

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
VP-Education	Craig Thrift CC/CL	336 764-2024
VP-Membership	Barbie Morgan CC	336 813-5206
VP-PR	John Clark. DTM/AL	336 723-2153
Secretary	Christa Neuhauser	336 391-6695
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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 - December 15, 2009

by **Christa Neuhauser, Secretary**



President Don Barnett opened the business session. The motion was made to change the date to December 19 for the balance of the business session. This allowed us to sing "Happy Birthday" to our favorite charter member - Marcia Barney, DTM.

Don Barnett, Toastmaster-of-the-meeting, chose the theme "*It is déjà vu all over again*" for this evening. He centered his thoughts about today's economy in comparison with the bad times in the 1930s.

Wordmaster of the evening, Lance Kull, introduced the word: "*neophyte*," which stands for beginner. The word was popular and used throughout the meeting.

The Grammarian was Brian Davidson, Zoltan Rab the Timer and Christa Neuhauser the Vote Counter.

Table Topics Master Elaine Wiles continued with the topic, and centered her questions on *déjà vu*.

- Florian Neuhauser spoke about a *déjà vu* experience he had one time riding along a forested path somewhere in Ohio, where he was convinced he had seen this stretch before.
- Craig Thrift tried to elaborate what causes *déjà vu*.
- Lance Kull had to find an answer to whether *déjà vu* is good, bad or meaningless. Lance came to the conclusion that these phenomena are non-existent, and that our minds fool us.
- Ernst Bonaparte talked about what kind of *déjà vu* he would like to experience. Ernst would love to win the lottery because there are plenty of opportunities and ways to spend the money.

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Three speeches were given:

Elizabeth McKinney, our newest member, gave her Ice Breaker speech. She described how she loves volunteer work and that she has a hard time turning somebody down when asked for help. She presented herself with confidence. Marcia Barney evaluated her speech and gave helpful tips.

Pam Windley gave her speech from Manual #2, titled "What goes around: the cyclical nature of body art". Pam shared her experience as a mother confronted with her daughter's desire to get a tattoo. In that instance, Pam did research about the history of tattooing, its social status, used as a symbol of rebellion or as fashionable body art. Don Barnett evaluated her speech.

John Clark gave a speech titled "We got troubles", out of Basic Manual #2 (Speak with sincerity). He touched on a hot topic that happens to be a problem the club faces at the present time. Members don't take their role within the club seriously. He pointed out how important it is to fill the role assigned to you with your best effort, no matter which role because all are important. It is only when all members excel at each role that Northwestern will continue to be a superior Toastmasters Club. Zoltan Rab evaluated his speech.

The General Evaluator was Jeff Walker.

Christa Neuhauser announced the result of the votes.

Award winners of the evening:

Ice Breaker Speech – Elizabeth McKinney

Best Table Topic – Ernst Bonaparte

Best Speaker – John Clark

Best Evaluator – Marcia Barney

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For every action, there is an equal and opposite government program.

New Year's Resolution

by Craig Thrift, CC/CL VP Education



Once again it is that time of year for making a hard decision; Do I make a New Year's Resolution or not? How many times have we made those resolutions? More importantly is how many of those resolutions do we actually keep? The one that everyone hears from someone is "I am going to loose weight". I have made that resolution several times in the past. Part of that commitment would be would be going back to the gym or getting back on the treadmill - only to fail. Yeah, I may start for a week or two but my old habits would come back into play and the resolution is out the door.

A definition of Resolution is "a decision to do something or to behave in a certain manner". Why do we get so excited about making New Year's Resolutions each year, but we fail to follow through? This question can also be applied when we make decision to do many things in life, but to only not follow through. One example is the decision to join Toastmasters. When we decided to join Toastmasters we realized there was something in our communication skills that needed improvement. We spend money to join a club, but only not to follow through on the benefits that the club offers. Much like joining the gym but not go, or purchasing the treadmill, but only have it sit in the corner of the room collecting dust.

Why do we make such choices and do not follow through with them? Is it just words? Something that makes us feel good at that moment in time? Then when the tire hits the pavement, we spin out of control and go back to our old habits. As I listed in an email a few weeks ago the "Toastmaster's Pledge", I feel that joining Toastmasters was an important resolution that I made. It has not only helped me to become a better communicator; I have also made some great friends.

