

West Hawaii Woodturners  
Minutes of February Meeting 2/9/2013 - Update 1

Meeting called to order at 10:05 am by Tom O'Conner,

**Welcome new members and guests**

Today's meeting was one of the largest sessions with about 40 people in attendance and 8 visitors!

Note: Jim Skibby joined today. Welcome Jim!

Tom kicked off the meeting introducing the new club officers...

President: Jack Mise

Vice President: Gregg Smith

Treasurer: Kelly Dunn

Secretary & Webmaster: Tom Russell

...and quickly handed off the mike to Jack ☺

Kelly reported that we have \$2,792.80 in the bank and that 2013 dues should be paid. It's \$20 for the year and an additional \$5 for family membership. Also Kelly received another, and likely last, check from the Dunn Gallery for the Ornament fundraiser.

Jack discussed adding additional short demo/discussion segment to our regular meeting in addition to the current after-lunch demo. The idea is to focus on "turning basics". All present were positive on the idea and a lively discussion of possible topics ensued.

Kelly mentioned that at our next meeting we will have two renowned turners in attendance: Jim Christiansen & Gerrit Van Ness. As a special treat, free to the club, these two turners will hold a special class on "Critiquing" replacing the Demo portion of the meeting. Stay tuned for an update on whether members should bring their own pieces for critiquing in the session. In addition, Jim and Gerrit will be selecting the winners for the challenge piece adding a bit of "fun" to April's challenge activity.

**Show and tell**

Jack shared using Akemi Granite Countertop solution as a resin in turnings. It's a fast-setting resin that's tintable and, in his experience, easier to use than the West System and stays clear, unlike the West System which gets sorta brown-ish. Someone mentioned the West System hardener turns brown as it gets old. Maybe Jack should buy this stuff at a garage sale next time! If interested, you can purchase Akemi products at Hawaii Stone Tools in the New Industrial Area near GasPro.

Kelly shared a piece he salvaged from an old challenge gone askew. He's carving it to create, in his words, "a less ugly" piece.

Michelle Wauson presented her first turning at the lathe – a lidded box. Very nicely done!

Cliff Johns shared his inside-out turning as wasn't able to join last meeting. Very pretty piece that was painted yellow on the inside (while the "inside" was "outside") and green on the outside. The challenge, so to speak, was painting the outside without marring the inside paint job. He found that medium-density foam, carefully shaped to fit inside the ornament, did the trick.

Gregg Smith showed a work-in-progress where he took one of his "signature" bowls and split it in half. The final project will be a 3-D artistic piece suitable for hanging on the wall. Hopefully he'll bring in the final work!

Dick Sanford showed a log splitting tool.

Dick Wagner made a lathe tool caddy. Bending & laminating 4 pieces of wood made the tray's edge.



Gregg presented a "token of appreciation" gift to Tom O'Conner for his hard work and dedication as president of the club these past two years. It was a duck call holder and duck call. The inscription reads "Tom's Call to Order". Gregg made a note that the duck call does not have the reed in it as no one needs to heed Tom's call anymore. 😊



John Mydock is a featured turner in the Winter Edition of the U.K. Publication "Woodturning". The article is about how John approaches Pyrography. Looking forward to that one. You can find this magazine @ [www.thegmcgroup.com](http://www.thegmcgroup.com)

It is worth noting that the WHW club will shortly have 4 members that have been featured in arguably one of the best turning magazines around: Kelly Dunn, Gregg Smith, John Mydock and in February's issue, Cliff Johns. It's a testament to both the quality of work coming out of Hawaii and this club. Congrats!

## NEW BUSINESS

Don Derry is set for May 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> at the Sharpe's. Don's demo and workshop will focus on form (egg, pear, and the infamous "pearegg"). Check out [www.donaldderry.com](http://www.donaldderry.com) to see his work.

Gregg will be looking at bringing turners from other islands in for "mini-demos" during future meetings.

Tom Russell discussed some aspects of the website you might not be aware of. The front page has a globe that shows where visitors to our site are located. "Clicking the lower right button brings up a large version of the map. Check out our visitors from Iran and China. Hmmmm.

Tom also highlighted that the GALLERY pages are not just for members who sell their work. It is a place to share with other members what you are working or focusing on. Contact Tom for more information via the website or email.

## UPCOMING SHOWS



### Wailoa Show

The Wailoa Show is the largest woodturning show in the state. Members are invited to display 3 pieces, plus a 4<sup>th</sup> is quite different than the first 3. Turn-in date is Feb., 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Wailoa Center. Show dates are:

Fri., March 1<sup>st</sup> – Reception, 5-7pm

Sat., March 23<sup>rd</sup> – Take down

If you enter, you are required to sit on one 4 hour session or pay a small fee (\$20).

### Wyland Gallery

Wyland is having a show in May at their Sarasota location and is looking to add more wood pieces. They've invited members to submit pieces for consideration. Contact TJ Ingles, Assistant Gallery Director, at the local gallery, by phone @ (808) 334-0037, or by email at [TJIngles@WylandBigIsland.com](mailto:TJIngles@WylandBigIsland.com).

## Challenge



Excellent turnout this month with 16 entries!

