



February 2008

# Turning Points

Newsletter of the Space Coast Woodturners

Volume 7, Issue 2



*Chapter Member of the American  
Association of Woodturners*

<http://www.woodturner.org/>

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be held on Monday, February 11, 2008 at the Henegar Center in Downtown Melbourne.

(<http://www.henegar.org>)

**February Demonstration:**

**Monday, February 11 – RON BROWNING**      *End Grain Finial Box*

The emphasis of this demonstration will be that the lid fits without the use of measurements and hollowing with a hook tool. Professional turner, Ron Browning, formerly a west coast Floridian now lives in Oviedo. He has been a featured demonstrator at the Florida Symposiums and does numerous demonstrations at other venues and AAW chapters. He has demonstrated previously at our chapter meeting.

## Space Coast Woodturners Minutes for January 14, 2008

### Reports:

**President Read Johnson:** The SCWT meeting was called to order by President Read Johnson at 7:06 on Jan 14, 2008 at the Henegar Center, 625 East New Haven Ave, Melbourne, Florida. There were 57 members and 9 guests present of which 2 joined. We welcome new members Don Peterson and Mike Frazier and extend a hearty welcome to our guests Helen Blier, Don Porter, John Michael L'Allier, Liz L'Allier, Stephen L'Allier, Angela L'Allier and Walt Helms. Read Johnson announced that the meeting would be very short so our demonstrator Mark St. Leger would have extra time.

**Vice President Chuck Billings** Our club had a good representation at the Florida Woodturning Symposium. It was a great time to meet some very well known Woodturners and make new woodturning friends. SCWT won first place for the second year in a row in the Friday night Turnaround where three people form a team and compete by designing and each turning the assigned piece in the twenty minutes allowed. This time it was a lidded box. We get to keep the trophy another year. Thanks to Wynn, Larry, and Chuck. Saturday night some great prizes were given in the drawing. Several people donated turnings for the auction. Member Ken Thurman donated four items to the auction and they brought very good prices. One brought \$175. Two SCWT members won \$300 scholarships to any woodturning event they want to attend.

**Treasurer Harvey Driver:**

**Secretary Julian Pharis** has new rosters for those interested.

**Craft Supply Order Jim Donovan** Craft Supplies order man Jim Donovan has \$500 toward the next order. The minimum is \$1000 for the discount.

**DVD Dock Tom Weber**

We have one new DVD for rent this month.

Rex Burningham and Kip Christensen are two of the more noted pen turners. They have co-authored a couple of books, and have now produced two videos. We are offering the first one next month. It is #167. *Turning Pens with Kip & Rex.*

This volume covers the slimline pen, a few variations on the slimline, along with tools, sanding, adhesives, and various materials including plastics and antler. Well presented, with good clear camera work.

We have restocked our sandpaper box. (Last month, we didn't have one particular grit that was needed by one of our members.)

Keeping in mind that the sanding box can only contain so many rolls, I'd like to repeat an offer I made a few months ago. If you know what you need in the way of grits, and whether it's for 2" or 3" discs, or the sheets of the ultra-fine grits, you can email me your needs (at tpurhrt@earthlink.net), and I'll have it pre-packaged and ready for pickup at the next meeting. Of course there's no obligation if you should change your mind, but it would not only help to ensure a full sandpaper box, it would also save you the bother of digging through the sandpaper box.

Your purchases make the DVD purchases possible.

**Newsletter** *Eric Thaxton* Nothing to report

## **Meeting ! ...**

### *Old Business / New business*

**Don Houk** has the exotic wood for sale from the recent pallet load purchase.

**Larry Gonyea** still taking orders for club shirts.

**Dottie Pugh** was admiring the work of one of the demonstrators at the symposium. He said you should go back and demonstrate that to your club. She said I couldn't do that. He said here is the tool I used to turn it and I give it to you if you will demonstrate this to your club in 3 months. She said OK.

## **Show and Tell**

*The "Showers and Tellers" were ...*

**Dottie Pugh** – Case study on how to make a "Ken Thurman" box and the pitfalls of going too thin. Also, a pair of Finial Ear rings.

**Julian Pharis** – Norfolk Island Pine Pen

**Larry Gonyea** – "Sabiccu" Goblet and natural edge bowl

**Ray Zakrajsek** – Corian platter with interchangeable bases and a leaf carved vase

**Charlie Shrum** – Norfolk Island Pine lidded box (turned upside down) and a Pecan Hollowform

**Tiny Wirs** – Cherry Root Bowl

**Jim Ragusa** – Spalted Beech Bowl and walnut and oak potpourri box

**Terry Justice** – Four Bottle stoppers and spalted maple bowl

**Wood Auction:** No wood Auction tonight

### **Donation Needed**

**The area Big Brothers and Big Sisters organization is holding a fundraising event in mid-February. A representative has asked me to seek the possibility of woodturning donations for their auction at this fundraising event. You may bring any donation to me at our February meeting, and I will get it to the representative. Thanks...**

**Chuck Billings 783-7049.**

### **For Sale:**

- EMCO Compact 5 CNC Metal Lathe, Bench top, 3.5” by 18” extra motor \$2,000
- EMCO F1 CNC Milling Machine \$2,500 321-368-0490
- Jet 10/14 mini lathe (without stand) \$150 Dotty Pugh [epugh@cfl.rr.com](mailto:epugh@cfl.rr.com)  
Phone: 259-4991 home – you’ll get the answering machine, so leave a message  
Cell: 749-3760

