

Turning Times

A publication of the Brazos Valley Wood Turners

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MAY 2011

Meeting at 9 am on 14 May 2011 at TSTC in Waco.

MAY DEMONSTRATOR

Larry Walrath will be the May demonstrator and he will be showing how he turns a basic bowl. Larry turns a number of items but all are based on skills learned with a skew on a spindle. He



will discuss various ways of preparing the blank, holding the blank, design elements as well as turning green versus seasoned

woods. Larry will demonstrate how he sharpens and holds his tools for efficient turning in a production shop.

PRESIDENT'S NOTES

I am really glad that the month of April is over. I have not had time to even turn on my lathe. It has been hot and to work in my shop I need to open both the front and back overhead doors. With the wind blowing the way it has been, all my dust and shavings end up in my neighbor's yard. I had a chance to see first hand the fires in the Alpine and Ft. Davis areas. Devastating to say the least. The country out there is just beautiful and I hate to see it burned up especially the homes. My hometown of Tuscaloosa, AL as you know was devastated by an F5 tornado. Groesbeck TX was also hit by a tornado. A huge pecan tree was blown down in the backyard of a friend. I have received a large amount of this pecan wood. I will make a lot available at the May meeting. I also have more "wahoo wood" or winged elm as we know it. Jan and I painted them all with anchor seal.

Many thanks to Keeley for making her shop available for the April meeting. What a neat place. Should be a lot of fun having our picnic there in June. Thanks to everyone who participated in the President's Challenge. James Norton really turned a unique bottle stopper and

won the contest. Larry Walrath will be our demonstrator in May. I believe he will demonstrate turning a simple bowl. Bill Meador has taken care of submitting our entry in AAW's 25th Anniversary turning contest. Thanks Bill for all you do for the club. I look forward to seeing all of you at the next meeting. We will be back at TSTC this month.

Thanks, Tom

MEETING NOTES

22 members were at the April meeting at Keeley's shop including 3 new members. Darrel Cox uses a Grizzly and has been turning duck calls and small items. Bob Johnson uses Darrel's lathe and has turned some bowls. Richard Parker-Robinson has a Jet and has been turning several years. Additional guests were Keeley's husband Larry and her father Bob.

Treasurer's report:

- Savings \$116.72
- Checking: \$809.26
- Cash on hand: \$100.00
- Corrected Auction: \$315.00

AAW submission Bill Meador's piece won. The judges were a wood (industrial arts) teacher, a craft gallery owner and a retired art teacher. All the pieces can be seen in the Gallery section of the web page. Bill's piece will go to the AAW contest.

The sale of the black walnut blanks at the last meeting raised enough money to purchase the new light for the lathe. The members approved the purchase of new DVD's and cases to continue taping the demonstrators. There were various clamps from wood screws to squeeze and pipe clamps for sale. These last items were from Manard's estate.

The June meeting and picnic will be held at Keeley's shop. Bill to handle food and other picnic supplies like tables. Make a note to bring a folding chair. Hands on activities are still to be

decided.

SWAT: a reminder that we are to turn tea lights (electric) for table decorations. Bill will post size of the drilled hole for the light as well as some design ideas. Last year the club didn't turn enough for all the tables. Dena or Bill will check with SWAT about reimbursement for the tea lights.

There was discussion about possible national demonstrators and Lyle Jamison was suggested but I didn't catch who was going to follow up on that so whoever it is please follow up and report back.

The program was demonstrations and hands on time for the basic Jamison, Elbo, and manual hollowing systems. James Norton did a wonderful job on the brisket and sausage. Keeley made beans as well as mac 'n' cheese. Judy made the cobbler.

PRESIDENT'S CHALLENGE

James Norton won the challenge with a stopper incorporating various woods and woodburning. He won \$25 prize. All entries can be seen on the gallery page of the web site.

JAMES NORTON BOWL CHALLENGE

Last year at the hands on meeting at James Norton's shop a number of members made a sets of nesting bowl blanks using a bowl coring system. James is challenging those members to bring in their nested bowls for a show and tell at the June picnic. It will be interesting to see the variety of turnings. If you have the first bowl you turned, bring that along to show how far you have improved.

SAFETY MINUTE

When using boring tools make sure the shaft is well secured on the tool rest. If the shaft is square, make sure it is flat on the tool rest. If the shaft is round, use an assist system such as the Jamison harness. Always watch how much is the overhang as the better the tool is supported the better the cut.

SHOW AND TELL

See the gallery on the web site.

BRING BACK AND DOOR PRIZE

Door Prize:

Stubb center won by Keeley

Wing dale elm log by Joel

Bring back winners:

see web site for photos

Dena won Joel's copper enhanced bowl.

Larry won Tom's tulip wood pen.

Jan won a bottle stopper by James.

Joel won a bottle stopper by Wes.

James won a pen by Dena.

THINGS A TURNING

This month's project is a staple in any sewing box—the seam ripper which is a tool to undo sewing errors. It works by cutting the thread that sewed the seam so the seam can be redone for whatever reason. Mass produced seam rippers come in 2 sizes: small and large. My preference is the small but before starting this project you might want to check the recipient's sewing box. If you decide to add this item to your craft sales, individually they are expensive for what they are EXCEPT during super sales where one can get them for as little as 25 cents each. JoAnne's Fabric's and Crafts is a good supply source including their web site. Hobby Lobby also carries them but I've never seen them on super sale.

This is what the small one looks like. A plastic cover and the seam ripper. The best way to secure the metal ripper is to use a hammer and encourage the plastic covering to split. The second picture shows the “raw” material.



The wood blank is about 6” x 3/8” square.

Measure the tang of the ripper and drill a hole about 1” deep with the appropriate drill. I fitted this to the tail stock end. The other end I used a

chuck. After rounding the next step was to measure the inside of the plastic cover and turn the head stock end to this measurement. Below is a picture showing the cover fitted to the end.

NOTE: the rest of the blank is just rounded and no beading or other designs are present. If needed because the fit is too loose, there should be enough blank left for another try.

Once the fit of the plastic cap is good, turn the rest of the shaft. Remember this is to be used and test to make sure there are no rough spots or sharp details. Sand and finish as desired. I used a sanding sealer and wax with a buffing system.

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Below is the finished project with and without the cap.