1. Dan Gerhart made a Purpleheart lotus. Four bowls nested together to form the shape; real dust challenge! Dan took Novice Winner.
2. Kirby Fritchman showed his maple bowl with burned lines.
3. Phil Pombrio made a Lychee Jewelry box using a rotary cutting tool to create a design along the circumference.
4. Kelly Dunn made a carved hollow vessel from Banyan wood using wood "branding" to form a design followed by black acrylic paint.
5. Tom O'Conner made a beaded Koa pot embellished with burned lines and textured with the spiral texture tool demonstrated at the last meeting.



6. John Spitzenberger used his rose engine on a piece of Wenge. He embellished the piece by using bleach to whiten the soft wood.
7. Al Kober made a segmented bowl
8. John Mydock made a Koa/Purpleheart urn carved using a Dremel and pyrography to create a design. An added lid with a finial tops it off.



9. Jack Mise used an old brass faucet ring as a base and brass shavings/epoxy resin for an inlay in a small-lidded jewelry box.
10. Gary Beck made a Wenge and Horse Chestnut segments bowl
11. Gregg Smith used Monkeypod to create a bowl with wood-burned leaves, burned line along the lip and black india ink along the rim.
12. Kirsten Mattingly made a jewelry disk with Olive and added a burned-in hibiscus colored with market on the inside.



13. Jeff Machit made a bowl with a honu inlay using shell and crazy glue
14. Dale Moore made a Koa bowl. He liked the natural look of the bowl so much he could only add a bit of wood burning along the very bottom edge.
15. Cliff Johns had a ball he made a while back using wood burning to create numerous designs. He took the win in the Masters group.



16. Ken Obenski made a bowl which had translucent sides

17. Tom Russell made a lidded Koa calabash with 3 honu along the top. He used dyed Inlace and created a swirled pattern by not mixing the dye completely.



**NEXT CHALLENGE:** Vase that is 12" or under. Judging will be on its form quality by our visiting turners, Jim Christiansen & Gerrit Van Ness.

## DEMO

Today's demo was on wood burning with 3 members sharing "words of wisdom". In summary:

Cliff Johns discussed preparing and embellishing Ipu (Hawaiian gourds)

- Pick gourds with stem turns brown
- Use a dull butter knife to remove outer skin
- Open one end and place on concrete (hole side down) for about 1 to 1.5 weeks. Makes hollowing the gourd much easier
- Use a hose to wash out the muck
- Soak in Hi-Bor for a couple of days
- Let it dry for a few weeks
- Cut in design with a Dremel
- Uses Colwood wood burning units. Has many tip choices.
- Remember, it's easy to overdo it with pyrography!
- Use lacquer thinner or 90% alcohol to rub off creosote and old pencil marks



Kelly discussed making your own wood burner and pens. His thoughts:

- There are many resources on the net for making your own wood burners and pens. Treeline is a good supplier for finished burners and carving items ([www.treelineusa.com](http://www.treelineusa.com)) and Fishcarver ([www.fishcarver.com](http://www.fishcarver.com)) supplies wood burning and carving supplies and components.
- Graeme Priddle provides instructions how to make a burner unit, pens and tips on his website ([graemepriiddle.com/](http://graemepriiddle.com/)) or can be downloaded from our website Resources page.
- Fishcarver also has instructions for pen making on their website and can also be found in the Resources section of our website.
- Kelly uses Radio Shack p/n 274-679 12-position terminal strip as a pen handle. You clip off one set at a time. One with the plastic coating for your wires. Then a short couple pieces 12-gauge copper wire then one set with the plastic cut off for your burner tip. They burn so hot that connecting the burner tip to the plastic coated ones just cause them to go up in flames.
- Use 16, 18 or 20 gauge Nichrome wire for custom tips. Find this at Fishcarver.
- Use Monster Cable for a good burner-to-pen cable. It's flexible making it easier on your arm for long sessions. 12-gauge is enough. You'll need 6 feet total (3' for each side of electricity)
- Use a copper brush to keep the tip clean.

John Mydock shared some of his wood burned pieces and discussed his methodology:

1. His pieces are primarily outlines for his Tribal Designs and dots for shading.
2. He uses two pens to do most of the work, a small Razor-tipped Knife like blade, and a pointed tip to do the shading in a dot dot dot pattern.
3. Mydock first draws his design on tracing paper, then he uses pencil lead carbon paper to transfer the design onto the wood
4. He gets his ideas from "everywhere", then makes them his own in his original designs. Alex Grey and MC Escher are two of his favorite artists currently



5. Mydock uses a two-port BurnMaster unit and pens from DetailMaster
6. He uses 90% alcohol on a soft cloth to remove the creosote flash and carbon build up after burning his designs, alcohol also removes the tracing paper carbon pencil marks. He then fine sands the surface lightly with 600 grit sandpaper before applying an oil finish.
7. For more insight on Mydock's "How To Do Pyrography" read his article in "Woodturning" magazine, UK edition, Winter 2012, number 248, pages 59-62. Step by step with photos.



**NEXT MEETING: APRIL 13th**

**Tom Russell – Secretary**