

Maineiac Woodturner

Monthly Newsletter of the Maine Chapter of the AAW
Volume 1, Number 2, November 2000

President's Message

As you have probably heard, Dave Lancaster had an accident in the shop that required a visit to the hospital. He is now home and I'm sure Donna has her hand full trying to get him to follow the doctor's instructions. We all hope to see Dave at the next meeting.

As the new president, I see my role as one of facilitator. You as members, need to let us know what directions and interests you want to follow. We will do our best to find ways to make it happen. Ask yourself, how can I participate and help more. Through co-operation, we as members and the club in general can all prosper and grow. I would ask you to start by taking a few minutes to fill out the member survey enclosed in this month's newsletter. You can either bring it to November's meeting or if unable to attend, mail it to me. Please remember to work safely.

Bob

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Club Officers

President	Bob Hackett 633-6232	Librarian	Mark Irving 443-2337 meivin@biw.com
Vice-Pres.	Peter Asselyn 353-4206 asselyn@banet.net	Treasure	Robert Morell 725-2212
Newsletter	Kieran Kammerer 622-1946 shkrtrds@ctel.net	Auctioneer	Peter Asselyn

Club Business, October 2000

Meeting was called to order by President, Bob Hackett. Bob began by thanking everyone for their help during his recent absence. Special thanks was given to Peter Asselyn for accepting the position of vice-president and for filling in while Bob was called away on military duty.

The revised newsletter was discussed. A motion was put forward to appropriate additional funding to cover the cost of printing the new newsletter format. Kieran noted the newsletter is a work in progress and is very interested in any feedback regarding the content, layout, etc. Thanks to those who have written and called with encouragement. Items to be included in the next month's newsletter should be submitted to Kieran by the first of the month. Any and all contributions are greatly appreciated. Please feel free to email Kieran at shktrds@ctel.net or call 622-1946.

At the last meeting, we received a generous donation of woodturning videos from Joe Larabee's widow. Charlie Rogers passed around a list of woodturning/woodworking books and magazines that Joe's widow had for sale. She was willing to sell them to the club at a very reasonable and reduced price. All members in attendance felt the books/magazines would be an excellent addition to our current library and \$400 was approved for the purchase of these items.

Bob Hackett discussed some possible demonstrator options for the coming year. In talking with various club members, Bob got the sense that most people wanted at least one big name turner to come and do a demonstration. Jack Vesery has kindly agreed to do a demonstration sometime in late winter or so. Bob Rosand's name was also brought up as a possible demonstrator. Several club members have seen Bob at national demonstrations and he is an excellent demonstrator as well as an accomplished all around turner. Some of his videos are in the club's collection. Bob Hackett will contact Jack and see if he would be willing to speak to Bob Rosand and to check on details regarding cost and availability.

Demonstrators in general were also discussed. This month's newsletter will include a survey for members to express their feelings/thoughts/opinions about the focus of the club and what direction the club should be moving in. Please fill out the survey and bring to the next meeting or mail in if unable to attend the meeting. Results will be tabulated and discussed at a future meeting.

The topic of a club show was also discussed. Although one member proposed a musical, the thought of David, Mac and Bob in tutus was too much to handle. The general feeling was that we should stick with what we know how to do. Please give thought to some type of show/exhibit that would showcase the works/talents of our members. We will need to decide on a time and place.

Bob also wanted members to start thinking about ideas for the 2002 collaborative piece. The symposium will be in RI and we all expect a good turnout of Maine woodturners. The final idea will obviously need to meet the constraints as outlined by the AAW.

In addition to his duties as vice-president, Peter has graciously accepted the position of interim wood auctioneer. Peter's only concern is that he will be purchasing most of the wood himself and the bidding process may be tainted. My feeling is let him go for it. It seems like a reasonable perk for doing the job. On the subject of wood auctioneer, we are still trying to locate Allyn Beecher. If you are out there Allyn, call in, the club misses you.

The subject of photographing member's pieces at the monthly meeting was also discussed. There were no takers to build a light box, however, Bob said he would be willing to bring in the box made by himself and his brother Bill. Bill who just happened to make this month's meeting, said he would be willing to give a future demonstration on photographing work. This demo will need to be coordinated with one of Bill's visits back to Maine.

(Continued on page three)

Turning Tip

If you use magnetic strips to hold objects in your shop, do not use them to hold your turning tools. David Lancaster pointed out that a magnetized tool shaft would significantly impede the ability of your tool to slide along the tool rest. This could lead to unintentional chatter work on your piece.

