

Since our last meeting we heard from AAW regarding our entry into the Newsletter contest..... Oh well ! AAW is not the holy grail for newsletter editing but it is a standard. Consequently our newsletter is under some revamping. I certainly am interested in any and all suggestions you as member, might have about the newsletter. Doesn't mean I have to listenha ha. Please be patient while the editor makes some changes.

Your Editor

The Mid South Woodturners Guild



Turner's Talk

Bob Speier, Editor

May 2009

President's Pick



Dick Absher

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What's Coming Up!

By Joan Kelly

One Beginner's Journey or: How I Learned to Quit Worrying and Love the Lathe

Emmett Manley was attracted to woodturning as he watched a demo on a treadle lathe during "Pioneer Days" at Ames Plantation. He soon purchased a mini lathe and began turning.

"When I began my journey toward woodturnerhood I thought everyone shared my primary interest -- learning about the inside of trees: how wood differs tree to tree, the characteristics of wood that would be revealed to me once I learned how to expose the features unique to different species."



Not long after, Emmett became somewhat frustrated with the woodturning community. There seemed to be some standards that all were expected to embrace.

"I realized that woodturners wanted to be a guy named Binh Pho, who really did very little woodturning but who painted and embellished wood. Then I found that what was really important was how large a piece of wood you could mount on a lathe -- the bigger the bowl, the better the turner. Then, speed seemed to be the goal as this fellow Richard Raffin was considered "the best" and he was the fastest gouge in the west (or at least Down Under). If not fastest, or largest, or smallest, how about the thinnest turnings? Hollow Form became the Holy Grail. All must aspire to hollow. And hollow large and via tiny openings. I would wake up

sweating in the middle of the night."

Then, after purchasing a "real" lathe, he had an epiphany.

"One day about a year ago, a strange calm descended upon me. I don't have to let the goals of other woodturners influence me one whit. The only person I have to satisfy is myself. That day, I stopped worrying and began to love the lathe. If I wish to emphasize the wood, so be it. If I want to make useful items from wood, and not arty items, that is what I shall do. I don't want to spend days and days on a single bowl, so I won't. Hollow forms require a lot of special tools and spending hours working in areas never seen -- seems a waste of time to me and it is OK to think that way."

Emmett Manley will be the featured demonstrator for the May meeting. He will elaborate on his philosophy about turning. And, in addition to showing us how he makes some beautiful turned jewelry, he will give a brief demo on how he uses the scrap from his bangle bracelets to make attractive napkin rings.

Pop quiz: Where did Emmett get the title for his session?



President's Corner



A few months ago AAW requested chapter members to submit turned pieces for the "Spirit of the Southwest" gallery. There will be 30 pieces selected and placed on display during the symposium in Albuquerque. These item will also be auctioned off after the symposium and the funds will go to EOG. I believe last year the auction added another \$30,000 to the fund.

This is a big deal and a very big honor for those selected. The Midsouth Woodturners Guild was honored with 2 members being selected for the gallery: *Larry Sefton and Dennis Paullus*. I can't tell how proud I am to have the privilege to announce this. A job VERY well done guys.



Dennis Paullus



Larry Sefton

*MSWG
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for 2009*

- | | |
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*UPCOMING EVENTS
2009*

- **May 23rd**
Club Member—Emmett Manley
Utah Woodturning Symposium
- **June 13th**
Valentine Bros. Turning Hats
AAW Symposium, Albuquerque, NM
- **July 25th - TBA**

*AAW Spring 2009
Journal
Join or Renew n o w !*



MSWG MEETING MINUTES

April 27th, 2009

Call to Order and Welcome

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Bob Speier, President, who welcomed the members and new members. There was one new member: Don Chandler. Nametags were given to those who joined or renewed a membership at the February meeting.

Financial Report

Matt Garner, Treasurer, gave the financial report.

