



**DATE: JUNE 10, 2006 MEETING**  
**TIME: 10:00 AM**  
**WHERE: GEORGE HANCOCK'S SHOP**  
**1709 CLARK ST. Midland**  
**DEMO: MAX RICHARDS**  
**PEN AND PENCILS**

## **WOODCHIPS FROM THE PRESIDENT**

You sure missed a good demo if you weren't at the last meeting! Tom Farrell did a very interesting demonstration on metal spinning. The bad thing about it is that I may have to adopt another dad-gummed hobby! A little birdie told me that this was Tom's first time doing a demonstration. If that's true sir give yourself a hearty pat on the back...or I'll be happy to do it, when I see you next. Good job Tom, and thanks for the great demo.

Next month's demo promises to be just as good. Max Richards is going to show us how to make pens. Quite a few of our members have expressed an interest in pen turning and Max is really good at showing how this is done. I learn something new every time I see one of his demos.

We haven't set up a date yet, but I think that there will be a pen turning class at Midland College soon. The college has ordered all of the supplies, all we have to do figure out when it will start and advertise it. I think that the classes might get better soon also. Doug Mee has volunteered to start teaching some of them. He's probably a couple of steps up from yours truly. We have also discussed doing an introductory wood turning demonstration for the college, to let folks know what wood turning is, and the cool stuff that you can make. Hopefully this will drum up a little interest in our classes.

We believe that the last couple of classes didn't make (have enough people enroll) because the general public didn't know we were having them. So we will probably be doing some things to publicize our successes. The student critiques from our last beginning wood turning class were very positive. I think we're doing good things in the beginner's class and we can now start to expand it into more advanced areas.

Probably our largest road block is finding volunteers to help teach; either as primary instructors or helpers. I have been the primary instructor for the three beginning classes


that we have taught. I can't tell you how much I've **learned** by teaching the classes. It's amazing to me how much the instructor picks up by helping the students! They have a problem, and you have to find out what they are doing incorrectly, **and** find a way to explain or demonstrate the solution in a way they can grasp. It's extremely gratifying! Please consider helping Doug, and whoever else wants to teach. We have the equipment in our classroom to instruct in most areas of woodturning, it's a shame to see it sitting idle most of the time. Let me know if you have any ideas that will help us get these classes off the ground.

I want to actively thank everyone for supporting the raffle. It is doing well, thanks to the kind people bringing things to contribute, and you wonderful folks that buy the tickets. Keep up the good work everyone. Here is a report from Helen about the last raffle:

Raffle tickets brought in \$139.00 last Saturday. The winners were:

Helen Easley, Bill Petteway, Dennis Severs, Jim Davis, Charles Swift, Ray Mee, Tom Chandler, Max Richards (2), George Hancock, Neil Martin, Richard Hopson, Ken Riley, John Mee, Tom Farrell, Nannette Sever, Stan Kretzler, Ron Butler

If you won something at the raffle please remember to bring an item back to be raffled and if you won more than one please bring more than one.

I was shown this web site that has some pretty good woodworking tips: <http://www.woodshoptips.com/tips/index.htm> . Send me a copy of one of your favorite turning tips for inclusion in the newsletter and become eligible to win a tremendous prize. I don't know what the prize is yet...but we'll figure something out 

I also received this in an email recently; and it just might work!

See you soon,  
Keith

### **LAST MEETING MAY 13 2006:**

Thanks to Tom Farrell for his demonstration on metal spinning. This adds a new window of opportunity in turning. Don Farris and I visited a turner in East Texas that makes metal spinning a big part of his turned items. One of the projects we saw was a closed vessel with a metal opening captured in the wood. There is no limit to what can be done to enhance wooden turned items. Tom you made it look simple, which is encouraging and maybe some of our members will try metal spinning. It seems to be such a natural thing for wood turners to do. Don't be surprised if something shows up on the show table in the near future with this added feature. I hope members will give a demonstration on metal spinning next year. Thanks again Tom for your willingness to share skills.