Club Business, October 2000, Continued

Making the most of meeting time was also discussed. It was proposed and approved that the meetings now start at 6:30 PM with the first half hour dedicated to club business and the remaining two hours be spent on more hands on type demonstrations. Everyone in attendance was willing to try this new format and future modifications can be proposed as necessary.

The last item of business addressed at the meeting was the educational efforts by the club. Members felt there was a need to get out more in the community and also to do more in the way of offering instruction to other club members. One proposal was to have additional meetings throughout the year that focused on turning techniques, etc. This could take the form of members opening their own shops up so other members could come and learn techniques. So far Jack Vesery (I think you did Jack. My handwriting is a little unclear in the notes I took), Mac Ray and Ken Keoughan have offered to host such hands on type meetings. There appeared to be a lot of interest in such meetings. If anyone else is interested, please contact Bob Hackett. The club will continue to explore other options for ongoing exposure and instruction.

Kieran

Bring Back Raffle

Ed Knapp was last year's final bring back raffle winner. Due to a previous commitment that involved hunting ducks somewhere, he was unable to make this month's meeting. Ed did have another member bring in his raffle piece this month. Tom Raymond won a very nice, thin kerf parting tool. The downside is that Tom is now responsible for next month's bring back raffle prize. I predict one member may be having one of those nice segmented bowls in their future.



One of our very early demos.

Treasurer's Report

Bob Morrell reported that as of April 20, 1999 there was \$4356.52 in the club's checking account. We took in \$2366.75 from food, raffle, raffle and auction items for a total of \$6723.27. Expenses last year were \$4824.69 which included amongst other things two demonstrators, lathe for Erskine Academy, some mailings and food. As of September 20, 2000 the checking balance was \$1898.58.

Bob was collecting the \$25 club membership fee at the last meeting and will be doing so again in November. If desired, membership dues can also be mailed to him at 16 Coffin St., Brunswick, ME 04011.

Turning Tip

You can make a replaceable backdrop for your lathe by hanging a window shade behind the lathe. This will provide a nice white backdrop against which to see the evolving form of your piece. When dirty, replace with a new, clean shade.

Meeting schedule

Remember the new time for meetings. Starting in November, club business will be conducted starting at 6:30 PM and general meeting will begin at 7:00PM.

- November 15th, 2000**

This meeting will feature Mac Ray who is well known for his beautifully detailed carvings. Mac will be sharing his knowledge and techniques on subjects ranging from turning/carving to finishing. Please plan to attend and come with your questions, comments and ideas.

- December 20th, 2000**

No final plans have been decided for December's meeting. Peter has proposed a potluck supper/meeting to include spouses/significant others. This meeting would also include a gift swap for member's guests. Plans will need to be finalized before the end of next month's meeting. Anybody else have any other suggestions or ideas? Please let Bob or Peter know.

- January 17th, 2001**

To be announced. Any takers?

Classifieds

For Sale:

Woodfast M1910
20X39, 1 1/2 HP, variable speed. Two years old. Includes center and steady rest. Asking \$2000. Please contact Peter Asselyn.

For Sale:

Baldor 1140 RPM, 120 volt motor. 3/4 HP. Great for lathe or grinder. Please contact Fred McIntyre.

Wood Auction

Please bring any and all wood for auction at next meeting. Peter will have honed his auction skills by then. October's auction included some nice crabapple as well as cherry cutoffs from T. Moser.

October Demonstration, Lathe Tune-up with David Lancaster

Those of you who were unable to make the October meeting missed a very valuable class on lathe tune-up by David. I will attempt to summarize the highlights of the demonstration.

The most important point David made during his talk is the need to eliminate as much vibration from one's lathe as is realistically possible. An ideal lathe would have no vibration, however, in the real world, one will always have some degree of vibration. Your goal in tuning up your lathe is to minimize the vibration without getting fanatical about eliminating all vibration.

In order to demonstrate the steps in minimizing vibration, David used the large One-way lathe at Erskine and took the following steps:

1. Drill out holes on each side of the levelers. One hole will accept the concrete anchor bolt and the other hole will be used to pour molten lead around the lathe foot. Make sure hole size is appropriate for concrete anchor.
2. Mount a piece on the lathe which you know is unbalanced. This will cause the lathe to vibrate.
3. Loosen up set screws on feet of lathe and then adjust jack screws/leveling screws all around until the lathe is exhibiting minimum evidence of vibration. As you are adjusting the levelers, make sure the feet are far enough off the ground so as to leave room for the lead foot that will be poured later.
4. Further drill out concrete for anchor bolt.
5. Sink anchor bolts into concrete.
6. Build dam of plumber's putty around feet to keep molten lead in place.
7. Melt lead, remove slag from top. Pour into hole in foot. This will create a cushion/base on which the lathe foot can rest. (Obviously those of us with wood floors will need to find a different solution).
8. Back off on jack screws.
9. Tighten down concrete anchor bolts.
10. Lathe should now be properly **balanced** but not necessarily level. Remember that the goal of this process was to **balance** your lathe, not to level it.

