



Shavings



Hill Country Turners
Monthly Newsletter

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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.

July Meeting

Ken Morton will be demonstrating sharpening techniques during the meeting. If you are a fairly new turner and have one or two that you are having trouble sharpening, bring it and let Ken help. We all can benefit from sharpening up our technique.

June Meeting

Dale Lemons has been turning for over 15 years and has an interesting approach to turning bowls. (He starts with a round template to cut a fairly even sided blank, he has less wood to remove in order to completely round-out the blank.) He uses the friction driving method of roughing out the blank. At this point the blank has two faces, roughly parallel and flat. He decides on which end is up (top actually) and places the blank with the base face pressed against the closed chuck jaws (note: not chucked with a tenon, just flat against the front of the jaws) and forces a regular pointed cup live center against the other end with a tailstock. (Children: don't do this at home.) This gives him enough friction to form a shallow circular groove in the top face. He immediately reverses the blank so that the groove fits around the still closed jaws, helping to center the blank and keeping the blank held in between the pressure of the live center and the inset part of the wood. Working now at the other end, he now makes the vessel base, a dovetail recess for the jaws to hold the blank in expansion mode during hollowing. He likes to finish the base as thoroughly as possible at this time to minimize any further finishing work. Now he rounds off the blank, does the major outside shaping and is ready to turn the blank around and expansion-chuck the thing for hollowing.

Dale showed us the regular tools that he uses, including special tools like the Berger Tool and the Eliminator, I was interested to see his use of a Vise Grip to enhance control of some of his hollowing tools. Dale brought up the usual dilemma of quick twist drill and small hole or slow forstner bit and big hole for setting the depth of the hollowing. (The only solution to this seems to be the very wonderful James Johnson borer, complete with compressed air chip clearance and Lucite face shield...You had to be there.)

I talked with Dale later and he allowed as to how he actually preferred to smooth and sheer cut with a large 1 inch scraper (inside) and a skew chisel as a scraper on the outside.

As for finishing he speaks highly of Tung oil and Crystal Clear paste wax in clear or dark tinted. The clear is from Craft Supplies, but I don't know where he gets the dark.



Show and Tell

Ken Morton brought several pieces, a two piece hollow vessel that looks one piece, a natural edged bowl and a lighted table centerpiece holder, one of many that he has made and is making still for his daughter's wedding. Roger Felps brought a handsome large pecan vessel that he hollowed in two pieces, then put them back together again. Roger and Ken are getting clever about splitting and gluing.

Joe Johnson brought a very attractive natural edged bowl.

Vern Hallmark brought a nice bowl he got from a tree in Chuck Felton's yard. He also brought a smaller bowl for Chuck and expressed his regrets at already having sold the larger bowl.

Finally, Jerry DeGroot showed a nice little bowl with a hole in the bottom and asked for advice about ways to plug it up without making it look like a mistake. Since it has never happened to anyone else, I was surprised to see how many suggestions that came to mind in such a short time. Naw..I was just surprised at how many novel ideas have resulted out of this universal experience. Jerry also brought some boxes and bowls to show the group. I especially liked the box elder bowl and he liked turning the aromatic cedar bowl.



Ken Morton

Vern Hallmark



Joe Johnson



Roger Felps



Jerry DeGroot

Extra Information:

Ken Morton also agreed, last month, to shepherd the Craft Supplies order that must be over \$1000 for us to get the discount and free shipping that they offer to us as a club. He was up to \$600 and would e-mail us when he had enough. As of now we haven't got an e-letter so, if you want something at a nice discount you should at least try him. He puts the order on his card and you pay him when the goods are delivered.

Uel Clanton mentioned that KACC is going to further enhance our club experience with a couple of cameras in new positions and a relatively easy to work master switch in the back to enable the operator to switch cameras and pan around for a better look at what is happening. The stuff should be in by next meeting.

Raúl Peña and SWAT The time is now! Next week is SWAT and it promises to be a bang up show with more people than ever. You won't get in as cheap, but you can still make it if you want to. Our club is richly represented with presenters and Raúl is president of SWAT, so it is a good year to come.

Final Shots

No explanation needed



Demos for 2010

Month	Meeting Date	Demonstrator	Topic (If Known)
October	14th	Barbie Holton	Pyrography
November	11th	Jerry DeGroot	To be determined
December	9th	Christmas Party	Christmas Party

2010 Food Sign-Up Sheet

Month	Meeting Date	Drinks	Sweets
September	9th	Maurice Collins	Jim Weir & L.A. Cude
October	14th	Jerre Williams	Larry Werth
November	11th	Roger Arnold	Bill Hussey
December	9th	Christmas Party	Christmas Party
June	10th	Joe Johnson	Ken Morton

“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.