

# 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 2017-2018

Peter Gross	President
Pam Christopher, DTM	VP-Education
Bob McHone	VP-Membership
Don Barnett	VP-Public Relations
John Clark, DTM	Secretary
Marcia Barney, DTM	Treasurer
Shawn Gaudet DeLestardt	Sgt. at Arms
John Clark, DTM	webmaster
On the web at	<b>www.NWTM.org</b>

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Our Next Meeting will be on  
**December 19, 2017**

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.*

## Minutes from our Meeting—December 5, 2017



by John Clark, DTM  
Secretary

December 5, 2017 Meeting (Happy Birthday, Craig.)  
Week 6 of the Improved Communications Seminar

Business Session (Conducted by Peter Gross, President)

- Pam Christopher made the motion to accept the secretary's report, as printed in the newsletter.
- She also announced that Division E TLI will be held on Saturday, December 16, 2017.

Educational Session

Butch Barney was our Toastmaster of the meeting. His theme was "Use of Voice." He then introduced - -

- Bob McHone as Timer,
- Craig Thrift as Grammarian,
- Pauline Pfaff as Vote Counter.
- Craig Thrift was our Word Master and gave us the word "lassitude."
- Marcia Barney was our Table Topics Master. Her theme was Use of Notes.

Table Topics questions went to

- Craig Thrift (Describe How you use notes.)
- Bob McHone (Worst disaster using notes.)
- Pam Christopher (Points for using a visual aid.)

Our prepared speakers were -

- Peter Gross used speech number 3 from the Story Telling Manual to tell us about "Your Have to Finish."
- John Clark completed his High Performance Leadership Project by telling us "Take My Website, Please!"

Our General Evaluator was Rob Phelps, who called on -

- Russel Sequeria to evaluate Peter's speech
- Don Barnett to evaluate John's speech

Pam Christopher was awarded Best Table Topics Speaker.

Don Barnett was awarded Best Evaluator.

The meeting concluded with a report from our Joke Master, Bob McHone.

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## Dates to Remember

**December 5 & 19, 2017:** December NWTM meetings

**December 12 – 20, 2017:** Hanukah

**December 16, 2017:** TLI training (see below)

**December 25, 2017:** Christmas Day

**January 1, 2018:** New Year's Day

**January 2, 2018:** ICS Graduation



I like to compare the holiday season with the way a child listens to a favorite story. The pleasure is in the familiar way the story begins, the anticipation of familiar turns it takes, the familiar moments of suspense, and the familiar climax and ending.

Fred Rogers

[https://www.brainyquote.com/topics/holiday\\_season](https://www.brainyquote.com/topics/holiday_season)



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## Your Comedy Checklist

When you turn on a light switch, you expect results. You expect the light to go on. If it doesn't, you run through a checklist to correct the problem. Is the lamp plugged in? Is the light bulb burned out? Is the fuse blown? The same process is true of using humor in your presentation. You want the audience to laugh, and if they don't, you need to figure out how to fix the problem.

This 10-point checklist will help you correct flaws so your humor will be effective.

**1 - Does your humor end with a surprise?** Surprise is an essential element of comedy. You often hear storytellers say, "Stop me if you've heard this one." They realize that if you already know the ending, the joke has lost its power.

Your ending must be unexpected, a twist, a surprise. The suddenness of that surprise is the jolt that produces the laughter you want.

Whatever your punch line is, be sure the audience doesn't see it coming. You might have to misdirect listeners—lead them to think in one direction and then suddenly redirect them to your real meaning.

**2 - Is your humor based on recognizable reality?** Each joke or tale you tell must be truthful. The listeners can only respond to your humor if they recognize the reality it is based on. This doesn't mean you can't be whimsical. Your truth doesn't have to be the kind you swear to in a court of law. It can be exaggerated, distorted and hypothetical, as long as your audience can relate to it. You want people to think, Yeah, that has happened to me, too.

**3 - Can you be heard and understood?**

**4 - Is your humor current?**

**5 - Is your humor concise?**

**6 - Does your humor create a vivid image?**

**7 - Are you letting the audience know when to laugh**

**8 - Are your references applicable and appropriate?**

**9 - Is your humor right for this audience?**

**10 - Is your humor clever and incisive?**

(Read the details at:

<https://www.toastmasters.org/magazine/articles/your-comedy-checklist> )

Gene Perret is an Emmy Award-winning writer who has written for legendary comics such as Bob Hope, Phyllis Diller, Carol Burnett and others. Visit his website at [comedywritersroom.com](http://comedywritersroom.com).

## ~~ 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

### Future Meeting Roles and Responsibilities:

Member		12/19/2017	01/02/2018	1/16/18	1/30/18
Don	Barnett, AC-G	Evaluator		Speaker	TOASTMASTER
Butch	Barney, DTM	TABLE TOPICS: Audience Analysis	Vote Counter	Evaluator	Speaker
Marcia	Barney, DTM	Grammarians/ Vote Counter/ Jokemaster	General Evaluator	Vote Counter	TABLE TOPICS MASTER:
Pam	Christopher, DTM	TOASTMASTER			Evaluator
John	Clark, DTM	Vote Counter/Timer	Jokemaster		Speaker
Shawn	DeLestardt	OUT	OUT	Speaker	Speaker
Peter	Gross	Evaluator	Evaluator	Wordmaster	Timer
Bob	McHone		Wordmaster	Evaluator	Speaker
Rob	Phelps	Evaluator	Speaker	Timer	Evaluator
Laura	Phillips	OUT	Speaker	Evaluator	Vote Counter
Joel	Schanker, DTM	OUT	Evaluator	Speaker	Jokemaster
Craig	Thrift, ACS/ALB	Speaker	Evaluator	Grammarians	Wordmaster
Angela	Johnson		TABLE TOPICS MASTER: Theme:Self Improvement	TOASTMASTER Theme:	Evaluator
Pauline	Pfaff	Speaker	TOASTMASTER Theme: Self Improvement	General Evaluator	Evaluator
Sequeria	Russell	Speaker	Speaker	TABLE TOPICS MASTER	

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