

**Meeting Notes – April 22, 2010**  
**Alamo Woodturners Association (AWA) <http://alamoturners.com>**

**Business:**

AWA President, Robert Schoenert, called the meeting to order and asked for a Treasurer's report. C.D. Barrington, AWA Treasurer, reported income of \$46.00 from dues and the raffle along with expenses of \$26.03. This brings a balance to \$2,746.03. He again summarized his latest conversation with the bank regarding the use of the club debit card, which will produce a credit of \$16.00 resulting in an adjusted balance of \$2,762.03. Hopefully, we now have the timing of purchase established to preclude maintenance fees in the future.

*(NOTE: correction to March 25, 2010 meeting notes. The interim balance was incorrectly stated as \$2,226.06. It should have read \$2,726.06. The final figure was reported correctly).*

**Announcements:**

American Association of Woodturners: <http://www.woodturner.org>

Robert summarized the benefits of membership in the AAW and showed application forms along with brochures advertising the 24<sup>th</sup> annual symposium to be held in Hartford, Connecticut, June 18 – 20, 2010. More information about the symposium is available from [inquiries@woodturners.org](mailto:inquiries@woodturners.org).

Robert said we were probably too late to participate as a chapter in the “collaborative challenge”, but feels that individuals can still participate. More information can be found at:

[http://www.woodturner.org/sym/sym2010/2010\\_ChapterCollabChallenge.pdf](http://www.woodturner.org/sym/sym2010/2010_ChapterCollabChallenge.pdf)

Woodcraft: <http://www.woodcraft.com/>

Robert suggested that this would probably be the last meeting at this location of Woodcraft as they should be in their new location in time for the May meeting. The classroom will be larger and they will continue to supply AWA with a place to meet, complete with equipment and utilities in addition to offering a 10% discount on all turning-related products purchased on a meeting day. He also announced that he was pursuing some way of expressing the association's appreciation to Woodcraft. More info later.

Alamo Turners Association: <http://www.alamoturners.com>

AWA has an excellent website and it should be visited frequently. He drew particular attention to the “For Sale” section as this is a good place to list items you may no longer need. Robert pointed out that the association has a “Video Library” consisting of CD's, DVD's and VHS recordings both professionally produced commercial items and association produced media featuring previous demonstrations held at the Association meetings. Paul Judkins volunteered to convert the VHS tapes to DVD's for the library. The Association has considerable video equipment and needs a volunteer to step-up and operate the equipment at our demonstrations.

SouthWest Association of Turners (SWAT): <http://www.swaturners.org>

Be sure to mark you calendar for this event which will be held August 27 – 29 in Waco Texas. SWAT has gained a good reputation for quality of demonstrators and is considered a very good value. There was some discussion of “working the event” and perhaps having an Association meeting there also as several members indicated they planned to attend. Robert pointed out that Waco will host the event the next two years. Alan Trout suggested that using the 130 toll road is the best way to get to Waco as it bypasses the problems with Austin's traffic, as well as traffic snarls from accidents.

Finally, Robert highlighted this month's cookie platter turned by Nick Bertrand, who was so generously “volunteered” at the last meeting. Congratulations Nick, the mahogany platter is really nice and certainly understand your guidance to be sure and bring-it-back – HOME!

## Show-N-Tell'

Presenter	Item	Wood
Ron Cochran	Bowl	Peach
Kirk Acosta	Bowl	Mesquite, Turquoise
	Vase	Mesquite
	Lidded Box	Dogwood, Dyed Maple Finial
Frank Parker	2 Christmas Ornaments	Sea Urchin – Holly
	Bowl	Walnut, Cabinet grade plywood
	Saucer	Pecan, Walnut, Mesquite, Birds-eye Maple
	2 Natural Edge Bowls	Cedar Elm
Nick Bertrand	Cookie Platter	Mahogany
	Lidded Box	Maple, Mesquite w/dyed Maple finial
	Lidded Box	Mesquite w/dyed maple finial
David Grady	Segmented Open Vessel (489 pieces)	Maple, Lyptus, Ebonized Walnut & Turquoise

## Bring-Back Drawing:

Provider	Item	Recipient
Ron Cochran	Mesquite Bowl Blank	Ed Macilia
Kirk Acosta	1 ½ X 12 inch Mesquite Blank	Alan Trout
Frank Parker	Spreader Knife w/Walnut, Oak, Cherry handle	Tim Hughes
AWA	2X5X5 Jicarillo Blank	Ed Macilia

Pictures can be seen at: <http://alamoturners.shutterfly.com>

## Demonstration:

### *Kirk Acosta – Turning Lidded Boxes.*

Kirk started by pointing out that there are several approaches to turning lidded boxes and this is the technique he uses. He suggests you choose a dry piece of stock for this project as the lid will be thin and subject to warping if the wood is not stable.

While there are several ways to hold the stock, Kirk prefers to affix a waste block on both ends of the stock. First he places the primary stock between centers and turns a tenon on each end. Then he turns matching recesses in the waste blocks and then glues using CA glue. The tenons offer more glue surface for a more secure hold. Also, as noted later, it can be used as a knob for the lid. The lid

portion is parted off and set aside while he works on the vessel portion. Kirk shapes the outside to include the top edge. He then cuts a step to contain the lid using a straight end scraper. He tries to get the edge of the step square to receive the lid rather than using a tapered fit. Once the outside shape is finalized, he begins hollowing the vessel



Kirk chucks the lid section by the waste block and steadies it with a live center. He marks and cuts the lid to the diameter that fits the step in the lower portion of the box. Measuring more than once is recommended, and he said to be sure and “sneak-up” on the final diameter. You want to have it snug but not too tight, as it could stick and be difficult to remove. He faces off the interior of the lid, sands it to final grit and applies the finish material. He cautions not to get the lid too thin as you could drill through if you are cutting a recess to glue in a finial. Even forstner bits have a small point and this could fool you on the depth.



The base section is re-chucked and the lid is fitted to the bottom portion much as if it were a jamb chuck. Hold the lid with a live center and turn the final external shape of the lid by continuing the curve previously established on the bottom portion. As the waste block is removed, the tenon on the primary stock is revealed. This portion can be made into a knob or a transition to a finial depending on your design choice. Sand and finish the lid and then tape it to the bottom portion. Remove the live center and finalize the knob/finial area.

Kirk finishes the hollowing of the base portion using bowl gouges or hollowing tools. He showed a hand-held boring bar with a pair of vice-grip pliers to help control the cutting angle and offset the torque.

Finally, Kirk offered some tips:

It is often beneficial to be able to shift hands on the tool as it is sometimes hard to get to or to see what you are cutting, particularly when working on the underside of the top edge where it rolls over. He showed how to turn a scraper over, opposite side of the vessel. He pointed out that you must take very light cuts and technique allows you to see what you are doing.



Make cuts approximately 1/2-inch deep around the edge of a 3-inch round sanding disk. These should be perpendicular to the edge of the disk. Fit this on a 2-inch sanding disk for use in power sanding the interior of the vessel. The disk will conform to the interior curvature.

### **Closing:**

Being no further business, Robert adjourned the meeting. Several members secured the area.

Photos by C.D.Barrington