

Mainiac Woodturner

Monthly Newsletter of the Maine Chapter of the AAW

Something new and different: Turning Inside-Out 7 p.m. on April 20

This is new and different too: two demonstrators will be showing an unusual technique in woodturning. You'll have a chance to see up close how two guys use different methods to achieve the same fine results—and pick what suits you to take home and try in your own shop.



Tom Raymond

Tom Raymond has been turning since he began in high school in 1949. He built all the furniture that appeared over the years in his home, and sometimes he needed to turn something to make the furniture. He began turning for pleasure after he became a member of the

Maine Woodturners (he's now been secretary for six years, Thanks Tom!) This dual-demo is typical of his courtesy and the friendliness he himself found when he first started coming to meetings ("I joined other clubs, and we'd go there and they had a hard time to say hello," Tom remembers. He felt welcomed from the first moment he arrived at Maine Woodturners.)

After Tom was asked to do a demo on what he calls "Involuted Turning" he saw Al Mather's beautiful candlesticks on the show & tell table and wanted Al to join him.

Al Mather has been a member a much shorter time.. He's been turning just over 2 years since he was given a lathe by an uncle. Since it had only a 10" swing, Al decided he would concentrate on something other than bowls. Looking around on the Internet for other ideas, he discovered what he calls "Inside-Out" turning.



Al Mather

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Submitted by Mark Irving
**RULES FOR
 CUTTING YOUR OWN
 FIREWOOD:**

1. Park twice as far from the tree as the tree is tall.
2. It helps to notch the tree away from the truck.
3. The fact that you live within driving distance of a forest does not make you a lumberjack.
4. Just to be on the safe side, always borrow your buddy's truck.

Demo, continued

Tom's main love is segmented turning, which he has demonstrated in the past. But he likes to experiment, and during a trip to New Brunswick he found himself examining some unusual turned candlesticks.

"I asked myself, 'How do they do that?'"



Tom Raymond's segmented turning

Secretary's minutes By Tom Raymond



Due to one of Tom Raymond's rare absences, there will be no Secretary or Board minutes this month.

and then it dawned on me, and I went home and tried it," Tom remembers.

It won't have to dawn on *you*, because both these men will explain how they go about it (they've been working out the format of this joint demo by email.)

As a pre-view, here's what Al says about inside-out turning: "This method uses four pieces of wood of the same size. These are held together temporarily while what will become



Al Mather's candlesticks

the inside is shaped. After finishing the inside each piece is then rotated 180° in place. After the pieces are permanently glued, they are placed in the lathe a second time in order that the outside shape may be formed. The inside and outside of each piece is sanded to a semi-glossy or even glossy finish with micro mesh[®]. Each piece is finished with Renaissance Wax[®]. On some pieces a walnut oil may be used before the wax is applied."

Maybe It's Round, But It's Still A Box!

Peter McCrea's March demo

By Mark Irving



and chucked it by the tenon.

Peter proceeded by first truing the outside of the lid, to reduce vibration, and then beveled the flange face.

The next step was fussy, he said. The inside flange should not have a taper. He used a box scraper, which must remain level so the flange

Peter McCrea's March demo was a turned box with an inlay in the top. Peter started with a handout which explained his entire process.

He started this demo with a box which had been rough turned previously. Rough turning allows the wood to dry faster. The dryer the wood, the more stable the box will be after finish turning. This results in a better fitting lid. He explained that the boxes are turned from the inside out, meaning that the inside is completed before the outside is done.

Peter mounted the lid first, by the flange end, so he could true the tenon on the other end. He explained that his max size for a box is about 3 to 3-1/4 inches. This is because women tend to buy the boxes and they need to be the right size (the boxes, not the women) to fit in their hands. Then he turned the lid around

remains straight. Peter found a line level at his hardware store and taped it to the shaft of his scraper. He used this to keep his tool level. Also, to keep the tool straight, he lined it up parallel with the bed of the lathe. After finishing the flange, he finished hollowing out the lid, sanded and marked the size of the flange on the bottom of the lid. (On the outside, after



McCrea demo, continued

unchucking).

He then chucked the bottom as he did the lid, trued the tenon, then turned it around and chucked it by the tenon. Peter said he used to make smaller boxes, but his wife requested larger ones for her antique buttons. So he started making larger ones. (I guess we know who's in charge at his house!)