### **FROM THE PROGRAM CHARMAN ABOUT THE UPCOMING MEETING;**

Max Richards will demonstrate making a pen and pencil on the lathe. I have seen Max do demonstration before and he is an excellent teacher. He reminds me of Richard Raffan. While the lathe is running and the chips are flying so does the lecture go on. If

you wait until the lathe stops to hear what he has to say, you just missed part of his demonstration. If you think pens and pencils are an old project, with little interest, wait until you read about the attention we got at the Calibration of Arts below. A pen can be made from small scraps normally thrown away. If you want exotic wood it doesn't cost much for pen and pencil blanks. The shape and the style have a wide choice. There is a little cost to buy the kits but they are reasonable. Prices between \$3.00 and \$4.00 will allow several styles. I have found to make a pen for someone seems to be as well accepted as large turned items. Pens become very special and possessive to those who receive one as a gift. Pens and pencils are of such interest that is all some turners do. I know of one turner, (Jim Lawrence) which owns a 40-foot motor home. He goes to shows all over the US selling his works. It is a full year program for him to turn pens and pencils of select woods, styles and shapes. Just think about how much special wood you can purchase for reasonable amounts if your projects are pens and pencils. There was a time Craft supplies had a kit available of 50 different woods blanks to make 50 pens. If my memory is correct the cost was \$50.00. Now stop a minute and think about your cost to buy wood for 50 small bowls, all of different woods.

### Other Club Information

The Club's Board Meeting is two Wednesdays before the regular club meeting, at 6:30 PM, location to be announced by the President.

#### **CELEBRATION OF THE ARTS:**

The Celebration of Arts was truly a collaboration for our Woodturning Chapter. It was planned we would make pens and give one away every hour. The first give away was 11:00 am Saturday morning. There were 7 or 8 tickets in the jug. After that at the end of every hour there was a gathering of visitors hovered around Tom Chandler the ticket giver and drawing supervisor. On Sunday the crowd showed up and I wondered where all those people came from. I was reminded it was near the hour to give away a pen. The number was 25 to 30 at each drawing. There was one gentleman from Fort Stockton that stood out a little due to the hat he wore. It was observed he was there several times on Saturday and back in the lineup on Sunday. Others beside Tom needs to get some credit for their assistance. Max Richard was there for the first hour on Sat. and still turning the last hour on Sun. When he got ahead, his pen making went from pen turning to pen turning instructions.

Now there was one of the drawings that had a little flare. Our popular auctioneer took over the drawing with crowd of over 30 anxious waiting for their number. I think it was planned 5 tickets were pulled before there was a winner. After each failing number the auctioneer had a story to tell. He made it a one-man show. I think that you can figure out who the auctioneer was.

Thank you to all the members that worked the booth and those that were visitors. We had one of the best spots in the park the location was such that the whole crowd had to go by our booth to get anywhere. We were under the shade of the old oak trees .Will we do it

again next year? That will be a decision of the board, Thank you to Don Farris, our special event coordinator.

**PROGRAM CHAIRMAN:**

Ernie Showalter

Tom Chandler

**MEMBERS FORUM:**

**For sale by Don Farris**

ShopSmith (older model) Works good. Basic machine. Saw, Lathe, Drill Press, Horizontal Boring Machine. \$100.00 on casters or \$80.00 w/o casters. Call 520-0326

**From Clay Foster**

I will be teaching a woodturning "Masters Class" at Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts in Gatlinburg, Tennessee, this July 30 through August 5. The title of this course is "Go Figure! Figurative Art & the Turned Object". You will begin by turning kitchen utensils or tool handles and graduate to more decorated objects such as lidded boxes, masks, sculptural objects, and vessels with mixed media adornment. The emphasis will be on design development and planning. This class will be for intermediate to advanced-students must be able to turn bowls, vessels and spindles without instructor supervision. There are still several openings in this class.

You can see my work at <http://www.home.earthlink.net/~claypen/index.html>

If you are interested in taking this class with me, contact Arrowmont at <http://www.arrowmont.org/registration/commerce.pl> or call 865-436-5860. Clay Foster - Studio artist and teacher 940-466-9777  
claypen@earthlink.net

**Southplains Woodturners Meeting Times**

They will be meeting the first Saturday of each month at Target Sheet metal. The time will be 10:00 am.

**Woodturning Tip**

A little masking tape on your tool-rest can be used to easily transfer a pattern to the workpiece. Do you need to make a number of repetitive parts on a lathe? Using a pattern is a good way to ensure all of the pieces turn out alike but it can take time to transfer the dimensions to each piece. A simple solution is to place a piece of masking tape on your tool-rest and mark the dimensions on the tape. With the dimensions on the tape you won't need to pull out your template as often.

