



Hunt County Woodturners, Inc.

Volume 3, Issue 5

May 2008

Hunt County Woodturners, Inc.
Meeting: 2nd Thursday of each month, 7PM

Meeting Location:
Crestview Christian Church
5605 Wesley Street
Greenville, TX

Message from the President:



This past month has been a good month for the Club. I wish to thank Bob Lloyd of Bob's Roofing and Remodeling for donating \$500 toward our Freedom Pens Project. The Hunt County Woodturners participated in the Greenville Home and Garden Show and we held our Fundamentals of Turning Class. Also your President did not break his neck although I tried (see enclosed safety tip on page 5).

I thought the training class went better than expected. We had fifteen people attend. The trainees were Johnny Campbell, Sheryl Kendall, Guy Gosh, Henry Lee Grimes, Geraldine Grimes, Ray Shuman, Sam Thomason and Antonia Messina-Gates. The instructors were Clyde Marks, Joe Grimes, Dan Henry, Cliff Pryor, Pleas McKee and Bob Calvert. Yours truly was the Gopher. I expect to see some toothpick holders at the next show and tell.

The board would like to hear from the membership, we need your ideas for the next training class which may be held next quarter.

Now we need to turn our thoughts to the Hunt Country Fair. Fred Uphoff has the sign up sheet for volunteers to man the lathes each day. Also we need to be thinking about items for the displays. We'd like to see a lot of items that have not been entered before, but not necessarily made this year. We need to fill the display cabinets. The Fair Board has put the Hunt County Woodturners in charge of the Turned Art display this year so we need to make a good showing.

I need to mention the passing of Earnest Boney in April. He was a member and friend of the Club. Our sympathies go out to his family.

Mike Kizer, President

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HCW Calendar:

May meeting
Allan Tucker—Demo
Quarterly Challenge Due
Open Shop-- Clyde Marks
(See Clyde for directions)

June
Hunt County Fair
No Meeting

Hunt County Woodturners, Inc. is recognized by the United States Internal Revenue Service as a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. (Gifts to Hunt County Woodturners, Inc. are fully deductible for U.S. Income Tax purposes.)

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Woodturners, don't forget to check out **The American Association of Woodturners**. Hunt County Woodturners Inc. is a Chapter of this fine organization and each member should seriously consider becoming a member of AAW. The insurance protection alone is well worth the dues.

<http://www.woodturner.org>

**HCW Mission:**

Hunt County Woodturners, Inc. (a Texas non-profit corporation) also known as Hunt County Woodturners (HCW), is organized exclusively for educational purposes, and its mission is to educate woodturners and the public in and about the art and craft of woodturning. This mission is accomplished by encouraging and facilitating the establishment of training programs for woodturners; by disseminating information about sources of material and equipment; by exposing the art of woodturning to the public; and by serving as a center of information about woodturning for members, galleries, other interested groups, and the general public. Further, the Corporation is organized exclusively for educational purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Financial records are available for inspection upon request.

Contact Secretary at:

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UPCOMING EVENTS:

May 8, 2008
HCW Meeting
Demo - Allan Tucker
Quarterly Challenge Due

May 10, 2008
Open Shop: Clyde Marks

June 6 - 14, 2008
Hunt County Fair

June 20-22, 2008
AAW Symposium
Richmond, VA

July 10, 2008
HCW Meeting

July 12, 2008
Open Shop

August 14, 2008
HCW Meeting

August 16, 2008
Open Shop

September 11, 2008
HCW Meeting

September 12-14, 2008
Masters at Work
Beavers Bend State Park
Oklahoma

October 9, 2008
HCW Meeting

October 11, 2008
Open Shop

October 17 - 19, 2008
SWAT
Waco, Texas

November 13, 2008
HCW Meeting

November 15, 2008
Open Shop



Editors Notes:

We wish to thank Bob Lloyd of Bob's Roofing and Remodeling for his generous contribution to the Hunt County Woodturners in support of the Freedom Pens Project.

Thanks to Pleas Mckee for his demo on using the skew at the April meeting. You showed us how we can overcome the fear of the skew and use it as a proper tool.

The *Open Shop* for April was held at Mike Kizer's. We had a nice turn out, some of us were using our skewers and some were talking about using the skew. It still makes for a nice can opener. Thanks Mike for letting us use your shop.

