

November 2011

Mountaineer Woodturners

A chapter of the American Association of Woodturners

November Meeting

Club President, John Sheets, called the November meeting of the Mountaineer Woodturners to order. There were twenty-four members and one visitor (Ray Simmons) present. John informed the members that Cedar Lakes has donated \$300 to the Mountaineer Woodturners for their participation in the “Make and Take” program conducted at the Arts and Crafts fair in July.

John Gregor provided a treasurer’s report. He reported that the raffle of the donated Hunter tools, conducted at the October meeting, generated \$88 for the club treasury. The club has a balance of \$3614.00 after paying all of the current bills.

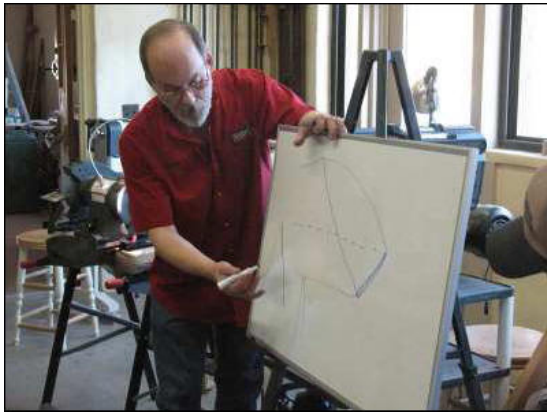
A discussion was opened regarding the club’s agenda and the scheduling of guest turners. The increased fees required by prominent turners have become a major consideration when scheduling events for club meetings. Increasing the yearly dues to provide added revenue to afford the increased fees was discussed. A motion was made and seconded to raise the annual club dues from \$20 per year to \$30 per year. The motion passed and the Mountaineer Turners’ dues are \$30 per year starting with the 2012 dues. Sharing expenses and/or conducting paid classes were two ideas to help offset the cost of guest turners. No resolution was reached on these ideas. However, John resolved to have at least two prominent guest turners per year.

Doug Thompson Presentation

Doug Thompson, who manufactures and sells quality lathe tools and handles, conducted a presentation to describe and demonstrate the proper techniques and parameters necessary to efficiently and quickly sharpen turning tools. Doug elaborated on the necessity of a proper sharpening setup. A decent grinder and good quality wheels makes the task of resharpening fast and stress free. Doug recommends Norton 3X wheels or similar with a K hardness and in grits of 46 and 80. The coarse grits remove metal quickly and with negligible heating of the tool. Doug also advocates the use of a good quality sharpening system, such as Wolverine, for all of us who have not mastered the skills required for “free hand” sharpening.

Doug discussed the metallurgy requirements to produce high quality turning tools. He then demonstrated the profile options for our favorite turning tool – the bowl gouge. The bevel angle is an important consideration and varies with the turner’s preference. An angle of 60° is his recommendation as a starting point. How far the “wings” are swept back is again a personal preference and somewhat depends on the job at hand. A “fingernail” or Ellsworth grind is a good choice for most bowl work. While looking at the fingernail profile from the side of the gouge, the top of the wings should always be flat or slightly convex – never concave. A bowl gouge that is ground without “wings” or pullback is less aggressive for making finish cuts.

Doug answered all questions and after lunch, he



had a selection of his tools and handles available for the members to purchase.



December Meeting Agenda

The December meeting of the Mountaineer Woodturners will be held on Saturday, December 10th at Cedar Lakes. Byron will discuss the project and the guidelines for the club's February challenge. Be sure to attend and receive all the information you will need to prove your turning abilities, win the challenge, and claim the coveted bragging rights.

So far, Byron has not received the required number of commitments (10) to order the LED lights that Doug Thompson recommends for his sharpening setup. The issue will be resolved at the December meeting.

Show and Tell

John Gregor brought

Dave Shombert had a nice posey pot and a hollow form that he salvaged. The hollow form shape evolved after turning the original vessel too thin. It is a very nice piece, salvaged or not.



Larry Weese displayed three items that he recently completed - a "round bottom" bowl, a small decorative bowl, a winged bowl. All are nicely done.



one of his large vases.



Warnie Lore had 3 nice pieces – a cherry burl bowl, a doug fir bowl, and a beautiful Norfolk Island pine piece.

Doug Kemp brought a natural edge plum bowl and one of ash and another of poplar.



2012 Club dues are due now
\$30 for the year

Ervin Jones had a very unusual natural edge walnut bowl with contrasting heartwood and sapwood and a rolling pin celtic knot design.



With Doug's presentation and the nice show and tell items, the meeting was informative and enjoyable.



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