



Northwest Washington Woodturners

A Local Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners

Monthly Newsletter for May 2011



Northwest Washington Woodturners....

meets every third Thursday of the month except April when the meeting is held the fourth Thursday. There is no meeting in December.

We meet at Hillcrest Park Lodge in Mt. Vernon WA. Exit I-5 at Kincaid street, exit 226. Turn east up Kincaid to So. 13th, turn right on 13th. Hillcrest Park is approx. six blocks south on 13th. The lodge is located in the Northwest corner of the parking lot beyond the tennis courts. Meetings are open to anyone interested in wood turning. All skill levels from beginners to advanced turners are welcome.

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President's Letter

We've nearly gone through one-half of 2011 and as I look at our roster, I notice many people have not paid their dues. If you receive this newsletter and haven't paid, please send a check to our membership chair. If you don't plan to continue your membership, please contact our membership chair – membership@nwwwt.org and let them know you are dropping .

For those of you that weren't at our last general meeting, you may not be aware of a recent tragedy that involved a member of the Tennessee woodturners guild. She was found unconscious by her lathe and had evidently been hit by a piece of wood. She never regained consciousness and subsequently died from the injury. We all need to remember the importance of wearing a full face shield that extends to cover the neck. Some professional woodturners also wear some form of hard-hat. I have seen a hard-hat with some pretty impressive scratches and dents from flying wood. The message is – **BE CAREFULL, WEAR PROTECTIVE GEAR, START THE LATHE AT A SLOW SPEED, STAND TO THE SIDE.**

May's Sawdust Saturday has moved to this Saturday, June 4th at Jerry Holmes's shop. Jerry, who is a logger, will show us everything we've ever wanted to know about chain saw operation and maintenance. He will also provide an exhibition of how to fall a tree. He says his wood pile, which is quite impressive, is available to anyone who comes and wants to cut off some chunks. This workshop will go from 9am to 2 pm.

Directions to Jerry Holmes shop:

Take Highway 20 to Whidbey Island/Deception Pass. About halfway to Deception Pass, just past Lake Campbell, is Harold's Market on the left. Jerry's driveway is just before the Market (north) if you're heading towards Deception Pass. If you're coming from Whidbey Island, it is the driveway immediately past Harold's Market.

TOP TURNING IS COMING! June's Sawdust Saturday will concentrate on turning tops. We hope to have enough sign-ups for two classes – am & pm. If you have any reservations about turning tops, please sign up at our June general meeting or contact Dennis Shinn to let him know you want on the list.

Remember to bring tops to the June 16th meeting. See you then, GW

May Meeting

President George Way and his wife Clarice put together a pizza party for this month's meeting. We were treated with a choice of three different pizza toppings, green salad and cookies. Our favorite chief Shirley was out of town this month.

The meeting started with the introduction of guests, and a new member Bill Sundquist. We would like to take this opportunity to welcome him to our club and hope to see him join in on all the benefits we have to offer.

George brought to our attention the nice collection of pieces brought in to be sent to the AAW "One Good Turn Project". All members were encouraged to contribute a turning. The items will be sold for \$25.00 as a souvenir at the 25th National Symposium. The proceeds will be reserved for educational outreach and technical development. Bill Rawls will collect, organize and ship our items to the AAW HQ in time for the sale.

It was brought to our attention that the May Saw Dust Saturday will be moved to the 4th of June, because of the Memorial Day weekend. The program is on Chain Saw Care and Use and will be at Jerry Holmes shop. Jerry said to be sure to bring a chair as he only has a couple in his shop to use. Jerry also said the folks attending will have access to his wood pile, which is a real treat. We know from last year's program that every one left with some very nice turning material

Committee reports: Rick Anderson, education said he the sign-up sheet out for "Let's Start Turning" and that there were 6 names on the list, Rick said we have room for 8 in the class and had hopes we would get a couple more sign-ups to fill the class so we can schedule it soon

Bob Doop, programs announced that we will have Eric Lofstrom who would be doing a program on skews for the June meeting.

