



South Central PA Woodturners

Newsletter

February/March 2010

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April 6, 2010 Meeting

Charlie Stuhre

“Pen Making “
Advanced Tricks and Ideas

Location:
Jacobus meeting building
Social 6 pm
Meeting 6:30

SOME THOUGHTS...

From our President Bill Fordney

1. February meeting – Many thanks to Phil Reed for his demonstration of turning spiral finials. This topic had been requested and Phil took it on and did an admirable job. I was even inspired to try it myself. I'll bring my trial piece for show and tell, which may add some humor to the next meeting.
2. Unfortunately, the snow caused us to have to cancel the March meeting. Tom Deneen was to demonstrate the turning of his popular shawl pins. Tom's demo will leap frog to the June meeting. When we started using the church building we knew that they do not plow the lane, so we have to take our chances as to a snowfall that could interfere with our meeting night.
3. Jim Morrow won the “CLUB RAFFLE” in February, so he will be bringing an item for the April raffle. Help support the club by buying these raffle tickets.
4. I have received a letter from the AAW telling us that, in response to our request, we will receive a \$700 grant. I have sent a thank you letter requesting that they issue the check to us. Our request was for funds to purchase video equipment to be used at meetings. This will give everyone a better view of the demonstrations.
5. In my last “Thoughts” I indicated that this would be my last year as president. I also listed some committees that we should have. I had sign-up sheets at the February meeting, but there was very little response. I will have the sheets at the next meeting and would encourage members to help the club by participating on one of these committees.
6. I convened an ad hoc committee to review our by-laws. We have come up with several amendments. These must be voted on at a meeting and then submitted to the AAW for approval. I hope to have all this for the April meeting

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More Presidents' Thoughts

7. I announced at the February meeting that the club had purchased a used JET lathe – Model JWL 1442VS. It is larger than our two mini-lathes and will be a better lathe for demonstrators to use, in that larger items can be turned on it. Because of the amount of space at the church building we will have to remove the two mini-lathes in order to have space for the larger lathe. If you have space, and would like to have a mini-lathe, the club will let you use it with the understanding that it will still belong to the club. If we need them for a show such as the Cabin Fever show, the club must be able to take them to the show. One member has already indicated that he will take one, so the other one is up for grabs. Please call me (717-741-0957) if you would like the other one.

NEXT MEETING

Our next meeting will be Tuesday April 6. Charlie Stuhre will present a program he is calling “Pen Making – Advanced Tricks and Ideas.” Charlie is our “resident” pen-maker and is always coming up with new ideas. We have a number of members who make pens, so new ideas should be welcome.

That’s all for now. See you on April 6. Bill



Phil Reed- Master Top Maker



Mason Houriet learns art of pen making from John at Cabin Fever



Mason Houriet 's final product

Cabin Fever

100 TOPS and \$823

Cabin Fever gripped members and visitors alike at the Show Jan. 17 – 19. About 20 members helped set-up and maintain the booth over the three days. They arrived with 50 small tops for sale at \$3 each and turned more both days, eventually “selling” about 100. There were many bowls, plates, weed pots, pens, clock necklaces and other items donated by members to sell to raise money for the York Benevolent Association, this year’s chosen charity. Due to these sales our club raised \$650.00. Thanks to Carol Woodbury, Joan Stewart and Mike Galloway for encouraging people to buy these items.

Visitors crowded the stand to watch Tom Deneen, Bill Fordney, Charles and Mike Galloway, Barbara Palastak, Phil Reed (our top Top turner), John Stewart, Charlie Stuhre, Don Wilson and Carol Woodbury turning on three lathes.

The visitors purchased work turned by Tom, Bill, Phil, Charlie, Barb and Bryan. The largest sale was one of Phil’s beautiful hollow forms. Their combined sales totaled \$1,730.00. The club agreement with Gary Schoenly, the Cabin Fever Expo promoter, was that 10% of the sales of personal items would go to him. But, thanks to Gary’s generosity, and per his request, \$173.00 was donated in his name to the York Heritage Trust Agricultural and Industrial Museum.

Three enthusiastic young boys received hands-on lessons in turning from John, – Mason Houriet of Yardley, PA is shown in these photographs. He and his family waited patiently for about an hour for his turn at the lathe. His finished product was a nice pen of his own design. Trevor Horning the son of Curvin Horning, an auctioneer at the Expo, was our first young turner who made a pen. The other child remains an anonymous, but delighted turner, with his very own heirloom pen.

Again this year, Janice and Jack Shelly allowed us to extend our space into their booth. They always bring their antique turning equipment, a giant wooden wheel which must be turned by hand to work the lathe. Several of our members tried their hand at old-fashioned turning.