David also reviewed some additional steps to take in tuning up your lathe. With respect to the tool rest, every once in awhile take a file and smooth off the top of the rest. Remove nicks and finally sand down to about 320 grit. This will reduce friction between the tool and the rest which should translate into a much smoother surface on your work piece. You can use a small amount of beeswax to act as a lubricant on top of the tool rest.

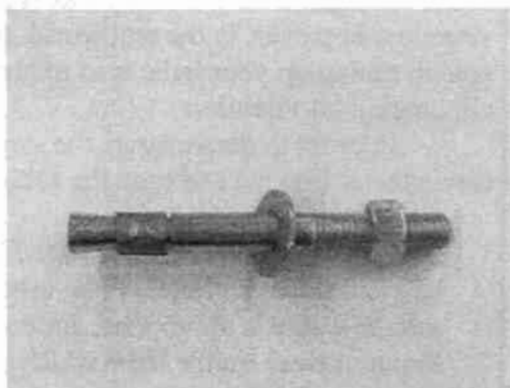
The whole lathe bed and all components should be wiped down and smoothed as necessary. The best lubricant to use is probably WD 40. Stay away from grease or graphite. The lathe belts should be tightened as necessary. If prone to catches, and who amongst us is not, do not over tighten belts. Belts that are too tight, reduce your margin of safety.

In closing, David wanted to stress that woodturning is all about fighting vibration. This is especially true when one is turning dry wood as opposed to green wood. Remember that with each quarter rotation of the piece, you are cutting against the grain. Minimizing vibration should have the end result of improving the off-the-tool finish of your pieces.

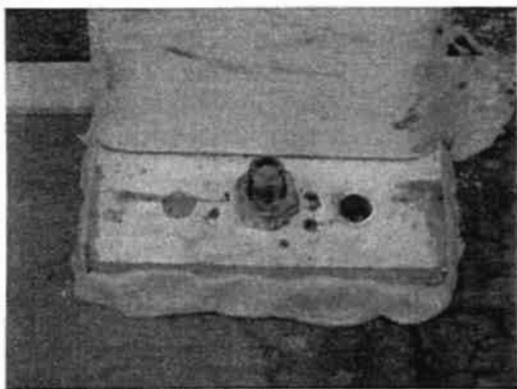
Highlights of the Lathe Tune-up Demo.



Balancing with jack screws



Concrete anchor bolt



Lathe foot with putty dam in place.

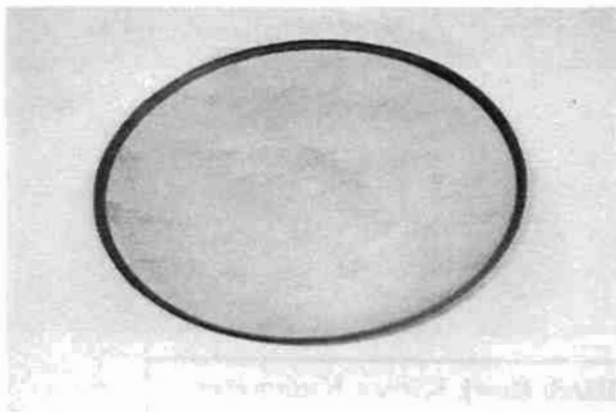


Pouring solder to create foot.

Show and Tell, Oct., 2000



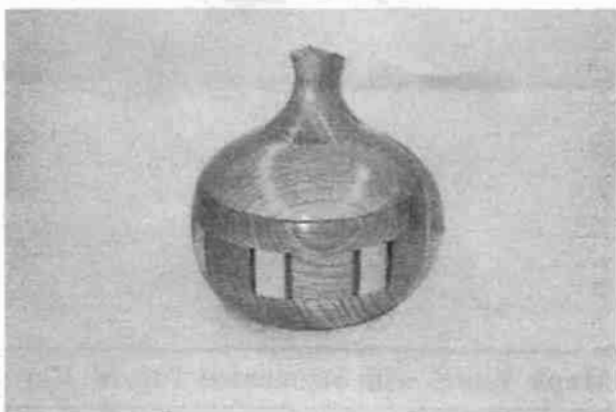
Maple Vessels & other turnings, M. Irving