George mentioned the upcoming Ellensburg camping and turning event which is planned for July 16th to 23rd. Julian Lee is our contact for this event. It is running in conjunction with the Carving Academy Seminar at the Ellensburg Rodeo Grounds. This should be a week of fun for all who are interested. He suggested looking at the club web site for more information and to let Julian Lee know as soon as you can if you are interested. If there are enough folks planning to attend Don Derry said he would present a demo.

George had an article from a Food News Magazine which featuring a wooden bowl for fruit that had a series of holes drilled in a decorative pattern which allowed airflow through to the fruit to help keep it fresh and ripen evenly. He thought it was a good tip for anyone wanting to do something different to utility bowls they are turning.

May Meeting cont.

George was happy to report that Derrick Burke had opened a new woodworking venue in Snohomish called Puget Sound Woodworking. It is located at 105 Avenue A and the phone number is 360-862-1300. The shop will have a small store for supplies, shop space to rent and a wide choice of classes in woodworking and turning. Derrick has set the space up with a good work flow for several folks working at the same time and excellent choices of power and hand tools to use.

George hinted at a vision he has had for our club, which is to have its own home. A place where we could place our equipment and not have to pack it up after meetings were over. He was just putting it out there that if anyone has knowledge of some benevolent person interested in donating space in a building for the club to use on a permanent basis.

“Tops for Tots” is still a hot Topic. We need to keep on this project and remember to turn a top or two each time you are in your shop and bring them to each meeting. Our Top Gun John Gruenewald said we have a very large Top Box to fill. The June Dust Saturday will feature “How To Turn Tops” and there will be 2 half day sessions, one in the morning, and if enough sign up another in the afternoon.

John Novak asked that if you are not receiving club meeting notices that you please email him jcnovak1@comcast.net and let him know your current email address. He said he has heard from several members that they were not getting the notices and as it turns out they have new email addresses that are not in John’s file.

George brought up the subject of a camping weekend and asked if there was any interest. Please let George or Julian Lee know. If you have a place to go in mind that would also be a help.

Dave Blair, events chairman asked that we remember Saturday July 17th is the annual Children’s Art Fair at Hillcrest Lodge. We will have lathes set-up for top turning and need volunteers to help with the turning. The Bellingham is the third weekend in August.

At this time George introduced our first demonstrator Charlie Drake who teaches photography at the Burlington-Edison High School. Charlie presented a program on how to photograph your work. He said the first thing you need to do is turn off your cameras flash function because of the pre-set exposure which will create flash high lights and dark shadows. You should use photo flood reflectors with Revel lamps which are fairly inexpensive at hardware stores, or the halogen shop lights you may already have in your shop. You can cover the photo floods with a white cloth to diffuse the light, which softens the shadows, but not the halogens which are too hot. Place the lights close in to your subject and the shadows will disappear. You will need to move them around to see where the shadows are falling.



May Meeting cont.

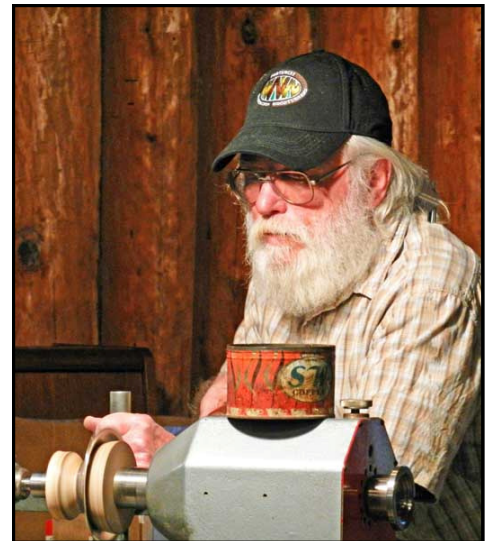
When you find a pleasing look remember that location for future photos. You should set the camera's light balance setting for incandescent light if it has this sort of adjustment. This will give the right color tone to your photos. You can also use the landscape auto setting, which works equally well, and it will also turn off your automatic flash feature. Place your camera on a tripod because you will need a slow exposure. A suggestion

