

Mainiac Woodturner

Monthly Newsletter of the Maine Chapter of the AAW
Vol. 3, Number 8 .May 2004

A Can-Do-Anything Kind of Guy: Nick Cook Comes to Maine May 22 & 23



A versatile and highly respected woodturner, Nick Cook, will be demonstrating two days for the Maine Woodturners May 22 and 23. This highly-rated weekend demo will substitute for the usual May meeting, and will cost a mere \$25 for members and \$40 for non-members for the whole weekend (Complete details on page 3.).

Cook lives in Marietta, Georgia, where he owns and operates his studio. He grew up around his father's woodworking equipment and became interested in the art of woodturning in the mid-70s after several years in furniture design and manufacture.

A founding member of the American Association of Woodturners, Nick served six years on the board of directors, including one as vice president. In addition to creating one-of-a-kind pieces and his staple gift items, Nick teaches and lectures on various woodturning topics, has written articles for several woodworking magazines, and produced two woodturning videos.

The primary materials that he now uses are maple, cocobolo, and tagua nuts. He employs a variety of woods, both domestic and exotic for his one-of-a-kind pieces. Nick's work is marketed in gift shops and galleries from coast to coast and is included in numerous corporate and private collections. Nick can also be found selling his pieces at craft fairs in the Southeast.

Club Officers

President	Peter Asselyn	353-4206 peterasselyn@gwi.net
Vice-Pres	Mark Irving	443-2337 irvings@javanet.com
Treasurer	Burt Truman	622-6772 trumbu@localnet.com
Librarian	Jeff Raymond	jeffraymond@ prontomail.com
Secretary	Tom Raymond	563-6813 trdamar@tidewater.net
Newsletter	Sandy Gregor	778-3717



Nick Cook's work: everything from bottle stoppers to architectural columns.

Mark Your Calendar! Two exciting weekend demos: Nick Cook, May 22 and 23 and John Jordan, June 26 and 27—See page 3 for full details.

Secretary's minutes By Tom Raymond

The April 2004 meeting of Maine Woodturners was held at Erskine Academy in South China, ME on Wednesday the 21st. Approximately 44 members and guests were present.



President Peter Asselyn called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM. He advised that he brought in magazines on turning for anyone to take.

The election of officers was next on the agenda. Mark Irving was nominated for President and Peter McCrae was nominated for Vice President at last month's meeting. Peter asked if there were any new nominations from the floor. Since there were none he proceeded with voting on the two nominees. It was unanimous by show of hands that Mark Irving and Peter McCrea would be the new officers to lead the club for a 2-year term.

Peter Asselyn automatically becomes the Chairman of the Board for the next 2 years. Burt Truman reported that we have about \$4000 in our treasury.

Peter announced that we have Nick Cook demonstrating for a weekend of turning in May and John Jordan in June. There would not be any regular meetings for the next 2 months. The fees for the weekend demos are \$25 for Members and \$40 for non-members.

Peter introduced Mike Chase as our demonstrator for this meeting. Mike's specialty is captured rings, goblets and bottle stoppers. His demo started at 7:12 and ended at 8:25.

The bring back raffle was next with two items being raffled off. A wooden bowl and spoon and a dial vernier caliper.

Show and Tell was last on the agenda then the meeting ended at 8:45.

Tom Raymond, Sec.

Farewell message from Peter Asselyn

Congratulations Mark and Peter on being voted in as our new president and vice president. I leave the post in good hands and I am confident the club will continue to grow and prosper under your guidance. Again I want to thank everyone who pitched in to help with the various duties that made my job a lot easier. Our membership is growing and our new president and vice president will need even more help and I know you will come forward to help as needed.



For those of you who are not familiar with our by laws the vice president and president serve for 2 years and at the end of the president's term he becomes the chairman of the board of directors for the next 2 years, so I am looking forward to my new role and will support Mark and Peter to help our group continually grow in numbers and quality of work.

Thank you Mike Chase for the great demo on Rings and Things, and if you were nervous you did not show it. It was a great demo and I have never heard the room as quiet as when you were parting off those rings. Our instant gallery was great and our members are continually raising the bar.

Don't forget the weekend meetings in May and June This is a great opportunity to meet and watch well-known turners who have refined the art of doing demos and can pass along many shortcuts and techniques that will make your turning more enjoyable.

Thank you, Peter Asselyn

T-shirt design contest

Has been extended another month. Bring your design to the May meeting, where a friendly vote will be held to determine the favorite.



