Now he's 97 years old and we have no idea where he is.

Improved Communications Workshop

At our March 20 Meeting Northwestern Toastmasters voted to conduct our annual Improved Communications Workshop starting on May 1. The workshop will continue for 8 consecutive Tuesdays, with Graduation on June 12.

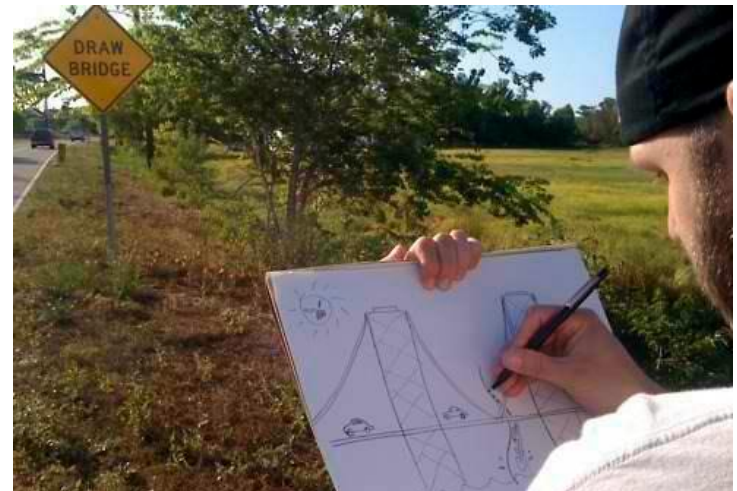
This workshop is an ideal time to introduce friends and acquaintances who could benefit from improved communications to the concepts of Toastmasters. Cost of the Workshop is \$25 per person for those who are not members of NWTM. NWTM members may attend as part of their membership.

VP-Education Jeff Walker has asked Marcia Barney to coordinate the program. She, in turn, will be asking the many talented members of NWTM to assist with the educational presentations, evaluations, and group discussions.

Helpful Hint

If you use the technique of laying your notes on the lectern and sliding them across as needed, then you may have discovered a problem. If there is humidity in the air and the paper absorbs that moisture then sometimes the pages will stick together.

To stop this problem, simply crumple the lower left corner of each page, and then flatten it out. You can then slide the pages of your speech easily and safely by grasping the lower left corner and sliding. You can use this technique on any corner.



Today's Thought - Before you follow instructions, make sure that you understand the instructions.

It takes only one drink to get me drunk. The trouble is, I can't remember if it's the thirteenth or the fourteenth.
—George Burns

~~ 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 Vice President of Education

March 20 is the Club Level International Speech Contest.

Member	04 / 03 / 2012	04 / 17 / 2012	05 / 01 / 2012	05 / 15 / 2012
Don Barnett, AC-B	General Evaluator	Vote Counter	Speaker	
Butch Barney, DTM	Vote Counter / Timer	Word Master	Speaker	
Marcia Barney, DTM	Table Topics		Evaluator	
Allan Chavez				Speaker
Pam Christopher, DTM	Joke Master		Speaker	
John Clark, DTM	Speaker	General Evaluator	Evaluator	Toastmaster
A.J. Daoud		Evaluator	Joke Master	
Brian Davidson, DTM	Speaker	Grammarian	Word Master	
Brian Gravely	Evaluator	Speaker	Table Topics	
Piyush Gupta	Speaker	Evaluator	Timer	
Scott Hill				
Lance Kull, DTM				
Christa Neuhauser, CC		Toastmaster		General Evaluator
Daniel Parker	Word Master	Speaker		
Barbara Schanker, AC-S				
Joel Schanker, DTM	Evaluator	Table Topics	Speaker	
Kristin Schokett			Toastmaster	
Achal Shah	Grammarian	Speaker	Vote Counter	
Elizabeth Stepp, CC	Evaluator	Joke Master	General Evaluator	
Craig Thrift, CC/CL	Toastmaster	Evaluator	Grammarian	
Jeff Walker, CC	Evaluator / Word Master	Speaker	Evaluator	
Elaine Wiles, CC-G			Evaluator	
Chuck Wooten				

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

Northwestern Toastmasters
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