After truing the outside and the flange, he took the measurement from the lid and marked the base for sizing the flange. Don't finish the flange yet because subsequent finishing of the inside may result in distortion of the lid, due to released stresses, possible catches, etc. Then excavate the interior. Peter used a box scraper tool rest which makes this job easier. The rest actually projects into the partially excavated interior and provides support for hollowing out the remainder.

Then he sized the bottom flange for a jam chuck for the lid. If this ends up with the lid too loose, add some masking tape to the flange on the base to make the fit tight enough. Peter was gracious enough to make his flange just the right size so he could demonstrate this on the box he was turning.

To fit for the inlay, turn the tenon off the lid first. Then create the cavity for the inlay. Peter makes it about 1/16" deep and measures it with an automotive tire tread depth gauge. Another neat idea.

He had the inlay already mounted and turned on a waste block. He unmounted the base and mounted the inlay on the lathe, trued it up and cut a slice off the inlay. But only use the parting tool part way. Cut the slice off completely with a saw. Otherwise you may get some grain tear-out and not be able to use the inlay.



He scuffed the back side of the inlay with 150 grit paper and glued it in with ca glue. He then remounted the base and turned down the inlay and detailed the joint between the lid and the base. Then, he pulled off the lid, demonstrating perfectly, the soft popping noise that is achieved with an excellent fitting lid. Now he's ready to unchuck and finish the bottom.

To do that, he wraps one layer of masking tape around the base flange and carefully chucks it in the scroll chuck. This is the scary part, Peter said. The last thing he wanted to do was create a "teaching aid." He used the tail stock to lightly hold the base while removing most of the base tenon. Moving the tail stock out of the way, he then finished the bottom by making it slightly concave.

This was an excellent demonstration. Thank you Peter.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please let Mark Irving or one of the club officers know if you are interested in making curved toolrests or other items (such as curved hollowing tools) at the May tool making and problem solving meeting. We need to gauge how much stock to buy to make these items. Send email, notify via phone or let someone know at a meeting before the May

Announcements

Don't forget the Klingspor 10% discount on all non-powered merchandise to all members of the Maine Woodturners.

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.

Future Demonstrators:

Al Mather and Tom Raymond; Inside out turning – April 2005

Tool Making/Problem Solving - May 2005

Mark Irving – June 2005

summer break – July, August 2005

Alan Lacer – September 2005

Michael Hosaluk – October 2005

anyone else? - November 2005

Xmas party – December 2005

volunteer? – January 2006

someone reading this? - February 2006

me? - March 2006

you? - April 2006

National Demonstrator? – May 2006



What I forgot to tell you

about this neat technique for roughing that Ken demonstrated in the last issue is that the *reason* it's so neat is that the shavings fly off to your left instead of down your neck! And, because you are really rubbing the bevel a lot sooner, it doesn't shake you up as much. Try it, you'll like it!



Member News...

Mac Ray's New Workshop

Mac's been working on this new workshop for a while, but it looks like it's getting to the point where we can expect great things to issue forth!

Go for it, Mac!

Classified Ads

Have a Lathe to Sell?? Albert Kolodji in Yarmouth is looking for a used lathe with a 16" or better swing in good to excellent condition. Call him at 846-1066.

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.

Wheels and Grinders

Wheel set for Oneway 1640 lathe \$60.
Tormek Super Grind with standard accessories \$295. For more information call John McAlevey at 207-372-6455 or e-mail at

Our Steve Gleasner in the News!

Wilmington, DE (PRWEB) March 10, 2005 -- The April 2005 issue of The Crafts Report magazine — the business source for craft artists and retailers — features 10 People to Watch in American Craft 2005, and one of them is our own Stephen Gleasner. Selected from over 100 nominations, the individuals selected best exemplify what today and tomorrow's crafts professionals must possess — the ability to work with the changing times to find new opportunities in which to create, show and sell American crafts. "We feel that the future leaders in the crafts field will be those individuals who are constantly taking the pulse of the crafts industry and able to alter their course as consumer attitudes, artists' needs and the general climate of the industry change," says editor Heather Skelly.