for long exposures is to use the self-timer to eliminate camera movement when you press the shutter release. Place a white cardboard board behind the subject to block against unwanted shop background showing in your photos. It should be large enough so it completely covers the background area when it is back away from your subject area. Curve the cardboard and it will become more diffused and invisible and also diffuse the shadows more. A gray cardboard will also work well and it will not bounce so much light back at your subject. If you need something in the photo to set the scale, try using a quarter or a coin it is not as obtrusive as a ruler. If your camera has interchangeable lenses a 50mm lens will give you the same view as you see with your eye. However a wide angle lens is handy if you need to be closer to the subject because of space. You should also experiment with natural light. Try outdoors on a sunny day and hang a white sheet between the sun and your subject which will diffuse the harsh shadows. On a cloudy day the light is already diffused, but you will not get as much contrast in the color and the subject may look flat.

At this time George presented the gallery. We had an excellent table this month. There were many outstanding pieces with a wide variety of techniques. Please visit the gallery photos on the club web site

Two excellent tips came out of the gallery presentation. The first was to never turn a Holly crotch. They do not fuse or grow together and will separate while you are turning and launch a part of it across your shop. The second was a piece of Formica pressed into grooves cut in a bowl or vase bottom will burn a dark line.

After cookies, coffee and tea break George introduced the second part of the evening's program which was on Metal Spinning presented by Dennis Shinn. Any malleable metal brass, copper, aluminum, and pewter can be spun onto a wood form to create a wide variety of items only limited by your imagination. Dennis had examples of bowls, cups, trays, and a delightful copper bird feeder which required several parts that fit together over a lantern chimney. It was a very creative and attractive piece. Dennis started with an explanation of how to mount the metal disc between two wooden plates installed in the lathe. A mold of the shape you are going to make is mounted in the head stock and a backup wooden disc is mounted into the tail stock.



May Meeting cont.

To center the metal disc on mold you press a wooden stick against it as it is spinning before you completely tighten the tailstock. Once the piece is running true, you tighten the tail stock. A great amount of pressure is needed to hold the disc to be spun in between the two wooden discs so that it doesn't slip as you press the tool bar into it. The metal disc must be lubricated with a homemade paste of plumbing seal wax and chain saw bar grease melted together. As you work the disc over the mold and it starts to take a shape and just like magic a bowl appears. It takes many passes with the forming tool to get the final shape, and then other tools are used to roll the edge and a cutter to trim it clean. Dennis showed a set of molds that he uses to make two piece turnings that fit together to form a multi shaped piece. her and applied with a roll of denim fabric. An example could be a very showy fence post topper.

Dennis went on to show how he glues up pieces of maple to make his molds. He drills and taps them to fit onto his lathe headstock and then turns them to the shape he needs for his next project. Once a mold is made it can be re-used as many times as you need. He also showed a compound mold that had two sides, one for turning the first recess and then by remounting the mold on the lathe the other side of the mold is used to reverse the curve turning so it can be part of a multi pieced item such as parts for a bird feeder. Dennis showed a segmented bowl turning he has been working on. It was walnut with aluminum dividers, Dennis had spun a top edge that went over the rim and a bottom to finish it off. It had a nice crisp look. Dennis also showed a candle stick holder with a top spun from copper, and was planning to turn a base from Corian to give it a little weight to ease the tipping over concerns. Dennis went on to talk about his tools and who they ended up being home made because of the unusual expense in purchasing them ready made. He used steel rod and spent hours working at forming the tip of his main tool. It has two sides, one curved to press the metal discs over the molds and the other is concaved to press the disc into ridges in the molds. Another tool is a beading tool to round over the edge of a piece and a trimming tool to clean and true the edges. Dennis also spoke about where to buy metal stock and the weight and gauge that works best. He ended his presentation with how to properly hold the tools. They are very long and it is necessary to tuck them under your arm and hold them with your chest and then move your body to manipulate the correct angle to press the metal onto the mold.