***Business Meeting Adjourned***

***Demonstration***

Photos from the Show and Tell



Julian's Pen



Ray's Leaf Vase



Chuck's Multi-axis Box



Larry's Sabiccu Bowl



Jim's Potpourri



Jim's Spalted Bowl



Larry's Sabiccu Goblet



Dottie Pugh's Finial Box



Charlie Shrum - Norfolk Island Pine Box

## **January Demo:**        *Lidded Box on Three Axes by Mark St. Leger*

Mark turned a small lidded box on three axes with a hand-chased threaded and eccentric finial. Mark is a well known turner and demonstrator from the state of Virginia. He makes tools, sells tools, and teaches shop in school, he has been on the board of AAW. He calls this box "Third axis in motion". He developed this box to send to a group of turners who were going to give a surprise party to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the opening of Jean François Escoulen's studio. Escoulen is famous for off axis, multi-axis and eccentric turnings. Friends were asked to send a turned candle. Mark thought of the one he demonstrates tonight.

He likes to turn small items that have some kind of motion. He calls them treasure boxes where you might keep a first tooth or lock of hair.

He recommends using a safe drive without the drive spurs because it is safer in case you get a catch. His demonstration is peppered with humorous comments and good tips learned from many years of teaching.

He used pre-prepared wood cup chucks with multiple tenons cut at the different offsets that he plans to use in the turned part. In this case he used a tenon on center and one 5/16 inch offset in one direction and the last one offset 3/16 inch in the opposite direction. Mark runs the lathe fast because the offset part means he is cutting air a lot of the time and a faster speed helps give a better cut.

The body of the box is maple and after fitting it into the cup chuck it is mounted on the 5/16 offset tenon and the top face is turned to produce the decorative conical point. Shear cutting helps to improve the final cut.

Next the part is mounted on the centered tenon to start forming the spherical bottom. This defines the outside so he will know where to stop when he is hollowing out the part.

Another tip is to mark the cup chuck or part where it is located in relation to jaw number one of the metal chuck then you can always return to the same location and minimize the effect of tolerances.

Located on the 3/16 tenon a 3/8 diameter hole is drilled to start the hollowing. The hollowing will be offset and the wall will be thicker on one side than the other. Careful you don't make a window where you don't want one. A small straight hollowing tool is used first and then followed by a bent tool to get into the corner. Keep the outside larger than the inside. A soda straw makes a good portable air compressor to remove the chips and dust. It is up to you but exhaling is the preferred method, inhaling can have problems. The 3/8 diameter hole will be threaded. A standard tap was used to make a small inside thread chaser by grinding off three sides. Mark used a 20 TPI tap. He waxed the hole to help the thread cutting. He found that a mascara brush works great for applying the wax in small holes and he had a funny story about asking for them at the school. Mark showed the steps and patience required to hand chase threads. Slow the lathe to about 300 rpm. One very important point is that you must lift the chaser from the threads before the end reaches the bottom, if it touches it will rip all the threads out. You also need to be careful that you do not produce tapered threads. There needs to be a very small flat across the top of the threads (smallest diameter) or they will tend to crumble.

Next he further developed the bottom spherical bottom shape before parting it off with a parting tool he had made from a table knife about 10 years before. It was thin and sturdy and worked well. The bottom would be hand sanded to about 600 grit.



Using a three-axis jamb chuck



Turning, Hollowing, and Threading the Box



Third Axis in Motion

## **Upcoming Demonstrators:**

Monday, March 10, 2008 - TBD

### **HARBOR FREIGHT SIDEWALK DEMO SCHEDULE March 7th & 8th 2008**

Harbor Freight management has requested that we do two "one day" demos during their "Side Walk Sale" on the above dates. In return they have agreed to a one time 20% discount on the current advertised price of your market basket, to all paid up, I repeat, PAID UP members and an additional one time 20% discount to paid up members who participate - to include all demonstrators, helpers, equipment suppliers, and those who hang around doing public relations and/or learning from our demonstrators. Discounts will remain effective from the 10th of March to the day following the next series of "sidewalk sale" demonstrations, or six months, whichever occurs sooner.

It is usually a fun day and even if you don't demonstrate, you have a chance to learn something from those who do. Remember, you don't have to be an expert to demonstrate. This is often a time when someone is available to help you. So sign up (in two hour blocks if possible), and grab a tool.

You should bring your own tools and wood, however, the club tools and sharpening system will be available. In addition, small turning squares for spindle work are usually available. The club will supply one or more "Harbor Freight" (Central Machinery) wood lathes depending upon the level of interest.

If you are interested, do not wait until the last minute to sign up. The equipment suppliers need a week or so to determine the level of interest and gather lathes. Harvey Driver is the point man and maintains the list (321-757-8579)

**The Chapter's Purposes,**  
In addition to supporting the  
general purposes of the  
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION  
of WOODTURNERS, Inc.  
are to:

1. Provide a meeting place for local woodturners;
2. Share ideas and techniques regarding this craft;
3. Trade woods;
4. Exchange ideas about tools; and
5. Exhibit finished projects.

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