

# The South Central Penn Turner

Newsletter of the South Central Pennsylvania Woodturners, March-April 2005



Red Matell Burl and Ebony turned by Dean Swagert

## **Future Meeting:**

**March 1, 2005**

**Time:** 6:00 p.m.

**Place:** The Carol Frye shop, 535 Conewago Creek Road, Manchester, PA.

**Directions:** From York, take exit 28 (old exit 12) off I-83. Go east on Susquehanna Trail (about ¼ mile) to a right onto Conewago Creek Rd. Go approximately 0.8 mile to 535 Conewago Creek Rd. on your right (Look for red barn next to the road).

**Program:** Business meeting, Show and Tell followed by the program which will be an open discussion and hands on turning meeting on spindle turning. Share your tools and tips on the art of spindle turning or spend some time at the lathe learning a new technique. Bring some wood with you and sharpen your skills.

April 5, 2005

**Time:** 6:00 p.m.

**Place:** The Carol Frye shop, 535 Conewago Creek Road, Manchester, PA.

**Directions:** See March meeting.

**Program:** Business meeting, Show and Tell and program on finishing. One of the most asked questions at Show and Tell is “what type of finish did you use”. Well now is your chance to find out all the different types of finishing techniques and share your favorite method of finishing your turning. We will also discuss how to do inlaid work and using dyes on a turning. This will be a very informative meeting so bring some of your work and your favorite finish and share your knowledge with others.

SEE YOU AT THE MEETING

## CHIPS FROM THE PRES.

For those of you that were not at the February meeting I was elected, talked into or raised my hand at the wrong time, to be president of the club. I thought you might want to know a little about me. If not, don't read any further. I have been turning for about three years. I became addicted on a trip to Australia. I have taken turning courses at Arrowmont School of Crafts in Tennessee under Tom Fortenberry and Jim Bliss. I also have studied under Dave Wentz at Cedar Lakes Conference Center in Ripley, West Virginia. I was fortunate to have been selected to work with Dave Ellsworth at the club last year. I am a Juried member of the Yorktowne Craft Guild and function as their representative to the Pennsylvania Guild Of Craftsmen of which I am a member. I also belong to the Susquehanna Trail Woodworkers Guild. I do mostly turning. The only other woodworking I do any more is if I need something made for myself.

I am looking forward to keeping the club functioning and increasing in knowledge and skills.

Don Naylor

## NEW OFFICERS

As Don mentioned above, the club now has some new officers. Don Naylor is our new President. Mike Galloway will be taking over as the Secretary/Editor. Jerry will continue to be the Treasure. Lloyd Shellman will be doing Safety reports for the newsletter and Charles Galloway will be taking photos of the Show & Tell items for the newsletter. We are still looking for someone to fill in as Vice President.

We would like to thank Jerry and Glenn for the great jobs they have both done over the last few years. Filling their shoes will not be an easy job but with everyone's help we will continue to keep the club growing.

## SCPA Woodturners Information

President: Don Naylor	717/229-2343
Vice-Pres.: Dave Barkby	717/292-0173
Secretary/newsletter:	
Mike Galloway	717/757-2907
Treasurer: Jerry Kopenhaver	717/432-2753
Librarian: Mike Galloway	717/757-2907
Safety: Lloyd Shellman	717/677-6458

The South Central Pennsylvania Woodturners is a Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners (AAW). Membership dues are \$20/year. For membership, send a check, payable to "SCPA Woodturners", to the treasurer, Jerry Kopenhaver at 50 Warrington Ways, Wellsville, PA. 17365. AAW membership information can be found at [www.woodturner.org](http://www.woodturner.org).

## Treasurers Report

Jerry Kopenhaver

Balance on 2/01/2005:

\$2,498.29

## February Notes

Last month's meeting was a review of our clubs library. We also watched one of the clubs videos entitled: Turning a Finial Box by Ray Keys. After viewing the video there were several comments about some safety issues like sticking your finger inside the box to clean out the chips while the box was still turning. Another thing that Ray showed was applying the finish with a rag. It was suggested that you use paper towels to apply the finish since they will tear off if it wraps around the turning. The point was made that just because the Pro's do something, does not always mean that it is the safest way to do things.

Big thanks Elmer Abshner for having the meeting at his place.

# Pickled Wood Finish

*By Glenn Zepp*

I am turning some Christmas ornament angels, the idea for which came from an article in the winter 2004 issue of the *American Woodturner*. The author of that article suggested finishing with a pickling stain. Having never used pickling stain, I looked up “pickled wood finish” on the worldwide web. Here’s what I learned.

Some stains may be marketed as pickling stain, but technically pickling is a method not a finish. The technique may be used on old wood as well as on new. In fact, its origins probably came from attempts to complement residues remaining on the wood after removing paints from old furniture.

