

# DEL VAL NEWSLETTER

The Newsletter of the Del Val Woodturner's  
May 9, 2006

The monthly meeting was held on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m., which was May 9, 2006. We had 17 members present, plus a husband and wife, Alice and Gary Rosler who were interested in woodturning. We also had a tree surgeon attend the meeting who is interested in giving wood away to our club members. Mike Zickler graciously accepted the task to organize a club outing to collect wood at the tree surgeon's facility. Mike will announce a date, time and location for an outing in the near future.

Keith Davies had a graph showing the visits that we have had on our Web-Site. He also asked for pictures and autobiographies of our club members. Send any photos, and information to [info@del-val-turners.com](mailto:info@del-val-turners.com). We also need pictures for our Bulletin Board in our meeting room. Just bring in the pictures when you come to the meeting.

Phil's "Open House" will be canceled this month, due to his busy schedule. Phil will not be coming to the June meeting. He is going to the Utah Symposium, and Steve Leichner, one of our Vice-President's will be conducting the meeting. Steve will also demo the Beall Buffing System at the June meeting. The topic for discussion, will be: Homemade, or unusual tools that you use. Bring in the tools along with your "Show and Tell". Also, bring your best as well as your worst piece for the regular show and tell.

The Summer Club Challenge was discussed. The challenge is a turning made from a single 2" X 4" X 8' construction lumber stud. In addition to the 2x4, you may use another wood or another material to facilitate the glue up and decorative value of your lumber. You may not use more than a board foot of another material. We do not have any regularly scheduled meetings for July and August. The Challenge piece is due for the September meeting. We have plenty of time, but don't put it off too long, or we may forget to turn the Challenge piece.

Rich De Candia, suggested that we have a "Classified Section" in the Newsletter. It would be a Buy, Trade, or Sell type section. If you have anything to put in this section, either tell me at the meeting, or E-Mail me at: [fdhart@comcast.net](mailto:fdhart@comcast.net) with the information. To start the ball rolling, Rich is interested in acquiring another lathe. [Deca3@verizon.net](mailto:Deca3@verizon.net) This information, could also be included in our Web-Site. [info@del-val-turners.com](mailto:info@del-val-turners.com).

Our "Show and Tell" was nice as usual. Mike Zickler had a candle stick holder that was inspired by our recent video showing of Rude Osolnik and his work. Mike felt that even though it was a simple design, it was quite a skill builder to turn the piece. Andy DiPietro had a very nice hollow vessel from Walnut. The shape was just the way you would want your own piece to look, and it was finished very well. He also had a

mini vase that was just right for tooth picks. I had three bowls that I had turned ten years ago and allowed to dry. I finished them, as they were needed for gifts. Oiled with Watco Oil, and buffed when dry. Rich De Candia had two nice light natural edged bowls from Sassafras. Rich recently took a Workshop with Phil, and obviously did very well. Robert Jay had two cherry vessels. One had left the lathe abruptly, but Robert also carves, and was able to make a sculpted piece from it. The other one was just what he was looking for, and he is now hooked on hollowing.

Our demonstrator for the evening was Barry Gross. Barry is really into pens. He has authored two books. One is "Learn to Turn", and the other one is "Pen Turner's Workbook". I don't think Barry has any "plain" pens. They are all spectacular. Barry shows how to use the turning tools to the best advantage while shaping the pen parts. Barry is particularly adept with the "dreaded" skew.

One of the pens that Barry turned was from three different species of wood, and then cut with a thin kerf saw and each turned a part of a turn, then glued together on the pen tube. He uses a 1/16" thin kerf 7" diameter Diablo saw blade from Home Depot. The pieces are all numbered so that they will go together correctly. This makes an interesting and beautiful pen, and the possibilities are endless. The other pen that Barry demonstrated was a "road kill" rattlesnake skin that he buys already wrapped on the pen blank, and then covered with Acrylic. The Acrylic is square, and will chip a little bit until it is round. Once it is round, the ribbons form, and have to be removed, so that you can continue. This also makes a very beautiful pen.

Barry demonstrated the use of the "pen press". This device makes the pen much easier to put together than just using a regular vise, or clamp. Barry definitely knows how to turn pens, and answered all of our questions on the subject.

One of the nice things about Barry's demo, is the fact that he was kind enough to bring along many items that woodturners are anxious to purchase. He had the two books that he authored. Sand paper of all grits imaginable, Super Glue, Accelerator, EEE polish, adjustable pen mandrels, pen presses, just to name a few. Barry is a very knowledgeable demonstrator, and I think that we will see some pens in our future "Show and Tell". Thanks for a great job Barry.

Our next meeting will be held on June 13, 2006. I'll be in Utah along with Phil, and I'll need someone to take notes and attendance for me. Anyone interested, please E-Mail me at: [fdhart@comcast.net](mailto:fdhart@comcast.net)