

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, CC/CL | 336 764-2024 |
| VP-Education | Don Barnett, CTM | 336 940-5486 |
| VP-Membership | Elaine Wiles, CC-G/CL | |
| VP-PR | John Clark, DTM/AL | 336 723-2153 |
| Secretary | P. Fantum, SPDQ | 336 555-4111 |
| Treasurer | Marcia Barney, DTM/AL | 336 712-8183 |
| Sgt. at Arms | Eddy Gaasbeek | 336 871-3636 |
| Immediate Past | Brian Davidson, ATM-S | 336 765-5502 |

For more information --
call Marcia Barney at
(336) 712-8183

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.

As Time Goes By



by John Clark, DTM
It seems just a few months ago that we installed new officers in Northwestern Toastmasters. (Remember: The Toastmaster year runs from July 1 through June 30 of the following year.) During the last year, the individuals listed at the top of each newsletter have

worked to maintain and improve our Toastmasters Club. By doing that, they have **blue** also worked to improve their skills in both leadership and communications.

When you receive the next newsletter, those names will have changed - but the goal of those individuals will remain the same. There are other members of our Club whose names don't appear at the top of the newsletter because they are serving Toastmasters International at levels beyond our Club.

While these individuals deserve our respect, we need to remember that it is up to each of use to maintain the standards that have been set for our Northwestern Toastmasters Club. It is only when we strive toward that goal that our own skills will improve.

The next time you have the opportunity, look closely at our banner and you will see a small (about three inches) round award called the "Phoenix Patch." This is an award that is presented to Clubs that have, like the mythical Phoenix bird, returned from near extension. The simple fact that it was presented to Northwestern indicates that we almost failed as a Club. Very few Toastmasters Clubs have that patch because it is very difficult to recover. So, even though Northwestern lost the way, the presence of the patch on our banner shows that we had the tenacity to recover.

A great way to maintain our high standards is to make use of our web site, www.nwtm.org, which, thanks to many of our ~~elder~~ more experienced members contains guides to the role that we have been assigned in a meeting.

New Officers

At our June 2 meeting we elected the Northwestern Toastmasters Club officers that will serve from July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010. These Officers are:

| | |
|----------------------|------------------------------------|
| Don Barnett, AC-B/CL | President |
| Craig Thrift CC/CL | Vice-President of Education |
| Barbie Morgan CC | Vice-President of Membership |
| John Clark, DTM | Vice-President of Public Relations |
| Christa Neuhauser | Secretary |
| Marcia Barney, DTM | Treasurer |
| Jeff Walker, CC | Sgt.-at-Arms |

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A popular motivational speaker was entertaining his audience. He said : "The best years of my life were spent in the arms of a woman who wasn't my wife!"

The audience was in silence and shock until the speaker added: "And that woman was my mother!"  
Laughter and applause replaced the silence.

A week later, a top manager trained by the motivational speaker tried to crack this very effective joke at home during a small party. He was a bit foggy after having a drink or two. He said loudly, "The greatest years of my life were spent in the arms of a woman who was not my wife!"  
His wife went red with shock and rage.

Standing there for 20 seconds trying to recall the second half of the joke, with the guests not saying a word, the manager finally blurted out "... and I can't remember who she was!"

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I have a problem with low self-esteem, which is really ridiculous when you consider how amazing I really am.

I used to eat a lot of natural foods until I learned that most people die of natural causes.

That's the Way it Was on June 2, 2009

by P.Fantum, Reporter



Our business session went off exceedingly well as usual with President Craig Thrift at the helm. For her maiden voyage as Toastmaster-for-the-Meeting Barbie Morgan chose "Golden Oldies" as the theme. Barbie gave the second speech from her Advanced Entertaining Speaker Manual for the warm-up. Wordmaster John Clark gave "nostalgia" as the Word-for-the-Day.

Table Topics Master Marcia Barney gave topics to:

- Butch Barney loves to listen to oldies and classical music while working.
- Jordan Smith remembers the Golden Oldies from his youth with pleasant memories.
- John Clark proclaimed his affection for "Casablanca" as an old movie worth revisiting.
- Maurice Derbez admitted that most of his reading is technical literature, not novels - old or otherwise.

Prepared speeches were given by:

Barbara Schanker's "Swine Flu Found on Pacific Dawn" reassured us that ships were one of the most sanitary venues and that many precautions were taken to prevent spreading of germs in the close atmosphere. Barbara was evaluated by Princess Edwards.

Don Barnett's "The Star Spangled Banner" examined the origins of our National Anthem. He was evaluated by John Clark who suggested that Don "keep your audience attracted to you."

Lance Kull evaluated Barbie's "Golden Oldies" warm-up. The evaluation session was led by General Evaluator Elaine Wiles.

Jordan Smith served as Timer and Maurice Derbez was Vote Counter. Jeff Walker listened intently as Grammarian and Joel Schanker told the Joke.

Winners for the evening were:

Best Table Topic: Jordan Smith
Best Evaluator - Lance Kull
Best Speaker - Barbara Schanker

Tip for the meeting: Are you progressing in your Competent Leader Manual? Even more importantly, is your participation in meeting roles helping you become a better leader through evaluations in your CL Manual?

Working on the CL Manual?

If you are working in the CL manual (and if you are not, then why not?) talk with our Vice President of Publicity, John Clark. He can always use help and that help will get you credit for helping with the newsletter (Northwest Words) or our web site, or both. John claims that the work is not difficult and it is mostly painless.

2009 Region VIII Conference

The conference will be at the Embassy Suites in Greensboro on Friday and Saturday (June 26 & 27.) The theme is "Make The Connection" For more information, or to register, visit the District website, www.toastmasters-nc.org.



A guy goes into a bar, orders four shots of the most expensive 30-year-old single malt Scotch whisky and downs them one after the other. The bartender says, "You seem to be in a great hurry." The guy says, "You would be too if you had what I have." The bartender asks, "What have you got?" "Fifty cents," is the reply.

GREAT TRUTHS THAT ADULTS HAVE LEARNED:

- 1) Raising teenagers is like nailing Jell-O to a tree.
- 2) Wrinkles don't hurt.
- 3) Families are like fudge...mostly sweet, with a few nuts.
- 4) Today's mighty oak is just yesterday's nut that held its ground.
- 5) Laughing is good exercise. It's like jogging on the inside.
- 6) Middle age is when you choose your cereal for the fiber, not the toy.

GREAT TRUTHS ABOUT GROWING OLD:

- 1) Growing up is mandatory; growing old is optional.
- 2) Forget the health food. I need all the preservatives I can get.
- 3) When you fall down, you wonder what else you can do while you're down there.
- 4) You're getting old when you get the same sensation from a rocking chair that you once got from a roller coaster.
- 5) It's frustrating when you know all the answers but nobody bothers to ask you the questions.
- 6) Time may be a great healer, but it's a lousy beautician.
- 7) Wisdom comes with age, but sometimes age comes alone.