On new wood (especially open-grained woods such as oak and ash) pickling finishes can be used to create various effects. One early formula used to create an aged look on new wood involved soaking galvanized nails in white vinegar for several days. The vinegar dissolved the galvanizing and when applied to new oak the mixture produced an old “dusty” look, hence the term “pickling.”

Today, pickled finishes are most often created with a white or off-white semi-transparent stain applied to a light colored open-pored wood. You also can create various shades of pastels using tinted paint.

Some paint departments offer specially formulated stain labeled and sold as pickling stain. However, you may create your own pickling stain by reducing either oil based or latex paint by about 25 percent with an appropriate solvent. The more you reduce the paint the lighter the resulting finished color.

For my angel ornaments, I wanted to create an ethereal or ghost-like appearance—sort of like viewing an object through a mist. I thought I could create this effect by applying a thin coat of white coloring to partially obscure the wood grain but not enough to completely hide the wood.

I used an oil based wood stain—brand name ZAR, color Country White. Because this particular stain is pretty heavily pigmented I diluted it by about 50 percent. Using a soft rag I applied a light coat to an angel turned from maple. I didn’t get as much color as I wanted with the first coat so a day later I sanded lightly and applied a second coat. This gave me a more satisfactory result. After the stain cured, I applied several thin coats of lacquer spray. When the lacquer had cured adequately, I buffed using the Beal system. I felt satisfied with this result.

Maple of course is a relatively fine-grained wood and doesn’t accept stain as readily as some open-poured woods such as oak or ash. So next I tried pickle staining an angel made from ash. Since ash is more open-poured than maple, I expected this second angel to accept more pigment than my first.

Again using a 50/50 mixture of stain and solvent, I applied a thin coat to the ornament. As with the maple, I thought the wood had not taken up as much color from the single coat as I wanted so a day later I sanded lightly and applied a second coat. This second coat gave about the combination of misty appearance and visible grain I was seeking.

I’m still experimenting with the wood pickling technique. I tried diluting the stain with less than 50 percent thinner but had trouble with the color streaking. I would like to hear from others who have had experience with this technique.

## CLUB DUES

If you have not paid your dues for 2005 please do so by sending a check Jerry Kopenhaver at 50 Warrington Ways, Wellsville, PA. 17365. Club membership is \$20.00 a year.

## Just a reminder!

AAW members are covered with insurance in case of an accident at any club activity. If you are not a member of the American Woodturners Association you can join by checking out their web site at: [www.woodturner.org](http://www.woodturner.org)

## WOODCARVING SHOW

If you are looking for something to do on March 5 or 6 you might want to take a ride over to Millersville University and check out the Lancaster County Woodcarver Show. Today many turners are enhancing their turnings with some type of carving or they are doing a turning to use as a roughout to create a carving. The LCW show has been rated as one of the best shows on the East coast. You will be able to view all types of carvings and maybe come up with something new that you can incorporate into your turnings. You will find that carvers are just like turners, they love to talk about their work and share suggestion with anyone who is willing to listen. There will be 3 vendors selling all types of carving supplies and wood.

The show hours are: Saturday March 5, 10am to – 5pm and Sunday March 6, 10am to 4pm. Admission fee is \$3.00 per person at the door.

SEE YOU AT THE SHOW

## GET WELL SOON

Jerry mentioned at the last meeting that member Charles Smith suffered a stroke. We wish him a speedy recovery and hope he is back turning with us real soon.

## About Our Members

Dave Barkby has started his 2005 Art Show circuit. For the last 2 month's Dave has been exhibiting in Florida.

Mike Galloway will be displaying his carvings and turnings at the Lancaster County Woodcarvers Show on March 5 & 6

Tell others about your activities in the newsletter by sending the information to Mike Galloway 720 S. Russell St. York PA 17402  
[mikega@suscom.net](mailto:mikega@suscom.net)

## NEW VIDEO'S

Three new videos have been added to the clubs library. They are 3 tapes of the 2004 AAW symposium. Below is a list of the items covered on the tapes:

- Critique and Instant Gallery Tour
- Chapter Collaborative Challenge
- AAW Exhibition "From Sea to Odyssey"
  
- Neil Scobie - Three-sided Bowl
- Cindy Drozda - Finial Box
- Bud Latven - Segmentation Fundamentals
- George Hatfield - Colonial Stool
- Michael Mocho - Textural Techniques
  
- Jamie Donaldson - Rectangular Bowl
- Stephen Gleasner - Plywood Bracelet
- Guilio Marcolongo - Lucky Box
- Philip Moulthrop - Faceplate Turning
- Soren Berger - Scoops

Video rentals are \$2.00 per tape.



SHOW AND TELL



Mahogany with Tagua nut box  
By Don Naylor



Unfinished Cedar vase  
By Don Naylor



Vase by Elmer Absher



Vessel by Dean Swagert



Lazy Susan by John Brady



Carved bowl by Phil Reed



Box Elder and Red Heart vessel by Phil Reed



Segmented vase by Mike Galloway



Pens by John Schroll



Elmers router jig for making fluted table legs