



Turner's Talk



By: Brad McCollum

March 2004

The Mid South Woodturners Guild is a not for profit organization formed to promote and encourage the art of woodturning and in so doing, promote and encourage the art and craft of woodturning in general. Membership is open to any individual and includes a subscription to the monthly newsletter. Meetings are held each month at "That Wood Joint, 7876 Stage Hills Rd., Bartlett, TN, on the fourth Saturday at 09:30 am. Annual dues are \$15.00. Address inquiries about the to Mid South Woodturners Guild, c/o Hershel Miller, 4875 Black Gum, Millington, TN 38053.

March 26th meeting: Lidded Boxes by Larry Marley

<p>Our Mailing Address: Mid South Woodturners Guild c/o Hershel Miller 4875 Black Gum Dr. Millington, TN 38053</p>	<p>Pres. - Hershel Miller, VP Mike Kelly Secretary - Steven Foldenauer Treasurer - John Stubblefield Board Members- Norm Fowler, Richard Lee, Brad McCollum</p>	<p>Meeting Place: That Wood Joint 7876 Stage Hills Rd. Ste. 103 Bartlett, TN. 901/507-4444</p>
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Meeting Schedule:

March 27th- Meeting, Lidded Boxes, Larry Marley

09:30 am-11:30 am

April 24th-Turning a Chess Set, Bilo Bautista

09:30 am-11:30 am

May 22nd-Hollow Forms, Brad McCollum

09:30 am-11:30am

Meeting Format:

Club Business - 09:30 - 09:50

Demonstration: - 09:50-11:20 --

Raffle: - 11:20 - 11:30 - Items donated by members

Adjourn Meeting - 11:30

Member News:

For all of our 2003 members that have not yet renewed for 2004, after the March meeting, you will be dropped from the roster. Please come to the March meeting with your \$15.00 ready to renew your 2004 dues

Remember, if your dues are 3 months in arrears, you will be dropped from the roster.

Instant Gallery

The following members had items in the gallery. Check out our web site for photos. www.midsouthwoodturners.com

Dupree Cooper
Dennis Paulus
Terry Reynolds
Bill Shaw
Glen Alexander
Joe Griggs
Harry Bowden
Mike Kelly

Chuck Ludwigen
Alan Simpson
Norm Fowler
Brad McCollum
Bob Huffman
John Williams
Larry Marley

President's Corner:

No Room at the Joint! - That Wood Joint that is - February brought another full house! Some new faces and a couple of "old" friends and members attended the meeting. It was good seeing the old members and we hope the new ones left with some new perspective on woodturning.

Down to Basics - For those just getting started in woodturning, we hope the information presented at Saturday's meeting helps point you in the right direction. Learn the basics and the rest will fall into place. There are no short cuts or over night remedies to becoming an accomplished turner, but with consistent practice, you will amaze yourself with your growth. Another solution to cutting the learning curve in learning the basics is - taking classes. Working with an instructor reduces the wondering in turning darkness and you'll reduce the time required to learn the basics. In addition, you'll be able to identify and have the knowledge to correct your mistakes.

Looking Ahead - March into spring? - The weather is getting into the comfortable zone, meaning that more of you can get back into your shops. To provide some incentive, our March 27 demonstrator (Larry Marley) will be providing us with some techniques and insights for turning Lidded Boxes. I challenge you to try your hand at turning a lidded box then come let Larry show you his method. Also, bring your lidded boxes and display them in the Instant Gallery.

February Instant Gallery was superb! - Again, some of you have swallowed your pride and participated in the Instant Gallery. Please, everyone has to start somewhere, let others see what you're doing and how you're doing it. Granted, a couple of years from now you will be amazed in the difference in your turning skills!

Shirts and Hats - We hope to be taking orders for shirts with the club logo on them. The price should be around \$33.00 each (we hope to have a firm price at this meeting). We'll be ordering hats with club logo and hopefully the price on these will remain at \$10.00 each.

