



First Cuts



The Monthly Newsletter of the First State Woodturners

January, 2009

Presidents Message

By Jeff Turi

The 2009 year is off to a great start. The January demo by Barry Gross was terrific. I never knew you could do so many cool things with a pen. Please bring your more creative ideas to a future meeting. I'm sure that Barry has inspired quite a few people to try something new.

Speaking of inspired, the CAD design by Steve Childers for our chapter challenge was truly amazing. If the final piece turns out half as good as the drawings, we will all be really proud. If you want to turn a part of the marble drop, please contact Steve for one of the plans to that element. If you have already committed to turning a piece, please work on it right away and bring in your part for the club to see. I can't wait to see how it all comes together!

Some terrific demonstrators will be showing us interesting new skills over the next few months. I hope everyone enjoys it. Stay warm and keep the shavings flying.

Program

The program for January was presented by Barry Gross. Barry has been working with wood for more than 30 years and is a member of the American Association of Woodturners. Barry is also a member of the Pen Maker's Guild, an association of some of the best Pen Makers.



Barry was kind enough to demonstrate the techniques involved in molding your own acrylic pen blanks.

Barry explained the process of taking the brass pen tube and roughing the outside of the tube. Then, it is painted with stove black to prevent the brass color showing through the acrylic. The next step involves the art of designing the inside of the pen to whatever you want it to be. Barry provided some examples of cigar wrappers, watch parts, rattlesnake skin as part of the pen.

Once the design is glued or attached to the pen tube then the molding begins. Barry adds lead shot to the inside of the tube and then corks the ends to prevent the acrylic from filling the tube. The mold is then filled one third full of acrylic-catalist mixture and allowed to set for 24 hours. Then the tube is placed in the mold and acrylic is added to two thirds and allowed to dry. Finally the last third of the mold is filled and allowed set up for 24 hours.



Once the acryic block is cured it can be cut to make pen blanks for each of the tubes in the mold. The blanks are then mounted on the lath and turned the same as any pen.

We were also treated to some of Barry's tips and techiques for sanding and finishing wooden as well as synthetic pens by following simple steps.



We thanked Barry for his time and the excellent presentation. If you have interest, Barry has his own website at <http://www.bgartforms.com>.

Chapter Challenge

Steve Childers has signed up a number of people to participate in building the Mable Drop. If anyone is still interested, please contact Steve. We are making good progress in pulling together the various pieces.



Annual Dues for 2009 are due and are needed to continue supporting demonstrators and training opportunities as well as adding to our library. If you haven't already done so, please see John Bacino. Dues are \$25 per year.

Starting Balance	\$1,491.80
Deposit	\$25.00
Deposit 50/50	\$47.00
Deposit 2009 dues paid	\$525.00
Balance as of Jan. 11,2009	\$2,088.80

LIBRARY

We have a number of books, DVD's and informational materials. If you wish to check out something, please see Gerry Mekins. If you have any materials checked out in the past, please bring it in so we can make it available to others.

February Program

We will be turning a three corner bowl. Tom Sloan will be demonstrating the technique and then we will have an opportunity to practice the techniques. Bring you tools and be prepared to do some turning.

Bring your show and tell. John Bacino will be showing us the burl that Tom Jackson started in November.

Our February meeting is February 4,2009 at the Woodcraft Store from 7pm to 9pm.

MEETING SCHEDULE

March 18, 2009

April 1, 2009

May 6, 2009

March and April Programs

MARCH

Mar 18th - Note the date. We have a whole day demo with Michael Hosaluk who will be in the area.

http://darrellbellgallery.com/pages/display_page.php?folder=michaelhosaluk§ion=artists



APRIL

Apr 1st - Andy DiPietro to do an evening demo on Deep Hollow turning.

OTHER EVENTS

Some reminders of other events:

Micheal Kehs – Feb 21 – 22

Woodcarving Workshop

Covers power carving, chisel work, texturing, and coloring.

If you didn't receive the notice, ask any of the club officers.

Totally Turning 2009

Along with Showcase 2009

March 28 – 29

Saratoga, NY

The Sixth New England Woodturning Symposium

May 23, 2009 at Pinkerton Academy
Derry, NH

2009 Southern States Symposium IX

April 24th - April 26th, 2009

Georgia Mountains Center
Gainsville, Ga

UTAH WOODTURNING SYMPOSIUM

MAY 14th - 16th, 2009

McKay Center at Utah Valley University
College Dr
Orem, UT