



South Central PA WoodTurners

February/March 2013 Newsletter

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Dates to Note

Club Meeting

Tuesday April 2
Social 6 - 6:30 PM
Meeting 6:30 PM

“What wood is used for”
by **Felix Sylvius**

Cabin Fever
York Fair Grounds
April 12,13,14



*Thoughts
from
President
Don Wilson*

I went to Totally Turning Symposium at Saratoga Springs, NY in March and was pleased to find that it wasn't packed to standing room only. The economy has affected all aspects of our lives. I do hope that the AAW symposium in Tamp in June is well attended. It can be a challenge to break even when putting on symposiums.

We do have a full calendar scheduled this year. However, if you see any good demos or know of demonstrators that you would like to have come in to the club meetings, you really need to speak up and let me know. It does get tough to find demonstrators, and we need advanced time to set things up.

We can make almost anything we want out of any piece of wood. Our speaker this month will tell us about the olden days-which people use what wood to make particular items. The different species have characteristics that make them most suitable for particular uses. Is that “food safe” is a question we often hear today with bowls and other utensils we might make. This concern has arisen more from the use of plastics but also is valid for some woods. So if we really want to be able to answer the question properly maybe we should learn what most of us never knew or have forgotten about wood. I think this will be an interesting topic to hear about.

Happy and safe turning.
Don

Minutes March 5, 2013

By Carol Woodbury

President **Don Wilson** presided.

Guests:

Guests were invited to introduce themselves: **Dexter Carlin, Doug & Zach Blunt, Steve Laird, Bill Gick, Stephen Lane, Joe Csepipka and Nat Hengst** with his 2 sons.

Treasurer's Report:

John Stewart reported that the club's fortune stands at \$1,975.34.

Club Demos:

Tom Deneen and **Don Wilson** did such a good demonstration at the **Home Builders Show** that we have been asked back in 2014.

Cabin Fever is April 13-15

Club Insurance:

Don announced that an insurance package, recommended by AAW and costing the club \$90 annually, has been chosen to supplement the AAW insurance which has changed in coverage this year.

Club Turning Raffle Winner:

Dave Neuberger won the raffle (again) and now owns a beautiful John Stewart bowl.

Show & Tell Raffle Winner:

As usual (!), **Tom Deneen** won the Craft Supply gift certificate from Show and Tell raffle.

(The board is considering passing a law that Tom is limited to winning once per year. If he wins twice then he must give the ticket to the tallest member of the club, three times the ticket goes to the shortest, four times - the youngest then the oldest. Members of this elite group think it is only fair!)

February Mystery Show and Tell!

Since the list of who turned what at the February meeting was lost, this is a compilation of the pictures taken by our official photographer, Phil Reed.

But you can be proud that you made the newsletter even though you are not given any credit for your turning!



February Mystery Show and Tell!



February 2013 Tool Sharpening Clinic

A collection of pictures to summarize the tool sharpening clinic. No write up was done but a picture is worth a 1000 words.



Jon Amos demonstrates the "I hope I don't have a catch or else I might bite my tongue off" technique.

March Show & Tell

Tom Deneen
3 nested natural edge
bowls
unknown wood



Clark Bixler
Gavel Sounding Board
Mahogany

Clark Bixler
Bloodwood Goblet
(Balt. Club challenge to make
2 identical
goblets)



Bill Fordney
Black Walnut Bowl

Al Herner
Maple Chess pieces



Kurt Kapp
2 bowls
Pin Oak and
Bird Cherry



Phil Reed
2 boxes
Walnut and
Oak Burl



John Stewart
Footed Cherry
Bowl



Unidentified turning

March Demo - Don's Tool Tips



Don showed his center finder which looked much like plastic templates we had in math class.

It makes finding the center of squares and round pieces of wood easier.

Don focused on explanations of various wood turning tools, their sharpened shapes, and why and how best to utilize them. As he spoke, the audience could watch as his hands gently rolled the tools and so could understand the different angles of approach to the wood-from hand-on-tool-rest to contact-with-wood.

Roughing Gouge: This is wider than a spindle gouge. Do not come in to the wood straight on or it will splinter; turn it a bit with more of a slicing, shearing cut. Riding the bevel gives a nice smooth cut.

Skew: With the tool rest up close and at an upward angle and with the handle down, you can peel the wood with the skew flat to the wood. To get a cylinder dynamically balanced, start high; come down and inward with the skew across the end of the wood.



Trick: A Richard Raffin trick with the skew vertical rolling inward is used to round up a piece of wood.

Spindle Gouge: The point is steeper, the flute is deeper, and the bevel edge is at 35°. Don suggests a secondary bevel at each edge also. This gouge is good for turning tops and other detailed work. He starts up at an angle and rolls off on the side. Rolling with this is the best way to do a bead or to repair corners - bring the gouge up high and roll it.

To produce a cove, Don starts high up on a side and rolls down to the center of the cove, then works from the opposite high and rolls down to the center. This avoids problems with the grain.

Tip: If the surface is uneven, use the side bevel to slide to it, this way you can find it by feel, and then turn the gouge slightly to smooth any ridge.

Detail Gouge: This gouge is smaller, weighs more, and has a shallower flute than the spindle gouge. It means you have to be constantly moving around with your body to get it at the right angle. You must get used to rolling your tool.

Tip: If wood is clicking, STOP, it's probably going to fly apart. This is due to a split. Don stressed the importance of walking away for awhile rather than keeping on for "just a few more minutes".

Catches: Don noted that catches happen most when starting or leaving your turning because you don't have your tool just right. Get used to coming in with the bevel, not straight in, and you will have a very smooth surface that needs less sanding!

TOPS for CABIN FEVER!!

With a reminder from Phil Reed that we should all begin making our tops for the next show,

Don did an extra short demonstration of Top Turning.

With his spindle gouge, he shaped a point at the point of the tail stock. Tail stock was used for stabilization only, since the wood was held in a chuck. Then as he shaped the first top, he was beginning the point of the second, and so on, thus producing several tops from one blank. The best tops have a low mass; i.e. the thinner the area where your fingers spin a top, the longer it will spin. Maple is good to use because it keeps its point well. Or you can purchase metal tips from yoyo.com or Craft Supply, or as Phil does, you can burnish the tip just a bit and put a drop of Superglue on it.



Announcements:

Martin Stolpe suggests using Pennsylvania magazine to find venues for showing and selling turned items. Martin brought black cherry wood to sell at \$5/per piece to benefit the club.

Dust Collector Hose: Barry Stump has two 10' lengths of dust collector hose for sale.

Get Well Cards / Wishes Appreciated!

I want to express my appreciation for the get well cards, phone calls and emails I received during my recovery from the surgeries I recently have had. Serious complications arose after what was supposed to be a routine surgery. These required emergency procedures and over 3 weeks in Johns Hopkins Hospital. Your cards, good wishes and offers to help were a reminder that **"Hey, they really do care about the newsletter getting out there on time!"**

Thank you for your kind thoughts!

Bryan Sword - Newsletter editor