So, hopefully one of your New Year's Resolutions this year will be to fulfill the "Toastmaster's Pledge" and most importantly become a better Communicator!

If you must choose between two evils, pick the one you've never tried before.

A person who is nice to you but rude to the waiter, is not a nice person.

If you look like your passport picture, you probably need the trip.

Great thinkers have always encountered opposition from mediocre minds." - Albert Einstein

A clear conscience is usually the sign of a bad memory.

December 30 Secretary Report

Due to a problem in the PTPT (Point To Point Protocol) used in creating the newsletter, we will publish that report in the next newsletter.



A conclusion is simply the place where you got tired of thinking.

Great minds discuss ideas. Average minds discuss events. Small minds discuss people.

If at first you don't succeed, destroy all evidence that you tried.

Love is a temporary insanity curable by marriage.

Viewer discretion may be advised, but it's never really expected

We live in a society where pizza gets to your house before the police.

When I was young I was told that anyone could be president. Now I'm beginning to believe it.

You don't have to explain something you never said.

Quotable Quotes

Alcohol may be man's worst enemy, but the bible says love your enemy." -Frank Sinatra

"Here's to alcohol: the cause of, and solution to, all of life's problems." -Homer Simpson

~~ Meeting Schedule ~~

Please Note: The Vice President of Education is continually adjusting the schedule to meet the requirements of the members. So, if you need to see the current schedule, contact our VP of ED (see the top of the newsletter for contact information.)

| Member                 | 01 / 05 / 2010    | 01 / 19 / 2010    | 02 / 02 / 2010    | 02 / 16 / 2010    |
|------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Don Barnett, AC-B      | Table Topics      | Evaluator         | General Evaluator | Grammarian        |
| Butch Barney, DTM      | Evaluator         | Grammarian        |                   | Evaluator         |
| Marcia Barney, DTM     | Grammarian        |                   | Evaluator         |                   |
| Ernst Bonaparte        |                   | Speaker           |                   |                   |
| Pam Christopher, DTM   | Speaker           | General Evaluator |                   | Evaluator         |
| John Clark, DTM        |                   |                   |                   |                   |
| Brian Davidson AC-S/CL | Speaker           |                   | Table Topics      | Evaluator         |
| Maurice Derbez         |                   | Joke Master       |                   | Speaker           |
| Andy Everhart          |                   |                   | Joke Master       |                   |
| Ann Everhart           |                   |                   |                   |                   |
| Craig Humphrey         |                   |                   | Vote Counter      |                   |
| Greg Jones             | Timer             | Word Master       | Speaker           | Vote Counter      |
| Lance Kull, DTM        | Evaluator         | Evaluator         | Grammarian        |                   |
| Bob Lauwers            |                   |                   |                   |                   |
| Elizabeth McKinney     | Joke Master       | Speaker           | Word Master       | Timer             |
| Linda Minney           | Speaker           |                   | Speaker           | Word Master       |
| Barbie Morgan, CC      |                   | Speaker           | Evaluator         | Table Topics      |
| Christa Neuhauser      |                   | Evaluator         |                   | Speaker           |
| Florian Neuhauser      |                   | Speaker           |                   | Speaker           |
| Mark Perew, DTM        | Vote Counter      | Evaluator         | Speaker           | Joke Master       |
| Zoltan Rab             | Word Master       |                   | Toastmaster       |                   |
| Madan Rangabasyam      |                   |                   |                   |                   |
| Barbara Schanker, AC-S |                   | Timer             | Speaker           | Toastmaster       |
| Joel Schanker, DTM     | Evaluator         | Table Topics      |                   | Evaluator         |
| Craig Thrift, CC/CL    | Evaluator         |                   | Evaluator         |                   |
| Jeff Walker, CC        | Toastmaster       | Vote Counter      | Evaluator         | General Evaluator |
| Elaine Wiles, CC-G     | General Evaluator | Toastmaster       |                   | Speaker           |
| Pam Windley            | Speaker           |                   |                   |                   |

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

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 Northwestern Toastmasters
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