Deep vessel by
Peter McCrea

04/21/2004



04/21/2004

April Show 'N' Tell

Enter Maine Woodworkers Show in November

The Maine Woodworkers Association (MWA), in conjunction with the Center for Furniture Craftsmanship and the Center for Maine Contemporary Art, announce the Fall Fine Woodworking Show at the Center for Furniture Craftsmanship's new gallery in Rockport, Maine, running September 3 through November 22, 2004. This event is funded in part by a grant from the Maine Arts Commission, an independent state agency supported by the National Endowment for the Arts.

Our show is open to all MWA members and those who join (annual dues are \$20.), and all categories of woodworking, including: Furniture, Accessories, Architectural Elements, Turnings, Carvings, Musical Instruments, and Sculpture. Both original designs and reproductions are welcome. Awards are provided by the Maine Arts Commission, Fat Andy's, and Lie-Nielsen Tools. An entry fee of \$15.00 covers up to three pieces submitted for jurying. Work may be for sale or not; there will be a 25% commission for pieces sold at the show, and a 10% commission on orders directly resulting from an exhibitor's participation in the show, payable to the Center for Furniture Craftsmanship.

Deadline for submissions is June 7th.
For entry forms and information call
Valdemar Skov, MWA Show Committee Chair
(207) 832-5106

Exciting upcoming demos: Nick Cook & John Jordan

Sign up with Burt Truman

The "Maine Woodturners" is proud to announce two upcoming demonstrations in May and June. Both will be held in the Industrial Arts Dept. at Erskine Academy in South China, Maine.

The May demo will be on May 22 & 23 by Nick Cook. Saturday will be spindle and production projects. Introduction to the skew with a demo on how to turn various items, (tops, rattles, wine stoppers, boxes, etc.), using only the skew. Sunday will be a plate or platter, simple bowl, and a natural edge bowl. Along the way he discusses jigs & fixtures for production work, sharpening techniques and methods of chucking work. Every thing he makes during a demonstration is left with us to auction or raffle off.

The June demo will be on June 26 & 27 by John Jordan. Saturday will be bowl turning, sharpening, wood selection, etc. Sunday will be a turned and carved hollow vessel.

For both demos, Saturday time will be from 9 am to 4 pm. Sunday time will be from 11 am to 4 pm. Lunch can be provided for \$5 per person per day. It consists of a 6" sandwich (your choice) from Subway and a regular bottled or canned soda. You also may bring your own lunch if you wish.

Cost for either demo is \$25 for members and \$40 for non-members. No discounts will be made for those that only attend one day.

Reservations can be made with Burt Truman, Treas. by email: <trumbu@localnet.com>, telephone: (207) 622-6772, FAX: (207) 621-1021, or mail: 85 Second Street, Hallowell, ME 04347.

Rings and Things: Mike Chase Shows How to Do It



Mike Chase at the lathe

As a Verizon linesman by day, Mike Chase knows that safety is an urgent issue. That's why he is so meticulous in his shop set-up.

He brought in his own traveling lathe, a General mini, to his April demonstration "Rings and Things" just to show how he has things arranged when he turns.

Mike regularly uses dust collection to draw off both sanding dust and fumes. He has a plastic tube and nozzle arrangement on a track behind the lathe that he can bend and position anywhere he wants.

"The nice thing about this is that you can move it up to where you are working and it stays right there," he said. (The item is called a LocLine Flex Hose and is available from, among other places, Penn State Industries.)

In addition, Mike uses air filtration, and specifically recommended a JDS 2000 system with an electrostatic filter. This unit, Mike advised, can be picked up periodically at sale prices.

Under his feet, Mike places a 3/8" floor mat to protect from leg fatigue while he works. In addition, he is committed to wearing face protection—a full helmet, with safety quality glasses underneath, not just safety goggles. Lastly, Mike wears a glove. "I know there's a lot of pros and cons to wearing a glove," he said. "I've

worn a glove for ten years now," he said, and passed a well-used glove around that bore evidence of a few near misses.

The subject of Mike's demonstration was rings: single rings, double rings, rings on bottle stoppers, baby rattles, wedding goblets—anywhere that one can be turned.

"I've been making wedding goblets with double rings to go along with the double ring ceremony. That's how I got started," he said.

For years, Mike turned all his rings with a parting tool. Because the tool comes at the bottom of the ring from both sides at an angle, though the tool appears difficult to sharpen, Mike has used it repeatedly without dulling the edge.

