

Northwest Woodturners



A Chapter of The American Association of Woodturners

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WWW.NORTHWESTWOODTURNERS.COM

FEBRUARY, 2008
THE WOODTURNERS LOCAL RESOURCE

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

My fellow woodturners, I hope that everyone is well and that you are spending lots of time at your lathes now that the busy holiday season is over. I was encouraged to see many new members and visitors at the January meeting, the swap meet appeared to be a success, I know that I was able to get rid of everything that I brought, but somehow found myself bringing home 3 new tools, funny how that works.

For the month of February, we have our own Bob Tuck demonstrating, Bob has been turning wood for many years and is a charter member of the Northwest Woodturners, I believe that many of our members in-

cluding myself have taken one of Bobs woodturning classes, I'm certain that he will put on a very educational demonstration.

Our vice-president Mike Meredith has been very busy lining up demonstrators for the year and has lined up Jack DeVos, from Australia for April and Molly Winton for September as well as a few other surprises. The board is busy looking over our by-laws and making a few changes, of which you will be notified of. Don Woodward has volunteered to take over our monthly wood raffle, so be sure to stop by his table and buy some tickets next month. Our good friend and board member Jerry

Keller will be going in for his 2nd knee replacement surgery on the 18th of January, lets all wish him a speedy recovery. And once again I like to remind you that this is your club, if you have any ideas or suggestions, please bring them up at the meeting or feel free to attend one of our board meetings at 5:00 pm on meeting night. I will attempt to hide my suntan next meeting as I will just be returning from a week of suffering in the Mexican Rivera, 80 degrees and sunny sounds pretty good to me...See you in February. Thank You,

Fred C. Kline

STATE OF THE CHAPTER

I imagine most Northwest members don't realize the chapter donates funds to three organizations. We attempt to do this on a yearly basis with the belief that we should be supportive and charitable of the woodturning and arts community.

First, I sent a check to AAW to assist in providing the insurance coverage that is provided to chapters when events are hosted. The amount sent this year is \$100 and is purely a voluntary gesture; we may want to

look at duplicating or increasing that amount at mid-year. I then sent \$200 to CERF, the Crafts Emergency Relief Fund. This non-profit charitable organization assists artisans and craftspersons during times of natural disasters and catastrophic illness. Finally, we hold a membership with the Woodturning Center in Philadelphia. For those not familiar with the Center: "The WoodTurning Center has become an internationally recog-

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QUICK UPDATES

Northwest Woodturner meetings are held on the 1st Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM. See website for details and map.

Next Meeting:
February 7th
Bob Tuck's Cube Bowl

Turning Challenge:
Turn n' Burn

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Jerry Keller
Bob Mach
Tom Reiman

Librarian
Chris Dix

Raffle
Don Woodward

Supplies
Bob Mach

Newsletter & Web
Scott Blackman

DON'T BE AFRAID OF SANDPAPER

After the last meeting I was asked by several members of NWT about how I smoothed out some of the surfaces since they seemed to be having a difficult time with some of the surfaces. There seemed to be some aversion to “sandpaper” since the “pros” keep preaching tool techniques. Well the easy answer to most all of this is use the sandpaper. You are after a nice piece properly finished and if it takes sandpaper to finish it off – do it. I hear too much from the “pros” about using little sandpaper. I have been in many of their shops and come to find out they have about as much sandpaper in their shop as I do and I have a lot. Again the issue is: “How can I easily get this piece to a nice smooth surface?”

There are many woods that just will not cut smooth, for whatever reason, with a tool no matter how sharp the tool. Some woods just leave a fuzzy surface depending upon the grain and internal characteristics of the wood. In that case what are you supposed to do, leave the piece fuzzy or smooth it out with sandpaper? Decisions – Decisions!! There are many kinds of sanding devices, not all of them flat paper and I, on many occasions use anything and everything I can get my hands on to produce a nice finish. I do not care what the “pros” say. I want a nice finish and how I get there is of absolutely no consequence. If I have to use 60 grit I will use 60 grit. In some of my carving I have been know to use 15 grit, now just try that – its good for “hogging” off wood in weird places.



Final comment – “This is supposed to be fun and a relaxing hobby so do not put yourself under stress by worrying how someone else, with many full of days, months, and years experience does something and would they use sandpaper.”

Jim Hall



Jim Hall: Got to move fast with Madrone

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nized source of information and assistance to woodturning artists, hobbyists, galleries, museums, collectors and educators. The Center has the largest known physical and virtual archive and collection of turned objects, and invites the public to explore the art and craft of woodturning."

I'd like to thank those members who were so diligent in getting their 2008 dues to me during the meeting and by mail since. Should you not be able to attend the February meeting, please feel free to mail your membership renewal to me at NWWT, c/o Owen Lowe, 408 S. Howard St., Newberg, OR 97132. I plan on uploading a member roster after the February meeting to the forum site as well as have a few printed copies available for the members who don't have internet access and would appreciate timely renewals so that the information is as accurate as possible.

Owen Lowe

APRIL MEETING — EARLY NOTICE

The April meeting is being rescheduled to Monday, April 14 to allow for our special demonstrator, Jack de Vos. Please mark your calendars for the new time. This is for the April meeting only. We just want to let you know as early as possible.



Gene Shaw, set of bowls

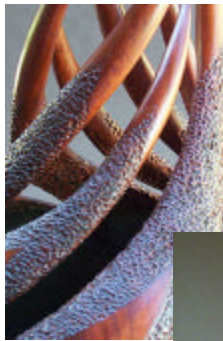
APRIL 2008 DEMONSTRATOR: JACK DE VOS



Jack de Vos (<http://jackdevos.com>) is from Western Australia where he is a full time, professional turner. He has exhibited and taught widely in Australia and internationally. His works are part of the permanent collection of galleries in Australia as well as the Wood Turning Center in Philadelphia and the de Mano Gallery in Los Angeles.



Jack is probably best known for his hollow form pieces, may inspired by natural shapes, especially seed pods. Like many other Australian turners, he favors the native Australian woods like sheoak, sugar gum and jarrah.



Surface augmentation, carving, masking and dying are a few of the techniques Jack employs to enhance form and design. Use of masks and ebonizing produced the outlines of gum leaves seen on this jarrah vessel. His treatment of platters and bowls has also won Jack high regards. Combining excellent form and execution with color and texture makes his platters striking without being ostentatious or out of keeping with the quality of the wood.



Jack de Vos will be with Northwest Woodturners for three presentations. On Saturday, 12 April, he will present a seminar/demonstration at ChemWest from 9 AM to 4 PM. Monday, 14 April, will be the monthly Northwest Wood Turners meeting, 7 PM at ChemWest. On Tuesday, 15 April, we will have a hands on class in Tom Reiman's shop in Woodburn. The fee for Saturday's presentation is \$20. The class fee is \$100 and enrolment is limited to eight turners. For information, and reservations, contact Mike Meredith at 503.522.0531

JANUARY CHALLENGES

Pens & Pencils were the challenge for the month of January.

We encourage our members to submit to the monthly challenge. The winner typically gets their choice of a piece of wood from the supply on the back table.

Please have your name marked on your pieces when possible so we can track your submission.



Roy Achley



Russ Anderson



Dave Ramer



Steve Sheridan



Lee Parks

Don Simmons Collections



Kent Hayes



Chris Nilluka



Unknown

JANUARY SHOW N' TELL



Dick Fisher



Chris Nilluka



Dick Fisher



Dick Fisher

Look for more Show N' Tell pictures throughout the newsletter.



Jim Hall

"I turn for the love of the creative process. I am addicted to discovery, progress, and the fact that perfection is forever elusive, but as I strive for it, yesterday's challenges become the basic skills of tomorrow."

-Bonnie Klein



Steve Newberry

FROM THE LIBRARY - BOWLS, BOWLS, BOWLS

The challenge for March is Bowls. In order to support this challenge, we will highlight a few items from our library. First up are the VHS tapes by Ken Bullock "Wooden Bowls on a Budget" and "Natural Lipped Bowls My Way." In either of these videos, we get an inside look at Ken's shop and his one-of-a-kind bowl lathe. This thing is a monster that uses a 5-horse DC motor to belt drive a 2-to-3 inch steel shaft in the headstock that is supported by industrial pillow-block bearings. It makes my homemade lathe with a 3/4-inch shaft (bent from trying to turn too large a hunk of tree) look like a toy. His technique includes chain-sawing frozen logs and using a hot air gun to dry and sand the rough cut bowls.



Dick Fisher

A truly entertaining video is "Two Ways to Make a Bowl" in which Stuart Batty and Mike Mahoney are on stage together defending their own methods and critiquing each other. The verbal "complements" flow in a free form as ribbons of wood are spun from the blank. Topics covered include tool sharpening, techniques of tool use, why the Brits are so particular and the Yanks are such slobs. It is clear that both are having fun while providing excellent instruction.

Then we have a book with more than a few bowls "500 Wood Bowls" to be exact in which no two are anyway alike. This collection of craft and imagination will fuel your creative engine while you scratch your head to figure out how they were made. If you are tired of or have perfected your technique in making the same type of bowl, this book offers you numerous challenges that are outside the box (although some of them could be considered boxes).

"Bowl Turning from Basic to Master" by Tobias Kaye. This video concentrates on the bowl. It is for intermediate to experienced turners though novices will find it of great interest as well. It contains projects to guide you through the process of turning your bowl and to increase your understanding of using the bevel to increase tool control. For the more adventurous there is an off center bowl that is not for the faint hearted.

