

# 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	<a href="http://www.NWTM.org">www.NWTM.org</a>

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Our Next Meeting will be on  
**April 17, 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.

District Contests (May 3, 20120)

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

## Words of Wisdom (from an old Cowboy)

Always sink the corner fence posts twice as deep.

Never pick a fight with a porcupine.

Don't forget that there are always consequences.

## Snappy Answers to Cheerful Questions

As the need arises, your (mostly) humble editor will answer questions from the readers. Here are two that have been recently asked.

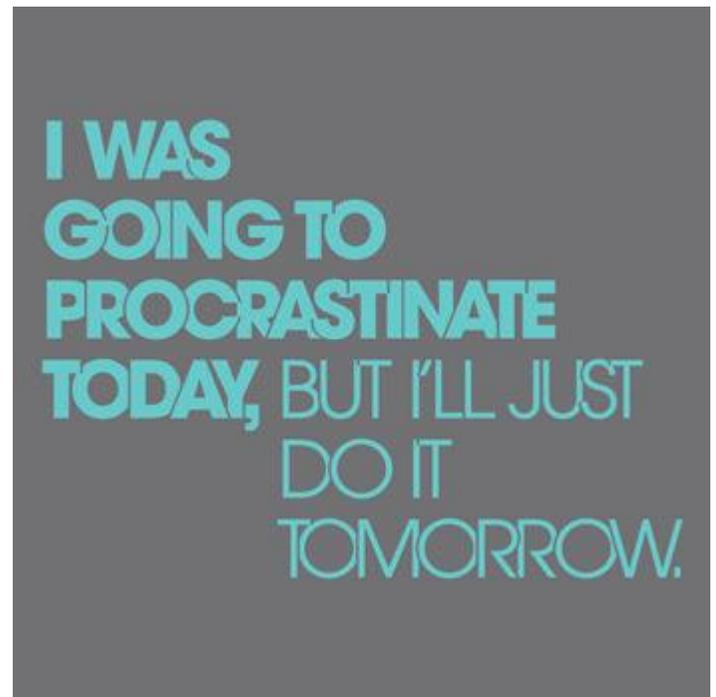
Q: Why does an issue of a newsletter have a date for the next meeting when the Secretary's Report (The way it was) contains information about the last meeting?

A. While the past is important in that it helps us to see where we have been - the future is, to an extent, under our control. If you will notice, the newsletter is published on the weekend before the meeting. This allows the newsletter to serve both as a historical document (showing what has happened) as well as a gentle reminder of the next meeting.

Q. On page 3, you list the members names and then the roles assigned. Would it not be more efficient to list the roles in the first column and then the members assigned in the following columns?

A. There are two reasons for the current listing. First, the member is more important than the role. Our format places emphasis on the member rather than the role. The second reason is that it is very easy for a member to see what roles they will be soon performing.

A fool and his money can throw one heck of a party.



The math professor went crazy with the blackboard. He did a number on it.

The Way it Was - April 3, 2012

By Elizabeth Stepp, Secretary



The meeting started at 6:32 p.m. with Vice President Jeff Walker opening the meeting. In Officer's Reports, John Clark (acting Treasurer) reported that there were three members who have not yet paid their dues. There were no Committee Reports, Old Business or New Business. Jeff mentioned that we had two members participate in the area contest this past weekend and both represented us well.

Craig Thrift was the Toastmaster for the meeting. Craig gave speech #1 from the Advanced Communication series, "Standing for Those Who Stood for Us." He honored those who have served our country in a military. He talked about Westboro Baptist Church which considers military deaths as heavenly punishment for homosexuality and how the Patriot Guard Riders work to honor and protect fallen service members' families.

The Wordmaster was Jeff Walker. The word for the evening was: aplomb, meaning assurance of manner or action, confidence. The Vote Counter was Elizabeth Stepp. Achal acted as the Grammarian for the evening. Timer for the evening was Daniel Parker.

The Table Topics session was hosted by Pam Christopher. She asked Daniel which branch of the armed forces he would enlist in and why. She asked Elizabeth how she, as a Pizza Hut manager, would welcome the mother of a returning veteran. She asked Joel Schanker how he would honor returning veterans at the Fall Conference.

Piyush Gupta gave speech #2 from the Competent Communications Manual, entitled, "Seven Essential Pillars for an Organization." With all of these pillars, the organization will succeed. They are:

- 1) The leader
- 2) The manager
- 3) The market
- 4) The headquarters
- 5) The treasury
- 6) The team
- 7) The friends/consultants

John Clark gave speech #5 from the Competent Communications Manual, entitled, "Learning 101." He noted that to learn from someone else you need to know whether the person is qualified and whether you can trust that person.

Don Barnett served as the General Evaluator for the evening. Jeff Walker evaluated Craig, Brian Davidson evaluated Piyush Gupta, and Joel Schanker evaluated John Clark. Achal gave the grammarian's report for the evening. (Ed. Note: This was the point where Joel Schanker led the insurrection against allowing a Treasurer pro tem. to collect the grammatical quarters. See more details in the accompanying article.) Jeff Walker told us who used the word for the evening.

Joel won for Table Topics, and Piyush won for his speech and Joel won for the evaluation

Pam provided the joke and the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

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.

Meeting Notes:

It was wonderful to see Joel Schanker rise to the occasion and protest someone who would usurp the onerous collection of grammatical error coins by anyone who simply claimed to be speaking for the Treasurer. Joel's action demonstrates the leadership training that exemplifies Toastmasters and Northwestern Toastmasters.

Activities outside the Club:

During announcements, Joel Schanker mentioned that Northwestern Toastmasters only attend events where they are participating. He noted that the Division E speech contest will be on April 14 from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Clemmons library. Don Barnett added that it was a great opportunity to see some great speeches.

The importance of exercise

I like long walks, - Especially when they are taken by people who annoy me.

The only reason I would take up walking is so that I could hear heavy breathing again.

I have to walk early in the morning, Before my brain figures out what I'm doing...

I joined a health club last year, Spent about \$250 haven't lost a pound. Apparently you have to go there!

Every time I hear the dirty word 'exercise', I wash my mouth out with chocolate.

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

