

Steering Committee  
Central Florida Woodturners Club  
October 20, 2005

Steering Committee Meeting at Country Fixin's

Present: Stuart Lilie, Bob Elliott, Bob Walker, Dave Barriger, Marv Murray, Gene Gross, Jim Bergman, Blake Rankin, Mike and Susan Brooks, Bill Wohlfart, Harvey Driver, Winn Arnold and Jim Donovan.

The club treasury is at about \$3200.00. The sweetheart deals on mini lathes offered in recent months are over and are not expected to be available again. A lathe with stand and four casters will cost \$399.00, cheaper than One-Line, include a one-way scroll chuck. Penn State offers a mini lathe for \$159.95 with ½ horse motor. The stand is an additional \$70.00. The club could construct its own stands for about \$70. Marv Murray had a stand made locally for \$80.00

The steering committee is the nominating committee for officers and is limited to one nomination per office. Other nominations are from the floor (general membership). Stuart suggests appointing three people as the Nominating Committee and a new person added to the Board.

A suggested slate for 2006 is President: Bob Walker; Vice President, Bob Elliott; Treasurer; Rick Coffman or Dave McNeeley; Secretary, Susan Brooks; Newsletter, Hank

Harvey Walker makes a motion that the club loan its mini lathes to the Florida Symposium in January 2006. The motion is approved.

It is suggested that the Steering Committee be increased in number by two, with the membership voting on the proposal in November. Possible new members might be Connie Lefebvre and Jim Donovan.

The Holiday Party: Sonya Barriger is heading the Host Committee and Bill Wohlfart is heading the Awards Committee. The social hour will start at 6 pm, when people arrive. Entries for competition will be submitted by 7 pm and voting will be from 7 pm to 7:15 pm. Questions were raised as to when ballots would be handed out and how tie breaking would be handled. One person gets only one ribbon in his/her category. The winner in one class has to move up the next higher class. Donors of prizes will be mentioned in the club newsletter, an ad in the program, and a link on the club's website.

Demonstrations at Woodcraft will be on Saturday and Sunday, October 22 and 23. The Powermatic lathe will be set up outside if weather permits, while mini-lathes will be inside. More people are needed for demonstrating on Sunday afternoon. The demonstrators should bring their own turning to show off.

Demonstrators for 2006 will be Cindy Drozda and Frank Sudol. Lyle Jamieson has expressed an interest for February, but the SC expressed that another demonstrator that soon after January might be overload. . Six or seven people at \$50.00 each will support a

class with the invited demonstrators. Invitations need to be made soon so flight arrangements can be made.

Copies of the new club brochure were handed out.

General Meeting  
Central Florida Woodturners Club  
October 20, 2005

Welcome by Stuart Lilie, President

**Visitors** are Blake Rankin, Dan Roberts, Wayne and Anne Hardy, John Sutton and Glenn Holman.

50 people attended.

Minutes for August and September are approved as posted.

**Nomination Committee.** Stuart notes that the club by-laws state nominations are due by the November meeting with voting in January. The Steering Committee is the Nomination Committee and can nominate one person for an office. Other nominees are from the floor and are encouraged. Nominees from the Steering Committee are: President, Bob Walker; Vice-President, Bob Elliott; Treasurer, needed; Secretary, Susan Brooks. The Steering Committee is formed of former club officers, board members of the AAW and four elected members from the general membership. At the November meeting the club will vote on adding two additional members to the Steering Committee.

**Woodcraft Super Sale** will be Saturday and Sunday, October 22 and 23. Club members will demonstrate woodturning. The Powermatic lathe will be placed on the sidewalk, weather permitting, and the mini-lathes will be inside. Demonstrations will be 9 am to 1 pm and 1 pm to 6 pm on Saturday, and 9 am to 1 pm and 1 pm to 5 pm on Sunday. The club's collaborative project, the diver's helmet, will be on display.

**The Holiday Party** will be Thursday, December 15 at Central Christian Church. Sonja Barriger will head the Host Committee for food and setup, and Bill Wohlfart will head the Gifts and Awards Committee. The social hour will begin at 6 pm. Turnings must be set out for display by 7pm to be eligible for voting. Voting starts at 7pm and ends at 7:15 pm. The four categories are novice, intermediate, advanced and professional. The winner in one class is encouraged to move up to the next class for next year's competition. Each person, no matter what class, may submit one Christmas ornament. Each person may submit three items in their category plus one Christmas ornament and receives a raffle ticket for each item. Bill explained how the ballot works, the contributors' page in the program and the donor's ad in the January newsletter.

**The Florida Woodturning Symposium** in Lake Yale will feature top turners from Florida and the US. Dates are January 13-15, 2006. Brochures and applications are

available from John Russell. Note the \$25 late fee if the December 1 deadline is missed.  
[www.floridawoodturningsymposium.com](http://www.floridawoodturningsymposium.com)

**Upcoming turning demonstrations.** Cindy Drozda will demonstrate at the club's meeting on January 18 and will also give a workshop at Al Hockenberry's. Frank Sudol will visit Wednesday, January 11. Twelve people expressed interest in a daytime workshop. There will be an evening lecture on creativity at Central Christian Church.