We received quite a few comments and questions from our demonstration at the Keep Greenville Beautiful Garden Show. Many people are very amazed at what we are able to do with a piece of wood. We turned a various assortment of items. (Dan did those spheres dry out yet?)

Ok members, we are now into the month of May. That means we need your help next month at the Hunt County Fair. I will have the sign up sheet for working a shift at the meeting. Stop by and see me. Since the Hunt County Woodturners doesn't have a June meeting or open shop we hope everyone will volunteer to help at the fair. Let's show the community what we really do. Our main item to be turned will be the Freedom Pens.

Remember the Quarterly Challenge for the May meeting "*Something For The Yard*"

Board minutes: May 1, 2008

Old Business:

Hunt County Fair:

Dan Henry reported that May 27, 2008 between 2 PM and 7 PM will be the check in times for wood turning entries at the fairgrounds. Each item entered will cost \$0.50. The fair runs from June 6-14, 2008. Items can be picked up after the fair on June 16-17, 2008 from 4 PM- 7 PM each day. We still need members to sign up for a work shift at the HCW booth to turn Freedom Pens.

Audio/ Visual EOG Grant:

Clyde Marks reported that the audio/ visual equipment is nearly all acquired and that he and Dan Henry are also constructing a new gantry system to hold the camera and lights above the lathe. Some of the new items will be in use at this month's meeting.

Training Class:

The training class held on April 26, 2008 was attended by 15 people. Trainees each turned a toothpick dispenser and gained confidence in their turning skills. Mike Kizer hoped that we could hold another class next quarter with a new project.

New Business:

Demonstrations:

Allan Tucker will be our demonstrator for May and will talk about Design, Shape, Form and Proportion as it pertains to wood turning.

Open Shop Theme:

The May theme will be pen turning techniques and pen finishes to be held at Clyde Marks shop on May 10. He says that he'll be serving hot dogs.

AAW Newsletter:

Fred Uphoff reported that HCW did not make the final 3 in the AAW Club Newsletter competition.

Freedom Pens:

Bob Calvert moved and Sheryl Kendall seconded to get 250 additional Pen kits for the Freedom Pens Project. Motion passed. Mike Kizer will check various suppliers on the best price.

Training Video Operators:

Clyde Marks is recruiting help for the training of video operators at the SWAT meetings in October. Anyone interested in learning the new system should contact Clyde. Fred Groves informed the board that clubs who staff the rooms will receive additional raffle tickets for drawings at SWAT.

Quarterly Club Challenge for August:

The Board decided that the Quarterly Challenge for August 14, 2008 will be a *Lidded Box* whose dimensions cannot exceed 5 inches by 5 inches.

Equipment Purchase:

Bob Calvert moved and Fred Uphoff seconded that the club purchase a vari-grind jig and new shop vacuum. Motion passed. Dan Henry would check prices and get the items.

No further business, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by: Fred Uphoff, Secretary



Lathe Tip

Remember back in January I said that I wanted to help the newer turners gain a little knowledge in this craft we call wood turning. I have briefly touched on lathes and tools needed to do turning. By now the new turner has busted the budget on that new lathe, has a bench full of dull tools and not a bowl in sight. Lucky for them your newsletter editor has just the article this month, turning a grinder into a sharpener. This isn't going to appeal to those members who already have one of the top of the line systems, so to those members just skip this page. I hope that one of those members would do a future article on their experiences with their systems.

For the beginner wood turner and also for many long time users of a wood turning lathe, sharpening is a mystery. Sharp tools make for great shavings, smoother surfaces off the tool, less sanding and more fun. Turning wood with a dull tool makes turning hard work and creates lots and lots of sanding.

First of all, what is sharpening? It is not all those honing stones and sandpaper setups that the wood carvers and other wood workers use. A well tuned hand plane needs a finely honed blade to bring up a good shaving. Many of us are going to sharpen our plane or hand chisel with a 1000 grit water stone or better and then guard that edge. That super fine edge simply will not last for us on the wood lathe. There are some who hone and strop a wood turning tool and claim that it out turns and out lasts a ground edge. I'm going to leave that argument alone because I feel if one cannot sharpen the tool correctly, honing won't help. We generally are turning a log that still has the bark on and other debris mixed in, just waiting for a nice sharp tool edge. That stuff heard a wood turner was trying to create a one of a kind item. A dulled edge needs to be sharpened quickly and then get back to the lathe.

