

May 2009

The symposium was a success. In the weeks prior to the event, the concern is always on attendance and budget. Both of these concerns turned out favorable to the club. If you have any suggestions or comments, please bring them up at the next meeting. Some time will be set aside for a discussion. I believe the demonstrators were very down to earth and effective.

Now is a great time of year to do some wood processing. Branches and logs will be available in the coming months. Take the time to sort the good from the bad and cut blanks that you can use in the future. Balance your time between turning new objects and preparing wood for future turnings. Remember to set aside a few pieces in a damp area to spalt. Local woods like birch, maple, apple, chokecherry, and plum spalt nicely. Usually all it takes is to seal the ends and keep them out of the sun.

As you work on things, keep notes on what works for you and what does not. Even if you have a detailed plan like a magazine article, usually some changes are necessary based on the tools you have, the wood you are working with, or using a technique you know works. Write these things down and save them so next time you know what worked well and what did not. Also, take pictures of the completed items and file it all together.

We have several months of nice weather to look forward to now. I sincerely hope you enjoy yourself and call me or stop by if I can help.

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