



# Shavings



Hill Country Turners  
Monthly Newsletter

Volume #14

Issue #3

**March 12, 2009**

## MEETING PLACE

**Hill Country Turners** meet in the basement of the KACC (Kerr Arts & Cultural Center) at 228 Earl Garrett, Kerrville, Texas at 6:30 pm on the 2nd Thursday of the month, **unless otherwise notified**.

### **Note Special “Hands On” Session Before the Meeting**

We need volunteers to serve in the tent at the Texas Arts and Crafts Show May 23-24-25. They will need at least some facility in turning tops, because Hill Country Turners plans to run a couple of lathes to promote the club and wood turning in general. At 4:00 on Thursday March 12, before the meeting at 6:30, there will be a special session to learn how to turn tops the Uel way. He has a system for preparing blanks and turning them into tops that optimizes the process so that the most “kids” (young to old) get a top especially turned for them. If we are to get the maximum exposure from this we will have to have several volunteers ready to go by then.

## March Meeting

Well! It is about time for the annual Steve Promo special demo. Steve manages to make his interesting and occasionally unique. Oh yes. He is going to turn “a flat form”. We will learn more at the meeting.

## February Meeting

Harold Dykes showed us a hollowing rig he has been working on based on one he saw in Waco at the SWAT show. The basic construction holds the tool level within two wide plates, one half inch apart. As you can see in the picture on the right, the plates, mounted on a tool post to fit your lathe, act to keep the tool straight and take the place of the regular toolbar (as well as the rear “limiting cage” as in the Jamieson system). The advantage of this system is that it is simple and less restrictive in positioning the cutting tool. Critical points are the need to maintain a very smooth area between the



plates for easy movement of the cutting bar. The system looks really good for small to maybe medium vessels. The whole thing would have to get much beefier once the tool gets more that a few inches away from the holding plates. But it looks like it could be scaled up rather easily. It seems important that the turner doesn't depend on the plates to keep all of the tool level, but uses his leverage on the tool handle to supplement the balance of the plates.

Here are a couple of close-ups showing the cutting tool and the system with inserted cutting tool. Notice the elbow cutting head for even more flexibility.



This may be a worthwhile project for some of us who occasionally turn hollow vessels.

## **New Member**

Heather Cassidy joined our group last summer. She is new to turning and just getting on her feet. She is a Texan who returned from “up north” (Ohio) about 10 years ago and chose the hill country. Her two boys are in the local schools. The oldest plays football for the Tivy team. She started with a small lathe, is eager to get more into it, but is struggling with finding enough time.

## **Demonstrators for This Year**

<u>Month</u>	<u>Meeting Date</u>	<u>Demonstrator</u>
March	12 <sup>th</sup>	Steve Promo
April	9 <sup>th</sup>	Vern Hallmark
May	14 <sup>th</sup>	Keith Longnecker
June	11 <sup>th</sup>	Uel Clanton
July	9 <sup>th</sup>	John Jones

August	13 <sup>th</sup>	
September	10 <sup>th</sup>	
October	8 <sup>th</sup>	James Johnson
November	12 <sup>th</sup>	

### **Refreshments for 2009**

<u>Month</u>	<u>Drinks</u>	<u>Cookies</u>
March	Steve Promo	Tom Ridout
April	Anna Rachinsky	Nancy Huntley
May	Harold Dykes	Kathy Roberts
June	Liz Farris	Keith Longnecker
July	Ken Morton	Jay Shimek
August	Don Kaiser	Larry Walton
September	John Jones	Vern Hallmark
October	Larry Werth	Heather Cassidy
November	Joe Johnson	Dale Rowe

### **BRINGBACKS**

Next meeting's bringbacks are:	Number:
Uel Clanton -----	1
Joe Johnson -----	1
Don Kaiser -----	1
Keith Longnecker -----	2
Kathy Roberts -----	2
Dale Rowe -----	1
Val Shimek-----	1
Larry Walton-----	1

### **“THE BIG CHIPS” of KTC**

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***Hill country turners is a chapter of the American Association of Woodturners dedicated to providing education, information and a place to meet and discuss woodworking and woodturning.***