General fund balance (4/15/09) \$ 3,266.40

Education fund balance \$ 925.74

The video fund has close to \$1,100 in it. A motion was duly made and seconded to accept the financial report.

Announcements

President Speier briefed the members on the day at The Woodworkers' Shop. MSWG participated in a demo with Sandi Speier, Dennis Paullus, Bill McMillen, Glen Alexander, Joan Kelly and Tate Thomas

A sign had been made with a message encouraging people to join MSWG and AAW. It will be used at fairs and meetings. A brochure is being designed, as well.

Some members still need to have their pictures taken for the roster.

Eighteen members from previous years have not paid their 2009 club dues. Some of those no longer attend meetings. Those and any other who are not up to date on their dues will be dropped from the email list, including the newsletter.

Delta Fair books will be coming out in the mail soon.

Bill McMillen announced that one new DVD has been purchased. There are two Malcolm Tibbetts DVDs. There are seven new books and magazines.

Delta has a promo on a midi-lathe with Bill McMillen turning.

Mid-South Perspective

The birds-eye maple pieces will be collected in June. One has been turned in already. Dennis Paullus requested that anyone wishing to participate in the Mid-South Perspective please purchase the blank, sign the sheet, and pay the \$6.00. The more that participate, the better. The birds-eye maple must be the primary component of the piece. It may be added to, or cut up, and more than one blank may be used.

AAW Symposium

The AAW Symposium this year is the same date as the June meeting. The Board had voted to move the meeting to accommodate the Symposium. There will be a joint meeting with the Woodworkers Club on the second Saturday in June.

CBU Permanent Collection

Keith Burns is heading up the committee to add pieces to the CBU permanent collection. Three pieces will be chosen this year. Members can start bringing in pieces.

Memphis Jewish Community Center

The club will be having a show at the Memphis Jewish Community Center (MJCC) in October. There will be new show going up at MJCC on April 26th and it will be up until May 4th. Anyone wanting to check out the venue should go during that time. President Speier will find out how many pieces will be accepted. Pieces will be chosen by drawing names.

Bartlett Request

Mary Lou Beauchamp has been contacted by the City of Bartlett to request that some Woodturners do a demonstration in the Historic District in May. The demo should show how turning used to be done.

Craig Lumber

Craig Lumber wants to have some kind of fair at their store in Collierville. This will be pursued. Keith Burns has more details.

Continued on pg 14

*Message from AAW
Board Member **Binh Pho***

I invite you to submit one of your best pieces to be auctioned at the AAW Symposium in Albuquerque this June. Proceeds from the auction go into the Educational Opportunity fund (EOG) and are used to provide educational grants to AAW members. We expect many major Collectors to participate in the auction this year so this is a great opportunity to get good exposure for your work. Each year, it is our goal to exceed the auction total from the year before. Donations of quality work and enthusiastic bidding allows us to achieve this goal.

This year, we will publicize your work on the AAW web site where we are creating a place for Collectors to preview the auction pieces. In addition, bidders who cannot be present at the auction will be able to submit a "sealed maximum bid" via the website so that an AAW staff member can bid on their behalf. To see the proposed website layout, go to;

<http://www.woodturner.org:80/sym/sym2009/auction/details/index.htm>

Artists donating work to the auction have a choice as to how much of the proceeds go to the EOG. They can designate that 100% or 50% go to the EOG with the remainder going back to the artist.

Your obligation would be to deliver the work to the symposium. A table at the Instant Gallery will be set up to accept your work. Please let me know if you are not able to bring it to Albuquerque yourself. I will furnish you with the shipping address where it will be held in a secure site until the symposium begins. Shipping fees would be the responsibility of the artist.

Please let me know as soon as possible if you will be participating in this project. Assuming that you will, send me up to three images of the piece (two views and one detail) along with a complete description. These will be used for posting the piece to the website. Your images and description are due as soon as possible but no later than May 30, 2009.

Image requirement: JPG format, at 72dpi resolution, with a file size of between 100k and 500k for each photo.

