



Monthly Newsletter May 13, 2008

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May Meeting

The May meeting was attended by 31 members, including a new member, Ed Reiss, and a visiting member, Jim Shackelford, from Bayou Woodturners in New Orleans, and his nephew, Jonas Selman. Welcome guys!

Thanks to Mike Cunningham for making the group purchase of peppermill mechanisms. He collected almost \$1000 from members who are enthused to make their own peppermills following Mike's demo last month. President Phil has rescheduled the club challenge from June 10 until the September meeting. Newly elected Executive Vice President Andy DiPietro announced our club raised over \$350 from this year's HOW program. Thanks to those who participated, and let's make it even bigger next year. Bring in your HOW workshop finished pieces for the Sept.

meeting and compete for the \$25 prize. **Also for the September meeting, remember to bring in any items you want to donate to the church silent auction for their Octoberfest event.** Kieth Davies will be demonstrating at the upcoming WTC table in historic Elfreth's Alley on June 7. Stop in and visit if you can. George Morris reported a successful tour of the Nakashima studio in New Hope, and discussed possible future trips over the summer. Remember, there are no scheduled club meetings in July and August.

The **featured item** this month was a demo by Bob Rosand, nationally known as the "grandfather of the Christmas tree ornament."



His web site is found at www.rrosand.com/. Bob estimates he has made over 6000 ornaments, and his skill certainly supports that claim. Bob showed how he makes the 3 parts of the ornament, including the globe, which he describes as a flattened balloon shape, the icicle, with 4 segments, and the finial. Bob recommends using Sherwin Williams sanding sealer thinned with turpentine to get a clean cut and eliminate tearout. He showed us a simple thickness gauge he uses, made from coat hanger wire, and provided numerous valuable suggestions on tool choices, techniques, and suppliers. His signing pen is a Micron, 0.005" point

with archival ink, available from art supply houses. His choice of finish is Deft spray satin lacquer. He also made a miniature acorn birdhouse ornament with an ebony perch, using a special scraper he designed for the mating surfaces. Finally, he made a small Christmas tree ornament, using a special parting tool to make the evenly spaced cuts simulating branches. Pieces of his finished work (with credit to his wife for the painting !) are shown in the photo below. Thanks to Bob for doing a very fine presentation. He is not only a skilled turner, but also generous with his knowledge and an informative and pleasant personality.



We also had an interesting **Show and Tell** session. Many members participated, and photos of their efforts are shown here, with more on the web site.



(Check out more photos on our web site.)

The 50/50 winner was Gordon Heckler, who collected \$48. Congratulations, Gordon. (I think he spent it immediately on a couple of Bob Rosand's tools !)

Upcoming Events

May 20- Open House at Phil Hauser shop

May 27 – Executive committee meeting

June 10- next regular club meeting in Haddonfield. Peter Oliver demonstrating.

June 20, 2008 – annual AAW meeting in Richmond, VA.

August 16 – picnic at George Morris's home in Upper Darby



Treasurer's Report - None this month



Library Report – none this month

Help Wanted section- We are looking for members who will volunteer to coordinate

group purchases of various supplies for the club. Items that have been suggested include sandpaper, glue, Anchor Seal, finish and waxing products, etc. The responsibilities of this position would include: 1) identifying materials that make sense to acquire by group purchases; 2) making announcements at club meetings or in the newsletter to give members every opportunity to see the offer for upcoming purchases; 3) maintaining a list of members interested in a particular group purchase; 4) collecting checks from interested members in advance of making the purchase, to ensure the funds are available; 5) placing the orders and paying for them using the collected funds; 6) taking delivery of the purchased materials and distributing them at the club meetings. If you would like to consider helping with this please contact one of the club executives.