

# The South Central Penn Turner

Newsletter of the South Central Pennsylvania Woodturners, April - May 2006



## April 4 2006

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

**Place:** Bill Fordney's house

**Directions.** Take Rte 83 south to Exit 14 (Leader Heights – Rte 182). At end of ramp turn right. Go to the second traffic light (Susquehanna Trail). Turn left and go 1.6 miles to East Greenbriar Drive (first street after passing the Lake Redman dam). Turn left. Bill's house is the third house on the right – 106 East Greenbriar Drive.

From the west: Take Richland Avenue south to Country Club Road. Turn left and go past York College to the traffic light at York Hospital (South George Street). Turn right and keep to the right. Go several miles to the traffic light at Leader Heights Road. Go straight through and follow above directions from Leader Heights Road. (George Street becomes Susquehanna Trail).

You can park anywhere along the street.

Bill's phone: 741-0957

**Program:** Business meeting, Show and Tell. Display of over 60 chess sets. Speaker to be announced.

## May 2 2006

**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 presentation on small turnings by President Don Naylor

### Treasure Report

Jerry Kopenhaver

Balance as of 3/7/2006

\$1731.79

### SHOW AND TELL CASH PRIZE

We would like to see more items on the Show and Tell table at the meetings. This is a great way to share your knowledge and to help you improve your turnings. Now you may win some money too. We will have a drawing for everyone that brings in a turning and the winner will receive \$5.00 cash. We will try this for 3 months to see if we get more interest. **SO GET TURNING!**



### SCPA Woodturners Information

President: Don Naylor 717/229-2553  
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 Shelleman 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).

## NEW WEB SITE

A new web site was launched on March 25 called The Woodworking Channel. This site covers all types of woodworking including woodturning. It features streaming video 24/7 so it is just like watching a TV program on woodworking all day. There is a 24-hour schedule posted each day so you can plan what you would like to watch. Many of the turning programs are short videos from the AAW symposiums. You can connect with dial-up, cable or broadband and it is free. The site is produced by the people that put out "Woodworking At Home" DVD's. and sponsored by many different woodworking companies.

Be sure to check out this site but be WARNED that it may cut into your production time.

<http://www.thewoodworkingchannel.com>

### FIELD TRIP

We are still looking for someone to put together a field trip to the Woodturning Center in Philadelphia. The date for the trip will be July 8<sup>th</sup>. Please see Don if you can help out.

## Some Special FAQ's (Frequently Asked Questions)

by Russ Fairfield

Editor's Note: The following was copied with permission from the web site of Russ Fairchild at: [www.woodturner-russ.com](http://www.woodturner-russ.com)

These are the some of the "Frequently Asked Questions" (FAQ's) that I see being asked on Wood Central and other forums by the new woodturner. These are special questions, not because they are never answered; but because there are usually too many answers, all of them different, and all of them correct. These are the questions that do not have ONE right answer.

### 1 - Is woodturning an art or a craft?

This one has been going on forever, and there is still no resolution. My answer is that woodturning is both. The "craft" is in the skills to do the turning. The "art" is in what we make.

### 2 - Should I bolt my lathe to the floor?

The answer to this one depends on the weight and strength of the lathe. The lathe must not move when it is used to turn wood. Your asking this question tells me that you are having a problem with the lathe moving. The easy answer is to start turning smaller pieces of wood that better fit the capabilities of the lathe you have. If you don't want to do that, there are two choices - a bigger (heavier) lathe, or bolt this one to the floor (or table). If bolting it to the floor causes damage to the lathe, then you needed a heavier lathe. If the new lathe is heavier, you may not need to bolt it to the floor.

There can be a problem with turning large and/or unbalanced pieces in a lathe that is bolted to the floor (Refer to FAQ-6). If the wood wants to move and it cannot, something else will "give"; and that is usually a fracture in the bolting pads at the floor; but it could be a failure of the spindle bearings. For this reason, many will advise that the lathe should NOT be bolted to the floor because that will let the entire machine move as a warning.

### 3 - How heavy should a lathe-stand be?

This question has the same answer as No.2. There is no such thing as being TOO heavy. If it moves, it isn't heavy enough. If it wiggles, it isn't rigid enough.

The heaviest stand in the world will not save a lathe that is too small or too light for the turning tasks that you are asking it to do.

### 4 - Which lathe should I buy?

Don't look to me for an answer to that question. I think that the Oneway 2036 is the minimum basic lathe. My reasoning is that this lathe will allow you to explore woodturning without being limited by the inadequacies of the lathe. If you decide not to continue with woodturning, its selling price will be almost what you paid for it. If you do get hooked on woodturning, you will never have the need for an upgrade to a bigger or better lathe. In either case, you will be money ahead because the cost of the cheapie starter lathe will be a "throw away". Can't convince your wife of these economics? THAT is your problem.

This one is a non-question. There is no comparison. The Oneway is a heavy, full-sized, heavy-duty lathe that weighs almost 900 pounds. The Nova-3000 is a very good medium-duty, medium-sized, medium-quality, 200-pound lathe. The Nova will perform well as long as you recognize its limitations and don't try to make it into something that it is not. But, that is true for any machine. Even a Shopsmith makes a good lathe, so long as we recognize its limits, and stay within them.

### 5 - Is the Oneway lathe really \$3000 better than a Nova-3000?

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**More FAQ's will follow in future newsletters.**

## CLUB CHALLENGE

At our February Don handed out blocks of wood about 8 x 8 x 2 inches with the instruction to turn something from it and bring it to the March meeting to show. Below are the results of some of the turnings. If you still have a piece to show, bring it to the next meeting.



Dean Swagert turned a flying saucer type bowl. The finish was done with several layers of sprite dyes.



Bill Fordney was not able to attend the meeting so he called Don and got the size of the block. He got a 2x4 with the same board feet in it and cut it into strips to create this beautiful plate.



Charlie Galloway turned and carved his first cherry bowl. He also learned how to glue it back up to the scrap block after it went rolling across the shop floor from a bad catch.



Don Naylor turned this bowl. It is hard to see from the picture but Don put small feet on this bowl.



Elmer took an extra blank and turned 2 bowls.



Mike Galloway cut his block into 76 pieces to create this segmented vessel. The design ring was carved and burned on.



# SHOW AND TELL



Elmer turned a Walnut base to create a sea urchin lamp.



Binh Pho style turning done by Dean Swagert



Small Mulberry box turned by John Scholl



Inlaid Walnut plate by Don Naylor



Another platter by Don



These bowls were turned by Don from our coring demo at Elmer's in February



Three Box Elder burl turnings  
By  
Phil Reed



This is Phil Reed's club challenge piece. He said he used real 24 k gold leaf (yea right).



Maple and Bloodwood segmented vase  
By  
Mike Galloway

## PHOTO PROBLEMS

Some of the turnings at the February meeting did not make it into the newsletter because of poor photo quality. They were a bottle stop by John Scholl, a small Vessel by Dean Swagert and a table leg done on a Lacey machine and some inside out Christmas ornaments done by Sam Reimold.

Please bring these turnings to the next meeting so that I can try them again.

Thanks