

Northwest Words

The Official Publication of Northwestern Toastmasters Club 2946/37
Meeting each first, third, and fifth Tuesday, 6:30 PM - Mayberry's, 50 Miller Street, Winston-Salem, NC
Volume 33, No. 19, Early April, 2007

On the web at www.nwtm.org

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**See YOU at our next Meeting
Tuesday April 3, 2007**



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.

~~~ New Member ~~~



In the last issue we reported that Jeff Walker was a visitor. That information is no longer correct. Jeff is now our newest member. Jeff – Welcome to Northwestern Toastmasters. All members of Northwestern hope that you will have an enjoyable and educational experience with Toastmasters.

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

~~~ New Northwestern Policy ~~~

Effective on the first of this month, Northwestern has new rules in effect. The Vice President of Public Relations has approved these rules.

* The Club Treasurer will now, at the request of the Grammarian, give a 5 cent reward (up to 25 cents) for each filler word used by a speaker.

* The dinner of the newsletter editor will be paid for by the Officers of the Club.

* Speeches will no longer be timed. Each member who speaks will use the honor system to report their time.

* Instead of ribbons, Best Speaker, Table Topics Speaker and Evaluator will receive an ice cream cone.

Schedule for the April 3, 2007 Meeting

Kyle Adams..... Word Master
Don Barnett..... Evaluator
Marcia Barney..... Evaluator
Pam Christopher..... Speaker
John Clark..... Evaluator
Brian Davidson..... Timer
Dianna Garcia..... Vote Counter
Donna Hall..... Toastmaster
Matthew Hamby..... Speaker
Zoltan Rab..... Table Topics Master
Evelyn Ries..... Speaker
Barbara Schanker..... Evaluator
Joel Schanker..... Speaker
Craig Thrift..... Joke Master
Jeff Walker..... Speaker
Derrick Webb..... Grammarian
Elaine Wiles..... Evaluator
Debbie Woo..... Evaluator
Evander Woo..... General Evaluator

Schedule for the April 3, 2007 Meeting

Kyle Adams..... Speaker
Scott Anderson..... Joke Master
Don Barnett..... Table Topics
Marcia Barney..... Evaluator
Teddy Burriss..... Evaluator
Pam Christopher..... Evaluator
Brian Davidson..... Evaluator
Dianna Garcia..... Speaker
Donna Hall..... Timer
Karl Hastings..... Grammarian
Lance Kull..... Evaluator
Zoltan Rab..... Speaker
Evelyn Ries..... Wordmaster
Barbara Schanker..... Speaker
Jeff Walker..... Vote Counter
Derrick Webb..... Speaker
Elaine Wiles..... Toastmaster
Debbie Woo..... General Evaluator

Dateline Tuesday, March 20, 2007

by Marcia Barney

Mayberry's, Miller Street - The Northwestern Toastmasters Club met for an interesting, vivacious meeting in the private dining space at Mayberry's. Sgt.-at-Arms Evander Woo had the banner hung and the ballots out well before the meeting began. VP-Education Joel Schanker followed with the program which listed not only the program for the evening, but the lineup for the next two meetings. The business session was appropriately brief with only two major announcements: Both Don and Teddy represented us well at the Area 21 contests on March 17. Each was first runner-up in their respective contests, Don in International Speech and Teddy in Table Topics. We welcomed 2 guests: Angel Shannon and Jeff Walker.

Zoltan Rab made his maiden voyage as Toastmaster-of-the-Meeting with great energy and enthusiasm. The theme he selected for the meeting was "The Sound of Music." Evelyn Ries offered "optimal" as the Word-for-the-Day. Marcia Barney gave Table Topics to:

Evander Woo told us about his favorite sounds.

*Kyle Adams proclaimed her lack of musical talents very entertainingly.

*Evelyn Ries told us about her favorite music.

Prepared Speeches were given by:

Scott Anderson let us get to know him a bit better with his Ice Breaker. Butch Barney evaluated the speech.

Craig Thrift also revealed personal details with his Ice Breaker. Teddy Burriss evaluated Craig's speech.

Karl Hasting's B-2 "The Essence of Floral Design" was a treat to the ears and the eyes. Don Barnett treated Karl to an evaluation.

Donna Hall gave #5 from her "Humorously Speaking" manual titled "Who Is Coming To Dinner." Debbie Woo evaluated the offering.

General Evaluator John Clark evaluated the meeting, evaluated the evaluators - including Joel Schanker who evaluated Zoltan's TM warm-up - and called Grammarian Marcia Barney. He also commented on the length of the Grammarian's report ~~which included several fillers by the General Evaluator.~~

Lance Kull timed the proceedings and Evander Woo counted the votes. Debbie Woo told the joke of the evening. Our best for the evening were:

Best Table Topics Speaker - Kyle Adams

Best Evaluator - Butch Barney

Best Speaker - Donna Hall

Most missed Toastmasters: Brian Davidson, Elaine Wiles, Derrick Webb.

Jeff Walker liked the meeting and decided to join Northwestern Toastmasters. Welcome, Jeff!

MEETING ADJOURNED!



Al Gore told Congress that global warming should not be a political issue it should be a moral issue. And Congress said, "A moral issue? I'm sorry you lost us there."

How to be a Toastmaster of the Meeting

by Joel Schanker, VP Education



A Toastmaster meeting is a marvel of interrelated parts when it runs smoothly and a ineffective waste of time when done poorly. Northwestern Toastmasters has developed a meeting process that allows for fun and good humor while maintaining a structure that makes

the most of our limited spare time. The key to our success is the not the meeting roles themselves but what we emphasize and prioritize in each function. The following is one person's opinion (albeit a person I admire and respect.....ME) of what is important and the priorities in each of our meeting functions:

Toastmaster:

This is the person who manages the educational portion of our meetings. The Toastmaster sets the tone for the meeting and supports the members in other roles through quality introductions. The priorities are:

1) Proper Sequence of Segments: The Toastmaster needs to introduce each function as called for in the agenda. If the Toastmaster misses a function, the meeting does not achieve its objectives. If the segments are introduced out of sequence, the process is less effective. For example, if the Wordmaster is recognized after the Table Topics, the impromptu speakers will not have the challenge of expanding their vocabulary.

2) Quality Introductions of Segments: The introduction of a speaker or function is intended to prepare the audience to get the most from the presentation. The Toastmaster needs to show enthusiasm for the segment to follow and where appropriate for the person presenting. The introduction needs to take into account the people in the audience. If there are visitors or new members in attendance, the Toastmaster should add details to the introduction to help them understand what is taking place. It should also include the manual and time to assist our evaluators and timers. The reality is that if the Toastmaster does not appear excited to see the next segment, why should the audience.

3) Energizing Warm-up: The Toastmaster of a meeting is free to select a theme for the meeting. The theme may be educational (provide new information about a topic), entertaining (usually something humorous or inspiring), or celebratory (honoring a holiday or season). The warm-up should not be too long or the audience may be "tired" by the time the scheduled speakers present.

4) Fill time: Finally, the Toastmaster should work to avoid pockets of silence during the meeting. For example, while members are voting their attention will not be on an introduction. Therefore, the Toastmaster may consider a very short story or quote consistent with the meetings theme. An experienced Toastmaster may immediately follow a presentation with a one-line comment that shows that the Toastmaster was listening and helps the audience relate to the theme.

Over the following months I will be discussing remaining meeting roles. If you have any other opinions or perspectives on what is written here, please, please, please let me know. How else will I learn.