**Christmas Ornaments.** The Committee collected 143 ornaments that will be donated to the Orlando Museum of Art in Art Siegel's name. Art was very supportive of ornament making. The OMA offers an annual Festival of Trees (November 12-20) as a fundraiser. The club's tree with hand-turned ornaments has been very popular in past years. Last year our tree sold for \$2500.00! Half the donated ornaments will be sold in the Museum's gift shop and these proceeds will benefit our club.  
[www.omart.org/events/events.trees.html](http://www.omart.org/events/events.trees.html)

### **Show and Tell**

**Bill Wohlfart** showed two 3" high bells of cherry. The banded areas were dyed in a contrasting color and finished with polyurethane.

**Bob Walker** brought a bowl of mesquite from Texas, and an ornament made from the mysterious "Crate wood" that has produced numerous beautiful turnings.

**Blake Rankin** brought in a yo-yo, goblet and top turned from cedar.

**Rick Coffman** showed four ball and finial ornaments and a snowman.

**Harvey Driver** brought four ball and finials ornaments made from cedar and citrus.

**Gaye Siegel** brought two snowmen.

**Bill Smith** brought two egg shaped ornaments with finials, turned from red cedar.

**Stuart Lilie** turned two ball and finial ornaments and an apple from box elder.

**John Jowett** showed a pecan bowl and a bowl turned from red morrel burl.

**Dean Throckmorton** brought a square bowl of laminated maple and walnut.

**Art Patak** turned an ornament of a cube within a cube from the mysterious pallet wood.

**Dave Barriger** showed several ball and finial ornaments, including one with a spiral bottom. He also brought a large dogwood bowl.

**David Neeley** displayed two bowls and two ball and finial ornaments as well as a miniature birdhouse.

**Gene Gross** brought a hollow vessel and four finial ornaments. He recommended "Wood for Woodturners" by Mark Baker (ISBN: 1 86108 324 6), and noted that aniline dye on harder woods took a high polish while softer woods soaked up the finish.

**Guy Gerrard** showed a goblet, a ball and finial ornament and three snowmen.

### **Wood Auction**

The wood auction brought in \$94.00.

### **Finishing by David Walsh**

David Walsh is a specialist in wood finishing, particularly French polish. He is from Washington DC and currently lives in Central Florida. He trained under an Italian master

and learned the “old school” methods of restoration. He has restored furniture for Blair House (the Vice-President’s residence in Washington DC), consulted with the National Gallery of Art, contracted with the Cornell Fine Arts Museum and restored the furnishings in the Rollins College President’s house.

David gave so much excellent information that it cannot all be covered here. He referred us to an article in *Fine Woodworking* #143 pp 121-122 by Chris Minick.

David recommends staying with the same solvent base through out the project. Use a respirator and do not breath the spray of the finishing material. Water base products cannot take freezing. Dilute a finish by 10-15% with *Polyacrylate* (a Minwax product) to make a sealer.

How a finish is brushed on makes a difference. Dip the brush in the solvent first and remove the excess solvent. Dip the brush only halfway, keeping the ferrule clean. Brush at a 45-degree angle. Let the piece dry overnight. Don’t heat dry a water base finish because the fibers will swell.

Aniline dye on an unsealed wood surface will leave splotches because the dye travels through the vessels in the wood. Seal the surface first and let it dry. Dyes are translucent like a camera filter. Stains contain solids (like paint) called pigments, which are obtained from earth or vegetable matter. Stains block light while dyes let the light through. Pigment in shellac is not pleasing, as it stays suspended on the surface. Stains penetrate into the wood.

Varnish was popular in the nineteenth century. Boiled linseed oil with resins added is a good example. Varnish is hard, flexible and durable. (Modern polyurethane is a varnish and the urethane is a resin). Conversion varnish is used on a basketball court. After the resin is added to the oil and the product is applied to the floor, the varnish heats up and converts to a permanent surface. Stir, never shake, a finish to avoid bubbles. Use an organic vapor mask when finishing as well as an apron and goggles.

When applying a water finish to a spindle, use alcohol first to clean off your own fingerprints. Crumple a piece of Kraft paper (brown paper bag) until it is soft and flexible. Use it as sandpaper and blow off any residue. Then load the finish on the surface. Wipe the brush clean and use it to remove the excess from the spindle. The water base finish gives time to work before setting up.

French polish is a shellac finish on a flat surface. A French polish pad is a ball of cotton batting (used in upholstery) wrapped in linen cloth and called a pommel. 3# amber shellac straight from the can is dissolved in denatured alcohol. This is a resin finish, in contrast to a catalytic finish like epoxies.

As an experiment, David applied shellac to a turned piece of pine, using a brush. He warned against brushing over with a shellac finish. Lay down the shellac in even strokes, overlapping slightly because it dries so quickly. The pine soaked up the shellac. He

French polished the piece while it was spinning, using the pommel to spread with the grain, with a circular motion. He noted that the shellac dries quickly giving off a high-pitched hiss.

He also tried applying colored wax on a spinning piece. The wax was a burn-in fill stick used in repairing damaged finishes. He rubbed the stick over the surface of the spindle as it turned leaving an uneven layer of wax. Next he used the crumpled Kraft paper as a pad to warm the wax and let it spread evenly over the surface.

“Tried and True” finishes are a good brand. Polyurethane will not stick on top of nitrocellulose lacquer. Never shellac over lacquer. However, shellac over wax is good.