

Northwest Washington Woodturners

Monthly Newsletter

March
2008



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 of 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.

Club Contacts:

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Dave Blair – Member at Large

Dennis Shinn – Newsletter

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President's Message

The following article was posted on W.O.W. recently, authored by Clay Foster. He inspired me to try for a cleaner and more organized shop. As I get older, the time spent “looking for” is close to equal to my time spent “doing”. I like the “doing”. The “looking for” is nonproductive and frustrating.

As we start this new chapter in our guild life, my hope is that we can all maximize our time to be productive, have fun and grow together.

Turn, Turn, Turn

Bob Doop

Zen and the Art of A Clean Shop

Clay Foster

www.thewows.com

- Apr 2, 2008

Some are born to have a clean shop, and others are called to it. Some of us even answer the call.

I haven't always been a clean shop keeper. Oh, I always wanted one, but not enough to actually do it. I was attracted to the concept, but not the reality. The logic of efficiency and safety always ended up being sacrificed on the altar of urgency, the rush to see to fruition the project at hand. A broom was not a tool that fit my hand as well as one that flung wood chips to the farthest reaches of space.

But life has been a long upward spiraling journey to know its essence, the essentials, the elemental core. The further I traveled on the journey, the more I realized the necessity to jettison nonessentials, pare away the superfluous, and leave excess baggage behind. This applied to my work as well, the art and furnishings that I was compelled to make for both

satisfaction and livelihood. I learned that when a design was not quite right I was better off taking things away until it worked rather than adding more bags and pouches. Reduction, not addition, has been my touchstone.

And eventually this applied to my shop as well. The convenience of tidiness was not as important as the reduction of visual clutter. The safety of a clean environment was not a motivation, but the elimination of anything that stood between me and a purer involvement with what I was making and living. The two aspects were merging into one life style. My shop became cleaner and tidier, my life became simpler, and my work acquired a greater depth and presence.

One day after brushing my hair out of my face for the umpteenth time, I realized that my freak flag of long hair I'd flown for 35 years was not making life simpler. The next weekend I bought some clippers and had my wife give me a bur haircut. Honesty forces me to also confess that my pony tail over the years had become more of a rat tail, but that's not what brought about our reenactment of Sampson and Delilah. Rather than loose my hippy strength, I gained a freedom from attachment to an old emblem. It's one less thing that takes time away from my work.

I don't believe that what I make in a clean shop is inherently better than the work made by some one who's shop looks like an explosion at a thrift store. I do know that my work made in a clean shop is better than my work made in a mess. It's a choice, and not one for every body, but one I've learned to live with.

Club Business:

March 20 2008 Meeting of the Northwest Washington Wood Turners

Vice president Mark Straight opened the meeting and made an announcement of the death of our president Ron Grant.

Bob Doop and Julian Lee were nominated to replace Ron as President. Julian requested his name be withdrawn. Bob was elected by a voice vote and will serve out the remainder of Ron's term as President.

Bob stated that he will be forming committees to take care of some of the club business and that we as members need to step up and help run the club.

The results of the "demonstrators we would like to have" questionnaire will be on the website.

Our March demonstrator was **Art Liestman** who showed a slide show of amazing teapots. He then turned a teapot leg, showed how to mate it to the teapot and then bent it. He is using a product called Compwood made by a company in the state called Flutedbeams.com. It is treated to bend easily.

Art's work can be seen on his website Artliestman.com and you can buy his T-shirts at ljustmakestuff.com.

Due to the annual Kiwanis Salmon Barbecue held in the lodge where we meet, the April meeting will be on the 24th, the fourth Thursday rather than the third. This change is for April only.

Ben Carpenter will be our demonstrator. Remember the two day class; there are still three places open. This will be a chance to learn from one of the most innovative turner/carvers around. Locust burl will be provided for the turning/carving.

October: Johannes Mickelson— Sunday all day demo will be \$25. which will include a raffle ticket for a made to measure hat. Gerrit says these hats normally sell for \$1800 so this is quite an opportunity to not only learn to make these hats but possibly win one as well.

Shirley Butters/Secretary



Mark needs help setting up the lathes for class in April. E-mail him at m_straight@comcast.net.



Mentoring Program

Our board is making plans to embark on an expanded mentoring program during the coming months. The program will include instruction in two categories: New Turners and Experienced Turners.

The New Turners program will feature basic woodturning training with the mentors following a teaching curriculum that will provide consistent direction regardless who is teaching. This will require a commitment on the part of a few instructors to a teacher training session.

The Experienced Turner program will be theme based and many of the sessions will include both multiple participants as well as multiple presenters. An example of this might be a Saturday devoted to exploring various methods of turning hollow forms with presenters demonstrating a variety of tools and methods.

In addition, we will be updating our list of mentors available to consult and coach individuals needing help with specific skills or problems in a one on one format.