The tool of choice for sharpening wood turning tools is the typical mass produced grinder, having two coarse gray carborundum wheels totally unsuited for sharpening our high speed steel tools. Oh yes, I almost forgot about those little useless

grinding tables or ledges that are also included. Remember that empty budget, one of these grinders can be found quite reasonably at garage sales, just make sure it still runs. Now we need to start to think of this tool as a sharpener, not a grinder and set it up for the turner.

Start by removing the little tables, these will be replaced with store bought or homemade ones that work. Next if the budget is really tight remove the wheel that is the coarsest grit. I said we are doing this cheaply. The other wheel is left on for rough grinding of tool edges to bring them back to rough shape after hitting embedded metal and getting chipped. The wheel we remove is replaced with a wheel that turns our machine from a grinder to a sharpener. We do need to buy this item and it won't be from the big box home centers. It will be an aluminum oxide wheel of appropriate diameter depending on what size grinder you have gotten. Colors may vary. White is supposedly the best for wood turners as we use high speed steel (HSS) in our tools. White cuts the HSS well, and runs cool. Actually, the color has little to do with aluminum oxide. It is a coloring system that lets the manufacturer see what bonding agent has been used in making the wheel. White wheels have a very friable, or easily wearing binding agent. This allows the aluminum oxide to wear quickly which gives a cooler, cleaner wheel, but also wears quickly. This means the wheel may need to be dressed more often for wear but less for dirt. Wheels are seldom perfectly round. They need to be dressed with either a diamond dresser such as a diamond point in a steel rod or a star wheel dresser. The diamond point dresser requires a jig while the star wheel does not.

We still need to address the tool rest issue. Several options are available, one can make their own or purchase a complete system. Which way to go Wolverine or True-Grind jig or get that piece of plywood and make my own, decisions, decisions. Guess it's time to check with the financial adviser and see if we can loosen the purse strings. I think I hear Old Abe singing *Turn Me Loose, Turn Me Loose*.

The ability to produce a sharp edge on a tool is a very important aspect of turning. Unfortunately there isn't a uniform method in sharpening, every turner develops their own style. Many turners find sharpening on the grinding wheel difficult. The problem is in achieving a well formed bevel without burning the tool. Take the time to watch other turners sharpen tools, either at demonstrations or on videos, one will quickly see there are some very different methods used. Remove the least amount of metal necessary, as David Ellsworth likes to say, "Don't Grind the Tool, Dress the Bevel."

I wish to inform all members that at each club meeting at 6:00 PM we have set up a lathe and grinder. If you have questions or problems with sharpening come early, bring the tools and someone will be on hand to assist and show you how it's done. I realize that this article doesn't have all of the fancy pictures or all the various angles that can be ground on the tools. My intent was to bring about a discussion on what a new turner needs to sharpen tools or what can be added to the Wish List. Besides, all one has to do is search the internet, there are 1000's of pages pertaining to sharpening lathe tools. There are books dedicated to showing the reader how to sharpen. Most of those are more qualified than I am and some have very nice videos to boot.

I know some member is going to ask me the cost of the system in the article versus purchasing a new and complete one. Please note that this is only for a 2 wheel dry grind system. My figures may be different from yours, but here goes:

1 used grinder, 1 Aluminum Oxide wheel, some plywood scrapes and about 3 hours labor (no charge) = \$55 to \$65

A new system would consist of: 1 New 8" Slow Speed Grinder and the Wolverine System with all attachments = \$310 One may be able to watch and wait for sales and save 10-25% maybe a little more.

Submitted by:
Fred Uphoff, Newsletter Editor

Happenings

An additional item regarding the Lathe Tip

I'm including one item that is very important before installing grinding wheels.

Grinding Wheel Ring Test:

Before installing a new wheel on your grinder, you should perform the "ring test". To do this, support the wheel on a dowel, or pencil through the mounting hole. Your finger will work too. Then tap the wheel in four places at the 1:30, 4:30, 7:30 and 10:30 positions (45 degrees each side of vertical through the hub, both below and above the center line), about 1" in from the edge of the wheel. Then rotate the wheel 45 degrees and repeat the test again for a total of eight taps. To perform the ring test, wheels should be tapped gently with a light nonmetallic implement, such as the handle of a screw driver for light wheels, or a wooden mallet for heavier wheels. A sound and undamaged wheel will give a clear tone. If cracked, there will be a dead sound and not a clear ring and the wheel shall not be used. Wheels must be dry and free of sawdust when applying the ring test otherwise the sound may be deadened.

