



THE TURNING TIMES

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An East Texas Woodturners Publication

January 2006

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Visit us at www.easttexaswoodturners.org

THE TURNING TIMES is published monthly as an information source for members of the East Texas Woodturners (ETW). ETW is a chapter of The American Association of Woodturners (AAW) and is committed to serving woodturners in the East Texas area surrounding Tyler, Texas. The ETW Chapter joins with the AAW in its dedication to providing education, information and organization to those interested in woodturning.

Meeting at TJC West

January 14, 2006 @ 9:00 a.m.

Calendar of Events

- January 14, 2006
Regular Meeting
- February 11, 2006
Regular Meeting

The Prez Says

Leon McLemore did an outstanding job with the segmented turnings demonstration as was of course to be expected since Leon is one of this club's expert woodturners. I just can't brag enough on the talent this club brings to us on an ongoing basis.

We all have to appreciate the effort of so many members in bringing all of our events both during our meetings and elsewhere when we fulfill our charter which says we will promote woodturning to the public. During the last year we participated in a wonderful show in Oklahoma which took many hours of dedicated effort by so many of our members and their wives. Locally we exhibited our talents twice at the Bank of America also with great success and appreciation from the public.

In the woodturning community, we have become a standard bearer with our presentation of the "Woodturning Gallery" at SWAT. We as a club have become an example for other clubs throughout the Southwest in our administration as well as our participation and talent.

All of this success is because of the efforts of our membership, especially a group of members who have consistently made the effort necessary for our success. Among those are Tom Criswell and Tom Crosby for their past and current leadership skills and more recently John Leonard with his excellent administrative talent. Although these men are out there on the frontlines, we cannot fail to recognize the entire team of Mentors who make this club happen.

We must always remember that people such as Ken Terrell, Ed Heuslein, Archie Stivner, Bill Holmes Paul Coppinger and Joseph Armstrong who consistently dedicate their time and effort on our behalf are in the background.

We must never forget that we also depend upon the wives of our membership who allow us to spend so much time at our hobby and some are right beside us while not necessarily turners themselves support our hobby. Frances Cass and Marjorie Crosby are prime examples as well as the all the wives who stepped in at SWAT and made the Gallery happen.

While accolades for past efforts are important, we must also now look forward to the next year. It will take great effort on all of our parts to maintain the high standards and example of past years. Our membership continues to grow and with that we must remain proactive in our efforts to serve the needs of all our members. One area where we must look is in the number of members who we classify as "Mentors". This group has not grown in relation to the overall membership. Personally, I believe that we have seen an increase in talent by many of our so called "intermediate" turners into the "expert" status. We as members need to encourage these "mentors in hiding" to step up and be part of the leadership team. During 2006, this will be one of my priorities. In an effort to put our best face forward, I will also be encouraging you all to participate in the Member "Gallery" on our web page. This is a window to the world and where many other clubs get to see what we have accomplished. We have an excellent resource in our new Vice Prez, Kevin Stevenson. He has already demonstrated his organizational skills by chairing the Oct. Turnathon which was rated a success by all who attended. He will have even more opportunities to impress you all in the next year.

Not to be forgotten is John Leonard, who will not disappear from the radar in 2006. I will continue to lean on him as I have in the past as my "personal" mentor. He will also be hosting the March meeting at his spacious shop and he will be lending his leadership skills in our SWAT participation as our representative. In fact the entire leadership team from 2005 will still be on board for 2006. While some of the titles have changed and we have added some new faces, we haven't actually lost anyone. Peggy Ross will be taking over as newsletter editor and she will benefit from the guidance and mentorship of Joseph Armstrong. One year ago, John Leonard emphasized to the leadership team that we must all seek out and train our replacements. I will ask this year's team to continue this excellent policy. Mentorship is the key to our organization both in the shop as well as in our relationships with each other. I personally ask each of you to look at yourselves and think about what kind of "mentor" you can be.

We are in the Membership Renewal season. I encourage each of you to renew at the January meeting or to download the form from the web site and mail it in as soon as you are able. We will issue membership cards this year and utilize them in the reorganized library. We will be working on discount benefits with vendors so that your cards will payoff when you buy your supplies. We will also be putting a "Phonebook" together. If you want to be listed, you need to get your 2006 membership renewed in a timely manner. Our Raffles will be dependent on our membership participation and we are choosing the items for the raffles now for the entire coming year. Our past raffles have been an outstanding success and we are looking at what we "did right" in order to continue that success. The January raffle will offer an entire eight-tool HSS Woodturning set in a nice wooden box.

I hope each of you had a Merry Christmas, with many gifts and much happiness as well as safe New Years celebrations. I look forward to a great 2006 with all of you.

Cary Grant

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