

Mainiac Woodturner

Monthly Newsletter of the Maine Chapter of the AAW
Vol.4, Number 2 Oct 2004

Photographing your work: Guy Marsden Oct. 20, 7 p.m., Erskine Academy

Guy Marsden will be demonstrating how to photograph your work. He will mostly talk about how to best compose the image and best angles of view for different types of pieces and will bring a list of do's and don'ts. He recommends that you re-read the article in the last issue of American Woodturner for tips on inexpensive lighting. He will bring his professional studio strobe lighting system and will shoot digital images. You will be able to see how he is framing each shot on a video monitor as he demonstrates. Members are encouraged to bring one or 2 of their best pieces, as Guy will also be documenting work for the club to send in to American Woodturner for possible inclusion in their Club Spotlight section or other publications.



Guy has been using cameras since he was 4 yrs old, and learned to develop negatives and prints a few years later. He has a degree in photography, and in his much-checked career has worked in some of the best photo labs in the country, and worked in the special visual effects field in the early 1980's. Examples of his photography can be seen on his extensive web site: www.arttec.net.

If you want a color corrected high resolution digital image on CD and a slide of your work Guy is asking for \$15.00 to cover costs. He will try to shoot as many pieces as he can in the time available.

Club Officers

President	Mark Irving	443-2337 irvings@javanet.com
Vice-Pres	Peter McCrea	354-2314 panacea35@aol.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 sgregor@midmaine.com

As of press time: one slot left in Jamieson workshop

There is one slot available for a workshop opportunity with Lyle Jamieson on Hollowing with his specialized tools... please contact Ken Keoughan at kkeoughan@yahoo.com ASAP.

Lyle Jamieson, who invented the hollowing system bearing his name will be available to us for 2 days: November 10 and 11. Cost \$ 225.

Secretary's minutes By Tom Raymond

The September Meeting of Maine Woodturners was held at Erskine Academy in South China Maine on 9-15-04. Sixty-three members and guests were present. President Mark Irving started the meeting at 7PM.



Mark announced that dues are due and Burt Truman is collecting. He said that Craft Supplies has specials on certain items and that they also send him a \$15 discount certificate every month. Guy Marsden will be the speaker at the next meeting on photographing your work. It would be to our benefit to get some of our work in the AAW magazine in the future. The demo lathe we use at meetings has a new light, which is a very good improvement. Mark hopes to have a Board Meeting every month. He announced that we need more demonstrators and asked for volunteers. Beth Ireland from MA was announced as to-

night's Demonstrator. Her demo lasted until 8:30. Since we had time left, Mark decided to have a Bring Back Raffle and Show and Tell. The items for the raffle were a 6" dial caliper and a \$15 discount certificate at Craft Supplies.

Ken Keoughan talked about the progress with the Turning Studio at Round Top Center for the Arts. The classes have begun with Instructors from Maine Woodturners. The classes are filled with students until they end in Dec. He thanked Maine Woodturners for their donation, and the people from the club who helped with moving the lathes, cleaning the shop and preparing for the first class.

Mark said that there would be a tee shirt design contest at one of the future meetings. Jeff Clapp showed one of his aluminum bells at Show and Tell. He was publicized a while back about a proposed trip to Mt Everest. He has returned with 130 aluminum oxygen bottles for future bells and an interesting story about his trip to Nepal. There was lots of humor during the Show and Tell session. The meeting ended at 9:20 PM
Tom Raymond, Sec

Board minutes By Tom Raymond

On 9-15-04, a board of directors meeting of Maine Woodturners was held at 6:33 PM at Erskine Academy in South China, Maine. The Attendee's were as follows: Chairman Peter Asselyn, President Mark Irving, Treasurer Burt Truman, Newsletter Editor Sandy Gregor, Vice Pres. Peter McCrae, Mac Ray, Dave Lancaster, and Ken Keoughan. Burt Truman distributed copies of the Bylaws to all members He also advised that we have \$2650 in the treasury at the moment. Dues are due and that should provide more income soon.

Mark Irving announced that we have Demonstrators for the monthly meetings until Feb. Alan Lacer was suggested for the next week-

end Demonstrator and Ken Keoughan volunteered to call him to find out about his availability. Dave Lancaster suggested Michelson the hat maker as another possibility

Burt will revise the bylaws to say "suggest" rather than require to be a member of AAW. Dave Lancaster and Mac Ray are the selected members to attend the Board meetings plus the 5 officers.