Information with the image: artists name and address, title of piece, dimensions, materials piece is made from, up to 100 words describing the artists and the piece, and a link to the artists' website if available.

Please let me know if you want to donate 100% or 50% of the auction proceeds to the AAW EOG.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Regards,

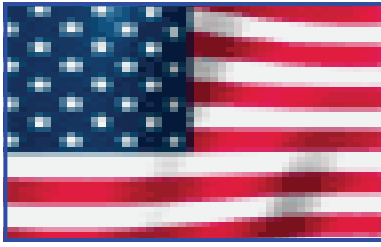
Binh

Editorial

As President of the Mid South Woodturners I encourage you to donate a piece of your work to the EOG Auction in Albuquerque and indicate that 100% of the proceeds go to the EOG. It is my understanding artist having the option of taking back a portion of the proceeds the EOG fund has dropped by almost half in two years. This is a case of "what goes around comes around." By allotting only 50% of the proceeds to the EOG the distribution of funds to the chapters from the EOG become smaller and our needs are not met. Should you have a desire to know more please don't hesitate to contact me at our general meeting.

Bob Speier

President / Mid South Woodturners Guild



In the month of May we remember those who have passed. Ed Freeman is just one of the many.



Captain, U.S. Army Company A, 229th Assault Helicopter Battalion, 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile)

You're a 19 year old kid. You're critically wounded, and dying in the jungle in the Ia Drang Valley , 11-14-1965, LZ X-ray, Vietnam . Your infantry unit is outnumbered 8 - 1, and the enemy fire is so intense, from 100 or 200 yards away, that your own Infantry Commander has ordered the MediVac helicopters to stop coming in. You're lying there, listening to the enemy machine guns, and you know you're not getting out. Your family is 1/2 way around the world, 12,000 miles away, and you'll never see them again. As the world starts to fade in and out, you know this is the day.

Then, over the machine gun noise, you faintly hear that sound of a helicopter, and you look up to see an un-armed Huey, but it doesn't seem real, because no Medi-Vac markings are on it.

Ed Freeman is coming for you. He's not Medi-Vac, so it's not his job, but he's flying his Huey down into the machine gun fire, after the Medi-Vacs were ordered not to come.

He's coming anyway. And he drops it in, and sits there in the machine gun fire, as they load 2 or 3 of you on board. Then he flies you up and out through the gunfire, to the Doctors and Nurses. And, he kept coming back.... 13 more times..... And took about 30 of you and your buddies out, who would never have gotten out. Medal of Honor Recipient, Ed Freeman,died last Wednesday at the age of 80, in Boise, IDMay God rest his soul.....

I bet you didn't hear about this hero's passing, but we sure were told a whole bunch about some hip-hop Coward beating the c... out of his "girlfriend"

**Medal of Honor Winner
Ed Freeman!**

Should you want to know more click on the link below and read about Ed W. Freeman

<http://daily.ignightly.msnbc.msn.com/archive/2007/07/11/265756.aspx>



Shop Talk

By Nancy Boatwright

ARROWMONT REVISITED

It had been almost seven years since my first woodturning class at Arrowmont. That week was a memorable one. I met some great people and the instructor, Myron Curtis, would be hard to beat. I was worried that I would be disappointed the second time around.

I arrived Sunday night just in time for dinner. In the middle of my meal I looked up to see Myron and his wife, Sue Barton. What a surprise! Turned out that he would be the faculty assistant in my class.

Class started Sunday night after the usual orientation. The class I registered for, Alan Leland's mini-lathe class, would have eight students. The instruction would concentrate on small hollow forms (ornaments are Alan's specialty) and lidded boxes. I was pumped! I was there to learn how to make lidded boxes and I was determined to master them.