When Mike turns a ring—with either tool—he first prepares the item by doing some basic shaping. The rings always appear between two larger diameter sections (the foot and the bowl part of the goblet, for example) and on a goblet, are made from waste wood on the stem. The rings are blocked out as beads with a 1/2" skew chisel after the stem is cut down to the desired diameter for the rings. While the rings are still attached to the stem, they are finish sanded, because it is too difficult to sand after they are free moving, Mike said.

Also, Mike will often apply a finish to the outside of the rings at this stage, especially if he is using a friction finish (for the demo, he used Hut Crystal Coat, applying it with a paper towel and then bur-



Mike uses a glove while turning.

Mike Chase Continued

nishing it until it was dry.)

Then the bead is cut away, alternating either side a little at a time, until it floats free.

Using the parting tool, "I'm going to go in at a 45 degree angle. You can change the diameter or the thickness of the ring depending on the angle you go in," he said.

"If you're making a wedding goblet and you're going to make two, you want to be sure they are the same diameter and the same shape," Mike said. He laid his two rings out side by side. He says he likes to start this process at either end of the stem to leave extra wood in case he breaks a ring in making it and needs to make another.

When the rings are free, Mike fixes a piece of sticky-backed sandpaper to the goblet stem, and puts the lathe speed down to about 150. He then sands the insides of the rings by holding them against the sandpaper on the spinning stem.

Mike likes to use masking tape to fix the angle, it tends to leave the ring "V" shaped on the underside. Now Mike uses a tool specially made for him out of high-speed steel by a friend. The new tool has a curved cutting edge that leaves the underside of the ring curved and smooth. Mike masking tapes the rings off to one side once they are free to keep them from bobbing about and getting in the way. Once the rings are cut, he can bring the stem down to the final diameter and finish the goblet.

For goblets, he favors Behlens salad bowl finish which prevents staining.

"You can put in wine, grape juice, whatever you want and you can pretty much wipe it right out," he said.

The main difficulty with the Behlens finish, he continued, was that it takes 12-24 hours to dry. Because he doesn't want the rings to get glued down by the finish, he does half the goblet at a time, "so it's quite a lengthy process."

By popular demand, Mike concluded the demo by showing how to make a wine stopper, which he usually decorates with a captured ring. He had prepared a blank before hand, drilling small block of attractive wood (an off-cut of a bowl) to place a 3/8 dowel 3/4 inch deep into the block. He then held it on a Oneway Talon chuck by the



Mike's goblets with captured rings.

dowel, lining it up straight with support from the tailstock. Like the goblet, he blocked the finish shape with a bead for the ring, and similarly finished the ring and the stopper. When it was complete, he took it out of the chuck and glued on a pre-drilled wine cork bought from Craft Supplies.

At the end of the demo, Mike raffled off one of his finished bottle stoppers as a gift to a lucky viewer.

Mike also demonstrated the difficult trick of intertwined rings. However, it was a very complicated process, and is difficult to explain in an article. Shucks, I guess you just had to be there.



Mike's special ring turning tool.

More Turning! More Demos! More Fun! Dixfield May 12

There are getting to be a lot of woodturners in western Maine, and some of them find the drive to China hard on a weeknight. So Kim Dailey has been at work to start a new club—which will not be in competition with Maine Woodturners, he is quick to point out, but which will be more convenient to nearby turners.

The first club meeting is 6 p.m. Wednesday, May 12 (second Wednesday) at Dirigo High School in Dixfield in the woodworking shop. Kim has demonstrated to students there and expects some interest from younger turners as a result. Everyone is welcome.



04/21/2004

Ken Keoughan's rosewood/holly piece, beautifully executed.

April Show 'N' Tell



04/21/2004



04/21/2004

Folks, sorry I don't always remember who made what.

Member news

Got something new going on? Appearing at a craft fair, selling your work at a gallery, got a tidbit that would be of interest to other members? Please contact Jacques Vesery to include your news in the next issue, jvesery@tidewater.net

Stephen Gleasner will be featured on Made in Maine on MPBN television on Thurs. May 20 at 8:30 p.m., and airing again Sat. May 22 at 7 p.m. Be sure to tune in. Stephen's work is also being carried by a new gallery, the Dane Gallery on Nantucket Island. If you can't make it down, visit on the web at <http://www.danegallery.com/gleasner.html>

Letter from Trent Bosch about workshops in Colorado

Dear Woodturning Club,

I will be co-teaching a workshop with Ron Fleming as well as one with Ron Gerton. The dynamic that is created during these co-teaching workshops is very exciting.

