

Zumbro Valley Woodturners Newsletter

March 27, 2008 meeting

The March monthly meeting of the Zumbro Valley Woodturners was held in Lyle Solems studio on March 27th. There were 26 attending the meeting.



Presidents Corner:

This month's chatter will be a thank you memo.

Thank you Bill Beckman for volunteering to write and publish our Zumbro Valley Woodturners newsletter. All of us appreciate receiving information about ZVW.

My second thank you is to Dave Dunn for his outstanding demo at the March meeting on turning Corian and finishing the bottoms of a turning.

The third thank you I have is to the Rochester Wood Carvers for inviting the ZVW to participate in their wood carver's show that was held this past March 29 & 30, 2008 at the 4 H building located on the fair grounds in Rochester.

The next thank you is to the people who brought turnings for the demo tables and helped support the staffing of our turning demonstration and talking to hundreds of people about the items on display and our woodturning chapter. This show was a big success with many hundreds of people attending. Some times the aisles were so packed with people that all you could do is flow with the crowd. We talked to many people about our wood turner's chapter and I would guess we may possibly get 3 to 6 new members.

The event started Friday night when Irv Miller my wife Donna and I set up our demo area. Saturday morning the event opened to the public. On Saturday our members attended the tables and turnings were made by Irv, Tony Love, Dave Dunn, Tim Sullivan, Donna and myself.

On Sunday our staffing was Irv, Wayne Van Every, Dennis Holt, Donna and myself plus Bill Beckman taking pictures.

Irv, Tim, Dave, Wayne and myself took turns turning tops for the kids. When you would use the chatter tool on the ends of the tops it would make a lot of noise and this was a good drawing card. We have two turning champions, Irv for turning the most tops and Wayne for turning the smallest tops, that were about ¼ inch in size.

We need to thank Dennis Holt for loaning us his small Jet lathe for doing the turning demonstrations and also thank all of you that brought food for the noon meals and items for the raffle that helps pay for the event.

Thank you Harmon for volunteering your shop and being the demonstrator for next months meeting that will be on Thursday April 24, 2008 6:30 PM. The demonstration will be turning basic bowls from start to finish.

Keep those chips moving and be safety conscious.

Your President, Lyle



Irv Miller discussed the Wood Carvers show and passed around a sign up sheet for members to participate at the Zumbro Valley Woodturners tables that are a part of the show. Not sure how many signed up, but it was not for lack of enthusiasm about the project on the part of Irv.

If you were not able to visit the carvers' show, you would have been amazed by the talent and diversity of items, large and small.

The ZVW tables were in one corner of the 4-H building. The tables were filled with many fine objects brought by several members of the group.

Photos taken on Sunday March 30, at the Carvers show.



Back to the ZVW meeting!

Lyle passed around the roster list for people to sign as well as a get-well card to **Bill Leary**. Several other announcements were made regarding our next meeting. **Clair Everts'** retirement and new job were discussed with various levels of encouragement and envy. The members were not sure if the turning project Clair showed is related to his new job.



We all hope that Clair finds good use for the rolling pin. It is made of green ash from his front yard. Clair was asking about others experience in how long you have to dry wood to be confident that it will not split. Not sure he got an adequate answer.

From there the meeting moved on to the demonstration by **Dave Dunn** concerning turning of Corian as well as a method to reverse turn the bottom of pieces.

Dave turned several items while discussing the merits of Corian and where one might find some inventory if you wanted to try your hand.



Dave Dunn Presents!

Gather around, come close, and listen up!

Dave started with a small piece of Corian mounted on a waste block. Dave uses double-sided fabric tape, frequently described as the mother of all tapes.

The Corian piece was to be a small dish used for spinning tops. Dave turned the topside first and then reversed the piece to finish the bottom. Dave explained how he used a small drill to mark the center of the piece through the waste block so that the finishing of the bottom could be adequately centered on the lathe.



Here Dave is turning the edge of the Corian blank. He secures the blank with a live center and a small diameter pin.

Dave comments that turning Corian requires that you not be too aggressive as the material warms up and becomes semi liquid or rubbery.



Dave turns the face of the piece. Removing the area where the live center was supporting the disc.

Again, turning material away slowly, to prevent heating.

The piece ends up being slightly concave and sanded to 400 grit. (If I remember correctly.)



Here Dave has turned the Corian blank around and is turning the bottom.

He uses a jamb chuck with some soft rubber material glued to the end. This is compressed by the tailstock and provides friction to turn the piece.

The top has been finished and sanded at this point. He turns down to a small point, and then uses a small hand grinder (Dremel) to sand off the remaining small center divot.



Dave explains how he attaches a waste block to an Osage orange wood blank.

Double sided tape and again the small drill to leave a small mark on the center of the wood piece for centering when the blank is reversed.



Dave also demonstrated turning a piece of tree lilac. This particular piece had bark and a small crack but that was not a deterrent.

Dave turned the piece to shape and then started to hollow the interior. He stressed that he starts hollowing with a small tool so as not to put too much pressure on the turning. Unfortunately at about this point, there was a small catch and the piece was knocked off center. Dave corrected and was able to continue and part off the turning.



The group does not seem to fear any flying pieces from Dave's demonstration. No one sleeping either!



For the show and tell discussion, these are tops made by **Mel Turcanik**. Count them, there are twelve tops here in one palm. Makes it easier taking product to market according to Mel.



There were a lot of show and tell items on display. From a ground effect top to turned wine glasses.



Megan Funk won the drawing for the Craft Supply certificate, with her first turning. Congratulations!

Welcome new members!

At the meeting on the 27th of March, two new members signed up. Be sure to welcome **Duff Bement** of Pine Island and **Sheldon Bailey** of Rochester.

Sanding reference!

There is an excellent article written by a member of the **Georgia Woodturners club**. It can be found on their website at: <http://www.gawoodturner.org/Files/Newsletter.pdf> The article was written by **Jack Morse**.

The next meeting of the Zumbro Valley Woodturners will be held April 24th, starting at 6:30. A printable map to find Harmon Pierces' shop can be found on our website at:

<http://www.zvwoodturners.org/Maps/Map%20to%20Harmon's%20Shop.pdf>

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The Zumbro Valley Woodturners, established in 2001, is a chapter of the American Association of Woodturners. Its mission is to provide a means for woodturners to get together, share ideas and techniques, and educate each other and the public about the wonder and complexity of woodturning.

Club membership is by household and dues are \$20 annually payable at the start of each calendar year. High school and college students interested in woodturning are invited to be student members at no charge.

To serve on the board of directors, a club member must also be a member of the American Association of Woodturners.

2008 ZVWoodturners board

President: **Lyle Solem** ldsolem@aol.com

VP: **Todd VanDeWalker** vandewalker.todd@mayo.edu

Secretary: **Mel Turcanik** turcanik@yahoo.com

Treasurer: **Tom Paska** tmpaska@charter.net

Librarian: **Dennis Holt**, HoltDM@aol.com

Website editor: **Irv Miller**, ilmiller@kmwb.net

Harmon Pierce harmon@us.obm.com

Clair Ewert, audreyewert@juno.com

Bill Beckman, newsletter editor wpbeckman@earthlink.net

ZVW website: <http://www.zvwoodturners.org>

As this is my first issue of the ZVW newsletter, I want to thank Irv for his help and encouragement. I do not think we really know how much effort he put into the newsletter and the website. Visit the website, you will be amazed!

Don't forget the mentor program. Help, fun and ideas are just a phone call or email away!

Feedback/contributions/comments of any flavor are most welcome and encouraged.

wpbeckman@earthlink.net