



## Monthly Newsletter October 4, 2011

President: Phil Hauser  
609-518-9801

Ex. VP: Steve Leichner

VP: Seth Chamberlain

VP: Robert Jay

Editor: Mike Zickler

Treasurer: John Coles

School Liaison: Marty Richter

Photographers: Ina Cabañas

Jeff Schnell

Librarian: Jeff Kieserman

Webmaster: Wally Kowrach

<http://www.del-val-turners.com>

### October 4, 2011 Meeting -

President Phil welcomed everyone, including about 22 members. He reminds us that his next open house will be on Oct. 18<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm, all are welcome. The next club meeting is on Nov. 8<sup>th</sup>, and the presenter will be John Beaver, who makes innovative "wave bowls." The annual election of club officers is scheduled for the Nov. 8<sup>th</sup> meeting too.





An executive committee meeting is scheduled for Oct. 25 to discuss the upcoming Holiday party, which will be held on Dec. 6 at the D'Olier Room of Moorestown Friends School. This location is attached to the brick Meeting House on your left at the top of the Moorestown Friends School property as you come around the school on the driveway. In addition to wonderful food there will be show and tell sessions, auctions, and the results of the survey we conducted to identify ideas for presentation topics at future meetings will be revealed. All club members and their significant others are cordially invited and encouraged to attend.

REMINDER: the password for our site is "09Turner!" , there is no letter "s" on the end ! The password begins with a number zero and ends with an exclamation point. It is case-sensitive so remember to capitalize the "T" in the password. If you have any problems, let Wally know.

The 50/50 winner this month was Doug James, congrats Doug. Several other prizes were also awarded to lucky winners, including Victor Malench, John Mercurio and Anthony Christaldi.

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## Upcoming Events

Oct. 18 – next open house at Phil Hauser's shop

Oct. 25 – Executive committee meeting

Nov. 8 – next regular meeting, John Beaver demo

Dec. 6 – Christmas Party

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Treasurer's Report - **Don't forget, annual dues for 2012 must be paid in order to be eligible for the door prize at the upcoming Christmas party on Dec. 6 at the school in Moorestown.**



**Library Report** – Librarian Jeff Kieserman has begun to organize a database of our library holdings, anyone with ideas or an urge to help should contact him.

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## Featured Program – Alan Lacer



Alan Lacer is a well known turner with over 35 years of experience, and has been recognized by the AAW with the award of a lifetime honorary membership in recognition of his service. Alan has his own website at [www.alanlacer.com](http://www.alanlacer.com) , where you can find lots of interesting articles on the tips and techniques he talked about during his presentation (so I won't repeat any of that info here.) Alan was asked to focus on the skew tool tonite, and he started by discussing the profiles and angles he prefers, and correct techniques for edge production and sharpening the tool, including rounding over the corners of the shaft for maximum handling flexibility. He stressed the importance of respiratory and eye protection during sharpening, going so far as to use both a NIOSH 95 mask and a shop vac to minimize hazards. He mentioned "MSC Direct.com" as a good website for protective supplies. He is a proponent of the "glint test" to determine sharpness, not feeling the edge with your fingernail, or shaving hair from your arm ! Final honing is done with a diamond stone that he sells, or ones by "EZ Lap" or "DMT" companies.

Moving on to the actual turning process, he stressed the importance of "warming up" your skills before really getting started on good wood, and advocated using cup centers instead of spur drives to help reduce the danger from catches. With these centers you can actually practice how catches occur and thus learn to avoid them, without the damage to your body, tool, or work when using a stronger and more unforgiving drive system. He then went on to describe and demonstrate a range of different cuts the skew can be used for, including the planing and peeling cuts, V cuts, shoulder cuts, and several others. For all of them he stressed the importance of finding the bevel before allowing

the cutting edge to strike the work. Some of the finishes he achieves are very fine, equivalent to 400 grit or better, with the proper cut and technique, and he suggested practicing these cuts on soft woods, because they are less forgiving and if you can perfect your technique on them it will translate to much better performance on better quality work.



This was a very enjoyable and enlightening presentation by Alan, and we sincerely thank him for his generosity in staying as long as he did. For a guy with a “digitally enhanced” skew chisel inserted into his new shoulder, he has quite remarkable endurance and dexterity!