Our third presentation was given by Jim Short who showed us how to use cabinet scrapers to clean up a turning. Jim uses the hand scraper with the lathe off. He said they work great to clean off CA glue along with unruly grain and fuzzy wood. Jim said it was necessary to alter the direction of the scraping actions with each pass in order to eliminate a wash-boarding effect. He went on to explain and show how to correctly sharpen a cabinet hand scraper. It is necessary to hold the scraper flat on its side while rubbing it on the sharpening stone to get it perfectly flat. Then the edge must be trued and stoned flat. The next step in to draw a cutting edge by burnishing the edge first at about a 5 degree angle and then a second pass at about a 10 degree angle which will turn the edge over to a very sharp cutting edge. Jim said that scrapers work great on spalted wood to clean up tear out areas. He demonstrated an oval shaped scraper that would work on the inside of a bowl when held at various angles.

May Meeting cont.

The sharpening of an oval scraper was much more involved because of having to follow the contour of the oval. He worked the flat and edge by resting the scraper on a board and running it against the stone which was held at the 90 degree angle on the boards side. Jim used a wooden block with bur-nishing pins set at the correct angle to turn the edge. Jim suggested using lemon on your fingers to get the oil stone stain off so as not to transfer it to your turning.

George declared the meeting over and said it was wood raffle time. We again had a nice selection of wood in the raffle this month. Remember to bring your extra wood for the raffle to each meeting as it is a very good source of revenue for the club as well as benefitting members who are in need of turning stock.

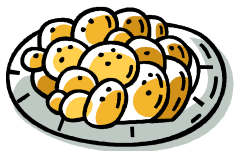
Richard Mabie

A note from the editor

Dear Members,

I would like to ask everyone that submits a turned piece to be photographed to please print your information on the paper slips a clearly as possible. I was not able to read some of the slips this month so the information was not included in the gallery. I also want to apologize to Jim Short for not getting a good picture of him for the newsletter.

Thank you,
Ron Wehde



Cookie Roster for June



Dave Blair, _____ , _____ , _____

Please let me know if you can help.

Thanks,
Ron Wehde

June Demonstrator Art Liestman



Art Liestman is a part-time woodturner living in Coquitlam, B.C. Art has been involved with woodworking for 30 years. Originally, his interest was in designing and making experimental musical instruments. He stumbled into woodturning when he needed some turned parts for an automated programmable xylophone. As many others have, he quickly became passionate about woodturning. After a few years of making functional items, he turned to the artistic side of woodturning .

Known particularly for his puzzling illusion series of turnings that resemble jigsaw puzzles, his work often involves surface enhancements using pyrography and coloring. He is also interested in breaking the symmetry of traditional turned forms and exploring more sculptural work.



Art has demonstrated at national and regional symposia, as well as for dozens of local clubs. He recently taught week long courses at the John C. Campbell Folk School and at the Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts. His work has been seen in numerous exhibitions and is available through several galleries across North America.



Demo description:

Much of Art's recent woodturning has involved the exploration of various turning techniques that produce objects that are not round. He will demonstrate one of these techniques - the lost wood method - which you can use to produce turned objects that are football shaped in cross-section

Coming Events

Coming on October 23rd & 24th DOUGLAS FISHER!



Douglas Fisher, from Parksville, B.C. on Vancouver Island is one of the rising stars in woodturning with unique artistry and innovative techniques. After a career that ranges from ironworker to drilling and blasting in underground gold mines to delivering sailboats to the Caribbean and across the Atlantic he became a full time professional artist in 1992 and since 1997 has focused on wood sculptures, primarily made using the lathe. Doug collaborated with a British Columbia First Nation artist for several years and now, since his passing, continues to utilize that art for the visual designs in most of his pieces.



Doug did his very first demo at the AAW Symposium in June to rave reviews. I recently attended his all day demo at the Greater Vancouver Woodturners Guild and although this was only his third demonstration, his presentation was equal to or better than many demonstrators who have been doing demos for years. The day was very educational, focusing on his techniques which have the potential to be applied in many different ways to our own turning. His works make use of multi-center turning techniques while his unique finishing utilizes inks and stains applied in multiple layers to attain an “old wood” patina that is quite wonderful. In between the turning and finishing, he carves, textures and burns.

