

Revolutions

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July 2010



NEWSLETTER FOR THE



spwturners.net

Things That Go Bump in the Shop And Things That Go Hum in the Shop

Glenn Williamson and Bryce Ellis combined on a demonstration for the club that in many ways is the most important help we can get. The care and feeding of our tools.

Glenn spoke first, talking about basic machine tool fundamentals, bearing and pulleys. He carefully described the difference between a bad bearing and bad bearing lubrication. Of particular interest seemed to be his statement that tools setting on a warehouse shelf for many years might have good bearings but have awful lubrication. Many members seemed surprised that bearing lubrication has a certain life expectancy even if the bearing remains unused.

Glenn told us that most our tools will have one of three types of bearings: sealed which do not require lubrication, open bearings which allow the injection of lubrication until it oozed out of the fitting covers and open bearing that do not allow lubrication to escape. These latter can become overfilled with lubrication, impacting their value.

Bryce Ellis presented part of Demo on VFD's for electrical motors



Glenn Williamson discusses the care and feeding of ball bearings in first section of July Demonstration.

July Gallery

July came to us rainy and muddy, a joy for most of us accustomed to adobe yards and gardens by this time of year. However, the rain and the holiday decimated our attendance.

Too bad more people did not see the gallery on display at the club meeting.



For those who know the hours of loving care Mike Oglesby puts into his pieces July was a red letter month beyond our nation's birthday. Mike brought out the beautiful box elder lidded urn shown above. Completed in late May, Oglesby dyed the

piece with red and blue dyes before the many coated lacquered finish.

See Oglesby Page 3

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Letter From Tom Wirsing, President AAW

The BOD of AAW has called a Special Meeting of the members of AAW to be held at 9:00 AM on August 28th, 2010 at the AAW's corporate offices in the Landmark Center, 75 5th Street West, St. Paul, MN 55102-7704. Members may heck the website for proxy matters. Tom's letter is available on the website.

Revolutions

Revolutions © is the newsletter for the South Plains Woodturners, an organization dedicated to promoting the craft and art of woodturning. Revolutions is published each month at Lubbock, TX.

The South Plains Woodturners is affiliated with The American Association of Woodturners and The Southwest Association of Turners.

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AAW Doings

Tom Wirsing, President of AAW BOD, has sent the club notice of the BOD's intent to collect proxies from members to stop the MAG, a group angry over the dismissal of Mary Lacer as Executive Director, from taking over AAW. This letter also promises a committee to rewrite the bylaws. SPW asks each AAW member to be guided by their own interest and conscience in this matter.

Next Club Meeting

10:00 am

August 7th

At Target Sheet Metal
in the Wood Shop upstairs

Mike Chambers will Demo

President's Letter

Last month I asked all members to check in with Tom Farrell regarding the new membership cards. Thank you to those who have responded.

Rumor has it that SPW members presenting that member card at time of purchase are receiving a 10% discount on wood turning blanks and turning related supplies at Acacia Hardwoods. I knew there was a good reason to have that card.

June and July have flown by and the discounted registration rate for the SWAT Wood Turning Symposium is upon us. I understand there will be a fair number representing the "Green Shirt Contingent" in Waco, at the end of August. Information on the symposium and a registration form is available on line at www.swaturners.org.

The SPW Mentoring program is off to a good start, I hear good reports from participants who have asked for help. They all say it has been a very beneficial learning experience. That is what this program is all about, to help each other become better turners. So, check in with the Mentors at the next SPW meeting.

Glenn Williamson plans to conduct machine tool maintenance workshops. These will be a follow up to Glenn's presentation at the July meeting, "Things That Go Bump In The Shop". As I understand it, these will be hands on sessions concerning diagnosing problems with bearings, pulleys, belts, etc. and how to change them out or to repair them. I believe there will be a weekend session for persons who work during the week and a week day session for the retirees. This is another opportunity you don't want to miss.

Jim Harris aka The Prez

Treasurer's Info

As Tom Farrell has settled into the job of club treasurer, he has set three practices for handling club funds that he wishes everyone be aware:

No money will be accepted by the Treasurer or in his absence, the designated representative, without issue of a receipt.

No money will be paid out by the treasurer or in his absence, the designated representative, without an itemized, detailed receipt.

All money paid out by the treasurer or in his absence, the designated representative, will be in the form of a check. This does not include **change made from the cash box. Reimbursements will not be made out of the cash box.**

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Lathe dating from 1865



The lathe in this photograph, "Ole Fitch," resides on the website belonging to Joaz Hill. Hill, whose alter ego is *Shape-shifter*, saw this lathe in a neighbor's yard.

With help from a machinist, Joaz returned the old lathe to working order.

"Unfortunately the babbitt bearings were worn out so I had to put new pill blocks on each end with ball bearings."

Fitchburg Machine Co. produced this multi-purpose lathe in 1865. At manufacture the lathe also had a metal turning carriage, and it is thought to have turned gun barrels in the last year of the Civil War. In the early era, water powered the lathe.

Fitchburg, lying about forty-five miles east-northeast of Boston, has been the site of machine manufacture since about 1824. The company, Fitchburg Machine was acquired by the



Seneca Falls Machine Co. Seneca Falls remains in business today, producing made to order products. Some of the old tools produced by Seneca Falls Machine may be seen at this site: <http://www.owwm.com/MfgIndex/detail.aspx?id=734>

Joaz Hill states the 'Ole Fits' lathe is available free to anyone who will take it. If you want and have some way of getting this historic tool, contact him at myizy@hotmail.com

Acacia Hardwoods Offer

Rudy Valdez, manager of Acacia Hardwoods, has announced a special offer for card-carrying SPW members.