So much wood and so little time,

Hershel

February Meeting Minutes:

The meeting was called to order by President, Hershel Miller at 09:30 A.M. Hershel welcomed a full house of members and visitors. The minutes from the January meeting were accepted as published in the newsletter. John Stubblefield then gave the Treasurer's report, which was accepted as given.

This month's meeting was attended very well once again. Our sign-in sheet shows that we had 29 members and 5 visitors attending. I am certain we had a much larger crowd than that. I usually take a head count myself but didn't have the opportunity due to the activity at the busi-

ness table. Please be sure to sign in when attending the meetings. It helps us determine how many of our members are staying active and interested.

Hershel took a show of hands to determine how many people are interested in buying shirts and hats with the Guild's logo. There appeared to be enough interest for the club to get current pricing and delivery information. We hope to advise the members and begin taking orders at the March meeting.

This month, the club provided doughnuts, soft drinks and coffee, again. We need refreshment hosts for future meetings. Please see any board member or officer to sign up. We need your help to keep our club running smoothly.

Our demonstrators this month were Hershel Miller and Norm Fowler who discussed and demonstrated turning basics and skill building projects. This was great information for the new turners in our club but, everyone needs to revisit the basics now and again just to stay sharp.

See you all in March.

Steve Foldenauer, Secretary

Raffle Notes:

Thank you for participating in the raffle. Your donations help support club functions such as prizes and refreshments for our October Turning Festival. Plus, there is always the chance that you'll win that prize piece of wood – or some other useful item.

February raffle contributors:

Norm Fowler **John Williams**

Norm and John accounted for more than half of the 40 items donated.

George Yohanek **Brad McCollum**

Terry Reynolds **Steve Foldenauer**

Jim Dunham **Chuck Ludwigsen**

Joe Griggs **Gerry Bishop**

Dupree Cooper donated 3, \$10 gift certificates from That Wood Joint.

February Raffle Challenge!- Each of you bring something for the raffle! Wood, a tool you no longer like or use, a finished piece and we'll find it a home. Or a book (no magazines), a set of plans that you've completed and no longer need. Sand paper or finish. Gift Certificates. Some type of meaningful item that woodturners might use.

Safety Update:

Those of you that know me, or at least read this article on a regular basis, know that I have spent a lot of time in machine shops. That is where I was introduced to various grinding equipment and grinding wheels of all types. Everything from high tech surface grinders to the lowly bench grinder seen in every garage shop, they all do the same thing, remove metal. The grinding wheel itself is the most dangerous part of any grinder. They operate at fairly high speed, create heat, sparks and can explode with little provocation. Once again, common sense rules the day. The two biggest enemies of the grinding wheel are heat and impact. Grinding wheels are fairly fragile critters, one good bump from the side could crack the wheel. When these things come apart it is usually unexpected and very violent. Heat from heavy use can cause a grinding wheel to crack, especially the cheap ones. As the metal you are grinding is getting hot, a cheap grinding wheel will as well. Inexpensive grinding wheels tend to load up with metal, requiring the operator to apply more pressure and generate more heat. The rapid rise in temperature causes the wheel to expand and fail. All while you are standing right there in front of it.

Here are a few quick tips:

- 1) Never use a grinding wheel that's been dropped or badly chipped.
- 2) Keep those metal guards in place around the wheel.
- 3) Spend a little extra money for a good wheel, matched to the speed and intended purpose of the grinder. You'll get better performance as well as improved safety.
- 4) Keep your wheels properly dressed and balanced according to the manufacturers specs.
- 5) And, last but not least, wear a face shield.

Take your time, have fun, be safe!

Brad

(If you have a safety tip you'd like to pass on, e-mail it to me at : bmccoll2@midsouth.rr.com.)

