



Shavings



Hill Country Turners
Monthly Newsletter

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October 14, 2010

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.

October Meeting

Our wonderful Barbie Holton is coming back to see us and deliver a session on pyrography as a surface decoration. I would think that Barbie might venture further than that, in that she has used a lot of inlaid and shells and minerals in her bowl decoration in the past. Her partnership with her husband Jimmy has been a fruitful and artistic one.

September Meeting

I was shocked that Ken Morton, a relatively new turner, with three or four years experience, presumed to tell us experienced turners how to sharpen our tools. He did and it worked. We found out that his goal was to draw us out by discussing his experiences in learning to sharpen and, in drawing us out, to discuss his ideas in light of our experiences. I noticed that there was more audience participation in this session than most of our other sessions. Ken uses a Tormek Wet Sharpening System for his final grinds and supplements the final edge with diamond "credit card" type hones. The Tormek can be slow if you are trying to change the profile of a tool. He said there was nothing faster than a regular grinder for setting the general shape of a tool (and a couple of guys added that disk sanders were awfully good at this also). In general, Ken (and others) liked the various jig type sharpening systems (for repeatability and economy in removing the minimal amount of metal from a tool to sharpen it up).

It was interesting to note the various angles that Ken uses in his tools. He was comfortable in pointing out that the turner has to use the grind that works for him.

It was also interesting to see the various interjections from guys who were at SWAT this year, not just in sharpening, as in Eli Avisera's convex skew, but in other experiences as well. Raúl Peña has long championed the idea that a visit to SWAT broadens the woodturner's experience.

It was interesting to see that the experienced woodworkers (i.e. those with furniture experience) "perked-up" when Ken talked about the transience of a burr in turning. After thinking about it, I guess it all boils down to the difference in the quality and strength of a burr resulting from the grinding of a tool vs. the very deliberate burnishing of a burr on a hand scraper. There is also a very notable difference in the forces on that burr between the relatively intense forces of turning vs. the milder ones of hand scraping. I noticed that there is a tool sold by Craft Supplies (no relation) for actually burnishing a burr on a scraper.

The additional things that Ken brought were such things as his use of the Raptor system for setting consistent angles and his cabinet making skills in making additional setup facilities for his regular grinder to make it more compatible with his Tormek system.

All I can say is that Ken is a worthy addition to our group. Way to go Ken!



Show and Tell

The star of this Show and Tell was Roger Felps and his bowl? turned every-which-way. The attractive two winged vessel derives from a similar vessel by Brendan Stemp as shown in the last AAW newsletter. I went back to the AAW magazine and still am astounded by what Roger did.

Two visitors brought some pieces to show us. According to Sue and Kirk Bates they were their very first works. Sue did the bowl with the marble race around the top and the smaller bowl. Kirk did a maple bowl and the small hollow vessel. Way to go, Sue and Kirk!

Jerry DeGroot brought the box he hollowed through the bottom (see last month's S&T). He scroll sawed a patterned piece for the bottom, added a base and filled the pattern with inlaid. He tried to reclaim another box from a similar accident but was less positive. Jerry also showed a couple of fine platters and a box with inlaid lid.

Finally, Harold Dykes was here with a pair of salt and pepper shakers of an old interesting design. The bottom is the base of an inverted cone. The walls of the cone are hollowed out and there is a single, relatively large hole at the top of the cone, on the inside. They are shaken right-side-up and the salt bounces against a dome shape in the lid which helps to bounce the salt into the hole. Having that area on the table surface keeps moisture and cooties from the salt and pepper.



Ken Morton got an e-mail from Andrew Prather who said, "I would like to thank Hill Country Turners for giving my dad and me the opportunity to attend the SWAT Symposium this past weekend. We had a great time in Waco and learned a lot during all of the demonstrations. I can't wait to get my own lathe! It was also nice to talk with club members." Dues are supposed to be paid at the next meeting. Dues are still a great deal at \$35 for single and \$40 for a family

New Club Project-Instead of making toys for the Salvation Army this year, the club will participate in the "Beads of Courage" project. Boxes are made and donated to participating hospitals for use by children with serious and life threatening diseases. Children who undergo certain procedures such as chemotherapy, blood transfusions, lab work, etc., are given colored beads for each procedure. The boxes are used to store their beads. We will be getting additional information about the project

Membership Dues-Annual membership dues will be collected beginning in October. The dues will be the same as last year, \$35 for individuals and \$40 for a family

New Bring Back/Show and Tell Program-A new bring back and show and tell program was proposed and approved by a show of hands. Starting in 2011, we will have bring backs and show and tell quarterly instead of monthly. More time will be devoted to these events and our hope is to get greater participation. Our new program was modeled after the Oklahoma City Club's successful program. Tentatively the Bring Back/Show & Tell months will be February, May, August, and November. Additional details will be available later.

Election of Officers-The election of club officers for 2011 will be held in October. If you have anyone you would like to nominate, please contact Larry Werth or Joe Johnson by email or phone.

Club Web Site-The new Hill Country Turners web site is up and running. Drop in and take a look around at www.hillcountryturners.org. A nice feature of the web site is the Member's Gallery. We need more members to submit pictures for the Gallery. We have a lot of talented turners and we want to see more of your work.

Survey-A survey was circulated at the last meeting seeking suggestion on Demo topics in 2011. We were also asking for suggestions on outside demonstrators. If you have something you would like to see, send your suggestions to Joe Johnson.

Annual Christmas Party-Uel Clanton has again made arrangement for the annual Christmas party. It will be at the Inn of the Hills again this year, second Thursday in December at 6:30 PM. It will be a Buffet as in the past and the cost this year will be \$26 per person. We will again have our annual turning exchange and we hope everyone will participate.

Final Shots



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
October	14th	Jerre Williams	Larry Werth
November	11th	Roger Arnold	Bill Hussey
December	9th	Christmas Party	Christmas Party

“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.