

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
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On the web at www.nwtm.org

OFFICERS (2008-2009)

President	Craig Thrift	336 764-2024
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VP-Membership	Elaine Wiles, ATM-S	
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Secretary	Evander Woo, CC	
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Sgt. at Arms	Eddy Gaasbeek	336 871-3636
Immediate Past	Brian Davidson, ATM-S	336 765-5502

For more information --
call Marcia Barney at
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See YOU
at our next Meeting



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 Secretary's Report for November 4, 2008

by Evander Woo, Secretary



The meeting of Northwestern Toastmasters was brought to order at 6:30PM by President Craig Thrift. There were no officers' reports or announcements for the evening.

After recessing for 10 minutes, the meeting resumed at 6:45PM. Tonight's Toastmaster was VP of Education Don Barnett. The theme of the meeting was "Graduation" to mark the last session of the eight-week speechcraft program.

The Word Master for the evening was Susan Woo. Brian Davidson was the Grammarian. The Timer was Jeff Walker. Jennifer Davis was the Vote Counter.

Craig Thrift was the Table Topics Master. Rita was about Pop Quizzes. Eddy Gaasbeek gave a brief answer about embarrassing moments at graduation. Susan Woo talked about dreams after graduation. Jeff Walker described what was learned during the eight-week class.

Our prepared speakers for the evening were Joel Schanker, Barbie Morgan, and Elaine Wiles. Joel's speech "The Bottom of the Ninth" was based on the Storytelling manual, speech #3 (Moral of the Story). Barbie's speech "Sandfly" was for the Competent Communicator manual, vocal variety. Elaine's "Anne Frank" was for the Interpretive Reading manual, speech #3.

Marcia Barney was the General Evaluator for the evening. After evaluating the first half of the meeting, she introduced Evander Woo to evaluate Joel's speech. Zoltan Rab was introduced to evaluate Barbie's speech. Lance Kull evaluated Elaine's speech.

The winners for the evening were: 1) Best Table Topics – Jeff Walker, 2) Best Evaluator – Lance Kull, and 3) Best Speaker – Elaine Wiles.

Eddy Gaasbeek closed the meeting as Joke Master.

NWTMs Take Care of Business dateline Raleigh - by correspondent Marcia Barney

Northwestern Toastmasters Butch Barney, Marcia Barney, Pam Christopher, Jennifer Davis, Eddy Gaasbeek, Joel Schanker, Craig Thrift, Evander Woo and Susan Woo presented a session on Parliamentary Procedure at the District 37 Fall Conference in Raleigh on November 8. The session must have been a great success. One of the trainees in the session became the Parliamentarian at the District Council Meeting later in the day.

The training session, with Marcia as Chair and Butch as "The Sage" included a lively business session in which the club members (the other 7 NWTMs) introduced, debated, and decided to buy needed equipment for their organization. Perhaps it is time we had such a fun and educational session at our club meeting.

Pam Christopher runs for ID

At the fall conference last week, Pam Christopher announced her plan to run for International Director of Toastmasters International from Region 8. Pam was District Governor of our District last year. During that year she made friends with Toastmasters in other Districts in Region 8. Many of them have encouraged Pam. As District Governor, Pam demonstrated her leadership ability by being responsible for the District becoming a Select Distinguished District, Number 1 in North America and Number 9 in the World. For more information go to her web site - www.pamforid.com.

What do you get if you divide the circumference of a jack-o-lantern by its diameter?

A: Pumpkin Pi!

The Experience of Competition

by Don Barnett, VP of Education



This summer, I said, "Yes" to competing in the Humorous Speech Contest. I was having a weak moment. Over the next weeks, I began to explore possible topics. I thought of my vacation, everyday events, famous moments in history. Nothing seemed like a winner. Then

the light came on – the "Maint Req'd" light that is. And now you know the rest of the story.

I had begun at my computer to put the thoughts to words on the computer screen. I was motivated to write my best knowing that the other contestants would be doing their best, also. I wrote the first draft. The next day, driving to work, (with the light on) I got more ideas. The first draft was refined. As days passed, my initial thoughts became more organized. The basics were important and I was determined to include an opening, the body and a closing. I re-read the speech for clarity and, of course, for humor. I read the speech out loud to myself, and began to add notes in the margins for gestures and vocal variety. Right up to the last minute, I was making changes. The night of the contest, I left work early for more practice.

That night the butterflies churned. After each contestant gave their presentations, I found myself in first place. I was going to "Area!" The club offered me a chance to practice again and many of you stayed after the meeting to listen and provide me valuable feedback (thank you Northwestern). I changed words, added a gesture and revised sentences. I practiced more. I was fortunate to win the Area level (thanks again Northwestern) and had two weeks before the Division level. More practice. I knew the competition at the Division level would be the toughest yet. I was nervous. My presentation earned third place and first place advanced to the District level in Raleigh. My competition was over for this venture. There were many good speakers throughout all of the levels and I learned from them as I progressed.

What are the teachings? Write and re-write. Focus on the basics. Practice, practice, practice. (Butch Barney told me to practice the speech six times a day.) Find an opportunity to give the speech again and listen to the evaluations. Incorporate the feedback. And have fun, everyone said. "It is a humorous speech, enjoy it." At first it was a lot of work but as time passed, I did begin to enjoy the experience

The International Speech Contest is coming up in January/February. Will you enter the contest? I encourage you to compete. The contests are exciting. You will find your skills increasing and your confidence strengthening. It is an honor to represent Northwestern Toastmasters Club. We have a great club!

Modern Bumper Stickers

All men are idiots ... I married their king.

A bartender is just a pharmacist with a limited inventory.

Progress Tracking Become Easier

Angela Rininger and Susan Woo are working with our VP of Education, Don Barnett, to update member goals and achievements. Our humble webmaster has volunteered to help by keeping track of our accomplishments on our web site - www.nwtm.org. Please help these fine members. When Don knows our current status, it becomes much easier to plan.

Modern Math Made Simple

Q: What does the zero say to the eight?

A: Nice belt!

The chef instructs his apprentice: "You take two thirds of water, one third of cream, one third of broth..."

The apprentice: "But that makes four thirds already!"

"Well - just take a larger pot!"

Q: What is the difference between a Ph.D. in mathematics and a large pizza?

A: A large pizza can feed a family of four...

New York (CNN). At John F. Kennedy International Airport today, a Caucasian male (later discovered to be a high school mathematics teacher) was arrested trying to board a flight while in possession of a compass, a protractor and a graphical calculator.

According to law enforcement officials, he is believed to have ties to the Al-Gebra network. He will be charged with carrying weapons of math instruction.

Mark Twain Quotes

- Ø I don't give a darn for a man that can only spell a word one way.
- Ø It is better to keep your mouth closed and let people think you are a fool than to open it and remove all doubt.
- Ø Keep away from people who try to belittle your ambitions. Small people always do that, but the really great make you feel that you, too, can become great.
- Ø Never put off until tomorrow what you can do the day after tomorrow.
- Ø The holy passion of Friendship is of so sweet and steady and loyal and enduring a nature that it will last through a whole lifetime, if not asked to lend money.

More Modern Bumper Stickers

I got a gun for my wife, best trade I've ever made.

Beauty is in the eye of the beer holder.

You're just jealous because the voices only talk to me.

I'm not a complete idiot, some parts are missing.

If something goes without saying, LET IT!

If at first you do succeed, try not to look astonished.

