

The Zumbro Valley Woodturners met Thursday evening in the Rochester Covenant Church. The meeting was attended by 20 brave souls that tested their mettle against the winter elements.

Lyle Solem called the meeting to order as there was a vibrant discussion going on in the entire room.

Introductions were given. We welcomed three new people attending for the first time, Steve Rossello, Terry Lee and Pat Brenman. After they were introduced the regular members introduced themselves and shared with the attendees their name and what equipment they are using. Variable speed drives being a favorite subject. President Lyle previously told the new attendees that after the introductions they would have a memory test on names, however that did not happen.

After some announcements concerning the Wood Carvers group show at the 4-H building at the fair grounds (on March 29 and 30th) and our clubs association with them, Irv Miller said we will be having a display table at the show and will use Dennis Holts small lathe to do demonstrations. Turning of small tops worked real well last year. To cover the cost for renting the 4H building the wood carvers have a silent auction, we need to have our members donate turnings for this auction plus if you are able to work at the event you should bring a food dish to pass because they have a large buffet luncheon furnished by all members attending. Irv will bring a sign up sheet and more information to our next meeting.

The show & tell part of the meeting was interesting in its diversity. Bob Post brought his 45-year-old bowl. Irv Miller discussed a series of bowls he made and his intention to build a photo library of his turned items. Mel Turcanik demonstrated a catatonic top he made. Dennis Holt brought a number of small Christmas Ornaments, Rick Myos show and tell was two very unique platters with inlays and various colors imbedded. Lyle Solem showed two funeral Urns, a Myrtlewood platter and a pair of matched candlestick holders made out of Cherry Wood.

Irv Miller was the winner of the \$10.00 gift certificate from Craft Supply.

The meeting then turned to the Jakes and Jennies that people had on display. Dave Dunn started with a discussion on bottle stoppers and how he used several home built systems to assist in his process. Tom Kohler discussed his diamond shaped cutting tool and how he sharpened the tool with a jig he made to help keep the same bevels each time you sharpen the diamond tool. A lot of interest in the tool, Tom also had is jig he used when making bottle stoppers.) Bill Beckman showed his process for centering a bowl after turning.

Mel showed several home made items that covered depth measurements as well as special holders for specialty turning projects. Lyle Solem then discussed several items he had collected and brought to the meeting. They covered items from depth/thickness gauge to use on your lathe when locating the bottom of a deep vessel, a go/no go gauge for measuring the size of a foot on a piece of wood to be placed in a chuck, how to use rubber bands on your turnings to eliminate groove marks from your Chucks and numerous jigs for holding turned items when you are finishing the base of your completed bowl, platter etc.

The purpose of a session such as this Jigs and Fixtures is to help each of us learn how you can make various Jigs or Fixtures to make turning easier, and the cost of these type items may be close to zero.

After this discussion and questions were answered, using a mathematically improbable system, one of our guests, Steve Rossello selected his number to be the winner of a second \$10.00 gift certificate from Craft Supply.

Our February 28, 2008 meeting will be back at the Church beginning at 6:30 PM. The topic for this meeting will be how can I recover a partially turned piece of wood. For example, you went

through the bottom of a dish, you now have a crack in the wood, or the piece flew off the lathe and what ever you have.

Please bring your pieces, 2 or 3 people will give you their opinion on how to salvage your treasured piece.

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