



# South Central PA WoodTurners

## April 2014 Newsletter

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*Thoughts  
from  
President  
Don Wilson*

### Woodturning Demos

This year is turning out to be a busy year doing demonstrations in public settings.

*The Cabin Fever Show* was less successful for our Club than in previous years. The change to Palm Sunday weekend affected the show more than expected.

*The Fox Chapel Open House* at the Rough and Tumble museum May 9th and 10th will be interesting. The setting is a little more affordable than a downtown convention center. Maybe a little more rustic as we will be in a barn and have to use Porta-Potties. But hey, you have to start somewhere.

This is a "toe in the water" for Fox Chapel in regards to wood turning. They publish magazines for scrollsaw and carving enthusiasts, but not for wood turners. If you go you will see demonstrations by top carvers and scrollsawyers who have written articles and books on the subjects. Fox Chapel talked with both Lancaster and Harrisburg clubs before contacting us to do woodturning demonstrations. For various reasons those clubs were not able to demo at this event. Mike Galloway and Tom Deneen will be presenting the classes in woodturning. I think it will be interesting to see where Fox Chapel goes with this.

### Proposed Regional Woodturning Show

At our April meeting, Bob Nickey of the Lancaster Woodturning Club presented the idea of forming a regional woodturning group made up of clubs in the mid-Atlantic area. He proposed that This group would organize an annual regional show similar to that held in Saratoga. I have since fielded numerous phone calls from Bob Nickey pushing for us to agree to this. I believe our club needs to have much more discussion about this. I will give you my thoughts on this and will then put it on our May meeting agenda for discussion.

First I think it is a good idea to have regional AAW sanctioned symposiums. It is a great opportunity to see and talk with woodturners from all over the world and learn new techniques.

### Thoughts continued:

As a lone club each year we can do one, maybe two, all-day demos with a nationally known woodturner. It can be a stretch and sometimes a worry as to how it will work out in order to keep the costs reasonable so we can continue our regular operations.

Your yearly dues cover insurance and rental of our meeting place. We also spend money on equipment, books, videos etc. that are used in the meetings and for the use of club members. Dues also help cover the expenses incurred when we bring in a national wood turner. This way the charge to attendees for these events is kept as low as possible. Typically a club demonstration costs attendees just \$30 and that includes a lunch.

I mention the above financial info to give you a basis for comparison to a regional meeting. The regional and national demonstrations are very much like our meetings with video and the live demonstrator standing up front making something and talking with the group.

### Totally Turning Comparison:

At a regional meeting like Totally Turning which is held in Saratoga Springs, NY each March you will find five class rooms that will have four 1½ hour sessions on wood turning each day on both Saturday and Sunday. This gives an attendee the opportunity to see eight different sessions during the two days or perhaps the equivalent of a full day demo by two different people. That comes to 40 sessions by regionally, nationally and internationally known wood turners offered over the two days. So if you don't want to see how to airbrush a thinly turned and pierced artistic piece of work you can go see how they turn bowls in Ireland or a sequential session on in-depth segmented woodturning.

Now there are two divergent choices. For example, I went to see Bin Pho do his thing with the piercing and airbrushing last year and thoroughly enjoyed it. I only missed two of his sessions in the two days. There were many other presenters there showing other aspects of turning. The other two sessions I went to were by Ernie Conover. The Conover family has a long history of woodturning. In Ernie's sessions I learned how to make a Double Barley twist on a lathe and saw a spindle turning lesson that was of interest to me. (continued page 2)

### Dates to Note

#### Club Meeting

Tuesday – May 6, 2014

Social 6 – 6:30 PM

Meeting – 6:30 PM

*Turning a Goblet*

**Fox Chapel Open House**  
Friday May 9 - Sat May 10

**Rough and Tumble Museum**  
4977 Lincoln Highway East |  
Kinzers, PA 17535

#### Club Meeting

Tuesday June 3, 2014  
*Turning a Bottle stopper*

### *Thoughts Continued*

Also presenting were Mike Mahoney, Curt Theobald, Jennifer Shirley and others that I can't remember. All were doing different special interest woodturning or related sessions. The cost was \$180 for the two day event. If you divide that by eight sessions the cost per session is \$22.50 per session. Now I could have gone to Bin Pho's class in Chicago for \$650 for three days and learned more in those three days, but I think I got a deal with just the two days and six sessions with him. Saratoga Springs is a 5 ½ to 6 hour drive and then meals and motel room plus gas make it a lot more expensive than if we could attend a similar program locally.

In talking with folks from other clubs it appears that only a small number of people from each club will go to a regional or national symposium on woodturning. It is probably about 10% or slightly less. That means about six people from our club, which is how many we have attend in a good year.

### *Regarding the Regional Proposal:*

Personally I have been offended by the high pressure tactics being used in trying to convince us to form a regional group. I don't understand how a club as young as the Lancaster club thinks they can pull off a regional symposium when the rest of us struggle to make a one day, one demonstrator session work. It will, in fact, take a large number of committed people with experience organizing such events to make it come together.

### *Time Frame Considerations:*

I think they are very optimistic with their time frame of 2016 for the first symposium. I know how much work and time is involved in putting together large scale events, and it takes a dedicated group to make it happen. I would like to see the regional group formed and more research and knowledge gained before we commit money to the group. I know there will be numerous start-up expenses to meet before making any commitments to demonstrators or convention centers.

### *Support for the Symposium:*

#### **I do support the idea of an annual regional symposium.**

I support going ahead with forming the group, and I will give my support as a member of that group. I would welcome another member from the club to volunteer to become a member of the group. I prefer to know what is going on in my own backyard.

I am hesitant to have our club support the group monetarily until there is a better time-line developed with more realistic income and expenses developed through detailed research. However, I would support funding to help get the legal aspects off the ground if it appears to be truly viable. I will discuss this with you at the May meeting and wish to come to a consensus from the club in regards to going forward with the regional concept.

In closing on this subject I will share with you more information.

**Total Turning** is a part of a larger organization – the **Northeast Woodworkers Association**. The two organizations work together to pull off a large annual meeting that brings furniture makers, boat builders, carvers, scrollsawyers and high quality vendors together. This is the Saratoga Springs show.

I hope you see the opportunity that I see going forward. It is much easier to share costs and experience.

**Great, informative Thoughts message; thanks Don! Newsletter staff**

### *Letter from Mid Atlantic Woodturning Symposium Exploratory Committee*

To: Woodturning Club Presidents

From: Mid Atlantic Woodturning Symposium Exploratory Committee

April 30, 2014

We are pleased to report that we have received an enthusiastic and positive response from woodturners and clubs in reaction to our proposal to form an organization to run a symposium and related educational activities. Through the efforts of this committee, and the support and encouragement of you and your fellow club officers, we have received commitments of approval, as supporting sponsor clubs, from 5 clubs thus far, and there are 3 and maybe 4 clubs that have indicated interest but have an additional step to complete before definite approval. The known sponsor clubs at this point are:

Lancaster Area Woodturners

Susquehanna Woodturners

First State Woodturners

Baltimore Area Turners

Lehigh Valley Woodturners

It is our intention to have definite answers from all interested clubs by June 1, 2014. Following that, we would communicate with the appointed board members to have an initial organizational meeting by the end of June, followed by activities needed to implement the corporate structure, set up banking arrangements and file for 501c-3 status. In addition, we would expect the board to name a number of operating committees to work in various areas and report to the board. Those committees would generally be chaired by a board member and include other board members, as well as non board volunteer members of the sponsor clubs.

Each club may appoint up to two board members for the symposium organization, and these board members representing each club will be submitted by the club president. The length of terms and similar items will be determined as part of the original organization process and corporate documents to be considered by the new board.

In appointing board members, we encourage consideration of a number of factors. The first and most important is a sincere interest and willingness to apply energy and thought to building a successful organization and promoting a memorable and positive event. A board member would need to have some flexibility in their personal and work schedule so that board and committee meetings can occur without undue delay. Board meetings will be most effective if they can be done with the members physically present. Recognizing that the clubs are spread over a regional area, there would also be some opportunity to use technology for video or voice conferencing and the like to limit the need for travel in at least some circumstances.

There are certain areas of expertise that would be helpful to have among board members or committee members that may help in dealing with vendors, evaluating services to be provided to us, and reducing costs by doing some tasks on our own. This list is not exhaustive and suggests just some of the important areas:

- Legal- to assist with initial formation needs, prepare contract agreements with demonstrators and vendors.
- Accounting- maintenance of financial records, banking, etc.
- Video- design and contracting for audio visual services for the event

- Web design and maintenance- for promotion of the event, registrations, etc.
- Technology- other technology and communication issues (such as video conferencing)
- Demonstrator contacts- history of work with some of the name demonstrators to encourage them to work with us
- Experience in organizing a multi-day woodturning symposium
- Event planning- knowledge and understanding of planning events and dealing with venues
- Vendor relationships- ability to relate to vendors to encourage participation in the event and possible supply of needed equipment
- Fundraising, grantwriting

The symposium exploratory committee encourages each sponsor club to determine the board member(s) by June 1 and communicate that to this committee at [Lrsherman@yahoo.com](mailto:Lrsherman@yahoo.com). Please include an email address, phone number, and any other contact information for each member appointed. Following that, we will contact the appointed people and schedule a first meeting, making a best effort to work with everyone's schedule. The financial contribution of \$1,000 per club may be divided into 2 parts, with the first \$500 by July 15, 2014 (after notification that a suitable bank account has been established) and the second by March 31 of 2015.

With our collective enthusiasm and commitment, we look forward to working together to plan and conduct the first Mid Atlantic Woodturning Symposium and future educational events! Thank you.

Mid Atlantic Woodturning Symposium Committee  
 Larry Sherman, Ron Sheehan, Ray Simmons, Bob Nickey, Keith Lauderbach

**York Builders Home Show**

Leo Deller gave us this collection of pictures from the York Builders show. The pictures were generously provided by Jim Phipps, a member of, and the photographer for, the York Builders Association.



**Don Wilson presents PA Governor Tom Corbett** with one of his bowls. Great show and tell time! I wonder if the Gov. knows what a great deal that bowl was?



Is this Tom Deneen putting his box into the political ring, so to speak?



Phil Reed explains his secret methods to an interested couple.

**April Show & Tell** (continued from last page)



**John Stewart**  
 Pens  
 Diamond wood & others



**Mike Carnes**  
 Dyed bowl  
 The raffle prize of the evening.



**Jean-Louis Jugeau**  
 Black walnut, oak and maple  
 maru-dui



Barry Stump offering buying advice to another unsuspecting pair.



Leo with a happy looking group of buyers and family.

Phil and Leo critique the technique of Tom, aka "No lathe speed limit Tom".



Our gracious hostess, Joan Stewart, promoting our club.

**SOUTH CENTRAL PA WOODTURNERS MEETING MINUTES.....April 1, 2014**

Submitted by Barbara Fordney (interim note taker)

**Proposed AAW Regional Turning Symposium**

1. Bob Nickey from the Lancaster Club gave a talk about their club's plan to organize and present a regional wood turning symposium. Reasons: see many demos, share ideas, access equipment, advertise craft, attend a conference close to home.

