

TURNERS ANONYMOUS

An Association of Wood Turners in Western Pennsylvania
NEWSLETTER

No 103

February 2007

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MEETING NOTICE

Date: February 17, 2007

Location: Max Woodworking

Time: 9:30 AM for socializing, Meeting 10 AM.

Topic: Blake McCully on Treen Ware

Combine carving and turning to create useful kitchen implements, treen ware. Blake will discuss the various setups for spatulas, spoons and shoe horns, simply adjusting the setup will give you a wide spoon, deep spoon, spatula (left or right handed) or shoe horn. Turning these spatulas and such, reinforces the concepts we learned in the beginning, look at the horizon, and take light cuts. Turn that speed up and let 'er rip.

Don't forget to keep October 20th open for our fall featured presentation by Jimmy Clewes. – contributed by Craig Smith

GOODBYE

THIS MAY BE YOUR LAST NEWSLETTER!!! Only members who have paid for 2007 will receive the March Newsletter. If you are not sure if you are paid please contact Ted Owen 724 625 1038. If you have not paid your dues please mail your check today. Thank you.

INSTANT GALLERY

Ever since John Colombini's presentation on open segmented bowl turning, I have been interested in trying it. So, on John's recommendation, I bought William Smith's book "Segmented Wood Turning". The book

includes instructions for building several helpful jigs and directions for making a twelve segment, ten layer open segmented bowl. I was pleased with the result, and have proceeded with making a more complex open segmented bowl. I would like to have the February instant gallery theme be OPEN SEGMENTED BOWLS. So, experts please bring in some samples of your work for display. And interested novices, like myself, give it a try and bring your in your results.

The March meeting will be held at the SCC and will feature David Ellsworth. Since it will be an all-day session, and will include lunch, we will have an Instant Gallery. I would like to continue with the segmented bowl theme for this meeting. The experts are invited to bring in regular SEGMENTED BOWLS for display and discussion during lunch. Others are asked to bring in their latest OPEN SEGMENTED BOWLS along with their initial attempts to show improvement in design and results. – contributed by Nick Bodnar

DAVID ELLSWORTH DEMONSTRATION

David Ellsworth will be returning on March 17th after an absence of 9 years. This will be your chance to see the wonderful work of this master turner and demonstrator. Space will be limited and is already filling up so apply now to reserve your spot. This demonstration will be held at the Society for Contemporary Craft in a larger, more comfortable room upstairs.

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Doors will open at 9:00 AM, and the meeting will start at 9:30 AM. Attendees must use the main doors for entrance. Tickets are \$30 at the door (if there are any tickets left).

MONKEY PUZZLE

The Victorians enjoyed planting the Monkey Puzzle tree in their gardens; its strange symmetrical branches covered with unclimbable leaves giving rise to this name for the *Auracaria aurucana* tree.

It occurs naturally in two restricted areas of Chile, one about 5 miles wide and 70 miles long in the Andes and the other about 3 miles by 20 miles in the coastal range. After volcanic action it is a pioneering specie that can fix Nitrogen in the raw soil.

The Parana Pine of Brazil is also an *Auracaria* with slightly smaller leaves and therefore probably easier for a monkey to climb. Other species exist on some Pacific Islands and Norfolk Island possesses one of these called, you guessed it, the Norfolk Pine, mentioned in last month's newsletter. I do not think that it occurs naturally in the Philippines, but is quite a common House plant. The Parana Pine often has Pink stripes but these are not usually present in the other members of the group. – contributed by John Bridges

Editor's note: John says that the following is the result of spending too many hours strapped in an airplane seat

EGGS

With Easter fast approaching thoughts turn to Easter Bunnies and Easter Eggs. Tho' why there should be this Folkloric connection is beyond me since to my knowledge Rabbits never lay eggs. Wood collectors often turn an egg to add to their collection each time they find another, to them, new, specie of

wood. For Wood turners it is much easier to turn an egg than a rabbit (the long ears get in the way as it rotates), If you make a hollow egg it can readily contain some candy for that favourite nephew or a pair of diamond earrings for your latest girl friend. If you are a lady turner then I suppose you could stuff the egg with Snuff or a gold back collar stud. However, if you are an experienced turner read no more. Stop! Otherwise you will start telling me that I am "Telling my grandmother how to suck eggs".

Start with a square of wood about 1" longer than the length of your finished egg. Mount it on centers and rough turn it to a cylinder. Use a thin parting tool to cut it into two halves.

Take one of these halves and mount it on your favourite chuck with the end you have just cut with your parting tool facing towards the Tailstock.

Hollow it out to the required inside shape of your egg. If this is a first attempt you may want to draw your egg full size and make inside and outside templates of the shape. Otherwise use your imagination and judgement. Make sure that the first part of the inside is cylindrical, because the tenon you are going to cut on the other half must slide into this first half. Sand the inside and if you wish, apply a finish.