First we all made a tool, which including turning the handle and grinding the steel. Spindle work is Myron's specialty. The first couple of days went smoothly then, I hit a mid-week slump. Everything was going wrong. I gouged all of my pieces with catches. I was so discouraged I was ready to pack up and go home. Then I remembered that I had gone through the same slump seven years earlier. With encouragement from Myron I went back to my lathe and produced some pieces with only a few flaws, hopefully, only ones that I would notice.

In the end, I accomplished what I had set out to accomplish, thanks to Alan and Myron. I finished a nice maple lidded box and started two more. I brought home an unfinished, green bowl. I am comfortable using a chuck now. The most valuable thing I came home with was a new confidence. And, of course, once again, I made some great friends.



Editor comments, so much can be learned by attending classes that are offered throughout the country. Beside, Its just fun to go; as Nancy says she met a lot of nice people with the same problems she was having.

Instant Gallery April 27, 2009

Back by popular demand the Instant Galley, from now on, honor those that participated in the gallery at our general meeting

Jim Tasant



Glen Alexander



Joan Kelly



Bill Covington



John Ginski



Keith Burns



Cliff & William Valentine
Demo June 13th

Matt Garner



Ray Tanner



Mike Maffitt



Terry Reynolds



**Welcome
New Members / Guests**

Don Chandler was introduced as the New Member for the April meeting, once again welcome Don. It's great to have the Chandler family back again.

Classifieds

Nancy Boatwright says "I have an HO scale model train layout, 4' x 8', with a custom built base that is free to a good home. Some buildings and greenery included. The catch is that whoever wants it must travel to Wayne County (she lives about 3 miles from Joel Benson) to get it. I can be reached at 581-6522 or jehlnp@bellsouth.net"

2009 Mid-South Perspective

MSWG members, please keep in mind the 2009 Mid-South Perspective. Squares of beautiful birdseye maple are available as the starting point for your creativity. Once you purchase your square for \$6 (which is simply the reimbursement for what Dennis Paullus paid on spec at the symposium in Richmond) there are no limits to what you may do. Traditional, functional, decorative, or sculptural....add, subtract, embellish, burn, dye, carve...express yourself! Bring in your finished work no later than the meeting June 13. If you cannot make the May or June meeting, please e-mail Joan Kelly (joan1kelly@aol.com) to arrange to submit your work.

Just a little Humor

THE BOTTLE OF WINE

For all of us who are married, were married, wish you were married, or wish you weren't married, this is something to smile about the next time you see a bottle of wine:

Sally was driving home from one of her business trips in Northern Arizona when she saw an elderly Navajo woman walking on the side of the road. As the trip was a long and quiet one, she stopped the car and asked the Navajo woman if she would like a ride. With a silent nod of thanks, the woman got into the car.

Resuming the journey, Sally tried in vain to make a bit of small talk with the Navajo woman. The old woman just sat silently, looking intently at everything she saw, studying every little detail, until she noticed a brown bag on the seat next to Sally.. 'Whats in bag?' asked the old woman. Sally looked down at the brown bag and said, 'It's a bottle of wine.. I got it for my husband.' The Navajo woman was silent for another moment or two. Then speaking with the quiet wisdom of an elder, she said:

"...Good trade " ...

Did you miss Larry Sefton's demonstration on turning a Wide Rim Bowl. If so your in luck, Larry submitted his handout to the Editor for publication in the Newsletter. Please take the time to notice the correct spelling of Graeme Priddle's name, oh well.

Wide Rim Bowl

Larry Sefton - Demo 4/25/2009

Wide Rim Bowl made from 8/4 (2") stock.

Bowl design taught to me by Graeme Priddle at JCCFS (noted New Zealand Woodturner).



Cut a round blank approximately 6.5" to 7" in diameter from 8/4 (2") wood. Determine top and glue a waste block on the bottom. Mount pieces by jamming between chuck jaws and a live center to turn the outside.



