



**FEBRUARY
2007**

NEWSLETTER

MEETING DATE: February 22

PLACE: Agricultural & Industrial Museum of York

TIME: 7:00 PM

PROGRAM: Dennis Kunkle

TOPIC: Turning a Country Cabriole Leg

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

HELLO OUT THERE!!!!

I hope that some of you that we met at the York Woodworking Show are reading this now and thinking of coming to our next meeting. Another article will describe our topic.

We have sent a mailing address to Lowes and Klingsport. No emails or phone no. Lowes puts out a quarterly small magazine that sometimes has some good ideas. Klingsport is going to give us a discount on orders. I don't have the letter but I think it was either five or ten percent.

We again are asking for volunteers. We could use some help in writing the newsletter. Remember, the organization won't function without the help of its members.

RAY

THIS MONTH'S MEETING

The speaker for the February meeting will be our own Dennis Kunkle. He will be present a live demonstration on the lathe. A "country cabriole" leg will be turned. Pennsylvania farm tables from the 18th Century frequently had this type of leg. It has the appearance of a cabriole leg, without the skill needed to normally cut and shape it. It is all accomplished on the lathe by changing the centers. If you've never turned one of these "offset" legs, don't miss this one. And if you have, come anyway, because Dennis will need all the help he can get!

TOYS FOR TOTS

Last month's contributors were:

1. Ralph Dermota- Cradle and toys

LAST MONTH'S MEETING

Last month's meeting was a talk and slide show by Kari Hultman and Alan Garner on the Shakers.

The Shakers, or United Society of Believers in Christ's Second Appearing, are the most enduring and successful of the many communitarian societies established in America in the 18th and 19th centuries. The first Shakers, led by Ann Lee, came to America from Manchester, England, in 1774 seeking a place to freely practice their religious beliefs. Near Albany, New York, they established the foundation for a unique sect which has endured for more than 220 years.

The early Shakers traveled through New England and New York, attracting converts who were impressed by the kind of personal, spiritual relationship with God preached by Ann Lee. Converts gathered into communities, bound by their shared faith and a commitment to common property, celibacy, confession of sins, equality of men and women, pacifism and separation from the world. By the 1830s nineteen Shaker communities had been established in New York, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Hampshire, Maine, Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana. Shakerism reached its peak in the mid-1800s, with an estimated five thousand members.

In England critics of their zealous worship practices--they shook and trembled to rid themselves of evil--referred to them as "S haking Quakers" and then simply as Shakers. They believed that Ann Lee embodied the Christ spirit in a woman and called her "Mother Ann." A duality emerged in the Society, as men and women shared equally positions of authority--both spiritual and temporal, responsibilities and respect. Men and women lived and worked separately as Brothers and Sisters, a practice reflected in the mirrorlike architecture of many of their buildings. As they sought to create their vision of "heaven on earth," they applied the virtues of simplicity, purity and perfection to their work and to themselves.

Function and quality was emphasized in their products and designs. Their buildings were well constructed and appointed with efficient and modern amenities. Technology was readily adopted and applied to their tasks. As a result, the Shakers are credited with a number of innovations and inventions. As goods produced for their own use were recognized for their quality by the "world's people," markets developed for Shaker products. The Shakers became successful businesspeople, known for their honesty. Their farms, too, brought them considerable prosperity.

Despite economic success, however, the Shakers never lost touch with the spiritualism that was at the heart of their beliefs. Although whirling, trembling, shaking and other ecstatic worship gave way to more orderly dancing and singing in religious services, Shakers continued to lead lives of purity and devotion to God.

Shakerism peaked in the decades before the Civil War, as America industrialized and the country expanded west. The religious revivals which had brought many converts to Shakerism lost momentum. Fewer people found the Shaker way of life appealing. Communities began to close in the late 1800s. Today one Shaker community remains at Sabbathday Lake, Maine. The Shakers, however, have left a strong legacy of accomplishments and an approach to life, which is relevant to people of the 21st century.

Luckily for us their striving for perfection on earth has left us with a lasting testament to their industry, in the shape of their furniture. By stripping away unnecessary ornament and condemning beauty for beauty's sake, the Shakers contrived to produce some of the most beautiful furniture made. By concentrating on form and function they were probably 150 years ahead of their time; the precursors to the modern movement.

Thanks again to Kari and Alan for a very interesting and informative program.

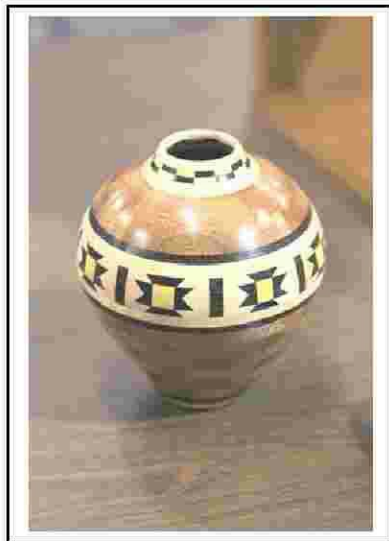
SHOW AND TELL



Walnut candy dish by Dennis Kunkle. Dennis turned this with the new turning tool that he purchased at the Woodworking Show.



Nice Shaker shelf by Kari Hultman. Check out the fine hand cut dovetails on the picture above.



Segmented vase by Mike Galloway. The vase is made up of 265 pieces of Saple, Wenge, Satin wood and Maple.



Ralph Dermota brought in a whole box of toys and a beautiful cradle that he made to be donated to the children ward at the York Hospital.



Bob Aspey also had an item for Show and Tell. It was a nice scar that he got from running his hand into his bandsaw (sorry no pictures). Bob told us that on Christmas Eve he had a few minutes to run into his shop to get some work done before going to his in-laws for dinner. Bob was not feeling well and was on medication. His thoughts were on the meal that he would soon be eating. Rushing a cut on the bandsaw Bob's hand slipped and went into the blade. Not wanting to spend Christmas Eve in the hospital and miss out on a great meal Bob called in his neighbor who is a nurse practitioner to take a look at his handy work. His neighbor recommended that he go to the hospital but Bob decided to pull the cut together with some butterfly bandages and hope for the best. Fortunately there were no nerves or tendons cut so Bob got off with just a nasty scar.

Bob said that the one thing that kept his hand from going into the saw further was that he did have the guard down in the correct position.

So the next time you are in a hurry, not feeling well and thinking about your mother-in-laws cooking **SITDOWN AND READ A WOODWORKING MAGAZINE!!!**

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