This information was found at the following web site:
<http://www.nortonabrasives.com/industrial/safety/ringtest.asp>

Safety tip:

My grandmother always told me "hast makes waste" I realized the true meaning on the 18th of April. My wife was going to town, it was too wet to work in the yard and I was caught up on my "honey do list". I was going to have several hours of uninterrupted time in the shop. I was well on my way to making a toothpick holder from a piece of holly I had just gotten from deep east Texas. While turning I thought of a piece of cherry wood I have up on top of a shelf in the other room of my shop. It would look great for the knob. At the end of the shelf, I had an aluminum ladder up against the wall. The ladder was leaning maybe 10 degrees out. I kicked a small stool out of my way and bounded up the ladder. On the third step I leaned out

for the piece of cherry and lost my balance on the upright ladder. As I started falling backwards I stepped out for the floor and stepped on the step stool I had moved previously. The results were my feet went up, my head landed first on the concrete and then I came down across the step stool on my back. At least I think this is what happened, I am not real sure, I know it hurt. Luck would have it I had my cell phone with me. After a time I was able to call my wife and tell her to come get me. Of course all the way to hospital I had to hear how I should have called an ambulance. I have some good news, the ladder not the concrete was hurt. All joking aside I was very lucky not to have broken any bones or suffered any permanent damage. The doctor did say I would be sore for a couple of weeks. Boy was he right.

When using ladders they should be at an angle of from 25 to 45 degree well supported at both top and bottom. An area around the ladder should be clear of other objects. And this last one is about everything you do in the shop, think about what you are doing and never get in a hurry.

Submitted by: Mike Kizer

Editors note: Craig Fyock also sustained an injury in April requiring 18 stitches. We can never be too careful.

In Remembrance



The Hunt County Woodturners notes the loss of a member and dear friend, Earnest Boney, who passed away in April. Our sympathies go out to his family. He will be fondly remembered and sorely missed.

SouthWest Association of Turners

This year the woodturning symposium will be held October 17-19, 2008 in Waco, Texas at the [Waco Convention Center](#), and will feature seven outstanding national/international lead demonstrators, an excellent regional lead demonstrator and a number of local demonstrators, who promise to thoroughly engage you.

Lead Turners:

Art Liestman, Betty Scarpino,
 Binh D Pho, Donald Derry,
 Mark St. Leger, Matthew Hill

Trent Bosch

Show and Tell



Bob Lloyd of Bob's Roofing and Remodeling presenting \$500 for the Freedom Pens Project (Dan Henry accepting)
 Thanks Bob



Check out our Web Site. You'll find many new and interesting areas. Coming soon there will be a members only area. Johnny Campbell is really getting this site unique.

Safety Tip:

Remember that accidents are waiting to happen. They always seem to occur when we least expect them. Be aware of your surroundings. Take nothing for granted.



FREEDOM PENS SPONSOR

Bob's Roofing & Remodeling Inc.



Membership in HCW, Inc. entitles you to discounts on selected items at the following fine businesses:

**Wood World, 13650 TI Blvd. Dallas, TX
(972) 669-9130**

**Rockler Woodworking, 18661 I635, Mesquite, TX
(972) 613-8848**

**Craft Supplies USA, www.woodturnerscatalog.com
(800) 551-8876**

**Klingspor's Woodworking Shop, Hickory, NC
(800) 228-0000, ask for discount**

**Hartville Tool, www.hartvilletool.com
(800) 345-2396**

**Join the fun, become a member today
Hunt County Woodturners, Inc.**

Membership is renewable annually for a calendar year, and covers individual and family **at the same address**. The membership cost is \$30.00. Please pay at the meeting, or an application form may be downloaded from our website and sent along with the appropriate remittance to:

**Hunt County Woodturners, Inc
Sheryl Kendall, Treasurer
3321 Eastland St.
Greenville, TX 75402**

Dues are prorated for new members

Hunt County Woodturners, Inc. is recognized by the United States Internal Revenue Service as a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. (Gifts to Hunt County Woodturners, Inc. are fully deductible for U.S. Income Tax purposes.)