Maple platter with walnut rim, Mac Ray



Cherry bowl and pestle, Peter Asselyn

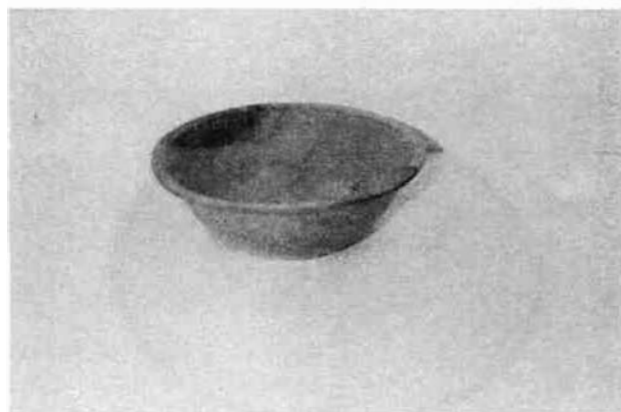


Cypress, Hemlock and Mahogany, T. Raymond

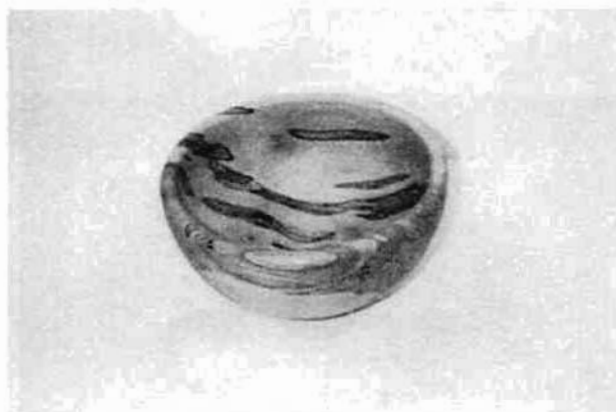


Baltic Birch Laminated Vessel with Rosewood top and bottom, Steve Gleasner.

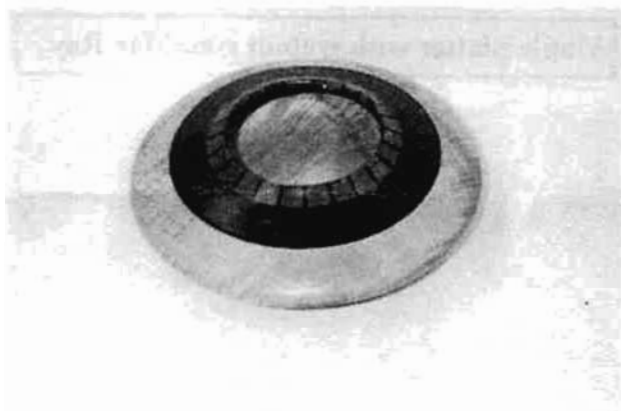
Show and Tell, Oct. 2000, Cont.



Birch Bowl, Kieran Kammerer



Ambrosia Maple Bowl, Mark Irving



Maple Vessel with Segmented Top, M. Ray



Segmented Bowl, Tom Raymond

One of the Oneway
Prototypes.



Member survey

The Maine Chapter of the AAW is committed to providing members with the best possible learning experience available. In order to learn more about the needs and desires of individual club members, please take time and fill out the survey questions below. Although part of the survey asks what can the club do for you, the club officers are also interested in knowing what **you can do for the club**. As I read in another club's newsletter, "No club of any sort lasts long unless members are willing to do more than simply take advantage of the club's benefits" (Gordon Rockhill, West Bay Shavings Newsletter, Sept., 2000).

(Please bring to Nov. meeting or staple and mail to Bob at address on back, thanks)

Name (optional): _____

1. What have you liked most and least about the past meetings?
2. What do you feel should be our focus for the next 12-24 months?
3. How can we boost participation at meetings?
4. What do you personally seek from the club? What keeps you coming back? (Besides the doughnuts and Jeff's cooking.
5. What are your strengths as a member? How can the club help you overcome your less strong points?

(continued on back)

6. What type of demonstrators do you enjoy the most? Please rank each one on a scale of 1-5. One meaning you like them a lot and five meaning you don't really feel that would be a beneficial demonstrator.

A. Practical _____

B. Artistic _____

C. Mechanical (tools and machine repair) _____

D. Bowl _____

E. Spindle _____

F. Hollow Form _____

G. Sculptural _____

H. Other (explain) _____

7. How do you feel you can personally help the club?

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