



First Cuts



The Monthly Newsletter of the First State Woodturners

November, 2007

Presidents Message

By Jeff Turi

Wow! Many thanks to Tom Sloan who volunteered to create a club newsletter with a whole new look and content. EXCELLENT JOB!

Remember, since this is the club's newsletter, please feel free to send Tom ideas for articles. Have you tried a great tool recently? Then write-up a review. Been to a great demo? Send in new ideas. His email is: sloantc@earthlink.net

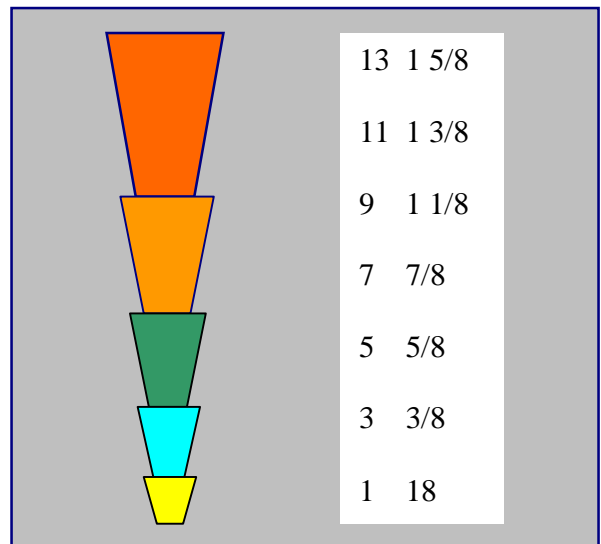
We should use this new outlet as a great communication tool for members of our club and to relay ideas to other clubs.

Of course, I would like to thank Don Hart who has been writing our club newsletter for the past 3 years.

DESIGN CORNER

Mike Adams raised the question. How do you make the finial look "pleasing to the eye", as it gets progressively smaller in diameter, and the beads and or coves get smaller? Some of us "eyeball it", and some use the "golden mean". Mike researched the question and found a solution in an art book which described the process as a series of odd numbers that is used to increment each element as it gets progressively smaller. This is a way of using the "golden mean" without a lot of calculating.

Anyone who missed the meeting, or didn't understand how it works, I am sure Mike will be glad to explain. His method is definitely worth studying. Thanks Mike.



Member Masterpieces

Gerry Meekins had some unusual mushrooms". Turned from Bradford Pear the mushrooms display a portion of bark on the edges with thin caps.



Gerry also had a very nice box made from Cherry & Walnut. The box had some nice textured lines on the lid made with a Dremel tool and a diamond bit as shown by Ed Kelly.

Tom Wysocki had two ornaments to display. One was made from different wood species, and the other was made from a sea urchin with wood finial and icicle.



Frank Joseph produced a box with a very unusual top. The finial was a feature discussed in the fall issue of American Woodturner. The wood species is walnut.



Program

Our program for the night was a “turn-a-thon”, where members were encouraged to bring wood and tools to either instruct, or be instructed on various phases of woodturning. I didn’t see everything that was going on, but did notice that Jim Glanden was practicing making eggs with a skew chisel. Jim seemed to be doing very well, and I’m sure that in some of the future “show and tell” sessions, we will see some eggs. Frank Joseph had a piece that he was helping Tony to make some different cuts. Clem was doing a bit of instructing on another lathe. Tim Sabo, who also teaches woodturning, was making a bottle stopper from a piece of wood that turned out to be cracked almost all of the way through. Even though the quality of the wood wasn’t that great, the effort demonstrated how to handle problems. I spent some time demonstrating the grinding process for a bowl gouge which had developed large wings and a small tip. Sharpening is one of the things that can be very difficult. A recommended resource is the article in the American Woodturner magazine by Kirk DeHeer from Utah who has a very simple solution to sharpening bowl gouges and spindle gouges.

If you can locate it, it will simplify gouge sharpening tremendously. *(Anyone who has a copy who can bring it to the next meeting, I am sure a number of the newer members would like to read it.)*

Chapter Challenge

DECEMBER – XMAS ORNAMENTS!!!

Bring in your best ornaments and show them off in our contest. Gift cards to Woodcraft will be given out to those pieces garnering the most votes.



Coming Events

Our next meeting is **December 5, 2007**. Bring in your ornaments for our annual contest and bring an appetite as we will have a great meal (as we usually do) for our December meeting

Future Meeting Dates

January 9, 2008
February 6, 2008
March 5, 2008

Topics are TBD at this time.

AAW Challenge Meeting
November 24, 2008
1 PM Woodcraft Store