Turning and Carving with Ron Fleming and Trent Bosch is scheduled for July 8-11 2004. The focus will be on carving the turned form from inception through completion. In this workshop participants can expect to learn how to turn pieces that will be carved on, making sure to leave enough wood to allow you to develop the carving fully. You will be introduced to carving tools, opening up doors that will allow you to create objects you never imagined possible.

Casting Bronze for Woodturners with Ron Gerton and Trent Bosch is scheduled for August 9-12 2004. The focus will be on creating a piece or

parts of a piece to cast into bronze by use of the lost wax or lost wood technique. In this workshop you can expect to learn about all the processes involved in the casting of bronze and how you can set up a small backyard foundry of your own. Both of these 4-day workshops are held in my studios in Fort Collins, Colorado.

There is a maximum of 8 participants per workshop. The cost for these special events will be \$650.00, that includes three meals a day and all the materials you will need and then some. More information is on the web at <http://www.trentbosch.com> under Workshops then under Co-Workshops or you can contact me via email or phone. I am sure you will agree these are events not to be missed. Hope to see you in Fort Collins this summer. Thanks for your help spreading the word.

Happy Turning, Trent Bosch
970-568-3299 trentbosch@yahoo.com

Incoming President's Report: Mark Irving

As the Wood Turns: Vice President's Message

Thank you for your support for president. The next two years we will try to line up some nationally known demonstrators with a mix of local talent demonstrations. There has been some interest expressed in photography techniques and back hollowing. Guy Marsden, a new member this year, has offered his expertise in photography. Check out his web page, www.arttec.net. Please let me know if anyone has mastered the back hollowing technique used by Richard Raffan. If we can't find someone, we do have a video tape on this technique.

If you have any ideas for demos or meeting subjects please let me know. Some ideas:

Segmented turning

Tool making workshops

Tool raffles (maybe a small lathe)

Our own web page

Don't forget the 2004 AAW National Symposium in Orlando. I have registration forms if anyone wants one. We also have applications for joining AAW.

I enjoyed Mike Chase's demo. We had a good time trying to guess how he makes the interlocking rings. I couldn't see that glue joint. Thank you Mike.

Hope to see you all next month at the Nick Cook demo.

Keep the bevel rubbing,
Mark



Special Members Discount! Woodturners Catalog

From The Woodturner's Catalog—
Member only offer; mention promotion code 04SPAAW5 and receive \$15.00 off your order. This same code should work once a month for the rest of the year.

Classified Ads

Free to members!

Tools for sale: Radial Arm saw – Craftsman 10" on metal stand. Practically new – need space \$300

Radial Arm saw – Craftsman 8" on wood cabinet stand. – need space asking \$150

Wood Lathe – electrified antique (over 100 years old) I've used it for 35 years. Face plate, live & dead centers, knob center, tool rest \$75

Ken Shepherd, 205 Main Road

Westport Island, ME 04578, (207) 882-4128

Red plum for the taking: I was wondering if you had any members who live in the Union area that might be interested in a gnarly old red plum tree. I will wait until I hear back from you before cutting it down. (Dick will email interested parties a picture of the tree.)

Dick Anmahian Union, ME bigblue@ime.net

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.

Turning Classes: David Lancaster offers turning lessons in his shop in Weeks Mills. Those interested, please contact David at 445-4758 for prices and times.

OneWay Dealer:

For anyone who hasn't caught on through the jokes constantly being made at meetings, Dave Lancaster (445-4758) is a OneWay dealer and would be glad to help anyone interested in ordering tools or lathes carried in their catalog.



May. 04 issue



85 Second St.
Hallowell, ME 04347

Return address requested

Coming Events:

May 22 and 23— Nick Cook demo, 9 a.m. -4 p.m. Sat, 11 a.m. -4 p.m. Sunday,
\$25 members, \$40 non-members

June 26 and 27—John Jordan demo, 9 a.m. -4 p.m. Sat, 11 a.m. -4 p.m. Sunday, \$25 mem-
bers, \$40 non-members

Regular meetings are held throughout the year at 7 p.m. on the third Wednesday of the
month at Erskine Academy in South China, Maine. Directions to Erskine: From Augusta,
take Rt. 3 east for 12 miles. At the blinking light take a right onto Rt. 32. Go approximately 2
miles. Take a right at the end of the cemetery. The school is the first driveway on the left.
The meeting is in the woodworking shop.

The club always welcomes new
members. To join, send \$30 to:
Burt Truman
Maine Woodturners Treasurer
85 Second St.
Hallowell, ME 04347

*Or just introduce yourself at a meeting
and pay Burt then.*

*Become a Member of the
Maine Woodturners!*

Name:

Phone:

Address:

Email: