



Monthly Newsletter November 9, 2010

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

November 9, 2010 Meeting -



President Phil welcomed everyone, including about 22 members. The annual election of club officers, required by the AAW bylaws, was held at this meeting, and by unanimous vote the proposed slate was elected. Congratulations to our leadership!!! Phil's next open house will be in two weeks, on Nov. 23 at 7 pm.

The next regular club meeting, on Dec. 14th, will be our annual Christmas Party in the social room of the Grace Church in Haddonfield. All members are encouraged to attend with their significant other, for good food, wine and Holiday cheer. There will be a silent auction with wood and tools to bid on; a Pollyanna exchange on the theme of a clock; and a club challenge of a Christmas ornament. We will also have a show and tell session, so be sure to bring some of your best work to discuss. In addition, all members whose dues for 2011 are paid up will be entered in a door prize contest for two beautiful Australian burls.

In celebration of the AAW 25th anniversary next year, they are requesting clubs to submit collaborative works that will fit in an 8" cube. Our club has decided to request miniature pieces from all members, representing the type of work each member does. A handout with the requirements for the individual pieces was distributed by Robert Jay, please contact him or any executive member with any questions. The submitted pieces will be assembled at Phil's open house in January, but they can be submitted any time before then. The deadline for submission to AAW is Feb. 28, 2011.

The 50/50 winner this month was Jeff Kieserman, congrats Jeff.

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Upcoming Events

Nov. 13 – Dec. 19 - Works in Wood show, New Hope Arts Center

We have 4 members in the show, Andy Phil, Robert and Steve, and everyone is invited to attend the opening on Nov 20, from 6-8 pm (\$10 cover charge.) Poster is attached as last page of the newsletter.

Nov. 23 – next open house at Phil Hauser's shop

Dec. 14 – Christmas Party at Haddonfield church meeting location

March 26-27, 2011 Andy will be one of eleven Demonstrators at Totally Turning Symposium in Saratoga Springs NY, Saturday & Sunday, March 26 & 27, 2011. Flyer attached below.

<http://www.totallyturning.com/index.htm>

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Treasurer's Report - **Don't forget, annual dues for 2011 must be paid in order to be eligible for the door prize at the upcoming Christmas party on Dec. 14 at the church in Haddonfield.**



Library Report – none this month

Featured Program –

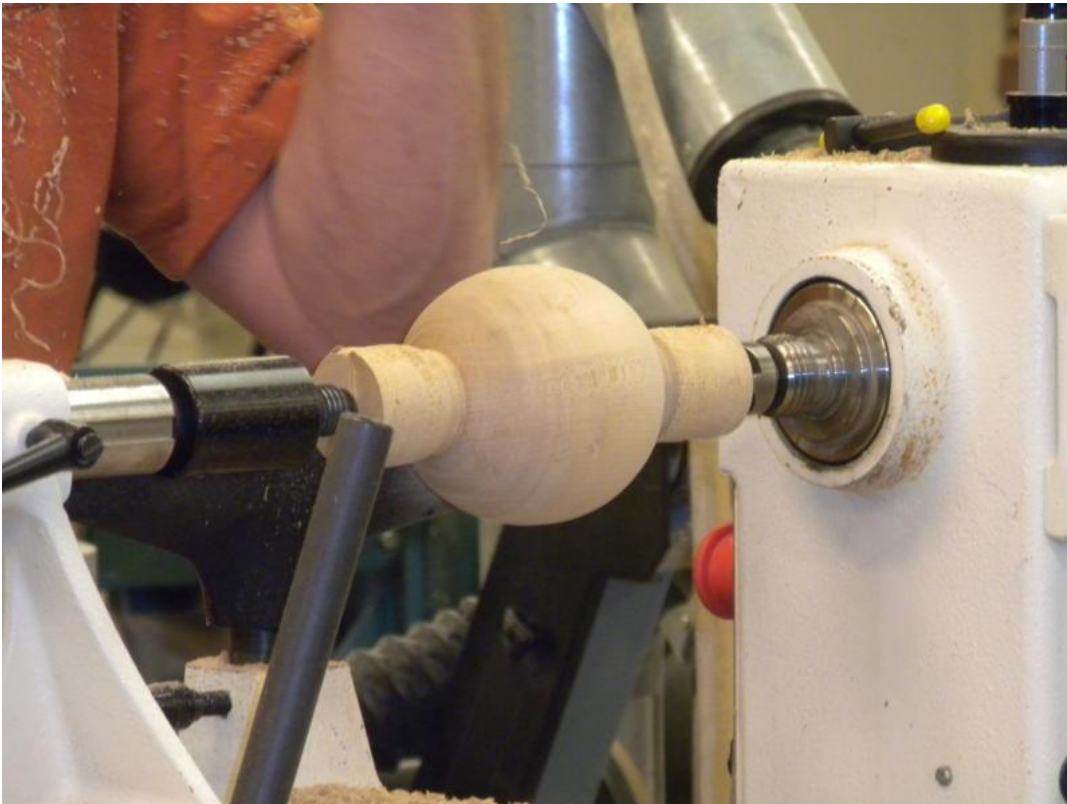
The program this month was a thought provoking demonstration by Don Derry, who lives in Washington state. Although he is well known for his fabulous color and finish process, Don elected to spend time talking about a more fundamental issue, that of form and shape. To demonstrate how he thinks “outside the box” from the very beginning, he mounted his first piece on the lathe without drawing the traditional center lines on the ends. His attitude is that wood is cheap, worthless was his actual description, and the size of the finished piece is not as important as how it looks.