The present membership fees are \$30. A family membership was set at \$40. High School students are free. (We have 2 at the present time). Students will be charged 50% of the fee for the weekend Demo's. We have 3 Life Members who can attend the Weekend demo's at no charge.

Mark announced that Craft Supplies sends him a \$15 discount certificate every month. It was decided to include that in the Bring Back Raffle to make it more lucrative. The meeting ended at 6:55 PM.

Beth Ireland Makes Bowls From an Unusual Brew

Wisteria seeds, golf tees, bamboo skewers, cast polymer, plastic beads, dried rose petals, brass filings from a key-cutting machine.

Sounds more like ingredients to a witch's brew than a woodturning!

"Oh, by the way, seashells don't work. Don't try glass. Feathers are fantastic," advised cauldron-stirrer Beth Ireland, a nationally known turner from Connecticut who came to the September meeting to demonstrate her specialty, epoxy rings in turned bowls that contain bits of the world suspended in them.

Beth variously colors the epoxy, uses it clear, and puts items in at random patterns.

"For every ten of these I do, three of them turn out," said Beth, who encourages experimentation.

When she finds something she wants to add to a bowl in an epoxy ring, she first CA-glues it to a waste block and tries turning it.

"Anything you are going to do, do a little test and see how it's going to work," she said. "They key to coming up with something is just figuring it out. 'I really want to do this; how am I going to do it?' That's the creative process."

Beth has been a woodworker for 22 years. She calls herself "a production turner by day, an art turner by night."

She has a quirky sense of humor and is drawn to bright colors, so the epoxy rings she adds to her bowls are meant as a strong accent or feature of the turning. She prefers to use an even grained wood.

Beth approaches the work in various ways, but when making a bowl with a feature ring, she starts with a base cut to fit a chunk of the wood that will be the base of the bowl. She then glues a waste ring onto it, using the lathe as a press to hold the two parts together while the glue sets. Then she cuts a groove with a parting tool that will function as a mold for the epoxy, cutting down to the base wood underneath. When she is finished, she has a circle of



Burt Truman has already given Beth's methods a trial with this epoxy, metal filings, and spalted maple bowl. According to Burt, "Filings were mixed into the epoxy and then settled causing the discolored top rim. As Beth said, "You don't know what you have until you turn off the mold."

the base wood underneath, and two concentric rings of the waste wood on top, ready for the epoxy fill.

"Don't make it wider than $\frac{3}{4}$ ", or the epoxy won't set, it'll crack," she warned.

Beth uses only West System 105 epoxy that she buys by the gallon with various hardeners that make the epoxy set better at

Continued on next page

Beth Ireland continued

different temperatures.

“The faster it dries, the clearer and crisper it is,” she says. She advises buying the pump, which makes dispensing easier and less wasteful, and taping any possible cracks in the seam with duct tape to prevent seepage.

“Remember this, wood is a collection of drinking straws clumped together. Also wrap the piece in tape so the epoxy doesn’t pour through the end grain of your piece.”

Beth recommends great caution handling the epoxy, which is toxic. She used epoxy features in her work a lot more often before she lost her sense of smell from too casual exposures to the fumes.

“Epoxy is extremely dangerous. It seeps into the pores of your skin. Pour it and leave. If you have a HEPA-filter mask, wear that. Read the safety manual!” she said. “If it’s a nice day out, I try to pour as much as I can outside, but you can’t leave it in the sun.”

She places whatever items she wants as part of the feature into the mold and carefully adds the epoxy. “Leave it overnight before turning it, or at least 12 hours. It will tell you on the can. If you wait too long, like a month, it becomes too hard and too brittle. Within a week is ideal.”

For coloring pigments, Beth uses either Tint-All tubes of pigment that are meant to color acrylic house paints, or the more expensive Windsor Newton pure pigment.

In turning off the waste wood to expose the epoxy feature, Beth advises caution. Thinner can be beautiful, but can also lead to shattering and loss of the piece.

It’s not a cheap process. Even a small feature takes about \$13 worth of epoxy. “You have to have an Oh-well-I-do-this-for-fun attitude,” she suggested.

Woodturning Going Strong at Round Top

New Introduction to Woodturning 2 course

The new woodturning program at Round Top is going Gang Busters, according to Ken Keoughan. Here’s his report:

We are sold out to the first of the year and have a waiting list. All the comments that any of us and that the administrative staff at Round Top has heard have been extremely positive.

Careful review with our present introduction-to-woodturning students has revealed that more than 2/3 of them would welcome the opportunity for an additional course whose purpose would be to provide them with 4 more weeks of turning using and expanding upon the techniques and knowledge they already have.

Therefore beginning Oct. 12 – Nov. 2 we will be offering INTRODUCTION TO WOODTURNING 2. This course will be based upon a series of projects that will enable the students to practice what they learned in their first four week course. Curriculum is yet to be devised but it may include plates, small bowls, bottle stoppers, possibly napkin rings etc. This will be more “hands on” and less “lecturing” than the basic Intro course.

We already have enough students for a day and a night session. One instructor, Ken Shepard, has already agreed to teach the course. Payment is the same as for all the other courses. The October 12-November 2 session is only the first session. We would like to be in a position to keep this follow-up course available all year long.

Thanks to all the club members who have been involved in these classes, and thanks to the club for support of the project.

Ken Keoughan,

As the Wood Turns: President Mark Irving



Our first meeting of the year brought at least 63 people to Erskine Academy. I think that is an attendance record. I've never seen so many people here. I hope everyone returns and more.

Beth Ireland put on a great demo. Looking at her web site it was difficult to determine how she made those epoxy bowls. It was not entirely evident that they were made from epoxy. So it was good to see how she made those items. Be sure to visit her web site, www.bethireland.net.

We had lots of interesting items at the show and tell. Whether you are an expert, intermediate, or beginning wood turner, bring some of your stuff in. We like to look at it all. Those of us who are beginners may get some pointers from the experts.

I think it would be a good idea to raise some money for the club through the wood auctions, bring back raffles, and increased membership. If we can raise more money, we could possibly afford more nationally known demonstrators. I'd like to try to have the raffles and wood auctions during each meeting. So don't forget to bring in some wood. Craft supplies is giving us \$15 dollar gift certificates each month which we will include with the bring back raffle.

We've put off the tee shirt contest (and wood auctions, etc.) for a few months because we have had paid demonstrators for the last three meetings. We like to get our money's worth, so we put off the other activities to get full value from our guests. But we have a few entries and would like to have a few more. So if you have an idea for a design for a tee shirt for the Maine Woodturners, bring it in. We should have a vote on the designs in October or November. The winning design will be made into tee shirts for members to buy. I think the price was \$10, but will check on it.

Next month, our own Guy Marsden is going to do a photography demo. I'm looking forward to it. This should help to improve your photography skills. Visit his web site at

www.arttec.net.

See you in October.
Keep the bevel rubbing,
Mark

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Klingspor is offering a 10% discount on all non-powered merchandise to all members of the Maine Woodturners. We just need to send them a current membership list. Anyone who wishes to be omitted from that list or is not getting the discount, please let me know.

Craft supplies (www.woodturnerscatalog.com or 1-800-551-8876) is offering different promotions each month. The next promotion starts Oct. 1 and goes through November 15. The promotion is: Spend \$100 and receive a \$15 voucher redeemable after December 15. Be sure to mention the Promotion Code 04SPAAW10. They will not ask, so you must mention the promotion code.

We are looking for demonstrators for the coming year and next year. If anyone has a desire to do a demonstration, please let me know.

Don't forget the Tee Shirt contest. We will choose a winner eventually. Hopefully in October or November.

Round Top Center for the Arts in Damariscotta is offering classes in woodturning. Taught by some of our own members! Check out their web site at www.roundtoparts.org.

Classified Ads

Free to members!

1990 BMW K75 RT (750 cc) 66,000 miles in good condition-leather seat and cover- all maintenance records since new-asking \$3,200 call peter at 207-353-4206
lease contact Peter Asselyn at 353-4206.

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.



Oct 04 issue



85 Second St.
Hallowell, ME 04347

Return address requested

Coming Events:

Guy Marsden: Photographing your work

Wednesday Oct. 20

7 p.m. Erskine Academy

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: