

# 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 2012-2013

Christa Neuhauser, CC/CL	President
Jeff Walker, CC	VP-Education
Brian Gravely, CC	VP-Membership
John Clark, DTM	VP-Public Relations
Piyush Gupta	Secretary
Marcia Barney, DTM	Treasurer
Sha Tao	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  
**February 5, 2013**  
 (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.*

## The Way it was - January 29, 2013



by P.Fantum., asst. Secretary  
 President Christa Neuhauser conducted a brief and informative business session. Joel Schanker announced TLI officer training will be held on February 9, VP-Education Jeff Walker asked us to choose dates for our club International Speech (March 5) and Table Topics (March 19) Contests, one new member (Tripp Evans) and one guest (Kirk Holcomb) were welcomed.

After a brief recess for dinner she introduced Toastmaster-for-the-Meeting Don Barnett. Don's Speech #5 from the Competent Communication Manual introduced the theme for the meeting - "Food for All." Wordmaster Butch Barney gave "ideology" - a manner or the contest of thinking characteristic of an individual, group, or culture. Table Topics Master John Clark gave topics to:

- Christa Neuhauser discussed the possible relationship between single parent families and hunger.
- Tripp Evans stated his opinion about the competence of public versus private food service.
- Rex Fesler commented on factors affecting overeating.

Prepared speeches for the evening (in addition to Don's speech) were:

- +Gayle Tuch's "Who Am I?" Ice Breaker was evaluated by Marcia Barney.
- +Elizabeth Stepp and Craig Thrift did a two-person speakathon: Elizabeth's second speech from the PR Manual was evaluated by Joel Schanker. Craig's #3 from the Communicating on TV manual was evaluated by Jeff Walker.

Butch Barney evaluated Don Barnett's speech. Marcia Barney was the Grammarian. Sha Tao served as General Evaluator. Rex Fesler served as Timer for the Evening and Tripp Evans counted the votes. Gayle Tuch and

(The Way it was, continued from previous column)

Marcia Barney used the Word-for-the-Day during the meeting. Christa Neuhauser provided the Joke-for-the-Day.

Winner were:



- Best Table Topic Speaker - Rex Fesler
- Best Evaluator - Marcia Barney
- Best Speaker - The Elizabeth/Craig duo

## Competent Leader Activity

All Northwestern Toastmasters are either working through the Competent Leadership Manual or are strongly urged to do so. Our last meeting saw these members involved.

Member	Project - Activity
Butch Barney	03 - Evaluator
Marcia Barney	02 - Grammarian/Ah Counter
John Clark	07 - Table Topics Master
Rex Fesler	04 - Timer

## Guests and New Members:

Our guest for the meeting was Kirk Holcomb. Our former guest and now newest member is Tripp Evans. We hope you enjoyed the meeting and look forward to seeing you again. It's always great to see new faces and even better to see new members.

Jeff Walker will be Tripp's mentor and Elizabeth Stepp will be a mentor for Gayle Tuch. Congratulations everyone.

### It's Contest Time

Each year Toastmasters International holds both an International Speech Contest and Table Topics Contest. The contests are held at the Club level. Winners then proceed on to the Area, Division, District, Regional and International levels. This article will remain in place and be updated, as new information is available.

Club Level International speech - March 5, during regular meeting.

Club Level Table Topics - March 19, during regular meeting.

Area Level Contests - April 6, 2013 details available soon.

Division Level Contests - April 20, 2013, details soon.

District Level Contests - May 18, 2013.

For more information, visit the District web site - [www.toastmasters-nc.org](http://www.toastmasters-nc.org)

Regional Level - For more information, see TI's web site at [www.toastmasters.org](http://www.toastmasters.org).

International Level - August 21-24, 2013 in Cincinnati, Ohio

For more information, see TI's web site at [www.toastmasters.org/Members/FutureConventions.aspx](http://www.toastmasters.org/Members/FutureConventions.aspx)

**There are no stupid questions.  
(But there are stupid people who will ask questions.)**

### New Roster

Thanks to Marcia Barney, we will have a new one page summary roster. For those of you who read this article in the last issue, Marcia has updated the roster with our newest member. So, if you did download a copy, be sure to do it again and remain current.

### Evaluating the Evaluator

(A member sent this to me, but asked that I not reveal the source. So I won't.)

Northwestern's evaluators are almost always the epitome of good evaluations. They are presented in a positive manner, with good encouragement. However, I have noticed a trend developing in evaluations.

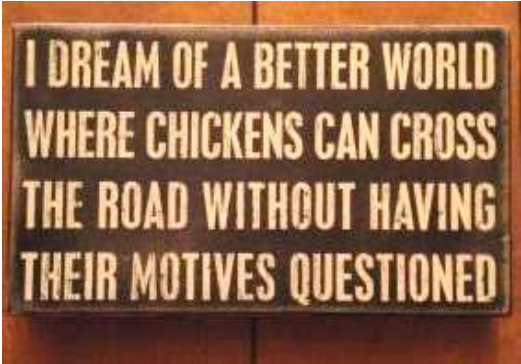
In many Toastmasters Clubs, an evaluation starts with an overused, almost trite, phrase. "Mr. Toastmaster, fellow Toastmasters, distinguished guests and especially [insert name of speaker here.]"

This phrase becomes even more egregious in those meetings when there are no guests. If there are guests, how does one determine the "distinguished" from the regular visitor? Should the phrase be ". . . fellow Toastmasters, distinguished or just plain guests and especially . . ."

The purpose of an evaluation is to help the speaker become a better speaker. It is not to add filler words to puff out the evaluation to the time allotted. Time wasted on meaningless phrases could better be used in helping the speaker improve. If others in the audience are smart enough to survive the fall off the turnip truck, then they too will listen and pick up pointers to better speaking. Perhaps a better opening might be "[insert name of speaker]" and then begin the evaluation.

At the other end (actually the end) of the evaluation, another phrase is beginning to be used more and more often. That phrase is "This was a great speech and I look forward to hearing more." If it was a great speech, did it need an evaluation? If I were not looking forward to hearing more of the speaker's speeches, then I just won't attend the meetings where that individual is scheduled to speak. As evaluators, we need to be honest. Say "This speech was well presented." or "This speech demonstrated your skill." The important part is that it ties in with your evaluation. It goes without saying that we almost always look forward to hearing speeches that have been prepared and honed for us. As always, If it goes without saying it, then why say it?

**The Wizard of Oz.** (8-10 p.m., TCM)  
— Transported to a surreal landscape, a young girl kills the first person she meets and then teams up with three strangers to kill again.



4 out of 3 people struggle with math.

~~ Meeting Schedule ~~

Please Note. The Vice President of Education is continually adjusting the schedule to meet the requirements of our members. So, if you need to see the current schedule, contact our Vice President of Education

Member	02 / 05 / 2013	02 / 19 / 2013	03 / 05 / 2013	03 / 19 / 2013
			<b>International Speech Contest</b>	<b>Table Topics Contest</b>
Cassandra Barnes				
Don Barnett, AC-B	Speaker	Table Topics		Evaluator
Butch Barney, DTM	Evaluator	Vote Counter		Evaluator
Marcia Barney, DTM	Speaker	Toastmaster		Grammarian
Pam Christopher, DTM	Toastmaster	General Evaluator		Speaker
John Clark, DTM	Timer	Evaluator		Vote Counter
Brian Davidson, DTM	Evaluator	Grammarian		Speaker
Tripp Evans	Word Master	Speaker		
Rex Fesler	Vote Counter	Timer		Vote Counter
Brian Gravely, CC	Joke Master	Speaker		Evaluator
Piyush Gupta				
Scott Hill				
Christa Neuhauser, AC-B, CC	Speaker	Evaluator		Vote Counter
Barbara Schanker, AC-S				
Joel Schanker, DTM	General Evaluator	Evaluator		
Dawn Sicurezza				
Gabe Smith				
Elizabeth Stepp, CC	Table Topics	Joke Master		General Evaluator
Sha Tao, CC	Evaluator	Word Master	Speaker	
Craig Thrift, CC/CL	Speaker	Evaluator	Toastmaster	
Gayle Tuch	Vote Counter		Speaker	
Jeff Walker, CC	Evaluator	Evaluator		

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

I heard that they found about 200 dead crows near Topeka, and there was concern that they may have died from Avian Flu. They had a bird pathologist examine the remains of all the crows, and he confirmed the problem was definitely NOT Avian Flu, to everyone's relief. However, he determined that 98% of the crows had been killed by impact with trucks, and only 2% were killed by an impact with a car. The province then hired an ornithological behaviorist to determine the disproportionate percentages for truck versus car kill. The ornithological behaviorist determined the cause in short order. When crows eat road kill, they always set-up a lookout crow in a nearby tree to warn of impending danger. His conclusion was that all the lookout crows could say, "cah", but none could say "truck."

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