

JUST ONE MORE CUT



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Stuart Batty Demonstrates at January Meeting

Stuart Batty, well-known turner from England originally and now Colorado, delivered the demonstration for the January monthly meeting. He was one of the featured turners at the Florida Turning Symposium the previous weekend.

Mr. Batty directed his talk and demonstration along the lines of what he considers the necessary and best approach to quality woodturning. The topics in his outline were: grain,

chuck, sharpen, tool rest, speed of lathe, stance, and technique.

He talked about the grain, be it side, end, or mixed grain, and that the chuck must be accurate and secure.

On the sharpness of the tool, he covered the size, type, shape, angle, and length of the cutting end. He stressed heavily that proper sharpening can be done only by

free-hand sharpening, and can not be done properly by using jigs.

On discussing the tool rest, Stuart covered the height, angle, and distance from the piece of the tool rest.

Speed of the turning piece should be relatively fast as long as all conditions are safe.

Stance will depend on the cut. A straight cut is done with the feet parallel; a oblique cut with the left foot forward; and a curved cut with the right foot forward.

Technique consists of using the right hand for control and the left hand in assistance. The right hand is in control of lift/drop, push/pull, twist, and swing. The right hand assists in the weight of the cut, the position of the tool, prevention of the tool from skidding, and the break in action.



Recap of the 2009 Florida Woodturning Symposium

by Rick Coffman

The annual Florida Woodturning Symposium has come and gone once again. This year's event was well attended and filled with skilled presenters, including Jimmy Clewes, Stuart Batty, Bobby Clemens, John Jordan, Raymond Ferguson, Barrie Harding, Richard Morris, and our own David Barriger. Topics included too many things to list individually, but they covered the full scope of woodturning from wood basics to surface enhancements.

One of the most interesting things to see at this event is the instant gallery. Tables are set up near the entrance for attendees to display their works. Everything from ornaments, bowls, vessels, hats, pens, and more are shown across the main room for all to see. I find it amazing and inspiring to browse the tables and see the wonderful pieces between demonstrations.

The demonstrations are setup at about an hour and 30 minutes or so each, with a break of at least 20 minutes in between demonstrations. Each room can comfortably seat about 50-60 people, and some demonstrations end up with standing-room-only. There really aren't any bad seats though, as each demonstration is covered by 2 cameras with a display on each side of the room.

The first evening had two items of interest. First, the critique of the instant gallery by two of the featured artists always draws a crowd. The other event that goes on at the same time is the Annual Turn-

Around competition. Several teams, usually made up of members from the various clubs, are given an assignment and time allotment to complete the assignment. This year's event started off with a very valuable lesson as most of us watched an unfortunate accident resulting in a fairly serious injury. We learned the importance of checking your lathe speed before turning the lathe on, and to also step to the side when first turning on the lathe.

Sadly, this evening would also bear some bad news. Members of the Jacksonville area club announced the recent passing of Bill Smith of north Florida. He had just passed away, suddenly, before the symposium began. I personally had met Bill on two different trips to events in Jacksonville, and was impressed with his generous personality. He will surely be missed by those who knew him.

The second evening held the awarding of the scholarships and the auction. Several nationally recognized art schools and several in-state turners donate one day of training to scholarship winners. This year's auction was a great success. The funds raised will help support more scholarships and other activities of the FWS.

I look forward to next year's symposium. The list of demonstrators includes Nick Cook, Alan Leland, Michael Mocho, and Dale Nish. Next year's Hands-on workshops will be with Bruce Hoover, Emory McLaughlin, Don Geiger, Tony Cortese, and Ron Browning.

Club Members win Turn-Around Competition

Each year, at the Florida Turning Symposium, an event called the Turn-Around Competition takes place.

Rules for the competition change a little bit each year. But the basic rule is that up to 6 teams of 3 turners each, usually a team from each of the host clubs, assemble and complete a surprise project within a given time limit



Club member Dave Barriger is in charge of deciding what the project will be each year. He keeps his decision unannounced until the start of the event.

At the start, each team member takes a turn at the lathe. In years past, it has always been that the team must make three items as identical as possible, with each team em-

ber having only 15 minutes to make their individual piece. This year, the turners took turns working on the same piece instead of making three separate pieces.

When the time of competition is completed, the results of each team are judged by a panel of the featured demonstrators. They decide which piece is the winner and that team is presented the trophy.

As you can see, the Central Florida team of Bob Walker, Gene Gross, and Stuart Lilie, brought home the bacon this year. The turned project, a lidded box, is shown below along with the trophy.



Barriger Tool Making Day - Saturday, 28 February

Remember that 28 February, the last day of the month, is Barriger Tool Making Day. This is a day, a Saturday, when the Central Florida Woodturners Club descends on the Barriger's residence near Apopka to make their own tools.

The object of the meeting is to make from scratch that tool you dearly need, and just can not do without. Dave has the hearth for heat-

ing the metals, and the anvils and tools for shaping the metal.

Please let either President Bob Walker or Dave Barriger know what metal you intend on using so that it is available for you that day. You may also bring your own metal.

Mike Allen, past member, and now from Georgia, will be coming to help with the welding.

