

Antelope Valley Woodturners Association



May 2010

Newsletter

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Newsletter of the Antelope Valley Woodturners' Association
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The next meeting will be at Corky & Dorine Lunceford's in Bear Valley, Tehachapi, on July 17th from 09:00 to noon. Dan Yost will demonstrate his method of turning finials

President's Message

By Bob Clark

I would like to thank the members that attended the May meeting. We had a great turnout and picked up a few new members. Mickey reported that we actually made a profit of \$24.20 at this year's Poppy Festival. Individually, many members made money selling their turnings as well. So, the Poppy Festival was a success! Mickey also offered suggestions on how to improve our booth lay-out next year in order to improve the customer traffic flow and improve sales. One idea was to use only one lathe and locate it in the back of the booth. This would encourage the public to walk in and see all the turnings that are for sale. Additionally, Mickey suggested that we have a member donate a turning to be raffled at the event. Both ideas were received well by members and it was agreed that we would propose these suggestions as lessons learned when planning the 2011 Poppy Festival display.



Great booth location!!!



Corky really had em mesmerized



Who is that mystery turner?



Bob letting the chips fly



Bruce being creative with Buckeye



Robert and Corky "resting"



Bruce and Charlie's display



Robert's pieces on display



Martin's pieces on display



Dan O's pieces on display

May Meeting and Demonstration

The May meeting and demonstration was held at Martin Littleton's shop where Martin turned a half square and half round bowl. It was a good example of what can be done with a little imagination, great job Martin.



As written by Bill Clark (from the Kern Wood turners club)

Woodturning Inspiration

By Bill Clark

On May 15th Martin Lenander and I attended the regular meeting of the Antelope Valley Woodturners meeting at Martin Littleton's shop. Neither of us had visited Martin's shop before and were curious as to where all of his outstanding pieces were made. As it turned out we were in for a special treat. Since we arrived early, Martin give us the complete inside-the-ropes "Huell Howser Tour." Martin has a good sized shop stuffed with all sorts of tools, jigs and an unbelievable number of rough turned bowls, vessels and hollow forms waiting to be finished. Once we were finished with the tour, we spotted one of the most beautiful and unusual turnings I have ever seen. Of course we knew Martin stands heads and shoulders above the rest of us in his turning skills, but this piece simply took the prize in my book. Martin had turned a perfect hollow 5" sphere out of buckeye. The sphere was separated in the middle to form two hollow sections. Two beads were turned at the joint. Hopefully he will bring this piece to out next show and tell.



By 9:00 AM the rest of the Antelope Valley Woodturners members had arrived, and we all gathered around for their show and tell and Martin's demo about how to turn a bowl emerging out of a block of wood.



Martin Lenander and I had a great day, met many new woodturners and were treated to a very interesting and well done demo. So, how does this all come under the title of "Woodturning Inspiration"? Well for me, attending other club meetings is always a treat. You meet other turners, who become friends and a great source of information. You get to see other turners' pieces at their show and tell table which gives you ideas and new techniques to try. Finally you see other turners demonstrating their skills. Whether the demo is done by a highly skilled turner, such as Martin Littleton, or an average turner, like many of the rest of us, I always learn

something new and valuable. If you're looking to build your skills or need some inspiration for new pieces, I recommend you attend other club meetings once in a while. The Antelope Valley Woodturners in Lancaster and Sequoia Woodturners in Fresno hold meetings on dates that don't conflict with our regular schedule. They are both great clubs with members anxious to share.

May Meeting Show and Tell



Martin's emerging bowl



Martin's Redwood H/F's with copper



Martin's Buckeye Sphere



Open view of the Buckeye sphere



Keith's natural edge Maple Burl



Martin's Apple natural edge



Dean's Oak Platter



Keith's Maple Burl bowl



Steve Moe's Jumbo bowl reversing jaws



Dan O's Buckeye Burl H/F

July Meeting & Demonstration

Our next meeting will be July 17th at Corky Lunceford's shop in Tehachapi's Bear Valley. This is also our annual pot-luck luncheon location. The weather is always nice and the food is delicious and plentiful. The AVWA will provide the Tri Tips and members are encouraged to bring their favorite dish. Dan will be sending out a reminder with driving directions, where to meet for car-pooling, and listing what food items members are bringing. This reminder will be sent about a week before the meeting. This meeting is a social event for members and spouses so come on up and enjoy a beautiful view of Bear Valley from Corky's and Dorine's home and an excellent lunch.

Alabaster Turning

On July 10th at 1:00 pm, the Glendale Woodturners' Guild will be presenting a half day demonstration by Dan Hogan on turning Alabaster. I have seen Dan's Alabaster turnings and they are fantastic. The fee is only \$5.00 and that covers the snacks. The event is at Crescenta Valley Park just off the 210 freeway. I plan on attending so if anyone is interested they can ride down with me. I plan on taking a dust mask. Anyone going should consider taking one as well.

Other Southern California Events

The Glendale Woodturners' Guild is having an all day demonstration for which I will send out an email for when sign-ups are available.

Keep Turning

Bob

Eli Avisera, August 8th



David Ellsworth, September 29th



Editors Notes

By Dan Yost

I plan on demonstrating the method I use to make finials and then having members try their hand at one. We plan on having 3 lathes so everyone who wants to learn how to turn a finial or show their method of doing one should be able to. There will be extra finial blanks for anyone to use but if you have a piece of wood lying about your shop that could be used bring it along with your tools that you would use to turn a small spindle which is basically what most finials are. Should you have a design you would like to try this is the time to give it a try. For beginners this will be a good time to get some one-on-one with one of our experienced members. Bring along any finials that you have made for a special show-and-tell so we can all learn of various techniques and designs.

Safety Section – Bandsaws

By Dan Oliphant

Without a doubt the bandsaw helps make the process of woodturning much more enjoyable, and saves on wear and tear that our wood lathes are subjected to. The bandsaw can also be one of the most dangerous pieces of equipment in our shop.

This section is being written by someone who nearly lost two fingers on my last blade encounter and has had several other unfortunate encounters with that meat cutter (must be a slow learner).

First of all, let me say that all of my encounters with the blade have been the result of not paying attention to where my hands were and not using push sticks when needed. When I cut my fingers off, I was in the process of making some bowl blanks. The plan for the day was to have 15 – 20 blanks ready for turning. I had templates ready for the various blank sizes and had a new blade on the bandsaw. The sawing proceeded well for the first 10 or so and because things were going so well, my mind started to wander to other topics. My left hand was rotating, and pushing the blank from the left side of the blade, the right hand was to the outside of the blank basically parallel to the blade. As a blank was being rotated, the blade encountered some pith, before I could react my left hand was in the blade, that fast. What did I do wrong? First off my left hand was in front of the blade, it should have been behind the blade if I wanted to hold the blank with both hands. Secondly a push stick could have been used rather than pushing with my left hand.

Rather than describe the other encounters, let me suggest that each of us needs to exercise as much caution as possible while operating the bandsaw (or any other piece of power equipment). Plan the cuts in advance, from start to finish before turning the bandsaw on. Know where your hands are going to be at all times and always keep your hands behind the blade.