



# Northwest Washington Woodturners

A Local Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners

Monthly Newsletter for October 2009



## 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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## October Meeting

The October meeting of the Northwest Washington Woodturners was held on Thursday October 15, 2009 at Hillcrest Lodge in Mount Vernon.

Shirley Butters again presented the membership with a very nice meal. We appreciate her efforts and hope that she can continue. I might mention that if you arrive after 5:30, you will probably be at the end of the line.

Bob Doop opened the meeting with introduction of visitors, and announcements. Next month, November will be our annual potluck and auction. Items that have been made by our demonstrators, will be auctioned off in a silent auction, plus there will be a bucket auction. Melanie asked for any donations for the bucket auction, suggesting tools you do not use, unused gift cards, etc.

Election of officers is coming up. The slate of prospective officers will be posted in the newsletter and election will be at next meeting. Lucinda is head of the nomination committee. If you have some one to nominate, call her or e-mail at 360-435-5051 or [lucinda@valleyint.com](mailto:lucinda@valleyint.com). The positions open this year are President, Vice President, and two Members at Large. Terms are for two years.

Our new t-shirts with the club logo are available for purchase. Pre-orders will take precedence. Dues are now due for the next year and anyone renewing membership before January 31st can receive a new name tag with club logo for free. After that the price will be \$5.00. Rick Anderson has volunteered to make the blanks for the name tags and also requested help in doing so, either physically or finding the right wood. Melanie is also looking into the possibility of setting up an account with PayPal for paying dues.

Less Books reported that a lot of overdue books and tapes have been returned. Less has gone to a lot of effort to catalogue the book and videos that we should have in the library and requests help finding the ones that are on the missing list. He has come up with a way to make it easier to find the book that you are looking for, just by going to the list to see which ones are available.

Arts Alive will be November 7th and 8th. Sign up now or contact Lucinda. Dave Blair will be in charge of demonstrating on the street during the event. Contact him if you would like to join in the fun turning tops or small bowls on one of the club lathes. Any one wishing to participate in the Arts of Snohomish exhibit in the month of December should contact Lucinda.

Laura Matthews

# October Demonstrator - Dave Schweitzer

**Our demonstrator** for the evening was Dave Schweitzer, from the Shelton area. Dave is a veteran wood turner and a great teacher. He also sells a line of fine tools, which he demonstrated the use of. His first lesson was safety. He turned on the club lathe without checking to see what speed it was set at. It was a hard lesson requiring band aids.

Dave spoke about the fundamentals of roughing out a bowl. He mounted the piece between centers, then used his deep fluted bowl gouge to take off the unwanted material, roughing from the bottom of the blank. He sharpens his gouge at an angle that allows him to stand out of the path of the spinning bowl blank. He emphasized the importance of learning to sharpen your tools and keeping the flute polished. He demonstrated how easy it is to send chips in any direction, just by opening or closing the flute of the gouge.

After removing some of the wood, he established the top rim and bottom of the bowl, cutting a tenon on the bottom for holding the bowl while turning the inside. Refine the curve from rim to bottom. Use a bevel rubbing cut to sweep from bottom to top. It is helpful to grind away part of the heel of the gouge. This can be done easily when sharpening, just move up a hair on the grinder and grind it away. Turn the blank around and hold in the chuck for hollowing. Remove wood starting in the center. You can also drill to the desired depth to be your guide. Continue cutting to the desired wall thickness, keeping it even all the way. Dave cuts a bit of an undercut on the lip of his bowls, making a shadow line and also a very good grip for a salad bowl. He talked about design and the fact that his bowls are distinguishable from other fine turners. Find your own style.

Dave demonstrated his new beading tools, which come in four sizes, and make it easy to have very uniform beads. After cutting the first time, he sprays the beads with water or oil that you finish with. Then recut with the beading tool to remove the burrs. He also demonstrated a finish he uses on a wide rim. Using a carb-tec cutting tool or other cutting implement he makes a series of random gouges in the rim, then burns it with a torch, and scrubs it with a hard bristle brush, which leaves a nicely burnished finish. For more emphasis on color, gob on the paint, recut the edges and you have a very nice rim detail.

Dave turns many bowl blanks in a day and has a stock pile for later use. The only ones that he finds it necessary to boil are Madrona.

Laura Matthews



## Christmas Ornament Contest!



There will be a Christmas Ornament Contest at the November meeting. Here is a chance to put all of your skills and imagination to use and create a Christmas Ornament for the contest. Prizes will be awarded for all three beginner, intermediate and expert categories.

## Club Officer Nominations

Lucinda Van Valkenburg reports that the following people have been nominated for the club officer positions listed below. The club would still like to have one more nomination for Member at Large.

President: Gerrit Van Ness

Vice President: George Way

Members at Large: Les Books, Jean Brock, Jerry Holmes

We will vote for new officers at the November meeting.

# Upcoming Events

Our club has invited to exhibit our work at the Arts of Snohomish gallery during the month of December 2009. This show is one we do not have to man all the time. We set before the show, attend the opening party and then take our pieces down at the end of the show. If you would like to participate but can not attend the set-up or tear-down arrangements can be made with someone to do that for you. Jan Garlington has graciously agreed to check the gallery regularly during the show to do any restocking if needed. One new thing about this show is that we are going to charge each participant a percentage of the show cost unless we can come up with a sponsor to help pay for show expenses. Arts of Snohomish Gallery is cooperative gallery run by artist members, they will provide us with 400+ customer mailing labels, send out press releases, put one show ad in the Everett Herald and one show ad in the Seattle Times and will send out broadcast emails to its list of 300+ customers. We will have to make the postcard, pay for postage, and mail the cards. We also need to have some posters and flyers made that the gallery manager will distribute. More posters and flyer can be made for our members to distribute as we decide. The gallery estimates that the show will cost the featured artist/s three to four hundred dollars, if that is divided up between ten artists each member would have to pay \$40 a very reasonable cost to participate in a show. The gallery also charges a 40% commission on each sale for non-members of the Arts of Snohomish Gallery. Five Northwest Washington Woodturners signed up at the September meeting and we would like to have more participants.

The Northwest Washington Woodturners has been participating in this event for many years. We share the garden club building in LaConner with the Northwest Corner Woodworkers to display what we make. The show is held annually the first weekend of November and we must man the exhibit during the whole event. Last year we tried a turning demonstration booth on the main street and decided to continue it this year. Even if you do not have any pieces you want to show you can come take a shift turning in the demo booth.

If you would like to join us please contact Lucinda VanValkenburg at [lucinda@valleyint.com](mailto:lucinda@valleyint.com) or phone 360-435-5051.

Another request we need is for pedestals that stand on the floor to exhibit your pieces on. Pedestals can easily be made from plywood and painted white. If you need help with ideas for making them contact Lucinda.

## Upcoming Events cont.

### *Woodturners of Olympia, WA*

#### **2010 Symposium with Alan Lacer**

**3rd Annual Creativity in Woodturning**

**Saturday July 24, 2010**

**Work Shops : July 25th & 26th & 27th**

**Work Shop Location & Program to be determined.**

#### **Alan Lacer**



Alan Lacer has been involved in the turning field for over thirty years as a turner, teacher, writer, exhibition coordinator, demonstrator and past president of the American Association of Woodturners. His work has appeared in a number of regional and national exhibitions. Alan has been a regular instructor and demonstrator of the craft - having worked in all 50 states as well as 4 foreign countries. His writings have covered technical aspects of woodturning, many specific projects, stories related to both contemporary and historical woodturning and the long turning traditions of Japan and Germany. He has also produced three videos on his own, with two of them winning a total of four national awards. In

1999 the American Association of Woodturners awarded him their Lifetime Honorary Member Award for his contributions to the field.

# Sawdust Saturdays

## **SAWDUST SATURDAYS NOVEMBER & BEYOND.....**

On October 24<sup>th</sup> we held our first Hollowing Methods session at Gerrit's shop. 8 members attended and had a fun time exploring the inside of vessels! Except for the second session of Hollowing Methods, we aren't scheduling any additional Sawdust Saturday's for November and December as we have shows and holidays keeping all of us quite busy.

## **NOVEMBER 21<sup>ST</sup> HOLLOWING METHODS—SECOND SESSION**

This session will be held at Gerrit Van Ness' shop in Bayview from 9am until 3pm. This session is limited to 8 participants and is already full from our earlier sign up. However, if any slots do come open we will announce them via email to the membership. We will be holding another session sometime in the new year too.

## **LET'S START TURNING!**

At the last two meetings we have had a sign up sheet on the table for another session of **Let's Start Turning**.....a day for those new to turning to learn and practice basic skills. We have 3 members on the sign up list, and as soon as we have at least 6 people sign up we will schedule a Saturday session for that group. Maximum capacity for the class is 8 members. The sign up sheet will be at our meetings, or you can also sign up by emailing Rick Anderson.

## **SOMETHING NEW!**

Beginning in the New Year, your board has decided on two new policies relating to Sawdust Saturdays and Mentoring Sessions:

- 1) Participants will be required to provide and wear face shields at all Sawdust Saturday and Mentoring sessions. Safety glasses only protect the eyes.....a good face shield protects the entire face, forehead and neck. This will be mandatory without exceptions. While our instructors may have some extra face shields available for use, that is not guaranteed and we encourage everyone to purchase their own.....and wear them *whenever* you turn!
- 2) A small fee will be required for most Sawdust Saturday sessions to cover the cost of materials and, in some cases, purchase of tools for the class. The fee will be either \$5 or \$10 depending on the class and will be required at sign up. We also hope the fee will encourage people who sign up to show up without a great deal of time being needed to make sure we don't end up with idle lathes at classes while we have members on the waiting list who could have been there. This fee is non-refundable and will not be collected from members on the waiting list until their names have advanced to the active class list. For some of our non-sign up sessions (like Jerry's chain saw class) we will not collect any fee unless special materials are needed.

## **SAWDUST SATURDAY CHAIRMAN NEEDED!**

We are in need of a member who will volunteer to take over management & scheduling of our Sawdust Saturdays. I plan to devote my time in the coming months to getting our one on one mentoring program underway. Sawdust Saturdays have become an important part of our guild.....but programs like this require members volunteering to make them happen. We have lots of teaching expertise within our club willing to share their skills.....we just need an individual(s) to plan and organize the sessions.

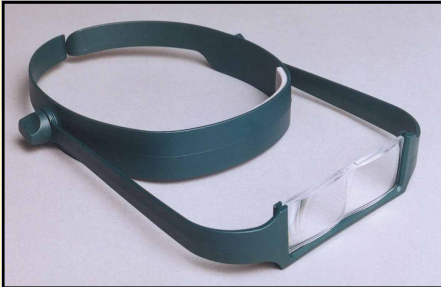
If you have questions.....or wish to volunteer, please contact Rick Anderson.

[rick@gardenarches.com](mailto:rick@gardenarches.com) or 360-319-7600

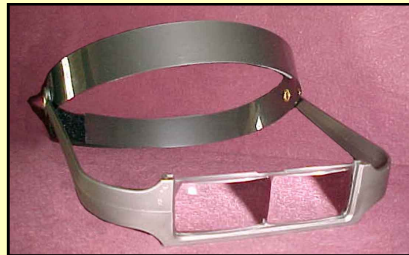
# Turning Accessories

## 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

## 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 Theobold ••••• **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!

Rick Anderson

# Classified

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](http://www.morewoodturning.net)  
Lots of great information for your browsing pleasure.

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

Save on gas buy local.

# Classified

## **GRIZZLY WOOD LATHE**

Model G0462, 16" swing, variable speed with RPM indicator.  
Approximately 2 years old, excellent condition.  
Great starter lathe. \$250

Call Charlie Jurges @ (360) 733-2047



## **DUNLAP 9" x 32"**

(bench top) lathe that I have for sale. It has a 1/2 hp motor, live and dead centers, three face plates, and a four jaw wood chuck. The 1725 RPM motor is coupled via (4) step pullies (V-belt) in the head and on the motor. It is also capable of out board turning, and the tail stock is adjustable for off center turning. This lathe is in perfect (like new) condition, and needs a new home now that I have ordered a bigger one that will cause this one be moved out of my small shop. I am asking \$250 for the package as described above. I would be willing to bring it to the next club meeting or it can be seen here at my home in Anacortes. Once discovered I'm sure it won't last long though. Also, I have a 1HP 3450 like new motor (110-220 v) that I would take \$50 for. It has a standard mounting base. If a general E-mailing is in order that would be great.

**Dave Balyeat**  
**360-420-4942**



## **!! 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](http://www.northwestwashingtonwoodturners.org)