



MEETING DATE: FEBRUARY 10, 2007
MEETING TIME: 10:00 AM
MEETING PLACE: MIDLAND
COLLEGE COGDELL CAMPUS
905 S. LORRAINE MIDLAND TEXAS

WOODCHIPS

Once again it's time for us to anticipate another meeting. We are looking forward to another enjoyable and informative day. Hopefully the weather will be good. Our January meeting was a little slick and cold. Still we are appreciative of all who were able to come.

I will use this forum on Don's behalf to give you a report on the SWAT board meeting held January 27, 2007 in Waco. As your SWAT representative I attended and cast my votes in accordance with what I consider to be in the best overall interest of Comanche Trail Woodturners.

As you know the symposium has been growing every year. Those of you that attended Temple last year know that the facility was at pretty much maximum capacity. Comments were mostly negative on the two building set up, and although the cost was minimal, the facility just can't handle any larger crowd. We were faced with the prospect of either limiting the attendance or eliminating Temple. The vote resulted in Temple being dropped for future symposiums. Wichita Falls has a great facility, and will be the location for the 2007 symposium. However, there were, and are some negative aspects to this site. This is not from the clubs and in particular not from the West Texas Club's, but the Wichita Falls location poses some real difficulties for the Executive Committee. They have difficulty in getting vendors to come, and also its location is negative for the Lead Turners. Without good vendors and demonstrators, the symposium drops from an outstanding symposium to another just OK meet. We will meet in Wichita Falls this year, but the board decided starting 2008 to meet in Waco. This decision came after a lot of discussion and weighing of all the facts. The final vote was not unanimous, but resulted in a vote of 14 for, 2 against, and 3 abstaining. This is from the 19 of 22 clubs present. I voted for the change, as it appears to me to be the best long term solution, and will not limit our growth.

The Waco convention center is not quite as far for us as Temple, and only a little further than Wichita Falls. It is an outstanding facility covering 119,000 sq. ft. The symposium will have the entire facility. The rooms will be larger and of sufficient size as to not limit attendance for the high draw demonstrators. It is a two story facility, equipped with an elevator for those of you that don't like stairs. The banquet and vendor room is 32,000 sq. ft. so it will be much easier to get around to the vendors. Close proximity to DFW is another plus. There are more hotels in Waco and in fact two adjoin the center. Unfortunately, it is a Hilton and Courtyard, so unless they can negotiate some good rates the cost for these hotels will be a little steep for some attendees. Still, the other, less expensive, hotels are close and plentiful. The symposium this year and in future years will make sure it is held when the Baylor Football team is out of town. The downside is that the center is not free, and will result in an increase in registration fees.

This year's registration, if all goes according to plan, can be handled through the website. This, and future symposiums will have one more rotation than in previous years, and one more meal included. This will account for most of the price increase. It's still less than other symposiums. Lead Demonstrators this year are:

Stuart Mortimer
David Marks
J. Paul Fennell
Cindy Drozda
Alan Stirt
Stacey W. Hager

Those of you that may want to apply as local demonstrators will be able to get the information off the website soon? Since the Lead's are doing pretty fancy work, the emphasis for local's will be on beginning and intermediate techniques and projects. At least those offering these programs will be given preference as I understand it. Don't forget to bring your best work for the instant gallery.

I will have the Hotel information at the meetings for those of you that like to make your reservations early. The executive committee has asked that you call the hotel direct, as they have negotiated special rates and blocks of rooms. Just tell the reservation clerk it is of SWAT to get the good rate. I'll have the negotiated rate available, so you can check it out.

There will be a new and better camera and sound system this year too. It should enhance the presentations. DVD's from last year's demonstrators are now in the library.

I think 2007 and 2008 are going to be great symposiums. We should all thank the executive committee and let them know if you like the symposium.

Keith and Tom have the college class up and running. If you can help on Monday nights please show up. I'm sure they will cover this elsewhere in the newsletter. **SEE YOU AT THE MEETING!**

George Hancock
(Ghostwriter for Don Farris)

FEBRUARY'S MEETING

The program for February's Tool Making meeting is turning wooden mallets for the shop. Two different mallets will be turned, one will be a turned mallet head and turned handle and the second will be a turned tapered carving mallet. The meeting will be conducted at the Midland College facility located at the Cogdell Campus (905 S. Lorraine) corner of Lorraine and Garden City Highway. We are trying to combine this with College's open house for their new building.

January's Meeting

Thanks to Tom and Keith for their program on Sharpening. But it is apparent that we can't let them plan things together as they get carried away in planning skits. However, Keith did a great job again of explaining sharpening techniques.

For the club's information the turning class has 15 new students and 10 lathes, which has created some difficulties. Keith and I are working out solutions as we go. Suggestion and help with the turning class will always be welcomed and it is surprising what you can learn yourself. This class is a beginner's class but their final project will be their own pen/pencil.

Thanks

Tom Chandler
Program Chairman

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For Sale

Craftsman 10-inch Electronic Radial Arm Saw. Model-113.197250 (saw with leg set). Like NEW and reasonably priced. If you are interested please call JERRY BECHYNE. 697 3982.

Grizzly G1495 Heavy-Duty Wood Lathe

Swing over bed: 14 in, Swing over gap: 17in Distance between centers: 40" Spindle size: 1" x 12 T.P.I. R.H. Spindle taper: M.T. #2 Tailstock taper: M.T. #2, Motor size: 3/4 H.P., single phase 110V/220V, Indexed spindle - 30°, and 7 speeds: 500-3070 R.P.M. Many accessories included. \$250.00 Vance Ford 550-9994

Ridgid 12"x39" Lathe w/stand for sale \$200 OBO, Model WL1200LS. Used very little, All parts and accessories (inc Manual).
Dave Taylor - 432-559-9890 - Midland

Remember, the Southplains Woodturners meeting in Lubbock. They will be meeting the first Saturday of each month at Target Sheet metal. The time will be 10:00 am.

Which chuck should I buy?

Well, by now you can guess what I'm going to say... It all depends on what you want to do, and how much you can afford. The scroll chucks are the most expensive, but also the easiest and quickest in use, with no need for engineering precision when preparing the dovetail recess for the chuck to grip into. If you are just starting out, I'd suggest you get as a minimum a screw chuck, which is an almost indispensable item. Then, as your skill grows, if you can afford it, go for a good scroll chuck.

One thing to look for in any chuck, but especially a scroll chuck because of the cost, is the way it fixes to the lathe. Most chucks have a threaded recess which screws onto the lathe spindle; because there are almost as many different spindle thread sizes as there are lathes, it is a great advantage if the chuck comes with interchangeable inserts, so that **when** (hardly ever **if!**) you change your lathe, you only need buy a new insert, **not** a new chuck.

The scroll chucks which get a good write-up on the [newsgroup](#) are the OneWay Stronghold (Canada), the Teknatool SuperNova (New Zealand - the Nova is apparently almost as good), all the Axminster chucks (UK), and the Vicmarc (Australia). All of these have inserts, by the way.