His finished works are beautiful! Be sure to check out Doug’s work at www.douglasfisher.com You can also see several pieces of Doug’s work on display at The Fairhaven Originals Gallery in the Fairhaven District of Bellingham

Douglas has agreed to present an all day demo next October 22nd! On October 23rd Doug will lead a class on his techniques and is willing to lead a second class on October 24th if enough turners are interested. Complete details will be developed and presented within the next couple of months so set these dates aside!

For additional information contact: Rick Anderson
vicepresident@nwwwt.org



Coming Events

Northwest Washington Woodturners

Present a Camping and Turning Rendezvous in the delightful Eastern Washington City of Ellensburg.

Dates: July 8th through 24th 2011

Location: North RV Lot, Kittitas Valley Event Center (Ellensburg Rodeo Grounds)

Fees: Daily camping fee, \$13 per rig for hookups to power and water, \$8 per rig or tent for dry camping. Dumpsite available nearby

This is an unstructured camping and outdoor turning get together where like minded folk can relax and share experiences.

Bring your own mini lathe and come for as long as you wish during these dates.

Contact Julian Lee - julian.s@comcast.net - Telephone 360 299 2900 To confirm your reservation.

Companion event:

For those turners interested in learning to carve, or improve their carving, there are classes available at Northwest Carvers Academy within the Event Center from July 10th through 15th. Information on this is available on line at www.Cascadecarvers.com and click on "Carving Academy".

Wood Available

A fellow in Mount Vernon that is having a Tulip poplar tree taken down by Eager Beaver tree service in the next 2 weeks and he would like the wood to go to good use. Quite large 4.5 ft diameter, 90 ft tall.

For more information contact Dan Gould 360-336-2578 Any one interested should call him direct

Mentoring News

MENTORING NEWS

Don't forget that our Basic Mentoring program is available for beginning turners as well as more experienced turners.

Our Basic Mentoring program was created using the AAW Teaching Woodturning Basics teaching guide. The program focuses on learning spindle turning basics as a way to master tool control which can then be applied to most other modes of turning. Our basic turning mentors are George Way, Lucinda Van Valkenburg, Bob Doop, Fred Holder, Dave Blair, Melanie Mankamyer, Jim Short and Rick Anderson.

In addition to the basic mentoring program, we have developed a list of volunteer mentors with expertise in specialty subjects (such as hollowing, texturing, bowl turning, etc.) as well as more advanced turning skills. These mentors stand ready to assist you.....it is a great opportunity to advance your skills.

Printed copies of our mentor lists and their contact info are available on the membership table at our monthly meetings. Be sure to pick up copies and keep them handy for the next time you want to advance your turning skills.

If you have any questions regarding mentoring or need assistance in being connected with an appropriate mentor please feel welcome to call or email me.

Rick Anderson
360-671-0532
VicePresident@NWWT.org

!! Raffle Wood !!

Our wood raffle is an important source of income for the club. Please bring any surplus you can scrounge up but try to limit it to something you would enjoy turning yourself.

Useful Website Links

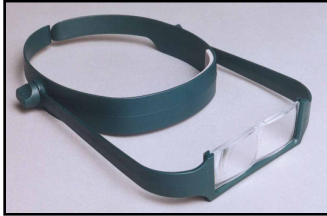
Note:
Web links have been provided on our website rather than included in the newsletter.

Please visit:
www.northwestwashingtonwoodturners.org

Turning Accessories / Library

TURNING UP CLOSE

Do you ever wish you could zoom in on small items you are turning? Or when doing detail work on a turned piece? Now you can. MagEyes are here! They are comfortable, light weight and very effective.



We are stocking two styles. The Hobbyist which is open in back (the style that Bonnie Klein touted when she was here last winter).



The 360 which wraps completely around your head w/ Velcro adjustment. Both styles come with two high grade optical quality lenses that provide 1.6X or 2.0X magnification.

Two stronger power lenses (2.25X & 2.75X) are also available and we will be stocking a limited number of those. The

stronger the power the closer the focal length. The 1.6X has a focal length of 12-14" and is great for general turning use. The other lenses are more applicable for detail work. It's easy to change from one lens to another.