Acacia Hardwoods will give a **10% discount** on most hardwoods and woodturning materials to include pen kits.

In order to qualify for this extremely generous offer, members must present their membership card, signed by Tom Farrell.

Thanks to Rudy and the guys at Acacia for giving us one more reason to pay our dues.

Oglesby Continued from page 1.

Mike also put up a red dyed doughnut bowl turned from honey locust. The bowl completed in July has been finished with lacquer.



David Turner displayed five pieces in all. These three natural edge mesquite bowls were all turned this year. David used a lacquer finish on all three.

At right is another of David's mesquite bowls. Also pictured at right is his locust bowl, turned like all the others this year.



Above is Dick Markham's *Contraption*. Completed in 2001, the *Contraption* evolved, according to Dick over a long period of time. This piece consists of whimsical gear and universal joint constructs. The gear systems includes spoke cogs set as face gears. This was probably the first type of gear build by a prehistoric engineer. Elsewhere one may see a system of spur gears ready to spin each other around. Most notable is the sliding gear, appearing somewhat like a Maltese cross.

Even though Markham claims the piece is completed, **Revolutions** challenges Dick to contrive a worm gear somewhere in this piece. Your audience awaits expectantly.

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Bring Back Raffle Issues

The South Plains Woodturners depends upon the raffle for income to pay for the refreshments at the meeting each month and to pay other club expenses.

Although the income from the raffle has been relatively constant, the number of items offered in the raffle had dwindled in recent months. A number of members buy raffle tickets almost as a donation. This is great. Everyone in the club should appreciate these generosity. When the number of items up for the raffle has been really small, one member has always brought up some extra wood from his supply. If you think about who this is, you will know whom I am speaking about. Thank him when you get the chance.

The challenge is to all the members to bring something for the raffle. This is especially true for those who win a raffle item. It is a **Bring Back Raffle**. So we need to start bringing back. The editor of this newsletter is as guilty as anyone else. He is going to try to do better. How about you?

Don't bring that worm infested piece of firewood. Bring something you would like to win. Good wood, a tool (perhaps one you have made) a pen or key chain kit, a tool handle, a small turned item (don't worry about a flaw or two, they all got 'em), measuring devices— all these make great raffle items.

Other clubs put much more emphasis on their raffle and the winners. Our sister club to the south, Comanche Trails, publishes the names of the winners in their newsletter.

Machine Tool Workshop

Glenn Williamson will offer two Workshops in August to expand on his demonstration at the last meeting.

If you have never seen Glenn's shop, this is a great opportunity just to see it. The workshop will be a great opportunity to learn about machine tool care, use and repair.

We urge you to sign up for the Tuesday workshop if possible, saving the Saturday workshop for those who still work for a living. Glenn will accept up to six for each workshop.

Tuesday Aug 17 1 to 5 pm

or

Saturday Aug 21 1 to 5 pm

Sign up at the August club meeting.

A map to Glenn's place will up on our website, spwoodturners.net, prior to the workshops.

Hummm!!

Bryce Ellis explained to the club how VFD or Variable Frequency Drive and gave a little history of the concept behind VFD's. First used in industry, VFD's were expensive ways to control the speed of large electric motors. Small motor speed control was only addressed by devising the motors windings in such a way that several speed could be achieved. This would be the way food blenders might be operated at *puree* or just *chop*.

Bryce told us how VFD operations can increase the heat in a motor. Newer electric motors will have the insulation factors on the plate that lists other data about the motor. This heat also indicates that VFD' s may reduce the efficiency of a motor. At extremely slow speeds torque is greatly reduced from high speeds. This is not a matter of inertia, but power dissipation as heat.

Recently, electronic innovation has allowed for sale of reasonably priced but also reasonably efficient VFD's. A unit for a ¾ horse motor, for example, may be purchased for around a hundred dollars.

Thorne and Rogers (From Page 3)

Waste not, Want not. Remember the demo from June. We all saw a part of one of the segmented pieces being started in Randy Thorne's demo.

Randy built up the vase from blood

wood, poplar and ziricote sandwiched between a yellow heart base and top.

The open segmented bowl is made from a base of blood wood. The segments are made of blood wood, poplar, and ziricote. Thorne topped off the bowl with a maple and mahogany ring.



Larry Rogers also turned a part of the basin from this set, *Clean Hands*, in the June demo. It is made from walnut, bubinga and curly maple. In order to complete the set, Larry, you need to make a chamber pot.

Rogers donated this lovely Honduras rose wood box with finial to bring back raffle. It has been accented with curly maple.

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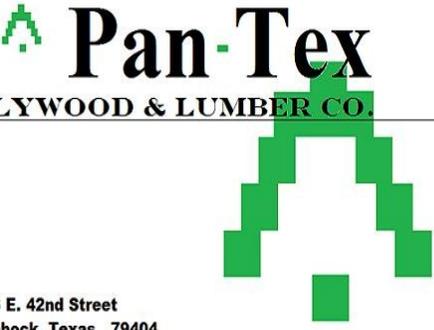
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Map to locate club meeting

