

Presidents Message -- August 2015

Welcome to August, which with the 1st being a Saturday has snuck up on us fast for this month's club meeting is this Saturday the 15th. August is our mini symposium with numerous short demos going on and a swap meet/sale; i.e., bring items you wish to sell to the August Meeting. I know I have a couple of things to sell. The Presidents Challenge is "turning thin."

The rain has been a blessing, but I am ready for summer to come to an end in Phoenix, especially with these record highs. As hot as it has been I have three turned pieces I will be bringing in. The two platters I finished from my demo last month and a Presidents Challenge piece out of Texas Ebony.

The officers were presented a challenge this month that is very frustrating for all us who volunteer our time and hurts those who support the club by paying their dues. It was brought to our attention that there are members who have not paid their dues intentionally, but still come to meetings and participate. The officers are considering several steps. Please support the club and pay your dues.

Starting in September we are going to have a sign in sheet for members and visitors. This is a requirement of the City of Tempe and our insurance. There will be a couple door prizes drawn for those who sign in.

We had an officer's board meeting August 3rd and here are several of the topics that were discussed:

1. Our status with 501c(3) and Arizona Corporate Commission was discussed and we believe all is in good standing.
2. Paying of annual dues.
3. Video screen for demonstrators. It was discussed that the club will research buying a monitor for the demonstrators so they can see what is on the TVs.
4. Mentor Program: It is for club members only. No club insurance is available. Mentors will be vetted by board. If board approves them they will be added to the list and a mentor program patch will be created. If mentor skills not known, then a board member will attend a session with them. Safety and sharpening have to be stressed at each class. Members wanting to take classes can take the first three for free, then if they wish to continue they should work with their mentor to determine an hourly teaching cost paid to the mentor, at which point the club is no longer involved. These are the suggested guidelines. Open to input.
5. It was suggested we need an equipment-management committee. Chip gets the lathe by himself and Ken the AV equipment. It is too much work for one individual. If we can obtain enough volunteers they would only have to work once a quarter. Please see Ana, Dale or Chip to volunteer.
6. Suggested a shop tour starting on the west side with a picnic at a club member's house.

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7. What do we do with the old video's on VHS?
8. November's Alan Lacer Saturday Demo Day will include a members' Instant Gallery. This will give folks a chance to show off their best work.

We are accepting DWR-2016 sign-ups from the club website.

We are also accepting Glenn Lucas all-day classes sign-ups from the club website (six students to the teacher).

The demonstrators and their demonstrations for our August mini-symposium are:

- Jim McCleary -- Wet Sanding with Walnut Oil
- Jim Quarles -- Acrylic Pens
- Rich Fairbourn -- Basic Bowl Cuts and Mounting methods
- Jon Armstrong -- Airbrush
- Gerard Merchant -- Pendants
- Mike Lucckino -- Basic Spindle Cuts

Each member will be given a passport book and those that complete each station will be entered into a drawing for prizes at the end. The six folks volunteering to demo are all members I can learn something from and would be excited to watch. So, see you next Saturday at the Pyle Center at noon to participate in the mini symposium and garage sale.

Chip Hiding -- President, Arizona Woodturners Association