

Maineiac Woodturner

Monthly Newsletter of the Maine Chapter of the AAW
Volume 2, Number 3, November 2002

President's Message

There is a chill in the air and the leaves are falling and this seems to be the time of year when turners retreat to warm confines of our workshops to enjoy some time at the lathe.

Thank you Mark for a great demo. You seem to be a natural, and I am sure everyone picked up some good tips for hollow forms. Time ran short for Mark to finish showing us how to finish the tops of his form so he will do that next month if time permits. Dave Lancaster spoke to me about the great job Kieran is doing photographing our work from the instant gallery and said he should have a better backdrop for the photo shoots. I will pick one up for the next meeting.

The manager at Woodworkers Where House in Augusta has donated several items for our group and is looking for someone to demonstrate at the store. This is a great chance for someone to get out and meet people and have some fun. Please contact him if you are interested and let Kieran know so he can put it in the newsletter. Speaking of the newsletter, please email Kieran with anything you would like to see in the newsletter. We need some input, Please share your thoughts or tips or jokes or stories.

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President's Message (continued)

Next month will feature Chris Becksvoort author of the [Shaker Legacy](#) and he will talk about using native woods for turning, and he will bring some of his tools that he has handled and show us how he turns them. Chris has been collaborating with a turner for a show called cabinets and curiosities and will also talk about that. He also has a challenge for the Maine Woodturners to make shaker thread spools. This should prove to be a very interesting meeting, try to make it.

The instant gallery will continue at every mtg. and is a great way for us to share our work. By the way my finish is no secret, it is a mixture of Tried and True and bio shield linseed oil.

Thanks, Peter



Member News

As with most of our members, Jeff Raymond's interests and passions go way beyond woodturning. Jeff was recently inspired by a show on Nova to build his own Trebuchet. His "treb" is constructed of 4x4s bolted into an 8 ft tall tower. The base is 20 ft long and built on the main frame of his trailer (go to be mobile in case the enemy shows up). The oak arm is 14 ft long with the axle 3 feet from the weight box end. The axle is a drive axle from a Chevy C-60. The oak wt box was made of wood donated by Maschino's Lumber in New Gloucester and the nylon sling was made By Sailing Partners in Yarmouth. The trigger is an old pelican hook from Jeff's former sailboat.

The range of the "treb" varies with the size of the load, the amount in the weight box, the angle of the sling release pin, length of the sling and how hard you pull the trigger rope. A team of three adults, one child can launch an object about 300 ft with 600 lbs in the weight box. After approximately 100 hrs of labor (part of which did require use of a lathe), Jeff's creation premiered at the Pownal Pumpkin Festival. Needless to say, its ability to launch pumpkins far into the distance was a "smashing hit". Jeff found that the teamwork involved in loading the machine and the release of the pumpkin into its (usually) final flight seems to touch some inner need. Although Jeff refuses to launch anything on fire or anything breathing, all else is fair game. The "treb" is a work in progress and in case your neighbors are giving you trouble, it is as mentioned, mobile.

Editor's Column

Thanks to everyone who continues to contribute to the newsletter and make it a monthly reality/success. The show and tell pictures are not as good as they might be because I didn't have Mac's hands to help hold the numerous backdrops/lights. This should be solved soon through the purchase of a dedicated photography backdrop. I still encourage other members to get involved with the club. I am always amazed at the sudden, overwhelming silence that falls over the club meeting when the request for help/input is made of the membership as a whole. Remember that as a club, we need to all contribute something to make the organization work.

Kieran

Club Business, October, 2002

The October Maine Woodturners meeting was held at Erskine Academy in South China Maine on Wed. Oct. 16, 2002. Pres. Peter Asselyn called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM. Twenty-six members and guests attended. Vice Pres. Mark Irving was the designated Demonstrator for this meeting. All attending introduced themselves.

Old Business: none

New Business: Video's are available for one month at a time for a charge of \$3.00 each. See Jeff Raymond to check them out.

Burt Truman still makes up the newsletter labels and corrects addresses.

Peter asked the membership how they felt about paying the member Demonstrators and outside Demonstrators. After some deliberation it was decided to not pay the members but get quotes from outside demonstrators and present the cost to the membership for vote.

Chris Becksvoort , a furniture maker will be the Demonstrator at the Nov. meeting.

Peter is trying to line up a pewter spinner as a demonstrator in the future.

Kieran Kammerer who is processing our Newsletter advised that Woodworkers Warehouse in Augusta is promoting Maine Woodturners and has donated about \$50 worth of sandpaper for tonight's auction. He also distributed extra copies of the Newsletter to some members who may be instrumental in getting more members in the club.

Dave Barden handles the coffee for the meetings and Peter Asselyn brought in the doughnuts. **He is also looking for someone to take over that task.**

At 7:20 PM Mark Irving started the Demo. by explaining how he made some of his tools and passed them around to the members. He then proceeded to turn a small hollow form of green maple, explaining every step as he went along until the break at 8:30 when "Show and Tell" started. Kieran photographed all the items during this period. After that we had the "Bring Back" raffle which was won by Kieran.

At 8:55 Mark resumed his turning of the bottom of his vessel with a sandwich clamp fixture he designed himself. The Demo ended at 9:10 PM. It was a nice job by Mark Irving. Then Peter started the Wood and tool auction. Three turning tools given by Bob Rosand brought in \$46 and the remainder of the wood, sandpaper and grinding stone brought in \$61 for a total of \$107.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 PM and Peter should be commended for such a well-organized meeting.

Tom Raymond, Sec.

Treasurer's Report

Bob Morrill reported that the club collected \$600 in tuition for the demo by Bob Rosand last month. Bob Rosand was paid \$1100. for his services. The actual demo was \$500 and \$600 went to cover his travel expenses. There is \$3400 in the treasury left. Club Membership dues are due for those who haven't paid yet.

Bring Back Raffle

Kieran Kammerer was this month's winner of the bring back raffle. Tom Raymond brought in a height measuring device. Kieran was also the winner of one of the tools made by Bob Rosand last month. Mark Irving kindly made handles for all the tools Bob donated. Thanks Mark!!!!

Meeting Schedule

? **November 20, 2002**

Christian Becksvoort will be demonstrating. Any reader of Fine Woodworking will readily recognize Christian's name. He is one of Maine's premier woodworkers and an accomplished author (The Shaker Legacy along with numerous articles). Once again, this will be one meeting no one will want to miss.

? **December 18th, 2002**

The club's traditional Yankee swap and potluck summer. For some of our members, one of the club's most profitable meetings. Everyone guaranteed to leave with a prize (some much nicer than others).

? **January 15th, 2003**

Still open, please contact Peter if you can be a demonstrator.

? **February 19th, 2003**

Metal spinning demonstration by Michael Angelone of Poland Spring Metal Spinning.

? **March 19th, 2003**

Demonstration of segmented turning techniques by Tom Raymond.

? **April 16th, 2003**

Bowl turning demo by David Lancaster.

? **May 21st, 2003**

Mac Ray demonstration (not of himself but of some of his works and turning techniques).

Classified Ads

For Sale: Monitor MPI 422 heater, runs on K1 fuel and has a fuel cell - no need for a large tank. Runs very well- will heat you out of most shops. Being offered to MWTA members first-will go fast. **\$ 500 firm.** More info. call Jacques Vesery 563-8965.

Sold

Turning Classes: Offering one on one turning instruction in my own shop located in Durham. Fully insured. I provide use of Oneway lathe and all turning tools/wood. For more info/rates/availability, please contact Peter Asselyn at 353-4206.

For Sale: Bowl lathe built by David Lancaster. 28" diameter capacity. 3hp motor with variable speed, bored for vacuum chuck. Vic Marc chuck, face plates and other accessories included. \$2800., Please contact Ray Carbone, 546-2170.

Wood Auction

Please save any and all wood for the future wood auctions. We will not be having a wood auction in November. Peter has kindly agreed to be this year's auctioneer. He has already helped the club's bank account through his auctioneer skills and his own inability to pass up a good deal.

Mark Irving Demonstration, October, 2002

Everyone in attendance at the October meeting was fortunate to see Mark Irving's demonstration of turning a vessel from green maple. Mark has been a member of the Maine Woodturners for the last five years. Mark reports that his interest in woodworking began during the time he was earning an Associate degree in Building Construction at Southern Maine Technical Institute (currently known as SMTI). After he got his degree, Mark worked as a carpenter for a few years building garages and houses. Eventually he went to work in the carpenter shop at BIW. Mark was asked to make some plugs for pipe ends and that is when he thinks his passion for woodturning began. As with most of us, family soon took precedence over Mark's interest in turning. Mark has been married to his wife Cindy for 22 years and has two children. Amanda, is 22 and a college student. Mark's son Allen is 18 and recently graduated from high school.

While raising kids, Mark dabbled with woodworking on the side. Initially he purchased a Sears lathe. Unfortunately he reports a fear of ruining the tools kept him from trying to sharpen them. Five years ago Mark met Joe Dalorso (a previous Maine Woodturners' member) at the Bath Heritage Days and was quite impressed with his work (Joe owes a lot of his knowledge from David Lancaster). Joe told Mark about the Maine Woodturners and the rest is history. Mark eventually traded in his Sears lathe and purchased a used Jet 1236. He sees this as an eventual stepping stone to a larger, Oneway lathe.

Currently mark is working with Computer Sciences Corporation doing computer programming. He reports that when not making shavings and when its warm enough, you can find him out on his boat cruising the Kennebec River. In addition to his interest in woodturning and boating, Mark freely admits to being a Red Sox, Patriots and Celtics fan. His beer of choice is Shipyard Longfellow Winter Ale.

Anyone who would like can check out Mark's turnings on his web page at <http://users.rcn.com/irvings.javanet>.