All of this will require volunteers! Sharing our skills can be one of the special things about our craft. Please contact Rick Anderson, Mentoring Chairman for more information and to add your name to our list of mentors. You can reach Rick at 360-319-7600 or rick@gardenarches.com

Deadline for submitting info to the Newsletter:

The first of the month after the last meeting

Contact Dennis Shinn with your submission:

360-854-9909

woodnut@anatechsys.com

!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.

**Next Meeting
24 April!**

Meeting agenda

No host buffet dinner \$6.00/per (5:30)

Meeting starts at 6:30

Ben Carpenter Demonstration

Beginning with the upcoming April meeting the Gallery will consist of a display only table and a table for those who would like comments and a critique of their work.

Wood Raffle. Bring Quality Wood!!

Menu for April Meeting:

Buffet dinner prior to meeting is \$6.00

Ravioli with Marinara Sauce

Garlic Parmesan Bread

A Vegetable, Green Salad and the other usual stuff.

Newsletter Links

Web based newsletters from regional clubs:

Greater Vancouver Woodturning Guild—

www.gvwg.ca/Newsletters.htm

Shavings from the editor's floor

If you haven't had an opportunity to check the calendar of events on the club web site, please do. We really owe a vote of thanks to Jan Garlington, our web master, for the superb job she does keeping the site, especially the calendar up to date.

As Shirley mentioned in the meeting notes, Bob Doop has taken the helm as president after the untimely passing of Ron Grant. One of Bob's goals is to get more members involved in our organization. There are several standing committees working on many issues—if you want to contribute to the success and strength of the club, talk to Bob or any of the board members about getting involved.

Rick Anderson is chairing the *Mentor Program* and would really appreciate input from our more advanced turners. As part of the club's mission statement, it's our intention to provide quality instruction to beginning and intermediate turners. We need people willing to step up and lend a hand to new members looking for help getting started.

I also hope you will find it refreshing to discover newsletter content submitted by more members of the club. For several months now we've been fortunate to have Jim Short prepare and submit a *Featured Turner* piece along with quality images to enhance the page. Rick (Anderson) is also providing information on the mentor program. In addition Rick provides some nice write-ups for future artist/demonstrators.

Be sure to thank these people for helping to develop our newsletter into one of substance.

Dennis Shinn



Coming up in June! Dan Ackerman on Box Turning

by Rick Anderson



Dan Ackerman from Bremerton will be joining us for our June meeting with an expanded demonstration of his box making techniques. The following is Dan's Bio in his own words:

"I started out carving and whittling as a kid and gradually invested in sculpting chisels and larger pieces of work. In 1985 I started turning and became active in the Seattle chapter of AAW. After turning for about 6 years, Kathy and I started a rosewood turned gift item business, eventually developing 22 designs, most of which were unique to our business. During the next 5 years the production work improved my tool handling and technique and after the 5 years I decided to turn boxes exclusively. This gave me an opportunity to develop a box design of my own and a design to allow me to do carving to ornament my pieces. I've been turning these boxes for nearly 10 years and am enjoying making each one unique through the design, the exotic woods and the carving."

The accompanying photos of Dan's work provide a preview of what is in store on the 19th of June. It promises to be an interesting evening.....be sure to be there!



Ben Carpenter—

The April meeting will feature Ben Carpenter. Ben is an amazing artist & sculptor. The following was obtained from www.conjureworks.com:

born in mississippi 1982. moved with family to Idaho at age 5.

apprenticed under woodturner and mentor, the rev. jim christiansen. began practicing wood sculpture at age 14. attended colorado college to study physics. got serious about wood sculpture. left college after two years and used college fund to build a woodshop.

packed up the shop and moved it to portland, oregon. opened Conjureworks in 2005 with assistant and friend cody powell.

i am a sylvan artist. this means i use a lathe and carving tools to

shape wood. i see myself as both craftsman and artist. i make sculptures that stand alone without need for bases, many in multiple orientations.

i work with a variety of woods including maple, walnut, elm and black locust; 95% of it is salvaged. i do all my initial carving while the wood is green, then allow it to cure for many months. after the curing process, i return to the sculpture to bring out the details.

See Ben's work on his web site: www.conjureworks.com

We apologize for not being able to include any images of Ben's work.

Happenings at Other Clubs

Hayley Smith and Todd Hoyer Demo and Class:

Smith & Hoyer are woodturners living in Bisbee AZ. They will be presenting a demonstration at the Greater Vancouver Woodturning Guild on Saturday May 3rd and will conduct a hands-on class on Sunday May 4th.

Turner of the Month

Steve Pulver lives on the very edge of the United States. His home, near Blaine, has a commanding high bank view of the San Juan Islands and the foreign country five miles to the north.



These days, most of Steve's pieces are functional—bowls, platters, bottle stoppers and pens. What he doesn't give away or trade for wood, he sells at Artwood in Bellingham or Trade Winds in Birch Bay. Larger bowls are most popular. Black Walnut stays on the shelf and he has yet to sell a pair of chopsticks.

