

DEL VAL WOODTURNERS

Newsletter

The Del Val Woodturners meeting was held Monday, March 14, 2005. The meeting was held in Hainesport, NJ, in Phil Hauser's Studio. There were 18 members in attendance.

Phil Hauser's Open House turning session would have normally been March 15, 2005. Since this would have been the very next night, it has been postponed one week to Tuesday, March 22, 2005.

Jean Sumner was our demonstrator and did a great job. Jean is a member of the International Wood Collectors Society, the American Association of Woodturners, and is a demonstrator at the Sugarloaf Mountain Works craft festivals in Maryland, Virginia and New Jersey.

Jean turned a natural edged bowl, and showed how she holds her piece glued to a waste-block with CA glue and turns the bottom of the bowl from the headstock end of the lathe. This gives her the opportunity to turn the entire bowl without re-chucking the piece. She also cores out with a Dennis Stewart Slicer if the piece is big enough. She is a production turner and saves as many steps as possible. The bowls are sanded and finished while they are still wet and allowed to warp as they dry. Sometimes they are dried with a hair dryer to keep the sand paper from clogging up. Jean explained each step of the way, in such a way that new turners could follow, and the experienced turners were not bored. It was a very good demonstration. I'm sure that there will be some natural edged bowls in our next show and tell.





Don't forget the club challenge for our next meeting on Tuesday April 12, in Philly. There will be 3 categories:

Novice - A turner who has been turning less than 12 months.

Intermediate - A turner who has turned less than 3 years.

Advanced - A turner who has turned more than 3 years.

The challenge for novice turners is to turn a tool handle for a bowl gouge or a tool of similar size, finished with ferrule, hole drilled in the center ready to accept the intended tool, sanded and finished, ready to go.

The challenge for the intermediate turner is to make a scoop that is usable in the kitchen for things like rice, peanuts or other dry food items that could be moved with a scoop.

The project for the advanced turner is a lidded box or vessel. Emphasis will be placed on design, looks, usability and workmanship.

Bring your pieces to the next meeting, and be prepared to show and tell about it before it is entered into the competition.

In addition to the club challenge, James Aguanno will make a presentation about drying your turned bowl after it comes off the lathe. A very important step in the overall process that will determine if you have a good piece or a cracked bowl.

We had a good turnout at the last meeting. Let's do even better for the next meeting. Bring your pieces along with your ideas and let's keep our club on track with plenty of member participation.

Don Hart