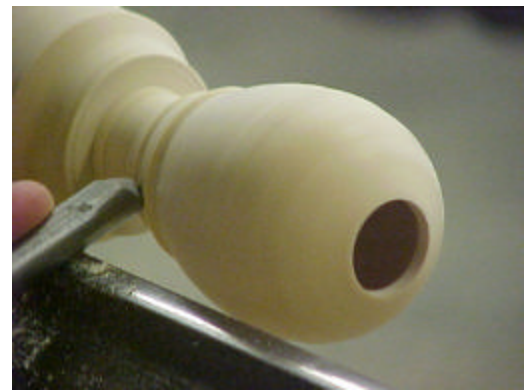


Mark begins his hollow form vessels by roughing out a green piece of wood, turned between centers. With the use of a simple jig, he is able to size a tenon to fit in his jaw chuck. The next step is to shape the outside of the piece so it has a pleasant shape. As Mark noted, most people's eyes may not know why a piece looks good to them, however, they will quickly notice when a piece has the wrong shape and proportions.

Mark Irving Demonstration, October, 2002, Continued



In the photo on the left, Mark continues to shape the outside of the piece. Once the majority of the outside is shaped, Mark turns to hollowing out the piece. Initially using a drill bit held in a homemade wooden handle, a center hole is drilled. This allows quick waste removal and helps set the final depth. Although he has a host of homemade tools, Mark prefers the smaller tools he has made. At least one of the hollowing tools used was one from the last demo by Bob Rosand. Mark hollows the form in small stair-steps and finds marking the tool with a register mark, helps you know the orientation of the tool's tip inside the vessel. As with most turnings, it is important to stop often and check your progress and wall thickness. Final thickness is about 1/8th of an inch.



The remainder of the vessel is hollowed out. Just like Bob Rosand, Mark now uses a piece of plastic tubing to blow out the accumulated shavings. Just remember to mark which end goes in what orifice (also very important in my job).

Outside of the vessel being shaped. Remember to always strive for a pleasant, flowing shape.

Mark Irving Demonstration, October, 2002, Continued



In the top left photo, Mark has completed shaping the outside. This is done after the inside has been hollowed out. Remember, it is always important early on to have the final shape in your mind as you are turning. Once parted off, the bottom of the piece needs to be finished. Mark uses a homemade jig consisting of two round pieces of plywood, held together with screws and T-nuts (upper right and center photos). A piece of sandpaper on the top piece of plywood helps stabilize the vessel with friction. The piece is positioned and the T-nuts are tightened down. Mark has used this with obvious success and still has ten knuckles to prove it!!!

Unfortunately, there was not enough time for Mark to show us how he turns the piece to fit the top of the vessel, however, he has agreed to return and do this at a later meeting.

I know I speak for all in thanking Mark for sharing his talent and teaching skills with all those present at the meeting.

Member News

Ken Keoughan, Jack Vesery, and Alan Bradstreet have been selected to participate in a juried show sponsored by the Maine Craft Association that will be presented at the Blaine House in Augusta. The show, co-sponsored by the Maine Arts Commission is entitled "Capital Crafts in the Capitol" and runs from 10/22 thru 12/6. The exhibition can be viewed by calling Sue Plummer at 287-2121

Turning Tip

Microwave Bowl Drying

From WVA Elderhostel at Cedar Lake on Wood turning

Turn green wood bowl wall to a uniform thickness of about 7/8" before microwave drying

Steps	Min.	Heat	Remarks
1	6	Med.	in plastic bag then let cool out of bag for 20 min. out of oven.
2	4	Med-low	in new plastic bag then let cool out of bag for 20 min. out of oven
3	3	" "	no bag then let cool out of oven
4	3	Low	no bag

Let air cool about 30 min. between steps

In our Sears microwave

Hit time and enter minutes

Hit power level then

5 for med. then start

Hit power level then

3 for med.-low then start

Hit power level then

2 for low then start

Contributed by Tom Raymond

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 Serious Tools For Serious Woodworkers™

Clayton Matthews, manager at the Augusta WWW plans on donating other items for the monthly club raffles. Please visit the Augusta Woodworker's Warehouse, thank them for their donation and please mention you saw their ad in the Maineiac Woodturner Newsletter.

Show And Tell, October, 2002



“Fireball”, fir burl from Montana forest fire, Lucy Couture



“Silence of the Limb”, Dick McFaul



Quaking Aspen Turned Vessel, Mike Treadwell



Nested Bowls from Cedar Burl, David Lancaster



Nested Bowls, Cedar Burl, David Lancaster



Candy Dish with Lid, Yellow-Birch Burl, Mike Chase

Show And Tell, Continued



Segmented Bowls, Tom Raymond



Splated Maple Bowl,
John Correll



Segmented Vessel, Mark Irving



Variety of Turned Vessels, Mark Irving

Peter Asselyn
doing his best to
fill the Maine
Woodturner's
coffers with
money! (Mostly
his own!!!)





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**Next Meeting, Wednesday,
November 20th.**
Christian Becksvoort,
One of Maine's Premier Furniture
Makers and author of
The Shaker Legacy,
Erskine Academy,
Meeting Begins at
7:00 P.M.