



MEETING DATE: JUNE 9, 2007
MEETING TIME: 10:00 AM
MEETING PLACE: GEORGE HANCOCK'S SHOP
1709 CLARK STREET MIDLAND TEXAS
DEMO: FLUTE TURNING

WOODCHIPS

I cannot believe another month has come and gone, and we are anticipating our next club meeting. At least I am anticipating it, having spent an enjoyable day at Celebration of the Arts. We had a good turnout, but more of you need to participate. I can guarantee you will have fun, and probably sell something too. The interest in the pen turning drew a crowd as usual. The tops turned and colored were a thrill for the kids of all ages. Visiting with other members and patrons was the highlight.

By the time you receive this newsletter, our own Keith Hughes will have received a (Wow!) from the Lubbock club with his command of tools and teaching skills. I know all of you felt that way after our last meeting. Keith has a unique ability to convey his thoughts and skills into words.

I would like to remind you that it is not too early to start thinking about attending SWAT and to get your registration and hotel reservations. As I mentioned at the last meeting, the online registration form was confusing as to what you were getting for your registration dollar. Jim Davis had the same problem, so we both contacted the SWAT representatives after the meeting, and the questions were addressed and the proper explanations added. I encourage you to look at the site, and read about the demonstrator and the happenings at this year's symposium. The site address is www.swaturners.com. I think www.swaturner.org works too.

I wanted to add, that I bought some redwood burl from choice-woods over the internet. The owner advertises that he only sends what he would want to receive, and if what I received is typical, he does not lie. I was extremely happy with the quality, even if the price is a little steep by the time you add in freight. This address is clay@choice-woods.com.

For you pen turners that were not present last month. Acacia Hardwoods in Lubbock is now handling some of the Penn State pen kits. I stopped in this week when traveling through, and the prices were as good as and sometimes better than direct from Penn State. If you are in Lubbock, you might want to stop by and visit with Rudy. He also has a fair

selection of exotic hardwoods at reasonable prices. I mention this, as Rudy is a strong supporter of the Lubbock club, and many of our members have bought from Acacia for a number of years.

I look forward to seeing you at our meeting. Keep the chips flying!!!!

George Hancock
(Ghostwriter for Don Farris)

MAY 2007 MEETING

Keith Hughes demonstrated methods to save damaged wood with cracks, voids, knots and some high points for wood turning embellishments. If you are a new turner or an experienced turner, Keith was able to provide tips on the methods and materials to make these repairs. For those of us that use raw wood, (wood from local trees) we will find knots, cracks and voids that need to be repaired. Some of raw wood would fall into the firewood pile if something wasn't done to save the limbs. One of our most interesting woods is spalted wood. This is wood that is in the stage of decomposition or rot. It is punky, soft and tears out when the tool is applied to the surface while turning. Keith gave us tips to save spalted wood that otherwise maybe discarded. Turners might find it risky to try new methods due to the cost and the chance it will fail. After this demonstration we should have the information to help us know where, what materials to buy and how to apply the materials to our work.

The methods for embellishing our work were very interesting. Some of the same materials used to make repairs were used to improve the appearance of our work.

There were examples of materials and methods that could apply to our turnings for embellishments. This is a process to use various materials of different color that changes and improves the appearance of our wood turned items. There were examples of expensive, inexpensive materials, purchased materials, and stuff available at home. He mentioned several times during his demonstration, don't be afraid to experiment with something new. Go to the Dollar Store or the Hobby Lobby looking for things you would like to try.

Keith does an excellent job as a teacher and demonstrator. He had well prepared material, good examples and good verbal delivery. A big thanks you to Keith for a job well done.

Ernie a standby for Tom



UPCOMING MEETINGS FOR 2007

All of the demo slots for the rest of the year have now been filled and are listed below, please include with the newsletter:

Month	Demo	Demonstrator
June	Flute	Ernie Showalter
July	End Grain Turning	John Horn
August	Truing Warped Bowls	Jim Ketcham
September	Christmas Decorations	Stan Kretzler
October	Social	Club Members
November	Large Inside/outside turnings	Jake Kemper

YOU MIGHT BE A WOODTURNER IF

Your spouse no longer complains (cause it isn't worth it) about the sawdust you track into the house.

If your spouse isn't worried that you are having an affair when you come home late, she knows you were just at you're favorite tool store.

You wonder if moving the thermostat from your house to your workshop will decrease the warping of your wood.

2007 Officers

President: Don Farris	Vice President: Jake Kemper
Secretary/Treasurer: Chris Hughes	Program Chairman: Tom Chandler
Public Relations: Ernie Showalter	Newsletter Editor: Vance Ford
Midland College Representative: Ken Riley	Historian: Doug Mee
Librarian/SWAT Representative: George Hancock	
Board Members at Large: Jim Davis, Jim Ketcham, Keith Hughes	

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.

American Association Of Woodturners History

HOW THE AAW CAME TO BE

Woodturning's growth as a popular hobby and professional art form began quietly in the years following World War II. There weren't many people like James Prestini or Bob Stocksdales who were exploring the artistic potential of the turned wood bowl. But the lathe's economy, ease of use, and self-contained versatility attracted many. By the early 1980s, woodturning had begun to appear in galleries and craft shows, and woodworking magazines covered the techniques and exciting new work of this old craft now recharged with a sense of quality and innovation.

Woodturning was taking a uniquely contemporary shape, but there was yet no national coherence to the widespread activity. In 1985, the Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts, in Gatlinburg, Tenn., was one of the few places in the country where it was possible to teach or study woodturning. Director Sandra Blain, along with woodturner David Ellsworth, a regular instructor at Arrowmont, recognized the need to highlight the state of current work in a national show. They engaged turner/sculptor Mark Lindquist and Renwick Gallery Director Michael Monroe to help jury what became the 1985 exhibition, *Woodturning: Vision and Concept*.

The show's opening coincided with a three-day symposium, drawing more than 200 woodturners, at which the concept of a national organization of woodturners was put forth. "With all the meeting and greeting of old friends and new," writes David Ellsworth in the premier issue of *American Woodturner*, "it soon became clear that what had brought us to Tennessee was more than just a lust for tools and techniques. It was a thirst for the process of learning. Several hundred turned objects were on view in both formal and informal [Instant Gallery] display--as if the energies of the past decade were brought before us in a moment. If there was a single thought on everyone's mind, it must have been, 'where do we go from here.'"

At this symposium Dick Gerard, who would later serve as the AAW's treasurer, submitted a survey calling for the formation of an association. The first brainstorming session took place after hours, among a group of the symposium participants. The next day an invitation to serve the organization went out to the rest of the participants. A vote was taken, an ad hoc board of directors was formed, and the work began on framing a charter. By April of 1986 the American Association of Woodturners was formally named and incorporated as a non-profit organization. The journal began later that year, along with the first local chapters; our first "official" symposium was held in October of the following year. Ten years later, this web site helps answer the question, where did we go from there? **To be continued in July.**

