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Annual Meeting

January 2010

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Election of new officers

New officers were elected during the Jan. 12, 2010 meeting. I would like to extend a huge thanks to Bob Wilson, and George Walker, out President and Vice-President. They did a terrific job the last two years. The club has really expanded under their leadership. We will count on their input in the years to come.

Andy Scott, Clarksburg, Pa., was unanimously voted in as our new President. Andy is one of the "founding fathers" of the club. He teaches art at the Kiski Prep school and has an MFA from IUP. Bob Henry, Blairsville, PA., is now our new Vice President. He, like Andy was voted in unanimously. Bob is also one of our "founding fathers" as well. He is Past-President of Turners Anonymous, our sister club in Pittsburgh, as well as being an active member of that club.

Susan Karatjas has graciously agreed to remain as Treasurer. Blake McCully will once again be Secretary.



Andy Scott, President

We are looking forward to an exciting future under this leadership.



Bob Henry, Vice-President



Susan Karatjas, Treasurer



Blake McCully, Secretary

Stabilizing wood process: Pros and Cons



Rick Beam demonstrating

Rick Beam, Johnstown, PA.,

presented a discussion about stabilizing wood that is not the best quality, punky, spalted, etc. You know, the type we all like to turn.

He discussed the non-proprietary part of the process and explained the difference in

turning stabilized wood as opposed to non-stabilized wood. He also brought various articles that he had stabilized in stages of completion, as well as finished products. He emphasized that with proper tool technique little if any sanding was needed.

Stabilizing wood.

Rick demonstrated the quality of the cut he got using his skew chisel. He turned a little with some red palm and black palm wood. If you've ever turned this stuff you know it is exceedingly splintery, but the quality of the cuts he made in

the stabilized wood were very smooth.



Bob Henry turning a piece of stabilized spalted maple.

Membership Dues

Membership dues need to be paid by the February meeting. As a reminder, the dues are \$20 per person, \$30 per family and students are not charged dues. If you don't remember if you paid your dues, contact me at smallturnings@comcast.net, 724-349-4394 or contact Susan Karatjas at susan@sdkminiatures.com. I have asked Susan to provide myself and

Andy a copy of the updated membership list .

Please let either Susan or myself know if you will not be paying your dues. Once all the dues are collected, we will provide each of you with a membership card which is good for a 10% discount at Rockler as well as a 10% discount with Har-

bor Freight.

Call for help/ideas

We discussed briefly at the last meeting the two events which we, as a club, participate. Canal Days in Saltsburg on the first weekend of June. We normally only attend that event on Saturday. We have done this since we became a club and have always been received well.

In August we participate in Diamond Days in Blairsville, the 2nd or 3rd weekend in August. This event we do Saturday and Sunday. On Sunday it is only half a day. Again, we have always been welcomed and treated very well.

Andy Scott is basically in charge of coordinating the event in Saltsburg,

and Bob Henry works with the folks in Blairsville. We need to have some new blood at these events. It doesn't matter if you want to turn but if you could come join us and help "schmooze" the crowd a little that would be a great help.

If you should choose to try a little turning, don't forget that membership in the AAW is needed for insurance purposes. It's not a bad idea to become a member anyway because of the great resource it is.

If anyone would like to demonstrate, discuss a process you have at a meeting, please do not hesitate to contact Andy. It is a lot of fun.

If you don't wish to participate in that way, but you have some ideas about a demonstration or the like, again please let Andy know. Remember, this is YOUR club, so we want to encourage everyone to participate in any way possible.



Bob Henry, Diamond Days '09



Bob Henry, Diamond Days '09 turning tops.