Take the other half as before, hollow it out and then, very carefully, cut a rebate on the outside edge to form a tenon that will, after a few trials, fit into the first half. Safety Note! Do not try to fit the two halves together unless the lathe switched off and the wood stationary. Sand the inside and finish as required.

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Remove the Chuck and replace with the same drive center that you used right at the beginning. Fit the two halves together and bring up the Tail Stock with its Revolving Center. Apply just enough pressure to keep the two halves together, remembering that eggs are fragile at the best of time. Using a Skew Chisel with light cuts you can now shape the outside of your egg, sand it and apply the finish of your choice.

The traditional shape (as laid by a rabbit?) is hemispherical at one end and slightly pointed at the other. Wrens lay small eggs and Ostriches large ones. Penguins lay almost spherical eggs whereas the Black Bellied Plover lays an egg so pointed that it looks more like a log splitting wedge. Wood collectors will want all their eggs to match but you can let your imagination wander. Don't forget; you can't make an omlette without breaking eggs.. Practice. Practice. Practice! – contributed by John Bridges

ROCKLER SORBY DEMO

As announced at the December meeting Rockler, in conjunction with Turners Anonymous, will host a free turning demonstration conducted by representatives of Robert Sorby on Thursday, March 1 at the Society for Contemporary Crafts. Doors will open at 5:00 pm and the event will end at 9:00 pm. Bring your friends. Everyone in attendance will receive a free Sorby CD and catalog, get a 25% discount on the tools that Sorby demos and be eligible for door prizes provided by Rockler including an M-Power mini lathe as the Grand Prize.

The aim of the demo is to show how to maximize the use of Sorby's spiraling system, texturing tool, spindle master, multi tip hollowing tool, hollowmaster, sandmaster, easybeader, stebcenters and more.

The sale will take place before the demo between 5-6 pm, during a brief intermission and after the demo if time permits. Cash, checks and credit cards will be accepted.

HELPING OUR CLUB

The money that comes from our monthly raffles is an important part of our fundraising effort. We have few ways to generate the revenue we need to put on programs that we all enjoy. We have tried to get good prizes and so far with the help of the local suppliers we have been successful. This month will be no exception. We have a great set of digital calipers from Harbor Freight, \$50.00 cash, two \$15.00 gift certificates from Craft Supply, two pen kits, a flex light for your lathe, and last but not least some nice wood. Please make a special effort to attend the February meeting. – contributed by Bill Hayes

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS

This newsletter is YOUR newsletter – I'm just the editor. Please submit your article, thoughts, ideas, photographs, and other items of interest to our club. It would be helpful if you could submit contributions as follows whenever possible:

1. Submit articles by email to taeditor@yahoo.com
2. Please type in your article without any returns.
3. Unless otherwise directed, all submissions will be attributed to the author.
4. Newsletter deadline is the first of each month.

MEMBERSHIP CARDS FOR 2007

To make it easier for members to be identified as current members by vendors who grant members discounts, we have promised that our membership cards will be

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available at the January meeting to members who have **PAID their 2007 dues**. A number of members have cooperated and paid their dues. For who have not, please cooperate and consider making your payment this month. **As of December 31 your \$20.00 annual dues are past due**. See Ted Owen at the meeting and pay your 2007 dues. Please make checks payable to "Turners Anonymous".

VENDOR DISCOUNTS:

di legno Woodshop Supply

1452 Fleming Avenue

McKees Rocks, PA 15136

1-877-208-4298

Discount varies by item, generally 10%

Rockler

7402 McKnight Road (location)

412-364-7751

10 % except on Sales items

Woodcraft

The Pointe at North Fayette (location)

620 Chauvet Drive

Pittsburgh, PA 15275

412-494-9663

Discount 10 %

Harbor Freight Tools

639A Clairton Blvd.

Pittsburgh, PA 15236

(412)650-9691

10 % discount not combinable with other coupons

Klingspor

www.woodworkingshop.com

1-800-228-0000

10 % except on power tools and sale items.

You must set up a customer number and password

Equipment for Sale

1. 14" Tablesaw Northstate, 16hp, 3Φ

2. 12" Jointer Northstate, 220 V, 3phase

3. Spindle Shaper Northstate, 5hp, 220 V, 3Φ

4. 24" Scrollsaw Delta/Milwaukee, 1/3hp, 1Φ

5. 16" Radial Arm Saw, 7.5hp, 3Φ

6. 12" Radial Arm Saw, 2hp, 230V, 3Φ

7. Overarm Router/Shaper Rockwell, 1Φ

Chris Weiland, phone:724-357-2367

Lathe Wanted

Ron Bishop 724 538 5899

rbishop001@zoominternet.net