The major excitement – or lack thereof - came shortly after lunch Sunday when electricity was lost in the neighborhood. For about an hour none of the exhibitors could power their engines or lathes and so, many visitors were lost and many of the exhibitors actually packed up and left early. Not the indefatigable Woodturners ! We stayed until the end and counted a grand sum of \$823.00 that will be donated to charity. We all left happy after a very satisfactory weekend.

Carol



Janice Shelly with the big wheel lathe at Cabin Fever



Bill's Ornament

Bill's donation for the first raffle prize. He has set the bar quite high for the rest of us. Now if Phil would donate just one of those hollow forms.

February Meeting Notes

President Bill Fordney introduced 2 guests and reported the treasury stands at \$3,083.51.

He informed the club that he is stepping down from the Presidency and requested members to sign up for committees now that we are 50 members strong. Programs are set for this year through May.

A new club Raffle: A new raffle was introduced as a means to increase the treasury. Monthly, the winner of the previous month's raffle will bring a turned item to raffle off. Bill brought the first, one of his lovely ornaments, and raffle tickets were sold at \$1/ each or 6 for \$5. Tom Morrow won the ornament and will bring the raffle item for March.

Announcements: At the Timonium Woodworking Show, our club was offered a Jet 1442 lathe for \$400. Bill is looking for a member to take home the club's 2 small lathes – to store and use, but make available when the club needs them for a show. The church hall is not large enough for us to keep all 3 there.

Cabin Fever was a success. We don't pay for the booth. The 10% of sales we usually give to show manager Gary Schoenly, equaled \$173, which he asked be donated to the York County Heritage Trust Agricultural and Industrial Museum. "Donations" for items brought or made while demonstrating totaled \$650, which will go to the food bank. It was suggested that if each member brings a small turned piece to every meeting, by next year's show we would have lots to "sell". No one took too seriously the suggestion that the price of admission would be 50 tops!

The next Woodworking Show is in Reading, March 5-7. Details online. Also in March, Lyle Jamison, a hollow-form turner will be giving demonstrations in our area. Specifics to be emailed to members.

AAW has arranged with One Way for discounts to clubs on sales of their sharpening equipment.

The Harrisburg Club has invited us to see Mark Sillay demonstrate in Lancaster on Saturday, April 24, 8-4. \$20 includes lesson and lunch.

On the Easel: article on the club from the Daily Record's "Weekly Record" interview with Bill and some photos of our booths at Cabin Fever.

It seems there was some graft among the troops and now Craft Supplies gift certificates will be given out only if they receive a roster of the members. Bill asked to be informed if anyone minded his or her name and address being given to the store.

Tips and Tricks:

For about \$5 Home Depot has a Malco SideSwiper II which can be turned into a chatter tool for top designs, etc. by grinding off the curved end. A more solid handle could be attached if necessary. This tip is from Phil Reed.



Legal Stuff

There was discussion about using mineral spirits on pieces to be used for food.

Charlie brought to the floor an issue raised by the Crafters Guild in the AAW magazine. The new law requires testing for lead if any item is to be sold. This law impacts even small time crafters. He suggests writing to our congressmen to tell them this should not apply across the board to include craft items made on a small scale.



Demonstration: Phil Reed on Turning a Spiral Finial

Phil did a masterful job of explaining how to pencil-mark a shaped blank to get the correct pattern for a spiral. He suggests 3 equal segments are enough to look full and not be too difficult to work. He used colored pencils to divide a blank into 3 segments lengthwise. Then drew 6 equal lines from tip to base. Then drew diagonally from each corner where those lines cross to the next, creating the spiral. Carefully hand turning the chuck, he started gently with a saw, and then progressed to Microcut curved and rat-tail files, going all the way from base to tip on one spiral before beginning the next spiral. Both concave and convex spirals can be done this way.

Tom Deneen suggested drilling the inside of the blank first and then filing until the gap is reached, creating a see-through effect. No one seemed anxious to take him up on this idea.

Phil's motto: "Whatever works!"



February Show & Tell



Cherry Plate
Joyce McCormick



Ash Bowl
Tom Deneen



Madrone Burl Plate
Jon Amos



Sycamore Cups
Al Herner



Oak Bowl
Don Wilson



Cherry Bowl
W/ Feather carvings
Don Wilson



Chip & Dip
mulberry & mahogany
Dave Neuberger



Small Bowl
walnut & cherry
Jim Morrow

Candid Camera of our Illustrious Members



For Sale



The following is being sold as unit. One price for all.

Ellsworth Sharpening Jig looks like new!
Plus slide for jig. Already made!

Craftsman 1/4 hp 8" grinder 3400 RPM no load.
36 grit and 60 grit wheels. You will probably want a better
wheel for sharpening your turning tools.

Heavy duty Cast Iron Stand

You will need to remount the grinder to line up the wheels with
the slide, as this is not the grinder that was with the original set
up of this system.

\$100

Contact Bryan Sword (717) 225 6807