

DEL VAL NEWSLETTER

The Newsletter of the Del Val Woodturner's March 13, 2007

The monthly meeting was held on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m., which was March 13, 2007. We had a nice crowd, due to the fact that Don Derry was our demonstrator.

Keith Davies gave a little talk about how our Web-Site was doing. If you take any pictures of the pieces in the Perkins Gallery, kindly send them to Keith or Phil, so that they can be put on the Web-Site.

The Yankee Woodturning Symposium is scheduled for June 1, thru June 3, in Middletown CT. The Utah Woodturning Symposium is scheduled for June 21, thru June 23. Craft Supplies has a "Super Wednesday" on June 20, which has free demonstrations all day, and many items on Sale.

Our Treasurer, Herb Kurtz, who started our club on January 28, 2002, gave the Treasurer's report. We now have over \$1200. in the treasury.

Our club members have many pieces in the Perkins Gallery, which opened on March 10, 2007. So far 17 pieces have sold.

Members who are interested in our "Hands On Workshop" should call the instructor they are interested in, or call Mike Zickler.

We now have a club Library. If you want to see what "More Woodturning", "Woodturning Design", or "Woodturning", (from England), look like, get in touch with Robert Jay, our Librarian. Robert also has books and videos to rent to club members.

"Show and Tell" was a bit slim, since we wanted to spend most of our time watching Don's demo. Hill brought in a professional looking grinding jig that works very similar to the Wolverine jig. Steve brought in a cross-section of Sugar Maple, that had some metal in it and caused his chain saw to be re-sharpened. Andy had a Mulberry hollow form that was stained by metal imbedded in the wood nearby. He also brought in a Sugar Maple hollow vessel made from a crotch piece.

REMINDER. The collaborative pieces are due next month on April 10th.

Don Derry was our demonstrator, as stated earlier. Don has been in the area for a few days, and had already done a demonstration at Phil's. Some of the members had been fortunate enough to make the demonstration, and were back for more. Don encourages turners to use some of the "production turners" tricks, that will enable you to

spend more time turning and less time measuring, etc. When using cheap wood, Don guesses at the center, because he feels that the value is “in our hands”, not the wood.

When making finials (icicles), Don starts the piece between canters, and puts a tenon on the piece 7/8 dia. He then puts the tenon in the chuck, and still uses the tail stock to steady the piece. Don uses a roughing gouge to work the piece down to about 1/8 dia. Don says the secret is in the roughly 30 degree angle on the gouge. (He didn't mention experience). But it did work very well for Don. He then “plunges with confidence” as he parts the piece from the tailstock. He undercuts the piece quite a bit to keep it light, when parting off from the chuck. The same method is used for the finial. Don also makes a small glue well with a thin tool to keep the glue from getting on the outside of the piece when you put it together. The thin tool is made from a .035 band saw blade.

The hollow part of the ornament is shaped like a bagel, or a donut, not a sphere. You can teach yourself to check the wall thickness with your thumb and finger as you hollow. When the wall gets thin Don holds his fingers on the outside of the globe and can feel the cutter through the wood.

Don makes his own hollowing tools, and also the thin parting tools which were offered for sale to anyone interested.

Don did a great job in just a couple of hours, but we are already hoping for a “return engagement”. We hope it's soon Don. **Thanks for a great demo.**