In "From Tree to Table" Mike Mahoney describes and shows how to make bowls and platters that are utilitarian from firewood that is rescued from the cities wood dump (with permission) using a chainsaw to make blanks. The bandsaw is then used to round the blanks before placing on the lathe. The rough turned bowls are dated and coated with end seal and stored for 6 months or more in his basement. He also demonstrates the McNaughton coring tools to obtain multiple bowls from one blank.

"A Basic Bowl on the Lathe" by Richard Raffan shows how to make a classic, graceful bowl on the lathe. In this video, you'll learn how to make a light, "balanced" bowl that feels good in the hand. This video is ideal for anyone who is new to bowl turning. 20 min.

From the Bonnie Klein collection DVD #2 "Bowls and other projects" bowls are presented with that feminine touch and exceptional instruction that Bonnie is known for.



Jim Hall

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In Chris Stotts video he shows basic bowl turning techniques by making three different bowls in detail. He covers the use of the deep bowl gouge and scrapers concentrating on good technique. Also covered are different sanding methods and different finishing methods.

Del Stubbs provides an excellent introduction to woodturning using bowls for projects. He covers tools, sharpening, safety, and design. He also discusses subtle modifications he has made to his lathe to improve its functionality.

Finally, since we have all these resources on the subject of bowls, I plan on using club funds to publish a book that I am working on called "From the Blank to Ashes" in which I share my horrific attempts to make bowls following all of the above excellent instruction. However, by no fault of my own, they magically jump off the lathe making dents in my walls or face mask (ouch). Or the inside depth is deeper than the outside and I don't need another funnel. These rejects are carefully arranged in the fireplace to allow maximum airflow drying and heat production. And they are sealed with odorless starter fluid. The ashes are then displayed to new blanks in effort to scare them into turning out right. If new blank is green or a bit gnarly, the ashes can be sprinkled on to make the statement loud and clear – "turn out right or burn in the fireplace."

Happy Turning

Chris Dix



Russ Anderson

WEB LINKS

Northwest Woodturners	http://www.northwestwoodturners.com/
American Association of Woodturners	http://www.woodturner.org/
Woodturning Center	http://www.woodturningcenter.org/
Craft Emergency Relief Fund	http://craftemergency.org/
Jack de Vos	http://jackdevos.com/

DREAM TREE'S

If you have a picture of a nice tree that would be interesting to turn; but in some cases is off limits due to it being in a park setting or something similar; please submit them to the editor for use. We can still appreciate them.



Don Woodward

(right) One of many massive 48" diameter Big Leaf Burl Maples outside of Centraila, WA. Available at the time; we didn't get to it in time as the dozers were coming to level the area for track houses. Lumber company skipped these during clearing because they don't make great 2x4's.

Scott Blackman



LOCAL CLASS'S & DEMO'S

Date	Class/Demo	Location	Instructor
2/2	Turning Nature Edge Vessels	Rockler	Staff
2/9	Beginning Lathe Turning	Woodcraft	Bob Tuck
2/9	Bottle Stoppers	Woodcrafters	Fred Kline
2/10	Basic Bowl Turning	Woodcraft	Bob Tuck
2/14	Sharpening Your Lathe Tools	Woodcraft	Bob Tuck
2/16	Off center Turning	Woodcrafters	Bob Tuck
2/22	Basic Box Making (part 1)	Rockler	Chris Nilluka
2/23	Bowl turning	Rockler	Staff
2/23	Advanced Segmented Bowl	Woodcraft	Tom Reiman
2/24	Bottle Stoppers	Woodcraft	Fred Kline
2/26	Turning Wooden Boxes	Woodcrafters	Bob Tuck
2/29	Basic Box Making (part 2)	Rockler	Chris Nilluka

For more information
and many other fine class's
available from these stores contact:

Woodcraft Store at (503) 684-1428
Email portlandretail@woodcraft.com

Rockler Store at (503) 672-7266
Email store17@rockler.com

Woodcrafters Store at (503) 231-0226
Web page: <http://woodcrafters.us/>

EDITOR'S NOTE

Submissions to the newsletter are due by the 20th of the month. Articles, tips, web links, classified ads, or other items pertaining to woodturning are welcome.

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All other business should be directed to:

Northwest Woodturners
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Tigard, OR 97223



Dick Fisher

CLASSIFIED ADS

Hey! Your shop is too full....Place your ad here.

Club Discounts - Show your NWWT Membership Card to receive a 10% discount of your purchase at Crosscut Hardwoods, Gilmer's, Lee's Cutting Edge Sharpening, Rockler, Woodcraft, and Woodcrafters. Membership has benefits.

Guidelines for Classified Ads: Ads will run for 3 (three) consecutive months. Please submit your ad by the 20th of the month. Editor makes no guarantees for spelling or grammatical errors. All woodworking items, for sale or wanted are welcome.



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