

Meeting Notes – February 25, 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 \$70.00 from dues and the raffle along with expenses of \$66.00. This brings a balance of \$2,704.70.

Announcements:

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

Robert again reminded us of the many benefits of membership in the AAW. He brought some application forms that list these benefits and also several programs sponsored by AWA. Robert also brought brochures advertising the 24th annual symposium to be held in Hartford Connecticut June 18 – 20, 2010. He discussed the “chapter collaborative challenge” and solicited volunteers to participate. More information about the symposium is available from inquiries@woodturners.org.

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

Robert reminded us that Woodcraft supplies AWA with a room to meet, complete with equipment and utilities in addition to offering a 10% discount on all turning related products purchased on a meeting day

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

We have an excellent website and we need to visit it frequently. He drew particular attention to the “For Sale” section as this is a good place to list items you may no longer need.

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 SWAT has gained a good reputation for quality of demonstrators and is considered a very good value.

Bob Edwards showed what can happen to a glue-up if you do not get all the old finish off of a previously finished component.

Finally, Robert highlighted this month’s cookie platter turned by Ron Cochran and asked for a volunteer to produce one for next month.

Show-N-Tell”

Presenter	Item	Wood
Kirk Acosta	17” bowl	Spalted Cedar Elm
	13” plate (made from center piece from bowl above)	Spalted Cedar Elm
	Lidded hollow form, dyed Maple handle	Saplted Arizona Ash
Ron Cochran	12” Cookie tray	Mesquite
	Bowl with Turquoise inlay	Mesquite
Frank Parker	Assorted Christmas Ornaments (16 pieces)	Northern Ash, Maple, Walnut & Balsa
	Cut-offs from the production of Louisville Bats	Northern Ash (plain bats) Maple (colored bats)
Mark Kunneman	Platter and two bowls	Mesquite
	Mallet, chatter tool and candle holder	
	Candle holder	Oak

Nick Bertrand	Open Vessel and a lidded hollow form	Mesquite
Larry Shanks	Hollow form with voids	Mesquite, Texas Ebony, Holly
Bob Edwards	Square Platter with laminated strips	Walnut, Maple strips

Bring-Back Drawing:

Editors Note: Last month I did not properly credit the provider of the sanding set. It was donated by [vincewoodnwonders](http://vincewoodnwonders.com) to Ron Cochran to be included in our raffle.

Provider	Item	Recipient
Johnny Tolly	Gardening tool set (metal components)	Robert Schoenert
	Christmas Ornament	Gordon Kincheloe
Gordon Kincheloe	Diamond Sharpener – Fine	Frank Parker
AWA	Cherry turning stock	George Taylor
Frank Parker	Bells made from Bat cut-offs	Larry Shanks

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

Demonstration:

Alan Trout – Finishing

Alan brought a pre-turned mesquite bowl so he could launch right into the finishing process. He finished the outside with CA glue and the inside with Watco Danish oil to illustrate a hard and a somewhat softer finish that each produces, respectively.

He pointed out that almost any finish works and your choice depends on your need and intended use. The major key is getting the build of the finish on the object, and this requires patience. Thick finishes, such as heavy coats of lacquer, require a longer drying time and may take a very long time to fully cure, therefore thicker applications will take longer to finalize. Also, all finishes shrink as they dry, and thicker layers may be more problematic than thin ones.

As a general process Alan likes to sand the object to about 400 grit. Then he cleans the object free of dust before any finishes are applied.

When working with CA glue or any finish, it is important to cover your lathe bed and change out to a low-cost set of eyewear in case gets slung about. Alan starts by paper towel and runs it against preparation for the glue finish; bonding of the first coat. Then paper towel “the cheapest non-CA on the towel and making one object that is turning at about some paper towels, such as Viva, are fuzzy and leave fibers in the finish. NOTE: The paper will get hot, you will see it smoking, and holding too long may stick it to the surface and can even burn



the finishes or other finishes putting a CA accelerator on a the turning piece to clean it in this also aids in the curing and he applies the CA with a folded fuzzy available” by squirting or two quick swipes against the 400 rpm. He has found that

your hand – so be careful. He said that blue gloves can be worn but you risk sticking the glove to the object. Most of the time Alan just cleans glue off of his fingers with debonder or acetone. Once the CA dries so that it is not trying to stick to your hand as it turns, it is ok to apply a coat of accelerator with a towel applicator that is barely damp, and then apply another coat of CA. Alan pointed out that it is generally ok to apply CA over accelerator but applying accelerator over wet CA can cause a “cracked” finish. When wet sanding, he dips his 3M paper in white mineral spirits which is rather oily. He says the 3M paper seems to cut better and last longer. Finally, he buffs the CA finish with Novis Plastic Polish and sometimes will coat with Renaissance wax. This wax does not water-spot and seems to prevent fingerprints on the very polished surface. It is fairly expensive, but it goes a long way and is good on your tool rests. (Ed note: It is also recommended by some makers of leather goods as it does not change a light color and can be used on most any color.)

Alan chose Watco Danish Oil for finishing the inside of the bowl. In this case he does all “wet” sanding by dipping his 1200 grit paper in the Danish oil. It creates a slurry that helps fill the pores of the wood. He lets a coat get “sticky” dry, then buffs it with a folded paper towel to the point the finish is almost burnished. The heat generated accelerates the drying of the Watco finish. A couple of coats can be applied in this manner. Then he sets it aside and repeats this process after a couple of days. This is repeated over time until the desired finish thickness is obtained; remember, “Finishing Takes Patience”. Tung Oil and/or Antique Oil also works and gives a bit quicker build-up of finish but is slower to dry. When dry and cured, the item can be buffed and then Renaissance wax can be applied as a final protection.

Finally, regardless of the oil you choose, be sure to open any “pad” you created to a flat surface, allow it to dry thoroughly, and THEN discard it. Watco soak or other drying oil soaked rags can self combust and this can be a fire hazard.

Products used and Sources;

3M brand sandpaper -- any automotive finish supplier, [Gladwin](#) for example.

Norton brand sandpaper, probably better on open coat applications than 3M – Home Depot, Lowes

EZ brand CA Glue, 8 oz about \$15.00 – [Vinces Wood N Wnders](#)

CA de-bonder – Acetone works fine

Novis Plastic Polish – [San Antonio Plastic Supply](#)

Polishing Buffs – [Caswells](#) and [Don Pencil Woodturning/](#).

Closing:

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

Photo by Bob Edwards