



## Monthly Newsletter January 13, 2009

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### January Meeting

The first meeting of the new year was attended by about 35 members. We raised an all-time high of \$108 from the 50/50 collection, which was won by Don Hart. Congratulations to Don !

President Phil began the meeting with a report on finances, stating we have over \$2000 in our account, a new record high. Phil will not be able to host his open house this month due to travel plans. There will be an executive committee meeting on 1/27/09.

There are a number of members who haven't paid their 2009 dues yet, and Phil requested that they do so as soon as possible. Our next meeting will be on February 11, with Phil demonstrating how to turn a natural edge bowl.

The **club challenge for January** was a segmented piece, of at least 3 layers. Two layers should have at least 6 segments, and a minimum of two different woods should be used.



The winner of the \$25 prize was Seth Chamberlain, with a very nice open segmented piece constructed of bloodwood, holly and ebony. Good job Seth !!!



The **Show and Tell** session this meeting included quite a nice collection of beautiful pieces,



from Steve,



Phil,



Andy,



Robert,



Mark,



and others. Check out more photos on our web site.

The featured program this month was a very informative design workshop presented by our own Jeff Turi.



Jeff did a great job of discussing the thought process involved in the continuum from purely functional to very artistic shapes. The

four design elements he focused on included (1) **line**, which can be thought of as the constant change of calculus equations, with no “flat spots” to interrupt the flow. Consider for example how a smaller foot gives more “lift” to a piece and creates a dynamic balance; (2) **proportion**, with the golden ratio, often found in nature, defining the concept of “ideal beauty.” Jeff emphasized this concept with an explanation of the Fibonacci series and derivation of the value of phi, or 0.6182, and how that can be applied to various measurements while laying out a shape; (3) **balance**; and (4) **overall flow**. Of course, the eternal struggle between left brain and right brain dominance has a lot to do with how willing we are to “go with the flow” vs a compulsion to micro-measure the design, and if in doubt about the look of a piece, work on the “high spot.”

Jeff emphasized each principle with examples, drawings and group interaction, and then applied the thought process practically by moving to the lathe and turning a rough blank into a flowing shape with the help of a paper template as a basic guide.



This was a very informative and well organized presentation, and we appreciate Jeff’s efforts. (By the way, he will be providing handouts of the topics he covered at our next meeting.)



**Treasurer's Report** - over \$2000 in the till !



**Library Report** – Robert proposed we purchase the new Ellsworth book, which was approved.

## Upcoming Events

January 27 – executive committee meets

February 11 – next regular club meeting

March 28-29, 2009 – Adirondack

Woodturner Symposium, Saratoga  
Springs, NY

([www.totallyturning.com](http://www.totallyturning.com))

May 23, 2009 - NE Wood Turning

Symposium, Pinkerton, NH