

February 2009

I think everyone had a good time at our annual Christmas party in January. Ron Day (with some help) organized a friendly spinning top competition and did a nice summary of the past year's club activities. The weather was cold, so the turnout was a little less than past years.

I believe we have improved our club with the purchase of the Powermatic lathe. First of all, we got a great price. We can now do demonstrations that we could not do before. Also, the lathe can be used by members and will be at our April symposium.

We will need volunteers to help with the symposium again. We will discuss the specifics at our meeting. Seems like it all falls together and everyone pitches in during the event.

Thirteen months ago, I started the process of building a new shop. I had already purchased the land and had a good idea on the size and shape of the shop. The first three months were spent on getting city approval and preparing the details of the building. As most of you know, my old shop had very limited space and classes were really cramped. My goal was to create a spacious safe facility to work and hold classes in woodturning and woodworking. The project is nearly complete. I am currently finishing the installation of the dust collection system. We will be able to operate 4 turning lathes at the same time with adequate (and hopefully quiet) dust collection.

You are all invited to an open house at the shop after our meeting on Saturday February 14. Char and I will serve lunch and you can check it out. The address is 4600 30th Ave NW in Mandan. I will have a map at our club meeting. Hope to see you there. I plan to conduct classes on a regular basis. Everyone is welcome to stop by at any time.

Take care and see you soon.

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