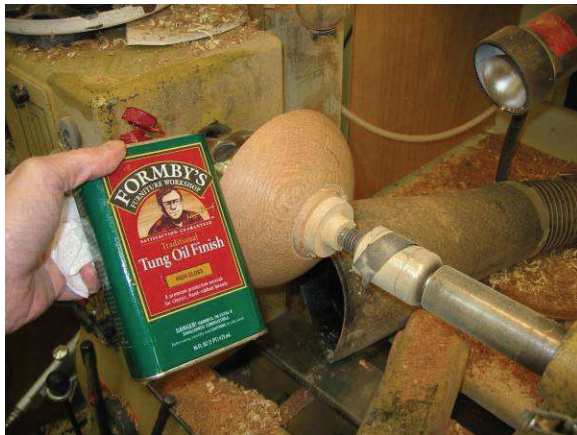
I added a waste block to save a small amount of my blank wood.



Rough turn the outside shape and turn a tenon



Turn a base to the depth of your wood burning brand. Cut a shallow groove between the base and the body because this aids in sanding and branding (future step).



After turning and sanding the outside, coat the surface with tung oil. I use gloss for the base coat and when 100% complete I use a final coat of low gloss.



Reverse the bowl and mount in chuck to hollow the inside. Draw two circles, the inside will be for the bowl and the outside circle for the rim.



Turn and sand the bowl. Cut a slight depression around the interior rim of the bowl to later texture and paint.



Sand top clean and flat without damaging the texture of the wood (this is just a rough sanding and not the finish sanding).



Once the bowl is shaped and sanded, hold it in lap to brand the hollow interior. Brand is a homemade spiral from nichrome wire.

Be carefully to overlaps the brands so they fill the surface and leave no gaps. Working from the rim down to the bottom of the bowl in concentric circles.



Use black acrylic paint and tooth brush paint the inside of the bowl. I like General's Black Milk Paint but have used acrylic paint and it works. The key is fast drying and thick so it does not soak into the wood.

I speedup drying with a hairdryer (but not too hot).



Reverse and chuck into Cole (Jumbo) Jaws. You can use other methods such as vacuum chuck, jam chuck, or other method.

Brand the bottom rim.

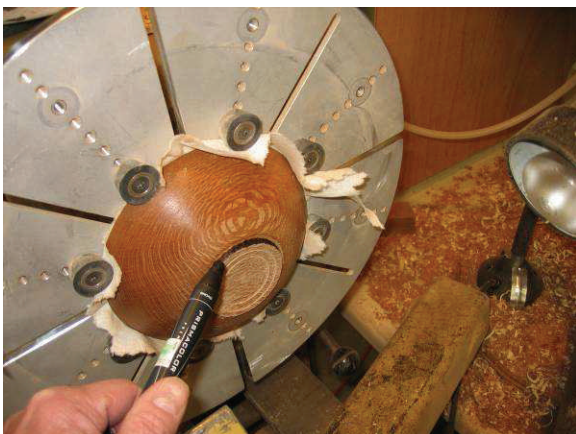
Turn the foot to final shape.



Brand the bottom rim.



Turn the foot to final shape.



Using a black marker such as Prismacolor® and blacken the rim. Sand the bottom for the last time cleaning up and marker on the bottom.

Finally treat the whole piece with more coats of tung oil. My last coat is low gloss. Reminder that the type wood, desired feel, and desired look will determine number of coats.

Flashback's

For those that didn't have the opportunity to attend the open house at the "Woodwork Shop" a good time was had all, especially the MSWG members. It looked more like a turning fest for those that did attend. Hats off to those that help with the demo's.



A deer in headlights



Glen making a coffee cup



The BOSS



Joan spending a gift certificate



Mr. Bill holding court



Tate Thomas

MSWG Minutes continued

Demo

Vice President Paullus introduced Larry Sefton who demonstrated burning and carving pieces. The demo included the use of French curves to visualize the curve of a bowl to avoid flat spots, and finishes for pieces.

Raffle

The monthly raffle was held after the demonstration.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy J. Boatwright

More of Emmett's work



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Happy Turning!
and do it often.