Don feels that every piece you begin to work on has the potential to become a masterpiece, so long as you are comfortable with the craft and spend the proper amount of time on it. You should cultivate the idea that you can make amazing work every day, and that understanding what you’re doing leads to not asking “Now what do I do?” when an issue or problem seems to appear, but rather “Where’s the high spot?”, which leads you back to improving the form and shape of the piece.

By practicing your techniques on the basic shapes of cylinder, sphere, cone, egg and pear, Don says you can get a real feel for almost any shape, and he recommends doing this even while getting rid of waste wood on your work. Another good tip he related was starting to turn a piece on your weakest side first (usually left side for right handed turners), which will help improve your technique. Don spent a fair amount of time explaining how our minds perceive objects (known as pattern recognition), and how that can sometimes fool our eyes and make things look longer or shorter,

depending on the perspective. He recommends asking the question “Did that last cut make the shape better or worse?” and actually saying it out loud, because using language helps the emotional and cognitive sides of the brain relate better. He described the “Hero” cut, which in a long flowing motion results in that perfect curve you are seeking, but admits it doesn’t always work to his satisfaction. He warned us about thinking “no one will notice” that slight imperfection in your finished work, when in fact everyone will notice it! And he suggested not to say to yourself “Ah, it’s almost done”, because then you’ve let yourself off the hook and that’s when 90% of the problems can occur.



Another tip he offered is not to take the parting tool and “guess” where the end of a piece should be, because that’s almost always a mistake. Rather, you should leave the piece long and keep working it, even taking it out of the centers and looking at it from different orientations to determine the best final shape. Or you can put a grey board behind it while still mounted to see it differently.



While demonstrating the egg and sphere shapes, he recommended against “ping ponging” back and forth from one end to another as your perception of “finished” is changed. He talked about the different approaches the engineering mind takes vs an artistic one, which might appreciate a slight imperfection that the engineer couldn’t tolerate. He also mentioned that the most beautiful forms are almost always found in nature, like the Robin’s egg, for example.

I liked his suggestion that we shouldn’t get frustrated if the work isn’t going right, because after all it’s still a learning experience, not a waste of time. Your perception of the best form for your finished piece should be more advanced than your tool skills, leading you to say “I wish I had the skill to make that cut!”

This program was a lot of fun, and we all appreciated the humor, insights, creativity and fine craftsmanship displayed by our guest, Don Derry, whose website is available on the web.

Additional photos from the meeting are available at our Yahoo site, <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/DelValWoodturners>.





works in wood

a national **juried** exhibition
featuring 34 artists
sculpture . vessels
artist designed furniture

Open Thursday - Sunday
12noon - 5:00pm
November 13 - December 19

Artists' Reception Party
Saturday, November 20, 2010
6:00pm - 8:00pm

exhibiting artists

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|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Mark Anderson | Brian Paul Kolakowski |
| Cathy Begg | Kevin Kopil |
| Ron Bevilacqua | Stephen Leichner |
| Adam Capone | Wayne Lind |
| Susan Clinard | Steve McAlinn |
| George Cooke | Matthew Merwin |
| Chris Cosner | Jerry Nichols |
| Andy DiPietro | Bryan Richardson |
| Patricia Goodrich | Paul Reiber |
| Glen Guarino | David Robinson |
| Philip Hauser | Eugene Rotberg |
| William Hoehne & | Jack Schiller |
| Susan Clark | Carter Sio |
| Robert Jay | John C. Sterling |
| Bob Justin | Lee Sullenberger |
| Leslie Kaufman | William West |
| Norine Kevolic | John H. Williams |

\$10 admission

\$5 seniors and students

-includes Food and Refreshments



**NEW
HOPE
ARTS**

the center

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