

# The South Central Penn Turner

Newsletter of the South Central Pennsylvania Woodturners, September-October 2005



**Guest at the July meeting checking out the Show and Tell turnings**

## September 6 2005

**Time:** 6:30 p.m.

**Place:** 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 a program by Mike Galloway on closed segmented turning. Find out how to design and build a segmented turning. Get tips and advice on jigs to make segmented turning easier.

## October 4 2005

**Time:** 6:30 p.m.

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

**Directions:** See direction on left.

**Program:** Business meeting, Show and Tell followed by a program by Barry Hanna on open segmented turning. Barry will take us through all the steps needed to create an open segmented turning. Find out about the different jigs that he uses and get some good tips on how to create your own open segmented turnings. The jigs and construction are very different from closed segmented turning. Plan now to attend both meetings to see which type you like best.

## CHIPS FROM THE PRES.

I have been busy since the picnic. Joan and I participated in the Celebration of Wood held at Grey Towers in Milford, PA. This was the home of Gifford Pinchot. He was appointed the first Chief Forester of the newly formed U S Forest Service by Theodore Roosevelt, who started the National Park System. This year is the centennial of the USFS.

The celebration included tours of the home and grounds, nature walks with USFS guides, educational exhibits explaining how trees grow, how they are harvested, and the different ways of sawing a log and the reason why, reading tree rings, bird house making, and other programs for children and adults. A separate tent was set up for crafters to demo their skills. Several genres were represented, carver, turners, and intarsia work. Specialty furniture makers were in attendance.

I was pleased to be asked to do a turning demo. It is amazing how many people have no idea what a lathe is or how wood is turned. My one hour demo turned into three hours with all the questions. Nobody knew there were local clubs and were surprised to learn that we had a national organization. Many people asked for info about AAW and how to contact them.

This was a very meaningful and enjoyable experience for me and I would encourage any of our members to share their talents with others. That is one of the reasons the club purchased the lathes. Use them, get others involved, and show off your skills.

If you ever have an opportunity to work with the USFS, I highly recommend it. Great people.

Don

### SCPA Woodturners Information

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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).

### CORRECTION

In last month's newsletter I mentioned that the new lathes cost about \$265.00 each. The price was only \$182.00 each.

## 2005 AAW SYMPOSIUM REPORT

by Mike Galloway

The 19<sup>th</sup> Annual 2005 symposium was held in Overland Park Kansas. There were 1,100 registered turners in attendance making this the largest ever. 1,300 people attended the banquet on Saturday night. 113 items were auctioned off after the banquet raising \$68,000 for the AAW Scholarship grants. Something new this year was the Youth turning room. For 3 days kids could come and spend time with turners learning how to turn. On Saturday night a drawing was held and 20 lucky students got to go home with a new Jet lathe with tools and safety gear. The vendor's area was very large and Dean and I both agreed that they got too much of our money. The Instant Gallery had several 100 turnings on display. Many of these turnings can be viewed on the AAW's web site at [www.woodturner.org](http://www.woodturner.org). This was my

first symposium and I was very impressed with how well everything ran. My only complaint was that it was over too soon. Next year the 2006 symposium will be held in Louisville Kentucky on June 22-24 (note that is from Thursday to Saturday). Hope to see you there!!!

## CLUB PICNIC



**BIG THANKS** again to John and Joan Stewart for having us at their place for the club picnic. The food was great as always (John is still eating left over chicken). Thanks also to Elmer for the gifts he made for the ladies.

**The Adirondack Woodturners Association is happy to announce its third annual Woodturning Symposium, TOTALLY TURNING 2005, to be held October 15 and 16 , 2005 at the Empire State Plaza Convention Center in Albany, NY .**

**This year's featured presenters include Stuart Batty , Nick Cook and Andi Wolfe. A host of regional and local turners will complete the rotation schedule.**

**Full details of the event can be found on the event website.**

[WWW.TOTALLYTURNING.COM](http://WWW.TOTALLYTURNING.COM)

Conewago Woodcarvers Show  
October 29 and 30  
East Berlin Pa.  
Show hours 10 till 4  
See Mike Galloway for more details

Video Review By Glenn Zepp

## Skill Building Projects with Mark St. Leger (90 minutes)

Mark St. Leger, a high school woodshop teacher with a background in carpentry and cabinetmaking, describes and demonstrates the turning of various small projects. Actually he begins by showing some of the small items he has turned over the years—frisbees, whistle, “fly houses”, mushrooms, threaded nuts and bolts, mini hats, and others.

The instructional part of the video begins with what St. Leger calls lathe tune-up. He suggests wiping the lathe ways, the bottom of the tool rest, and inside of the Morris tapers with a thin coat of WD-40 or similar oil before each use. This makes it easier to move the tool rest when turning and prevents rusting. He also waxes the top of the tool rest and files it smooth if nicks occur.

St. Leger begins his demonstrations by turning a wooden number two Morris taper insert (MT2) for holding small projects in the headstock of his lathe. Any dense wood such as beech, cherry, and maple may be used for this. He points out various tool-handling techniques as he turns. He also devotes a chunk of time to tool sharpening starting with dressing the grinding wheel. He then sharpens a skew, several gouges, scrapers and parting tools. He likes a concave surface and a 30-degree angle on his skews. Although he recommends using sharpening jigs, he says that all turners should also learn to freehand sharpen their tools.

Other small projects turned in St. Leger's demonstration include a toadstool, a fly house, a sphere, and a threaded nut and bolt. He holds his turning blocks in the headstock by gluing them to the wooden MT2 insert. He sands with 220 grit through 600 and finishes with two coats of lacquer and one coat of wax. He friction dries the lacquer immediately upon applying it so that finishing is one continuous operation—his projects come off the lathe ready for display.

St. Leger gives a number of other useful suggestions such as making a thin-kerf parting tool from a butter knife (not one from you wife's best silverware), how to keep the neck of your CA glue bottle from stopping up, and others. I found the most intriguing part of his demonstration to be turning and chasing threads on a nut and bolt. After watching St. Leger, I felt that with the proper tools and a little practice I could chase threads too.

“Skill Building Projects” is similar to Robert Rosand's video on “Small Projects from Scraps”. Both are easy to follow and will provide inspiration for trying some of their projects. And, whether you are a novice or experienced turner you will get some ideas you can apply in your own shop.

# SHOW AND TELL



All of the turnings above were done by Elmer Absher. The kitchen hook in the center on the bottom was the gift that Elmer made for the ladies at the picnic.



President Don has been very busy getting ready for shows.



Inside out Christmas ornament and candle sticks by Sam Riemold



Bottle stops by Sam Riemold and Jerry Kopenhaver



Segmented Pepper mill  
by Phil Reed



Segmented turnings by Mike Galloway



Turned, burned and painted  
by Dean Swagert



A few action shots from the bottle stop turning meeting in July