Tools:

By: Hershel Miller

I recently purchased a set of Crown PM-Pro bowl gouges and love them. These tools are Particulate Metal technology and yield a steel (S390) with very fine grain structure for superior edge holding ability. These bowl gouges have a narrow, superfluted shape and are fitted with a long, black Ash handle. Their overall length is 26 inches and they are well balanced.

The fine grain structure of the Particulate Metal technology allows the tools to cut smoother than normal HSS tools. The cutting action from the fine grain feels like the tool has some sort of lubricant on the bevel. If you are in the market for a new tool, I highly recommend these tools.

AAW Special Announcement:

A new on-line American Woodturner survey has been posted on the AAW web site, www.woodturner.org. We encourage response to the survey so we can continue to improve the journal content. The short survey also includes a couple of questions about the revamped AAW web site. The survey will be available until April 15th. Within a week, we expect to have rules posted on the AAW web site for two new AAW awards: Best Chapter Newsletter and Best Chapter Web Site. The AAW board will recognize the top three newsletters and web sites at the Orlando symposium.

**Carl Voss
American Woodturner- Editor
515-288-9545 (office)
515-210-0237 (cell)**

Refreshment Host:

Refreshment hosts needed!

This is one area that each of you can help to maintain the casual and friendly atmosphere at our club meetings. Therefore, please consider letting me put you on the list as a refreshment provider. Maybe you would like to team up with another member, that would be great.

Thanks, Hershel

Note: (If you would like to help with or provide refreshments for a future meeting-see any board member)

Editor's Notes:

I've owned a lathe for ten years now, but just started turning seriously about four years ago. One of the things that really got me going was seeing the instant gallery table at October fest several years ago. It seemed like there was everything under the sun on that table: bowls, hollow forms, pens, bottle stoppers, you name it. I look forward each month to seeing what will be on display and get a lot of enjoyment from seeing other's improvements month after month. I think you would all agree that we learn a tremendous amount from seeing what others are turning and hearing the "how to" stories. But at a recent meeting I heard several comments that disturbed me, so I asked a few questions and did a little observing of my own. What I am talking about is the way turnings are handled by some well meaning members and guests. Some of the turners I spoke with even went so far as to say they no longer bring their nicest pieces to display for fear they would be smudged, scratched, or broken. We all have a lot of pride in the things we create; some of us even sell our turnings to help support the "habit". Nobody wants to see their project get scratched or smudged with sticky fingers. Think about what we are all missing out on if we don't get to see the really good stuff. I read an article in a recent issue of American Woodturner magazine about a very expensive turning that got dropped and broken at one of the national symposiums. The author wrote about seeing a lot of artists putting out "DO NOT TOUCH" signs. How sad is that? Let's all be a little better than that. Have some respect for the effort your fellow turner has put into his or her project. Make sure your hands are clean and dry before picking up a turning. Our meeting space is a bit cramped so be a little more careful around the instant gallery tables. Be aware that metal rings, watches and bracelets can scratch a woodturning very easily. Let's all make sure that our instant gallery tables are the best and the safest so nobody has to worry about their "good stuff" being damaged.

Take your time, have fun, be safe!

Brad

If you have a computer, or have access to one, visit our website, www.midsouthwoodturners.com. You will be truly amazed at the information available there. This newsletter is posted on the web site for easy access. The newsletter is available by e-mail also. If you would like to receive your "Turners Talk" newsletter by e-mail send a note to Brad McCollum at bmccoll2@midsouth.rr.com

Welcome Guests and visitors:

To all the guests and visitors, we hope you enjoyed yourselves and will return next month. If you like what you see, join and become a part of the greatest woodturners guild in the AAW.

Garage Sale:

Wood lathe for sale: 12" swing, 36" between centers. Cast iron bed and legs. Not sure of brand. Make offer. Call 901-373-9256, ask for Greg.

If you have something you would like to sell, send your information to the editor: Brad McCollum, 901/378-4663 or e-mail to bmccoll2@midsouth.rr.com. The deadline for inclusion in the April newsletter is April 5th

Officers and Board Contact List:

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