Here's what they wrote:

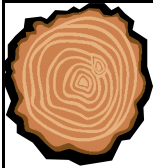
Your eyes are not fooling you ... Stephen Gleasner's vessels look like glass, but they're actually made from plywood. And because of his

work's unique look, this Maine-based artist has been blazing his own trail in the marketplace. In terms of design, Gleasner tells us that he has "several breakthrough ideas that have been festering for some time in the darker corners of my mind. I plan to bring at least one of them into my work this year." In the near future, Gleasner hopes to blaze yet another trail, unknown to most wood turners, by creating shallow, three-dimensional, plywood sculptures that hang from the wall like paintings. He'll also be expanding his marketing beyond just collectors and craft enthusiasts and will be exposing his work to the widest audience he can find. "If [people] don't know about my work, it's impossible for them to ever fall in love with it. This sounds obvious, but it has become viscerally clear to me that this is true and that has changed my marketing focus." Gleasner scored a recent coup by getting his work featured in an upcoming issue of The Robb Report, an upscale lifestyle publication.



Learning to Fly, 7" tall

As the Wood Turns: President Mark Irving



If I hadn't met former member, Joe Dalorso, at the Bath Heritage Days Craft Show, selling bowls a few years ago, I might still be strugglin to put a sharp edge on a gouge that didn't have as many facets as the Hope diamond. And I'd probably still be blamin my lathe for all those things I attempted to make before that. No way could anyone make sumpin on that lousy Craftsman.

My lathe affair (my wife thinks my other girlfriend is a lathe that lives down cella) began whilst working in the carpenter shop at Bath Iron Works quite a few years back. I had to make some wooden plugs for the ends of some pipes. Apparently these shipbuilders need to plug quite a few pipes with these things in the shipbuilding process. For what reason, I never found out. Sooanyhoo, I found myself standin in front of a lathe with some sort of curved chisel tool in my hand, what it was I didn't know, but it was sharp enough (someone else obviously did that) to send a bunch of wood chips over my shoulder when stuck into that spinnin piece o' wood. I had no idea what I was doin, but it was way cool. After a time, I was turnin out the smoothest plugs this side of the Mason Dixon line or leastways this side of the mighty Kennebec. I was hooked.

Not really knowin what I was gettin into, but knowin I wanted to get into it, I traded my motorcycle for a brand new Sears Craftsman 4 speed lathe, one speed less than the motorcycle, so much for a good deal. The Craftsman came with all the tools one would ever need for lathin'. Which was a good thing, cos I didn't have any moolah left to buy anythin else, includin a bench or sumpin else to put it on! So I took half of the old china cabinet I removed from my dining room a few years earlier, with the 3 drawers which were stuck so bad they wouldn't open without a come along, and tacked two pieces of quarter inch plywood, which had been in the cella for years and were no where near flat, on top, making something I could put it on besides the box it came in. That plywood top only hung over the cabinet on the tailstock end by about a foot

and a half, but why does the tailstock need support? Ok, so I put a two by four under that end. This is gonna be great. I can't wait to get started.

Course, making somethin other than a plug turned out to be a lot more work than I figured. But it must be the lathe. Gotta be sumpin wrong with it. Just cos my tools aren't real sharp shouldn't have anything to do all that chatter and vibration I was gettin. After all, I was getting a few chips to fly off the tools along with that big pile o' dust. But I made a feeble attempt to sharpen these tools anyways, but fear of ruinin' them kept me from doin a proper job. After all, if I messed this up how would I ever get back to that original bevel that came with the tool? Well, at least my table saw worked.

I really wanted to turn bowls, but figured it was impossible with that crummy lathe. But I kept tryin off and on. Veventually, I met Joe at the craft show. His stuff was beautiful, jus the stuff I wanted to make. An he tol me bout the Maine Woodturners.

I've learned a great deal from attendin those meetins. Bevel rubbin? Sup wi dat? Well I found out. As new people have been joinin and attendin meetins, I've found out that these folks are findin out what bevel rubbin is too. There is a lot of nice stuff showin up at the meetins for the show and tell. So all you newbies, don't despair. Jus keep attendin the meetins. You're bound to learn sumpin. I did.

I thought Peter's demo was one of the best I've seen. He did a great job with the handouts and the attention to detail. And he did a nice job of 'splainin' the reasons for the techniques he used. Great job Peter.

Next month is Al Mather and Tom Raymond demonstrating inside-out turning. Time to learn something else.

Keep the bevel rubbing (I've also learned that you don't need to do that all the time either)
See you next month.



Apr 05 issue



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Hallowell, ME 04347

Return address requested

Coming Events:

April– Al Mather and Tom Raymond, Inside-Out turning

May– Tool Making/Problem Solving

June– Mark Irving, Spindle turning (rolling pin and wine stopper)

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. (From the south and east take Route 17 to 32 N. In about 9 miles at the top of a hill, Erskine Academy will be on the left. Turn onto the street at the north side of the school grounds. 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: