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The History of the Candlesticks

When I saw the candlesticks my brother and his wife brought back from a vacation many years ago, I was very impressed with their shape. It was not until some years later, when I began woodturning and joined a woodturners' group, that I realized the candlesticks might have been made by Rude Osolnik. Before going to the conference in Charlotte, NC, I asked my sister-in-law if she remembered any details of the purchase. She said, " We bought these candlesticks in the summer of 1960, in Ashville, NC, at the arts and crafts show in the Central Auditorium."

At the AAW conference in Charlotte I attended a demo by Rude Osolnik on July 1, 2000. I had an opportunity to talk to him; when I described the candlesticks and where and when they were purchased, he said, "Those are mine."

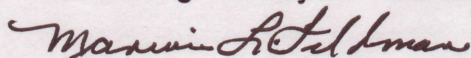
At the AAW conference in Louisville, KY, I spoke to Rude Osolnik's son, who was a vendor there. I asked if there were any identifying marks on the candlesticks that would further identify them as his father's work. He described a circular stamp that was used to mark the felt base. I found that mark on one of the candlesticks.

When we are in Los Angeles, we always visit the Del Mano Gallery. We were fortunate to be there for the opening of the *Revolution/Evolution II* show of the works of Melvin Lindquist, Ed Malthrop, Rude Osolnik, and Bob Stocksdale.

That afternoon I was introduced to Sam Maloof, who gave me valuable advice on a woodworking project of mine. When I told Mr. Maloof that I had started woodturning, he offered to introduce me to his friend Bob Stocksdale. When we met, I asked Mr. Stocksdale to autograph my copy of the exhibition catalog, which he did.

When I met Rude Osolnik in Charlotte, he also autographed the catalog. I had high hopes of obtaining the signatures of the other two men, but this was not to be. That exhibition turned out to be the last one that these 'Grandfathers of wood turned art' participated in together.

I am including this signed catalog with the pair of candlesticks that I am contributing to this year's benefit auction.



Marwin L. Feldman
ROYCROFT MASTER ARTISAN

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