

WOODTURNERS

of
St. Louis

NEWSLETTER

A chapter of the American Association of Woodturners

August 3, 1994
Number 18

LAST MEETING

The last meeting was held at our regular location at Woodcraft Supply. It was in three parts.

Gary Johnson covered the AAW Symposium recently held at Ft. Collins, Colorado. The attendance was about 600 people. He showed slides of turnings which were on display in the instant gallery and gave a commentary on each. Many turning demonstrations were given by professional woodturners. Gary attended those he was most interested in and gave a description of each. There were more demonstrations than could be attended in the allotted time.

Gary learned that the next year's symposium would be held somewhere on the west coast and that our St. Louis chapter would be awarded one cost free trip for a member to attend. This was due to the fact that all our members are also members of the AAW.

Tom Tyler presented a slide show and commentary on "Challenge 5". The Challenge programs are sponsored by the Woodturning Center located in Philadelphia, Pa. and put on by Albert LeCoff, Curator. The purpose of the Challenge programs is to motivate woodturners to exceed their previous works - improve and excel. The slides showed turned pieces which were accepted for this year's symposium and Tom gave a commentary on each.

Fletcher Hartline demonstrated the use of a strobe light in turning. The light was provided by Dave Wahl who assisted. The equipment consisted of a hand held light, a sensor and some pieces of reflective tape. Strips of reflective tape, one, two or four as needed were placed on the hand wheel of the lathe. The number of reflective strips determined the number of flashes the light produced per revolution. The sensor was placed on a stand facing the hand wheel to read the light reflected from the tape strips. This told the light when to flash. The strobe effect made the spinning object (in this case a bowl) appear motionless.

We were informed that such systems cost between

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Meetings are held on the fourth Sunday of each Month at Woodcraft Supply, 12511 Olive Street Road, (Dierberg Center)

1PM to 4PM

(Bring a guest or friend!)

\$300 and \$900. Caution is advised in using such a device since the spinning object appears static and can be a real knuckle buster.

LIBRARY

The library has been showing some action primarily in the video tape department. All it takes is a look at the list made up by Dean Hooks and sent to all with Newsletter No. 16. Help is just a phone call away.

SHOW AND TELL

Gary Johnson brought several of his latest segmented bowl creations and described some of the problems in assembly. He also showed and described a method of improving the holding power of screws when fastening end grain (such as a vase) to a face plate. The base of the object was drilled across the grain at locations where screws would penetrate. Dowels were inserted into the holes to provide cross grain holding power.

Tom Tyler brought some prize bowls he had accumulated and discussed their features.

- A Virginia Dotson bowl - about 12 to 14 inches
- A Norfolk Island Pine bowl - about 12 to 14 inches
- A fence post weed pot with hinge and nails attached
- A small cocobolo box (Harmony Works)
- A small macassar ebony bowl about 4 inches

Jim Bumgarner brought a group of ball point pens which he designed and turned. Each was different and some had small loose rings. He had made his own ring cutting tools from files and passed them around for viewing. He used a 5/32 bit to drill the wooden blanks and inserted ball points and ink tubes removed from inexpensive BIC ink pens.

Fletcher Hartline brought a bunch of miniture baseball bats he had turned and which were to become part of a baby crib for a future baseball great. We're not sure they won't be used as baby pacifiers.

We encourage all of you to bring some of your turnings to the meetings for show and tell.

DOOR PRIZE

Woodcraft Supply again generously gave the door prize. This time it was a recently printed book entitled "Woodturning - A Source Book Of Shapes" by John Hunnex. I neglected to write down the name of winner.

GALLERY SHOW AT WOODCRAFT SUPPLY

For some time now we have been talking about showing our works.

The dates have been set and are Saturday, September 24 and Sunday, September 25, 1994. The hours will be from 9AM to 4PM Saturday and 12Noon to 4PM Sunday.

We would like all members to participate by providing two entries each. This should give us approximately 70 entries. Beginners entries are just welcome as any others. No one should feel shy about joining in.

We will also need volunteers to help with various aspects of the show during the show hours. More on this later.

For those who live some distance out of town, you may wish to bring your entries to the next meeting (August meeting) and we will enter them for you. Otherwise you could bring them in at 9AM on Saturday, Sept 24th and then help with the show coverage.

For "intowners" or "nearbyers", information will be given out at the next meeting. As a matter of fact we plan to send out complete information for all with the next newsletter.

All entries must be registered on a master sheet or log and assigned a number. The number is to be placed on the bottom of the entry with a small sticker we will provide.

The show will replace the regular September meeting.

OTHER

At the last meeting we assigned a homework project to be completed and brought to the August meeting. It was----

Take one board foot of wood. Make something out of it and bring it to the next meeting. It must be turned. Any wood will do.

Mike Duggan, Manager of Woodcraft, will sponsor his 3rd woodturning symposium on Dec 3 and 4, 1994 at the store. Nick Cook, a professional woodturner from Atlanta (Marietta) Georgia, will do the demonstrations and instructing. There will be a charge for attendance; \$35 for a one day session and \$55 for the two day session. A catered box lunch is included in the price. Check at the Woodcraft desk to make reservations. Seating is limited to 35 people.

Nick is a member of the AAW and is an excellent turner. For those who wish to improve their turning skills, this is an excellent opportunity.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be at Woodcraft Supply on Sunday, August 28, 1994 from 1PM to 4Pm. The subject will be small lidded boxes and Tagua nuts. Bring a friend or prospective new member.

