

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 (2009-2010)

President	Don Barnett, AC-B	336 940-5486
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VP-Membership	Barbie Morgan CC	336 813-5206
VP-PR	John Clark, DTM/AL	336 723-2153
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For more information
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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.

That's the Way it Was on September 1, 2009

by **Christa Neuhauser, Secretary**



President Don Barnett opened the business session. It was a special meeting with the *Annual Humorous Speech Contest*. Two members had entered to

compete against each other. Three guests had joined for the evening.

Toastmaster-of-the-meeting, Marcia Barney, discussed the topic "*Who's Laughing?*" Barbie Morgan was the Wordmaster of the evening and introduced the word: "*acumen*" (sharpness, penetration), which was successfully used several times throughout the evening. Barbara Schanker was the Grammarian. Due to the special event, there were two Timers - Joel Schanker and Zoltan Rab. Greg Jones was in charge of counting the votes.

Table Topics Master Butch Barney continued with the top of "*Who's Laughing?*". John Clark shared with us the biggest mistruth he has ever presented. Pam Christopher talked about the most useless invention she has ever heard about. Barbie Morgan mentioned the worst product advertisement she has ever heard of. Brian Davidson addressed the most ridiculous exaggeration he has ever heard of.

The highlights of the evening were the speeches of the two contestants of the *Annual Humorous Speech Contest*.

- 1) Don Barnett: Dining Out
- 2) Jeff Walker: Adventures of a Redhead

Both speakers managed to bring funny and vividly entertaining speeches with good body language to emphasize the content. Both managed to get the audience to laugh multiple times.

These members acted as judges of the speeches: Elaine Wiles, John Clark, Butch Barney, Christa Neuhauser, Brian Davidson and Pam Christopher. It was a tight race between the contestants. Jeff Walker won this round and will represent the Northwestern Toastmasters at the Area Contest.

The evaluation of the speakers was done as discussion in the group and both candidates received helpful and constructive feedback.

Best Table Topic: Brian Davidson

Craig Thrift presented to Jeff Walker the Humorous Speech Contest Award.

The guests complimented the Toastmasters meeting and were impressed with the professionalism of the presented skills of the members.



Northwestern President Don Barnett congratulates Jeff Walker, winner of the 2009 NWTM speech contest.

Dues Are Due

Every six months we get an opportunity to invest a few dollars in our self-improvement. This is one of those times! All NWTM members (except Zoltan Rab, Barbara Schanker, Joel Schanker, and Barbie Morgan who have already done so) should either bring their check (cash is acceptable, too) for \$31.50 to the September 1 meeting or mail it to Treasurer Marcia Barney, DTM, at 3501 Lakefield Court, Clemmons, NC 27012.

Say Cheese!

by Jeff Walker, CC. Sgt at Arms



In Toastmasters, we give each other valuable feedback in the form of evaluations. We also need feedback during the preparation phase. You may talk to yourself in the mirror. However, you may not realize that you have another valuable tool available to assist in

practicing your speeches.

It's a web cam. Available for as little as \$20, a web cam plugs into your personal computer and offers several advantages in preparing for speeches. First, you can record videos and save them on your computer for later review. Watching your videos helps you focus on how you are presenting the material and what areas need improvement. Second, storing your videos as computer files is a powerful organizational system.

Not only can you can organize your videos into separate file folders per, say, manual, but you can also store other documents right on your computer alongside the videos. For example, you can create a file folder for your Persuasive Speaking manual. Within this folder, you would store all your videos and any typewritten or scanned notes relevant to the manual.

Once you complete a manual, you can create a DVD with your videos on it. Third, keeping videos on your computer makes it easy to share them with fellow club members. Video files, just like any other computer files, can be sent to others via email or by placing them on a web site, from which they can be accessed. What a convenient way to get valuable feedback from fellow club members! Just remember to smile and say cheese.

Communication Upgrade

Northwestern Toastmasters has agreed to host a page of handouts from our International Director, Pam Christopher. To see this page (and the handouts) simply click on the From the ID link on the left side of our web site (www.NW(TM).org) - this link is located just above the members link.

Seventy-Five years ago most people thought television was impossible. Many people still do.

"I don't like to complain, but my paycheck is five dollars short" the employee told his manager. "Yes, but we overpaid you ten dollars last month" the manager replied. "An occasional mistake I can overlook, but not two in a row."

An old timer is a man who remembers when a hairbrush, instead of the courts was used to curb juvenile delinquency.

Thoughts for the Day

You may be surprised to learn that much of modern technology has roots that go far back into history. For example, in the Middle Ages, workers in a popular food shop were allowed to eat anything in the store. But there were a couple of conditions. Workers were required to eat the food only during their lunch break. And one expensive item was off-limits: thinly sliced smoked salmon. So, you see, that was the origin of ...

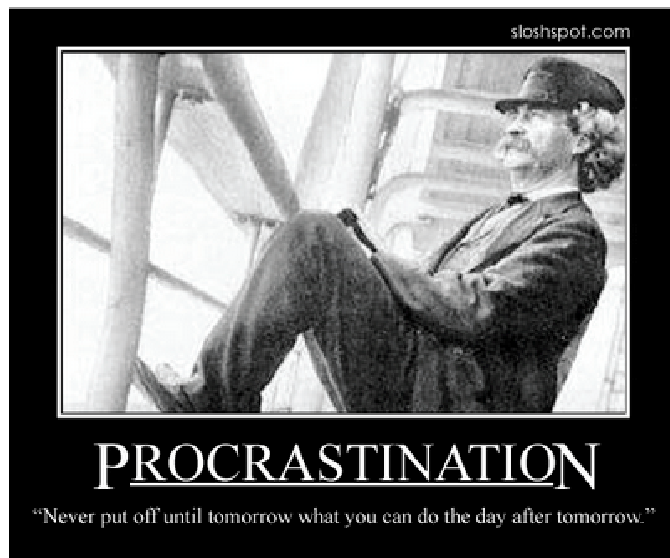
... anti-lox breaks.

New Member

Robert Lauwers is our newest member, he joined us at the last meeting. Welcome Robert! We all hope you meet your speaking and leadership goals.

Guests

Guests at recent meetings were Brandon Wilkes, Susanne Freer, Rosalind Williams and Ernst Bonapate. We hope you enjoyed the meeting. We would also be delighted to know that you discovered that we are very serious about two things - self-improvement and having fun while we are at it.



"So you deceived your husband." said the judge gravely. "On the contrary, your honor, he deceived me. He said he was going out of town and he didn't go."

Lulu isn't really a gold digger - she just hates poverty worse than sin.

North Carolina (the state with the best politicians money can buy) is the land of promises - especially during election years.

