



TURNINGS

July 2007

WCWA (Physical address), Pinelands Hobbies Club, Nursery Way, Pinelands

WCWA (Internet home page), www.wcwa.za.net

AWSA (Home page), www.awsa.org.za

Central Ohio Woodturners (WCWA Sister Club): <http://www.biosci.ohiostate.edu/~awolfe/COW/cow.html>

Minutes of the General Meeting of the WCWA held on the 20th June 2007 at the Hobbies Club in Pinelands.

Apologies

Eric Thornton & Izak Cronje.

The Chairperson being absent the Vice-chairperson took the chair and opened the meeting at 19:20 by welcoming the members and explaining the Chairpersons absence.

Members present.

Including the Committee there were 36 members present.

Certificates for showcase

Due to the absence of the Chairman these had not been signed nor had the appropriate seals been attached. Exhibitors would receive the certificates at the next General Meeting on July 18th.

Sale of lathes

The matter was opened for discussion. The meeting was informed that the WCWA already owns one Jet[®]-lathe, while the Hobbies Club owns the Emco[®]-lathe and one Record[®]-lathe which are also for sale. Members expressed concerns about the following.

- Availability if a large lathe for turning of items requiring such equipment.
- The funding of the exercise.
- Obtaining new lathes at a good price.
- Selling the existing lathes at a fair price.
- The ability of the proposed smaller lathes to stand up to continuous use during training.

Assurances were given that the Committee had the best interests of the Club at heart. The intention was

to fund the purchase of the new, smaller lathes (most likely Jets[®]) from the sale of the other lathes. As regards the acquisition of a larger lathe the Committee had, as yet, not taken any definite decisions about this but would keep the members informed of developments. No decision has as yet been taken regarding the proposed cabinets for the new lathes.

After an extensive exchange of ideas the proposal to replace the Record[™]-lathes with Jet[™]-lathes or similar smaller lathes, was put to the vote. By a show of hands the proposal to replace the existing lathes was accepted by 26 of the 36 members present.

Demonstrations

The Vice-chairperson expressed his thanks to all involved in the demonstrations at the Model Engineers Exhibition and at Hobby-X.



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RIGHT**

STOCKIST OF:
 AFRICAN MAHOGANY, KIAAT, OBECHE, WALNUT, MAPLE, CHERRY, OAK,
 ASH, BEECH, AFRICAN ROSEWOOD, IROKO,IMBUJA, POPLAR, SA PINE ETC.

Exhibition venue - Bellville Public Library or Durbanville Art Gallery?

The proposal that the WCWA should participate in or organise such an exhibition was opened for discussion. Ed Brymer gave the members a detailed layout of the advantages and disadvantages of the

two venues. Ed Brymer agreed to put it all in writing so as to enable all members to acquaint themselves with the facts before any decisions are taken.

WCWA-Library

Graeme Hill proposed that the WCWA should utilise some of its cash reserves to expand the library and make it more accessible to the members. To this end he kindly donated a copy of the Fine Woodworking magazine. The proposal was accepted in principle and the Vice-chairperson thanked him for his contribution.

Raffle

Gert Ferreira proposed that in future the amount raised by the raffle at each meeting should be made known to the members. He also proposed that members who brought items for the raffle should receive on free ticket. Both proposals were accepted.

The meeting was adjourned at 20:40.



From the Chair

Fellow turners, having missed two important meetings and the last newsletter I have not much to report back on. These two misses were, however, "forced" upon me.

On the 13th of June my wife Yvonne and I travelled to Durban to support our youngest daughter Karen, who was running her first Comrades Marathon. I missed the June show case in the 20th as we were detained in Natal for four days due to a major manufacturers defect on my motor car. I regret not having seen the pieces on display and judging from the certificates it was a good display. Congratulations to the participants.

During our trip up North I used some of my spare time to visit members of the turning fraternity en

route.

The Natal meander took me to John and Andrew Early's well laid out gallery but, despite dropping hints, their workshop remained a closed secret.

In Sedgefield we had breakfast at the Scarab village with Dave Stephenson. I was astounded to see John Wessel's best on show pieces for the 2006 and 2007 seminar in Dave's neatly arranged gallery –only on show NOT for sale. Dave sends his regards to all of us.

The following day I dropped in on Attie van der Colff in Calitzdorp. He lives alone in an old rambling house in the centre of town. One of the bay windows/rooms is his workshop with all his tools arranged in a circle around it and his converted milling machine come lathe faces the front of the house.

Sadly time was very short and I could not spend a long time with him. I wish I had because I so enjoyed his hospitality and admired his infectious sense of humor despite his handicap. At the entrance to his house he has a small old tree trunk with two crotch pieces one looking like two legs and the other like an arm and persons neck on top of which Attie has added a round stone to simulate a head. "Now you know where I stay," says he to me "except my statue has a left arm, so we complement one another!"

If anyone goes that way ask me for his address it's worth the stop. I believe there is really excellent restaurant in the town – menu buffet style and eat as much as you like for ±R80.

Before I close a word of thanks is due to all the members who assisted, on short notice, at the Hardware Centre® open day on Saturday the 7th of July.

Addendum to my article for last month

When reading last month's issue it appears that the last paragraphs were high jacked between my PC and Edward's one. Some things omitted do, however, need to be recorded so here goes:

A big thank you to all those who volunteered to participate in transport, demonstrations and public relations and who gave some of their precious time to make these shows a success.

Last Wednesday we had five new faces at the club

which shows that our public appearances are not in vain.

We are now coming to our midyear show case and as the instant galleries have shown more new turners are prepared to put their pieces forward for critique I hope that the number of entries will increase accordingly. Good luck to all.

On behalf of all of us I would like to wish Dennis and Gigi a pleasant and safe trip to the USA. Enjoy the AAW Seminar and come back with plenty of ideas and photos.

Give our regards to the turners you meet there that we had the pleasure of having here.

Ending on a sad note Hugh Scholtz, who has been a very active member, has been transferred, without any option, to the Democratic Republic of the Congo for an indefinite period. Here's wishing you good luck, Hugh, and a safe time during your stay and hoping you will come back soon (with some nice pieces of timber).

Cheers for now,

Till the 18th keep your shavings flying,

Eric



Committee details

Eric Thornton (Chairman) / 021 531 1559, 082 465 4237 / notnorth@mweb.co.za

Darryl Bailey (Vice Chairman) / 021 531 3709(H), 021 552 2095(O), 082-818 2824(C) / suebailey@polka.co.za

Edward Foster (Secretary) / 021 8870 0792, 083 787 0792(C) / edward@biospoor.co.za

Mike Bester (Treasurer) / 021 976 3606(H), 021 692 1107(O), 083-285 7277(C) / bozo@iafrica.com

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Bernie Swanepoel (Workshop/Training) / 082-381 0304(C) / bernies@vodamail.co.za

Banking details

- Western Cape Woodturners Association
- Bank: *Nedbank*
- Savings Account Number: *2204012882*
- Branch Code: *120405*

Club News

Sale of existing lathes and purchase of replacements

This proposal was accepted by the majority of the members present at the previous General Meeting. To start the process here is list of the items that are for sale, with their reserve prices. Please note that members who wish to tender should submit their tenders in sealed envelopes at the next General Meeting (18th July).

Envelopes must be clearly marked with the number of the item for which the tender is being submitted. During the meeting the tenders will be evaluated and allocated.

NB! No names must appear on the envelope, only the number of the item for which a tender is being submitted.

Submit a separate tender for each item i.e. do not include more than one tender in an envelope.

Names must be clearly indicated on each tender (not on the envelope).

- ITEM 1: Record™ lathe (CL3), swivel head. Reserve price R3000.
- ITEM 2: Coronet™ lathe, fixed head. Reserve price R3000.
- ITEM 3: Record™ lathe (CL5), swivel head. Reserve price R2500.
- ITEM 4: Record™ lathe (CL1), swivel head. Reserve price R2500.

- ITEM 5: Record™ lathe (CL1), swivel head. Reserve price R2500.
- ITEM 6: Emco™ DB5 lathe, fixed head. Reserve price R1500.
- ITEM 7: Nova™ chuck (uses "Tommy Bar" key. Reserve price R500.
- ITEM 8: Nova™ chuck (uses "Tommy Bar" key. Reserve price R500.

Subscriptions

Members are reminded that subscriptions are due and should be paid to the treasurer ASAP or by 31/07/07, whichever is earlier. This is the last edition of **TURNINGS** for those in arrears. Subscriptions are as follows;

WCWA subs for the year ending 2007-2008 are R240.00

AWSA dues are R100.00 pp.

Family Membership of WCWA is R195.00 pp.

Any member who is experiencing cash-flow problems is invited to discuss the matter with the Chairperson, in order to come to an interim arrangement.

The Committee would like to remind members who do allow their membership to lapse that they will be expected to pay the visitors fee (R25) for each meeting that they might attend thereafter.

Important Note

- When making out a cheque, please make it payable to the "*Western Cape Woodturner's Association*" (**NOT** just the **initials "WCWA"**). It costs the Club money if not done correctly, since the bank will no longer accept these cheques or altered cheques.
- The Club will in future bill offenders with the charges incurred.

Library

The WCWA would like to thank Graeme Hill for his donation of the Fine Woodworking Magazine. The Committee is following up on Graeme's proposal and investigating potential acquisitions for the library. Members will be kept informed. The Committee would also like to appeal to WCWA members to donate books and other printed media as well as CD's, Videos or DVD's on woodworking, and in particular, wood turning to the WCWA-library.

Committee News

Open Workshop evenings

- Please check with Eric Thornton or Bernie Swanepoel.

Wednesday 18th July 2007

- General Meeting at 19:00 followed by a demonstration on ornamental turning by Darryl Baily.

Raffle

- This activity which Gert organizes raised the handsome sum of R737-00 during April, May and June. The total sum raised in the previous fiscal year was R1577 so we are almost halfway there after only three months! A word of thanks to Gert for his efforts. Please support Gert's efforts by bringing items and buying tickets.

Turnings

- There are only a few members who do not have e-mail. In future there will be a copy of Turnings for each of these members at the General Meeting, with their names on them. It seems that members who do have e-mail forget to bring their copies of Turnings and then help themselves to a copy at the meeting. The members, for whom these copies were intended, do not get copies at all. So, in future, please bring your copy of Turnings.

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Prospective members & visitors

- WCWA-members are reminded of the ruling regarding visitors and prospective members. Visitors or prospective members must be introduced to .Committee members and they

must sign the register. The visitor's fee (R25 per visit) must be paid to the treasurer, at the meeting. Prospective members must join after one month. Tool use is free for the two months after joining but access to the workshop and the use of the tools must, at all times, be arranged through the workshop manager, Bernie Swanepoel. During workshop sessions it is important to note that friends and or family members are, under no circumstances, to use the tools or work on any of the machines.

Proposed WCWA program for 2007/2008 (The venue for all meetings is the Hobbies Club in Pinelands at 19:00 unless an alternate venue and time are given.)

- July 18th, ornamental turning demonstration by Darryl Bailey.
- August 15th, video and/or slides and talk by Dennis Laidler on his overseas trip.
- September 8th, (Saturday) 14:00 for 14:30 visit to Darryl Bailey's workshop.
- September 19th, demonstration on making wooden jaws by Mike Bester.
- October 17th, product demonstration (details to be announced later).
- November 14th, handing in of items for the summer showcase.
- November 21st, summer showcase plus DVD (DVD details to be announced later).
- December 8th, (Saturday) collaboration turning and braai.
- January 16th, sharpening jig demonstration by Graeme Hill.
- February 20th, video on oval turning.
- March 19th, product demonstration (details to be announced later).
- April 16th, AGM and turning challenge.
- Forest walk date still to be finalized.
- Possible family outing, suggestions from members will be welcomed. The final details will be given once they have been finalized.

Proposed dates for WCWA Committee meetings 2007/2008 (The venue for all meetings is the Hobbies Club in Pinelands at 19:30 unless an alternate venue and time are given.)

- Monday June 25th
- Monday July 23rd.
- Monday August 20th.
- Tuesday September 25th.
- Monday October 22nd.
- Monday November 26th.
- Monday December 10th.
- Monday January 21st.
- Monday February 25th.
- Tuesday March 25th.



Trees of Southern Africa

Barking up *Faurea macnaughtonii*

Preamble

Although I was vaguely aware of its existence, the first time I actually recall seeing "Terblanshout" was at the Flower Show on Lourensford in 2006. Dave Stevenson had an exquisite miniature turned from the wood and he became quite carried away extolling both its virtues and its scarcity. This piqued my interest but I was unable to lay my hands on any, so I sort of lost interest. Then at the Congress in April, while chatting to Attie van der Colff, the name popped up again. Nothing came of this either

but then Juri and I recently got hold of some off-cuts for making pen blanks, lo and behold, amongst them was a piece of the illusive "Terblanshout".

Names

This tree is in the family *Proteaceae* and was named by Harvey as a tribute to W.C. Faure. Faure was a young South African botanist and soldier, the son of Landrost Faure of Swellendam and was later killed in India. *Faurea macnaughtonii* is known as "Terblanzhout" in the Knysna region and "Terblanshout elsewhere. Less commonly known as "Terblanchehout" and in the trade it is often simply referred to as "Terblanz" or "Terblans". In English it is known as "Terblanz Beech" or "Egossa Beech". The vernacular "Terblanz" is thought to have come about because the tree was first discovered and worked by a person with that surname. Some sources refer to it in Afrikaans simply as "Beukehout" (*Eng.* Birchwood), "isisefo" in isiZulu and "isifa" in isiXhosa. The plant referred to as "Terblanzbossie" in Afrikaans turned out to be totally unrelated as that is the vernacular for *Hibiscus trionium*, the well known "Black-Eyed-Susan". There has, in the past, apparently been some confusion between *Faurea macnaughtonii* and its close relation *Faurea saligna* better known as "Rooiboekenhout", "Transvaalboekenhout" or "Bosveldboekenhout" in Afrikaans and "Willow Beechwood" in English. These names have often been applied indiscriminately to either species, resulting in considerable confusion in the early travel literature. Despite being called "Beechwood" the genus *Faurea* is not related to the English or European Beech, *Fagus sylvatica*. The Afrikaans vernacular "Boekenhout" is derived from the Dutch "Beukeboom", which in turn probably comes from the German "Buchenbaum". Dutch, German and Afrikaans are Germanic languages and the linguistic connection *buch = boek = book* is quite clear. Archaeological records have, in fact, shown that the earliest writings of the Germanic peoples were done on so-called "Boekenhoutstafies" i.e. Beechwood strips.

Distribution

Faurea macnaughtonii has a scattered distribution and its scarcity probably resulted in it being overlooked by all the early collectors. The tree is found in forests and forest margins in the vicinity of Knysna. Then it shows up again in the Transkei

region of the Eastern Cape from where its range extends through the midlands of KwaZulu-Natal up to the vicinity of the Umfolozi and always in the same sort of habitat. It then reappears in a small area on the Southern border of Swaziland, skips a section, and then crops up further North in part of the Mpumalanga Lowveld that extends a short distance into the Limpopo Province. It also occurs in Madagascar in a similar scattered pattern.

Appearance

Terblanshout occurs as a tall, evergreen tree reaching 20 m or more with a girth of 1,5 to 2,5 m. This is clearly not your average fynbos protea! It has a thick grey bark with short longitudinal furrows while the leaves have a conspicuous midrib and can be up to 12 cm long in older trees. The tree flowers infrequently but always between December and February, producing sweet smelling, white or pale pink floral spikes of up to 16 cm in length. The fruit, borne from February to June, are small brown nutlets, covered in long, whitish to yellow hair.

Uses

Faurea macnaughtonii produces a hard, heavy and durable timber that has a distinctive sweet smell and, although fairly light when young it can be quite a dark reddish-brown in older specimens. With a density of 0,93 g/cm³ it is certainly one of the heavier local timbers, comparing quite favorably with Wild Olive (*Olea capensis*) at 1,12 g/cm³, or Hardekool (*Combretum imberbe*) at 1,18 g/cm³ and Kwar (*Psyrax obovata*) at 0,93 g/cm³. In the past the wood has been used for smaller, specialty items in the furniture industry as well as household utensils and tool handles but its scarcity seriously limits its commercial exploitation. Zulu traditional healers use the bark (which is rich in tannins) in a variety of general medications for stomach ailments and digestive disorders. The bark has also been used to produce a dye to dye blankets a dark brown and there have also been reports that the bark can be used to produce a poison for homicidal purposes. Laboratory analysis has, however, been unable to identify a toxic principle in bark extracts.

Turning

I have very limited experience of turning this wood, but the small piece I turned was easy to turn and produced a good surface even prior to sanding. Although I applied beeswax after only a very light

sanding, the colour and figure of the wood came out beautifully. With a little more effort it would produce something quite exceptional in the way of a finish. The figure is typical of the pattern seen in the *Proteaceae* and very reminiscent of the Waboom (*Protea ntidá*).

Anobiom

The market place

Items for sale

- 10 inch Record® Disc Sander R450-00. Contact Bert Parker at 021 914 0927 or 072 271 1637

Competition

- Hardware Centre®: MAKE A WOODEN TOY FOR CHARITY COMPETITION. Competition forms and details are available from the store. The closing date for the submission of entries is the 31st of July 2007. A Delta™ Scroll Saw and

various other prizes can be won and winners will be announced at a Cheese and Wine Evening.

Tale piece

This is from your Secretary who has a considerably more lewd sense of humour than the esteemed Chairperson. It is specifically intended to bolster Hugh's moral in these difficult times.

The scene is the Belgian Congo during the 1960's and two elderly Belgian ladies are discussing a mutual acquaintance who was in the Belgian Colonial service, one Claude.

Marie: "Yvonne, have you heard about Claude?"

Yvonne, "No, he was such a charming man. Has he been promoted?"

Marie, "No, he was hung by the Ballabas."

Yvonne, "Good Lord! That must have been painful!"

Bon Voyage Hugh and stay out of the way of the Ballabas!!