Born in Bellingham, he worked twenty-three years at the Cherry Point oil refinery and has been retired for eighteen. A lifelong fisherman, Steve built a large building to house his two fishboats. One year he spent fifty overnights on his twenty-two foot boat, that included a trip to the west coast of Vancouver Island. Another outdoors interest of Steve's is maintaining eighty-five Woodduck nesting boxes. Last season, despite the squirrels and Starlings, he counted five hundred and twenty-two hatchlings.

Ten years ago, when fishing became a story about the good old days, Steve sold the boats and set up a woodworking shop. He refined his junior high woodturning skills on a large Vicmark short bed lathe. Today the shop is well organized with plenty of bench space and drawers, and features a Oneway 2436 longbed with an extension. The space has been used for two Bruce Cambell beginning turning classes.

The lathe has its own room with windows, an air cleaner and a dust collector. This has eliminated the shavings hanging from the light fixtures problem.

Most of his wood is locally acquired. The pickup always has a chainsaw in it and people are often calling and forcing him to come and get lovely pieces of wood although he does have a serious interest in exotic hardwoods, purchased in small quantities through Craft Supplies. At one point there were ninety varieties of wood in the shop. Steve likes to use Truoil for a finish. He can get two coats on in a day, and it doesn't knock you over with fumes.

Steve's advice from ten years of turning at the edge of the U.S.:

..."buy good equipment."



Steve's face plate spur drive!

A few pieces that illustrate Steve's obsession with detail and craftsmanship.



Member's Gallery

A monthly showcase of members' work



Silver Maple
Wipe on Poly
10" x 3"



Cherry
Wipe on Poly



Western Maple
Aniline Dye, Shellac,
Wipe on Poly

Dave Blair



Jerry Holmes
Elm
Walnut Oil



Coty Howe
Maple & Walnut Segmented
Profin
6" x 10"



Melanie Mankamyer
Plum w/Wax finish
3" x 3"
Melanie calls this a "salt pig".



Maple
Spalted &
Figured
Beeswax
13" x 4"



Silver Maple
Poly



Myrtle
Poly
15" diameter



Maple
Spalted & Figured
Beeswax
9" x 6"

Chic Murray

John Novak



Elm
Poly

Member's Gallery

November meeting: cont.



Unknown Wood

Shellac

6" x 4" x 4"

Walt SchanzenShebach



Gene Skallerud

Alder & Mahogany

Note: the chairs and backdrop were left in the photo of Gene's piece to provide a sense of scale!



Driftwood (Madrone?)

Tried & True



Maple Burl

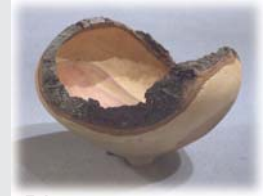
Tried & True

Bill Rawls



Maple Burl

Shellac & Wax



Plum

Shellac & Wax

6" x 5"



Tulip Poplar

Oil

10" x 8"

Jim Short



Beech

Profin

15" x 4"h



Maple

Profin

17" x 8"h

Mike Young



Alder

Walnut Oil

12" x 6"



Spalted Madrone Stump

BenMatte/Walnut Oil

13" x 6"



Madrone Burl

BenMatte & Walnut Oil

Vern Tator

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 Dennis Shinn (hdshinn@eskimo.com) 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 newspaper for turners. Published 10 times a year by Fred Holder. One yr: \$32.00; Two yrs: \$55.00; Three yrs \$75.00.

Electronic version \$25/yr. delivered from More Woodturning online at:

www.morewoodturning.net

Lots of great information for our browsing pleasure.

More Woodturning

PO Box 2168

Snohomish WA 98291-2168

Phone: 360-668-0976

email: fred@morewoodturning.net

Club Discounts Available:

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

FOR SALE

BONNIE KLEIN MINIATURE LATHE



DC variable speed drive.
With Threading attachment.
Two additional chucks.
Collet set.
Two faceplates.
Collapsible Stand

Set of miniature tools and much more

If you are interested in miniature turning, this is the lathe designed by one of the best miniature turners, Bonnie Klein. Give this to your self or another interested in miniatures for Christmas. \$600

Mike Jackets, (360) 293-0530

bluejack@cablerocket.com for pictures.



A good source of myrtle, maple burl and other figured turning burls

Got a tool or two you no longer need? Need an item related to woodturning (or general shop use)?

Contact other members of the club here in the classified.

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 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

Targo Woods

**1104 C Street Bldg. B
Bellingham, WA**

Just three blocks south of the old site.

www.targowoods.com [or]

www.hardwoodstoget.com

Local Bellingham wood source for your projects. Hard woods, Burls, Veneers. Wood to replace a leg on a chair, make a whole dining room set or turn a bowl, you will find it at Targo.

Oby says: [NWWoodturner Club members will get 10% off on their purchases.](#)

Save on gas buy local.

Useful Website Links

Note:

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

www.northwestwashingtonwoodturners.org

Nichols Custom Bowl Lathe:

3hp Baldor variable speed motor
Huge turning capacity

\$1500

Contact Dick Jacobson -

dij@wavecable.com

360-299-0429

*Tell 'em you read about it in the
Northwest Washington
Woodturner's newsletter!*