



*A Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners*

**MAY 2011**

*Marilyn Campbell*



Marilyn began turning in 1980 after a boat-building venture with her husband, who introduced her to woodworking. .

Marilyn Campbell has created and formed a whole new school of turning that combines both wood and epoxy into beautiful plates, platters, vessels and overlays.

This medium can be used for both decorative and structural purposes. Marilyn states "Resin, as a second medium, developed as a direct result of my shop inexperience – it began many years ago as liquid wood to solve the problems I was having. I never stopped using it. Epoxy has allowed me to create many new forms and effects, and to test those limits usually placed on lathe."

*Turning Wood and Epoxy*



**Saturday 9 AM to 4 PM**



## *The Guy That Works in My Shop*

**By Ken Shepherd**

**April's demonstration by Al Mather was awe ful !! Inspiring and awesome!**

Regardless of opinions to the contrary, the skew is a wonderful tool. Watching someone who has it under control and finds it useful and money making is inspiring. The guy that works in my shop went home determined to make the skew a larger part of the useful inventory. Al gave a new hint to learning to use the skew more naturally. Would you believe peeling vegetables.

**PRACTICE** (*a large part of Al's message*) with a vegetable mounted up between centers, such as a carrot or turnip, with the lathe turned OFF, when peeling it from end to end, will generate a motion that you will find is habit forming. Saving time is important to production turners but also to non-production turners because it will give you more time to do other things (like turn more wood).

It is sad to contemplate the fact that the Woodturning School will close under its present management. The end of June will wrap up 7 years of teaching people how to get started with good learned habits instead of the usual "poke & hope" method which is the way the guy who works in my shop learned. We have seen many new members of both our club and the community who have come out of the woodwork (round that is) as a result of the school. Hopefully a buyer or other manager will emerge to keep the school going.

On Saturday May 14 some of us had a chance to learn more about the life and exploits of our past president Andy Hoyt. The service was held at the Pine Island Camp for boys on Great Pond in Belgrade. Pine Island was a camp where Andy was a camper and councilor as well as all of his brothers. Andy's family was all there as well as a good turnout from the woodturning community of Maine. It was a sad occasion, but it was an excellent ceremony where we learned some of the full and exciting life of Andy before he got involved with woodturning.

We have made significant progress in getting the Maine Woodturners website back on track. The host of our new website is MaineHost in Bath Maine. Dennis Curtis and Ann Prescott have played a major role in the reestablishment of the site. We have seen the new site in "draft" form and by the time this newsletter is published we expect to see the website at its new location with the old address title. We have managed to change the home page from the March demo to the May demo with Marilyn Campbell.

# *Ken's Hint of the month*

## **Tenons and shoulders— strength & running true**

It really pays to “fuss” with a tenon to make it just right! It really doesn't matter if you are doing spindle or face work. The first thing you want is strength enough to hold it on the lathe! A good grip by the jaws of the chuck is important and some jaws are shaped a little different in order to maintain this grip. Some jaws have teeth but are more or less straight and some have a “dovetail” shape to get a better grip. All this is good and necessary but a lot of turners stop there.

**“But wait, that's not all folks”** Remember also that you want your piece to run true, no runout at the other end when you mount it up. What gives you that is a nice square smooth shoulder where the faces of the jaws “rest”. Where the shoulder and faces meet is what gives you a nice true mount. Not only that, it is where the strength of the mount prevents the piece from flying out. That leverage against the shoulder is critical. Also note that if the shoulder has some “fuzziness”, i.e. some of the wood fibers are standing up, it will prevent a nice square mounting surface, and it will mount up crooked.

The jaws of a 4-jaw chuck should also have the same pressure on each jaw. In the case of face work (like a bowl or platter) two of the sides of the tenon are end-on grain and two are side-on grain. If you mount the piece such that all 4 jaws are 45 degrees to the grain, they will each have the same pressure on the tenon when tightened. This is particularly true for green squishy or softer wood.

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## **SECRETARY REPORT** *by Tom Raymond*

The April Meeting of Maine Woodturners was held at Erskine Academy on Wednesday the 20<sup>th</sup>. About 55 members and guests attended.. President Ken Shepherd opened the meeting at 7 PM.

Ken said he received a nice letter from Andy Hoyts widow and that the service will be held on Pine Island in Belgrade. There are a limited number of people who can attend so contact Ken if you would like to attend.

Ken then announced that we had a Board of Directors meeting today. He said he is trying to get the web site running again in the next few weeks. He also said that there will be no fees for using DVD's from the library in the future.

David Lancaster has bowl gouges for sale on the back table tonight.

Phil Perkins has a 1/2” Sorby bowl gouge for sale.

Club member Al Mather is tonight's demonstrator for spindle turning and he started at 7:05 PM and ended at 8:45 then he started on Show and Tell items and ended at 9pm

Tom Raymond, Sec

# AL MATHER

## The skew and production turning

*April 20, 2011 Demo*

A short time after this demonstration Ken Shepherd sent an email with Al's four page handout as a PDF file. Al is an old timer to the MWT and hails from Downeast. He is a production turner for the arts and crafts that he and his wife sell online (<http://www.almather.com/>) and in several retail stores.



His discussion for the evening started with showing the tool he uses to make repetitive tenons it's an open end wrench with one side ground to parting tool edge. Place it on the tool rest and push forward until the ground edge engages then pull the handle up and move forward. In very short order you have a properly sized tenon. Al has home made sizes from 1/4" to 1 3/4".

Using the skew to round out the blank Al does the Woodturners dance;"Not using his hand or arms to move the skew across the wood but shifting his weight from his right leg to left leg. This provides a platform for the tool and allows for steady pressure on the bevel to maintain the angle of attack.

Next he worked on the face end grain cut. If you remember Mark Irving's demo a few months ago, he spent several minutes on executing this cut and how to perform it safely and get the correct results. Al further enlightened us that "you look at the bevel and see where it is going."



"if you cut like this" you see that the bevel is moving the point of attack to the left and a curve is developed.

{ Continued on page 5 }





So, look at your bevel to see if it is going to be a square cut or in or outside that square cut line.

His overall suggestion was to start making the cut with the point and then moving the handle up to engage the bottom third of the tool for the remaining cut. This saves the point from dulling and having to hone to early.

Here Al took a moment to reinforce that the skew should be the SHARPEST tool in your set.”I take the time to sharpen, hone and polish the edges of my skews to get the best edge I can and I turn at the highest possible speed to get the best wood surface that I can.”

Mather’s then took a idea from the AAW magazine on how to cut with the skew. Using a carrot and a turnip Al walked through the methods of using a skew in a safe playful way.

The turnip turning gave us the geometry of how the curve cut works. “Taking your time and using slow RPM’s will give your body the training necessary to work both sides of the sphere with either hand and with the heel or the toe of the skew starting the cut. “



All this lead to the conversation about “when doing projects that are 15 to 50 pieces; those family and friend gift projects, you should establish the basic cuts needed and prefect them in each piece. Soon you will start to be concerned about how you made the cut and more on the design of the piece.”

Very much like practicing the trumpet, dancing or sports the woodturner has to train his muscle memory to remember the motions and actions for each cut.

## *Al Mather demo - continued from page 5*

In closing Al demonstrated some of the basic cuts he used during this event:

Flat cut- tool rest, bevel and lift the handle

Vee cut- lower the toe to score the wood , move to a side and score the toe and lift the handle while pushing forward at a little angle. Repeat on the other side of the first score.

Peeling cut- use almost like a parting tool- lay flat on the rest and engage the bevel , lift the handle and scrape (peel) the wood.

And the aforementioned in detail Facing cut.



Al Mather shared a wealth of information on his production methods, his turning techniques and his life as a turner.

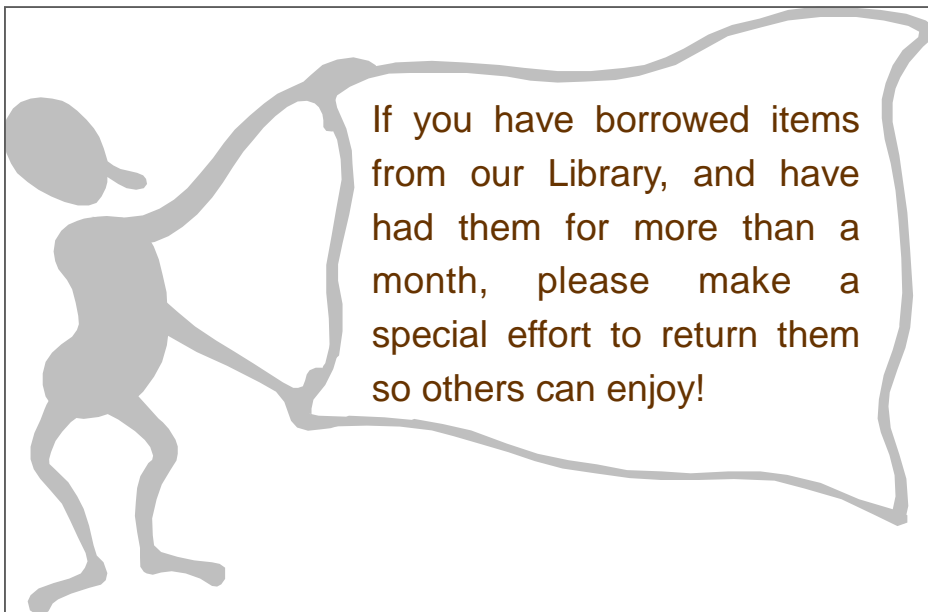
Thanks Al for the insight.

Seems like I need to look at that facing cut again and practice more.

Chuck Seguin

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## Maine Woodturners Library



**Your feed back is needed !!!!**

**What would you like for new DVD's ?**

Email Joan :

[jcoleman1@roadrunner.com](mailto:jcoleman1@roadrunner.com)



# April Demo Pictures



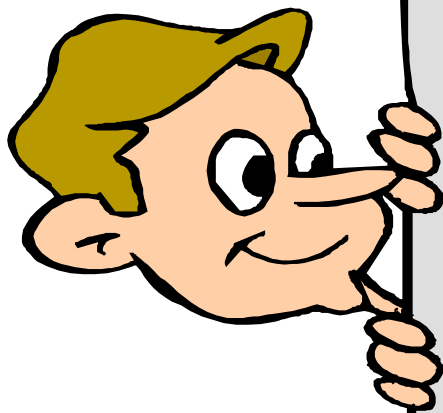
# *April Show and Tell*





# *Maine Woodturners Officers*

President	~	Ken Shepherd	~	<a href="mailto:kshep440@myfairpoint.com">kshep440@myfairpoint.com</a>
Vice President	~	Brian Libby	~	<a href="mailto:bglibby@roadrunner.com">bglibby@roadrunner.com</a>
Secretary	~	Tom Raymond	~	<a href="mailto:trdamar@tidewater.net">trdamar@tidewater.net</a>
Treasurer	~	Burt Truman	~	<a href="mailto:trumbu@roadrunner.com">trumbu@roadrunner.com</a>
Directors	~	Shiela Wiken	~	<a href="mailto:shielawinken@roadrunner.com">shielawinken@roadrunner.com</a>
	~	Dennis Curtis	~	<a href="mailto:curtonpond@roadrunner.com">curtonpond@roadrunner.com</a>
Advisor to BOD	~	David Lancaster	~	<a href="mailto:dave@heirloombowls.com">dave@heirloombowls.com</a>
Librarians	~	Joan Coleman	~	<a href="mailto:jcoleman1@roadrunner.com">jcoleman1@roadrunner.com</a>
	~	Gene Beouprae	~	<a href="mailto:pixes@aol.com">pixes@aol.com</a>
Demo Scribe	~	Chuck Seguin	~	<a href="mailto:cfseguin@midmaine.com">cfseguin@midmaine.com</a>
Newsletter	~	Brian Libby	~	<a href="mailto:bglibby@roadrunner.com">bglibby@roadrunner.com</a>



Maine Woodturners Past Presidents	
Dave Lancaster	1995 - 1997
Bob Baker	1997 - 1999
Jeff Clapp	1999 - 2000
Bob Hackett	2000 - 2002
Peter Asselyn	2002 - 2004
Mark Irving	2004 - 2006
Peter McCrea	2006 - 2008
Andy Hoyt	2008 - 2010

# DEMONSTRATIONS

**May 21**

*Marilyn Campbell*

Kincardine, Ontario

**Saturday demo**

**June 15**

A hiccup has occurred !!

More info to come

*Summer Field Trip ?*

**More Great demos  
lined up for  
the fall  
meetings !**

Meetings are held at the Industrial Arts shop

Erskine Academy

309 Windsor Road (route 32), South China, Maine

Our regular meetings are the third Wednesday of each month  
(except July and August there are no meetings)

**Show and Tell Photos @ 6:30**

**Demo @ 7 PM**

## A Message from AAW Board member

**Botho von Hampeln**



As a brand-spanking-new member of the Board of Directors of the AAW, I must say it has been an education.

Last month, in his message for the membership, Stan Wellborn marveled at the cohesive contribution made to the club by the volunteers, be they on the Board of Directors or members at large with special expertise.

Being an AAW member for the last decade, I was quite happy to receive the journal, go to the yearly symposium and occasionally communicate with friends I made there.

Little did I know about the awesome depth of our organization, the work that goes into the varying endeavors. All that for a nominal membership fee.

If you take the time to spend an hour on our website, you will be amazed at the treasures of information available to turners--the help to set up and run chapters, the gallery, the forum, the ability to contact any one of 14,000 turners all over the world, all of whom, I am sure, are willing to share their thoughts with you.

Take the symposium by itself. I will never forget my first attendance. Seeing David Ellsworth making the last fine cut in a thin-walled bowl of spalted maple brought it home to me what skill level is possible to achieve. Maybe not for me, but certainly worth striving for.

This year, our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary will be a truly international event, with more visitors and demonstrators from outside the USA than ever before.

And our organization is destined to continue to grow internationally. There is absolutely nothing to compare to the AAW in the turning world.



# **Woodturning School**

## **Turn-Key Opportunity**

### **Woodturning School for Someone with Passion and Energy to Teach Woodturning**

#### **Where:**

Your facilities, wherever; or ours in beautiful mid-coast Maine

#### **Equipment:**

Everything needed including dust collection; compressed air; 6 complete sets of turning tools; 6 complete Lyle Jamieson Hollowing Systems; 6 like-new OneWay 1640 lathes with Talon chucks; professional grinding system. Equipment value \$50,000

#### **Intangibles:**

Data base with 900 names

Web site, professionally designed; up to date info

Teaching syllabuses for 4 classes

Proven teaching methods

Proven results

**Great Opportunity, Great Name, Great Price**

**\$29,250**

**Woodturning School, LLC**

[www.woodturningschool.org](http://www.woodturningschool.org)