

SEPTEMBER 2004



A Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners

Next Meeting: SEPTEMBER 30

Regular Meeting: 7:00 – 9:15pm

R.D. Evans Recreational Center

3200 Lackland Rd., Ft. Worth

Meeting will feature: John Horn

**** Bring something to the Instant Gallery ****

Demonstrator: John Horn

Since John Horn is a professional Santa Claus and the programs at this time of the year are going to emphasize turnings that could be given as gifts during the Holiday Season, it seemed appropriate for him demonstrate how to make a Santa Claus Nutcracker. This project is modeled after the article that Bonnie Klein wrote for the December 1997 American Woodturner.

Making a Santa Claus Nutcracker or any other style of nutcracker is basically a simple spindle turning project that a beginning turner could accomplish without technical turning problems. The Santa Claus Nutcracker can be produced with a minimum of tools on any size of lathe from the Klein lathe to any larger one. The nutcracker should be a hit with family, and friends. It should also sell well at craft shows.

How well we spell...

Not using the "spell check" feature on one's computer can sometimes lead to enlightenment.

A recent e-mail in which **woodcarving** was incorrectly spelled as **woodcraving** was intercepted by Dr. Larry Genender (did I spell that right?)

Here is Larry's response:

"For your information, woodcraving is a recently discovered medical condition, brought on by prolonged absence from one's woodshop. It is characterized by periodic episodes of irritability, insomnia and the absence of wood chips in the patient's clothes and shoes. Not to be confused with woodcarving, which is defined as woodworking without a lathe".

Making Good Shavings

Come on some cool fall weather! Let's open those shop doors and do some serious turning! There are lots of activities coming up in the next few months and lots of good reasons to start making shavings. Jazz by the Boulevard (September 17&18) followed by the 2004 SWAT Symposium (October 1-3). Several members have started to make toys for Christmas and it is not too early to start making a few extra bowls for the Food Bank's "Empty Bowl" charity early next year. And don't forget our Holiday Banquet coming up December 11 because you can donate some special items for the auction which is an important fund raiser for the chapter.

In the midst of all this activity we have our election of 2005 officers. The nominating committee has been at work and has developed a slate of candidates that will be presented at our September meeting. Also, any member may make a nomination from the floor at that meeting. A vote will be held at the October meeting.

Thanks to the 2004 nominating committee (Larry Denning, Larry Roberts and Fred Denke) for their work in drafting the slate of nominees. This can be a thankless job. You probably won't believe this but not every member is willing to serve as an officer.

I hope that you have planned to go to the SWAT Symposium this year. There will be some great demos and as many vendors as could be packed into the convention center. You can still register and go but the deadline for purchasing banquet tickets has passed. There will be just a few banquet tickets available at the symposium. But don't worry, you can still participate in the 2-for-1 auction even if you don't attend the banquet. Get more information at www.swaturners.com. Hope to see you there.

Paul Tiefel

Tip of the Month

I was talking to John Horn a few days ago about turning tips we could include in the newsletter each month and later I received my Fall 2004 issue of *American Woodturner*, which is the quarterly Journal of the American Association of Woodturners. After browsing the journal for a few minutes it became clear that the very best *tip* I could offer would be for members to join the AAW. Yearly dues are only \$35 and includes a subscription to *American Woodturner*. Take a look at this Fall's issue and see the "how-to" description on making Christmas bulbs that do not need electricity, pp39 and the beautiful Icicle Ornaments, pp28, both of which are great gifts as well as sale items. The "Journal" helps you converse more easily with the more advanced woodturners on current topics and techniques. It takes away that awkward feeling you get when you are hanging with a group of turners talking about things you have never heard about.

Here's some trivia I learned from the journal: At the Jazz Festival last week I was selling my *Magic Wands* and explaining how the magic essence was included into each wand and was very impressed with myself. After reading the *Journal* I realized that my *Most Magic Wand* was actually my *Bowl Gouge*.

Walter Barrett

Bring Back Winners from Last Month

James Haynes, Bob Lewis, Lynn Blanchard, Walter Barrett, Larry Roberts 2, Ken Diehl, Larry Denning, Fred Denke, Maurice McLeod

Holiday Banquet Auction Items

We have our Holiday Banquet coming up on Saturday, December 11th. One of the things that always makes the Banquet exciting is the auction of donated pieces. For those new members, and those of us that are older with short memories, members donate some of their turnings and we have an old fashioned auction of those pieces as part of our entertainment. If you have a turning you would like to donate, just bring those to a meeting (October, November or to the Banquet), and we will see how much money we can raise. All of the funds go into our General Budget for next year and allow us to put on better demonstrations, get more people involved in turning and invest in equipment for the club. Our banquet last year raised \$2422.00 from the turned items donated by the members!

Trailer Vote

WNT needs a covered trailer since we are moving all of our equipment in and out of our monthly meeting venue. The cost of such an item requires that the WNT membership approve the purchase. The WNT board of directors voted to bring a resolution to the membership to purchase a covered trailer at a cost not to exceed \$3000. At the September monthly meeting, we will hold a short business session to vote on this resolution. The ideal trailer would be: good condition, fully covered with about a 6'x12' box, interior height about 6', dual axle, good tongue jack, minimum 2500# load capacity, lockable or removable hitch, 2 safety chains, trailer brakes or a surge brake, drop down ramp in rear, good tires and functioning lights. I said that this is the "ideal trailer". Obviously we can accept something less if we can fix it up and the price is right. If anyone knows of a trailer for sale that you think would work, please let me know.

Paul Tiefel

Wanted: Toy Project Coordinator

For a number of years WNT has made toys for kids in need. In recent years we have made VW style cars mostly but there are no predetermined goals. This is a very worthwhile project but it needs coordinator to bring it together. With the help of other members, the coordinator organizes work days, gets the needed materials and identifies recipients. **We really need a member to serve as coordinator for 2004.** This is a very rewarding activity and you will have a lot of help from other members. If you are interested in serving as coordinator for the toy project or have any questions about this activity, please contact me at 817-939-8812 or wptiefel@prodigy.net.

Paul Tiefel

Library Notice

Our annual inventory check of books and videos is being conducted this month, therefore we need to have all checked materials returned this month.

Calendar of Events

<p>Oct 5 Board Meeting at Olive Garden – Bedford Eules Rd. Eat at 6pm – Meeting at 7pm</p>	<p>Oct 28 Regular Monthly Meeting R.D. Evans Rec. Center 7pm Demo: to be announced</p>
<p>Oct 1-3 Southwest Assoc. Of Turners. 13th Annual Symposium Mayborn Convention Center 3303 North Third St. Temple, TX www.swaturners.com</p>	<p>Dec 11 Holliday Banquet R.D. Evans Rec.Center See next month news for details.</p>

Board of Directors

<p><u>President – Paul Tiefel</u> Home phone 817-379-9533 <u>Vice President – Mike Jones</u> Home Phone 817-279-0920 <u>Treasurer - James Haynes</u> Home Phone 972-223-3171 <u>Librarian - Ken Diehl</u> Home Phone 817-581-6595</p>	<p><u>Activities – Lynn Blanchard</u> Home Phone 214-544-1972 <u>Newsletter - Walter Barrett</u> Home Phone 817-737-8480 <u>Secretary – Linda Gryfon</u> Home Phone 817-295-9764 WNT WEB SITE: www.woodturnersofnorthtexas.org</p>
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