- They are contacting clubs within a 2-3 hour radius of Lancaster to join in with them to make this happen.
- An "organizing committee" of 2-3 members from each participating club will put the whole thing together, with a lawyer, accountant, businessman among those members.
- Each club would be asked for volunteers to serve on committees, help during the conference, etc.
- Clubs will need to donate \$1000. (\$500.00 in two increments a year apart).
- A commitment to this project is needed by June. The organizing committee will begin meeting in late August. This committee will then make all decisions.
- 7 clubs have been contacted to date.
- \$40,000 to \$50,000 is the estimated amount needed for this venture, expected to bring 170 to 250 participants.
- The cost for those attending the two day event is planned to be approximately \$180. 225 participants are needed to break even.
- No venue selected as yet.
- This would become a yearly event with a movable venue.
- AAW would give organizing help.
- \$500 is need from participating clubs by mid-summer.

**Cabin Fever**

2. Bill Fordney discussed Cabin Fever, April 12 and 13, at Utz Expo Center, York. Set up is planned for Friday. Hours for the event are 9 to 5PM Saturday and 9 to 3PM Sunday. Bill said that the organizer, Gary Schoenly, is interested in having other craft organizations such as carvers, scroll sawyers, etc., attend either to show their craft or to sell items. Gary gets 10% of our sales. There is a \$10 admission fee for the weekend. We will operate three lathes at the booth and have our items for sale, as in the past.

3. Don Wilson, President, asked for volunteers for a nominating committee to choose candidates for president next year, as he plans to step down. Don mentioned CBN sharpening wheels are good for high speed steel only, and cost \$245 a pair. Anyone interested should contact him. Also the club insurance was renewed through AAW.

4. Bill Fordney brought deer and elk antlers for anyone interested.

5. John Stewart reported the treasury balance: \$2867.35.

6. Don announced that Jimmy Clewes will be demonstrating for the Club November 11<sup>th</sup> during the day, and in the evening at Woodcraft in Harrisburg.

**Cabin Fever:**

Club members again took part in demonstrating our various skills and displaying our creative turnings to the public. We are always a main attraction for the attendees. Sales were not as high this year but still worth our effort.



After much discussion and too many chiefs the booth is set up.



Potential buyer of our donations for our annual charity. This year it was the Salvation Army. Over \$500 was raised from sales.



Bill and John just doing their stuff.



Tom Deneen had this young lady just mesmerized by woodturning. Her parents were asking the price of lathes before they left. They also bought the vase Tom made



York Carvers were at the Expo this year. Clark Bixler was doing his duty over there for the show.



What this was all about we can only guess, but Barbara sure was having fun!



Some of the exhibits shown at the Show.

**Articulating Hollowing System**



**Demo by Don Wilson.**  
Don built his own articulated system for hollowing out vessels, which uses a laser light to show where the tool is on

the inside of the vessel.  
Use a turning speed of 500 – 700 rpm.



Do outside shape first, before working on hollowing out the inside, which allows you to see where the laser light is hitting.

Various different hollowing systems were discussed.



There are hollowing systems available through various catalogs, although for a fraction of the price, you can make a similar system.



**Bryan Sword**

American chestnut urn  
Wood salvaged from YMCA Camp High Rock  
Parker Seeley Lodge  
Urn made for older brother, who doesn't need it yet, but wanted a small urn so some of his ashes can be kept by his spouse to remind her what a nice guy he was.



Bryan is blessing the urn.



**Bryan Sword**  
Natural edge maple Bowl  
Spalted box elder bowl



**Dave Hunter**  
Maple weed pot  
Maple bowls



**Clark Bixler**

Chestnut footed bowl with walnut oil finish



**Clark Bixler**

Cup and ball toy  
Blue dyed basswood



**Phil Reed**

Ball & pedestal,  
Manzanita root burl & brass



**Barry Stump**  
Poplar bowl



**April 2014 Show & Tell**



**Jon Amos**  
Walnut bowl



**Leo Deller**  
Walnut & maple urn



**Leo Deller**  
Walnut & maple bowl



**Dean Swagert**  
Maple spiral bowl

