

WEST TENNESSEE WOODTURNERS

NEWSLETTER

MAY 15 2009

FORMATION OF LOCAL CHAPTER OF AAW

April 7, 2009 a small group of woodturning enthusiasts met for the first time at Chuck Jones workshop in Cedar Grove, Tennessee to discuss the possibility of forming a woodturning association in the West Tennessee area. There were nine present ranging from beginning woodturners to some highly skilled and experienced. Almost none knew each other. The level of interest was extremely high and plans were made to meet on the 2nd Thursday of each month and commence organizing a club with the goal to become a chapter of the American Association of Woodturners (AAW).

The second meeting was

held at Kirk Smith's workshop in Jackson, Tennessee on May 14, 2009. Initial steps were taken toward organization with the election of officers and determination of a name. Bob Hobbs of Henderson was elected President. Bob has been a member of the Mid-South Woodturners Guild for several years and has served on that club's board of directors. Other officers elected were Kirk Smith, Vice President, Chuck Jones, Secretary, and Bill Smith, Treasurer.

It was decided that the name of the group would be "*West Tennessee Woodturners*".

By-laws for the club will be



drafted along the lines recommended by the AAW, and will be presented for approval at the next meeting on June 11, 2009.

Membership will be open to anyone interested in woodturning, desires to develop friendships with people with the same interests, and willing to share their skill and knowledge to the benefit of each other.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS

The AAW is an international, nonprofit organization dedicated to the advancement of woodturning. Their mission is to provide education, information, and organization to those interested in turning wood. The organization is comprised of over 13,000 members and

hundreds of local chapters across North America, Asia, and Europe

The AAW publishes the *American Woodturner*, the most informative, and widely read woodturning publication in the world. Every issue (up to 80 pages)

is packed with a wide array of articles focusing on everything from basic woodturning techniques and special projects, to innovative design ideas.

For more information visit their website at www.woodturner.org.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

NEXT MEETING 2

FIND A HOME 2

NEW WEB SITE 2

DVD'S 2

OFFICERS:

- *President:*
Bob Hobbs
- *Vice President:*
Kirk Smith
- *Secretary:*
Chuck Jones
- *Treasurer:*
Bill Smith

www.wtnwoodturners.com



NEXT MEETING

Our next meeting will either be at Kirk's again or at the fire station at the intersection of Christmasville Road and Ashport Road, across from Kirk's house. He'll let us know beforehand which it will be. The date will be June 11, 2009 starting at 6 P.M. We are working on ideas for a demonstration.

FIND A HOME

It's fun seeing each other's shop (and wondering how Kirk ever got his so clean), but we really need a more permanent place to meet. Keep this in mind and let us know of any ideas you come up with. We generally agreed it should be in the Jackson area since that is most central to our members.

WEB SITE UNDER DEVELOPMENT

A web site address has been reserved and development of the content is underway. Go to wtwoodturners.com and give me any feedback you can.

Ideas on content, format, style will be appreciated. Even though I'm out of date, I'm fairly comfortable with the technical details but totally uncomfortable with the content and graphics. If any-

one wants to jump onto any part or all of it, go for it! A chapter logo would be nice for a start.

I have included a discussion forum and gallery, but have not had time to work out all the issues. Use it all you like. Just be aware I may have to totally wipe it out and start clean somewhere down the

road. Also, I'm having trouble integrating the user-ids between the forum and gallery. I may have bitten off more than I want with this. I've looked at the websites of several of the large clubs and most of them haven't undertaken forums and galleries.

Chuck Jones

DVD'S

Al Stables has some DVD's that he's offered to let us use at a meeting if someone is familiar with DVD players and can set it up. If you have access to such equipment and know how to use it raise your hand. It would be a good way to fill in at a meeting where we are short of demo's or other material.

Also, Chuck Jones has "Woodturning: Fundamentals of Sharpening" from the AAW which he is willing to donate for similar or individual use.