The MagEyes are very lightweight and comfortable and flip up out of the way in a second. One of the best features is that it is easy to look over them and under them for normal vision without having to move them out of the way. Check them out at www.mageyes.com

We are able to buy the MagEyes directly at a significant savings to our members. Both styles are priced at \$23 including tax and shipping. Most mail order catalogs charge \$30 plus tax and shipping. The higher powered lenses are \$8 each. Be sure to check them out on the supplies table at the November meeting!

NEW DVDS IN OUR LIBRARY

We have recently added several new DVDs to our club library. Several will be of particular benefit to our beginning turners while others will be a resource for both beginning and experienced turners. In most cases we ordered 2 copies in order to make these DVDs available to more turners.

Richard Raffan — **TURNING WOOD** (2 copies)

The ideal companion to Raffan's book of the same name. One of the most complete guides to basic turning.

Bonnie Klein — **BASIC TECHNIQUES** (2 copies)

A great guide to basic techniques and their application to some fun projects.

Alan Lacer — **WOODTURNING-GETTING STARTED** (2 copies)

This book talks about all the equipment and tools involved in basic turning. A highly recommended view before starting turning.

Gary Rance — **WOODTURNING TECHNIQUES** (1 copy)

Very well done guide to the basics of woodturning from the perspective of a professional British turner trained in the classical tradition.

Mike Mahoney — **BOWL TURNING BASICS** (2 copies)

Everything you need to know (after mastering basic techniques) to turn beautiful bowls.

AAW's — **FUNDAMENTALS OF SHARPENING** (2 copies)

Features Bonnie Klein, Alan Lacer, John Jordan & Bill Johnston teaching their favorite sharpening techniques.

John Jordan — **AESTHETICS & PROPERTIES OF WOOD** (2 copies)

A 2 DVD set covering properties of wood, preparing wood for the lathe, wood orientation on the lathe and much more. This DVD will be of help to turners at all levels.

Curt Theobald — **INTRODUCTION TO SEGMENTED TURNING**

The title says it all, presented by one of the foremost segmented turners.

Be sure to check these out at our next meeting!

Les Books

Classified Ads

This space is set aside for members to advertise free of charge to sell or purchase tools, wood, etc. Please submit your ad to Ron Wehde (rmwehde@comcast.net) by the last Thursday of the month or submit it to him at the meeting for inclusion in the next months newsletter.

MORE WOODTURNING

The magazine for turners. Published 10 times a year by Fred Holder.

One yr: \$35.00;

Two yrs: \$70.00;

Three yrs \$105.00.

Electronic version \$25/yr. delivered from More Woodturning online at: www.morewoodturning.net
Lots of great information for your browsing pleasure.

More Woodturning
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Snohomish WA 98291-2168
Phone: 360-668-0976
email: fred@morewoodturning.net

Club Discounts Available:

Show your Club Membership card and get 10% off at Rockler's and Crosscut Hardwoods

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Oby says: NWWoodturner Club members will get 10% off on their Purchases.

Save on gas buy local.

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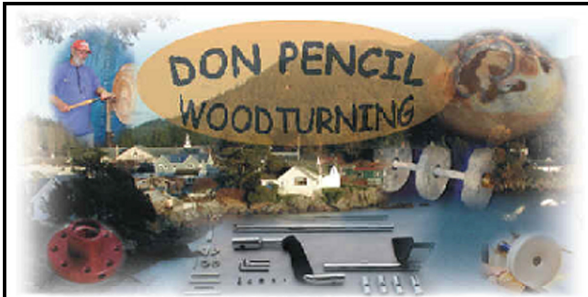
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Kerf's Wood Cream
Kerf's Lavender Wood Lotion
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Anne Collard
owner

phone: 360.738.3369
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email: annecollard@earthlink.net
website: www.kerfs.com

Classified Ads and Contacts



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This is my home club.

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FOR SALE

BELSAW 9103 PLANER/MOLDING CUTTER

I have a Belsaw 9103 planer/molding cutter that runs fine but needs blades. Blades run about \$40. The manual is available online and I would be glad to print it out if the buyer doesn't have Internet access. I would like **\$150** for it.

Jan Garlington
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