

# Mainiac Woodturner

Monthly Newsletter of the Maine Chapter of the AAW  
Vol. 45 Number 3 November 2005

## Annual Christmas Party at Round Top Potluck is Friday, December 16 at 6 p.m.

The party will be in accord with the traditional format: spouses or important others welcome. There will be a Yankee Swap. Spouses may participate as long as they also bring a gift to put into the pool. Dinner will be potluck. There is a full kitchen, so you can heat what you bring. The club will provide soda and utensils. **Directions:** Round Top Center for the Arts is located on Business Route 1 in Damariscotta, Maine. *From the south:* Take Rte. 1 North to the Damariscotta exit (Business Rte. 1), go down the ramp to the Second Congregational Church. Turn right at the church and go straight through Damariscotta 1.6 miles. Round Top is on the left, after the traffic light. *From the north:* Take Rte. 1 South to the Damariscotta exit (Business Rte. 1). Continue 1.3 miles. Round Top is on the right.

## Program for children with disabilities seeks volunteers

Maybe this is your Christmas present to those in need this year: The Kids' Project, a program of Pine Tree Society, is seeking skilled woodworkers to make adaptive equipment for children with disabilities.

Adaptive equipment helps children with disabilities become more actively involved in the world around them. From custom chairs with proper support and therapeutic benches to adaptable desks and accessible playground equipment, The Kids' Project provides hundreds of children with the adaptive equipment they need to be successful in school, therapy and at home. The Kids' Project is seeking woodworkers with moderate



to high skills. We provide the materials; you provide your time and talent. Your efforts will help a child with disabilities achieve greater success and independence. For more information, please contact Jeremy Lucas at 443-3341, ext. 104 or e-mail [kidsproject@pinetreesociety.org](mailto:kidsproject@pinetreesociety.org). The Kids' Project adaptive equipment program is just one of the many programs of Pine Tree Society. For more information about Pine Tree Society and its programs and services, please call (207) 443-3341 or on the internet at [www.pinetreesociety.org](http://www.pinetreesociety.org).

### Club Officers

President	<b>Mark Irving</b>	443-2337 <a href="mailto:irvings@javanet.com">irvings@javanet.com</a>
Vice-Pres.	<b>Peter McCrea</b>	354-2314 <a href="mailto:panacea35@gmail.com">panacea35@gmail.com</a>
Treasurer	<b>Burt Truman</b>	622-6772 <a href="mailto:trumbu@localnet.com">trumbu@localnet.com</a>
Librarian	<b>Bill Vogt</b>	623-1835 <a href="mailto:bvogt@powerlink.net">bvogt@powerlink.net</a>
Secretary	<b>Tom Raymond</b>	563-6813 <a href="mailto:trdamar@tidewater.net">trdamar@tidewater.net</a>
Website	<b>Andy Hoyt</b>	<a href="mailto:aeh@downscaledesigns.com">aeh@downscaledesigns.com</a>
Newsletter	<b>Sandy Gregor</b>	778-3717

## Classified Ads

**Wanted to buy:** I'm looking for a used lathe (to keep the cost down). I would prefer a Oneway, preferably a 20" or larger, but would settle for a 1640, should the price be right. Please contact Mark Irving.

**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.

Ask Not What  
Your Woodturning Club  
Can Do For You,  
Ask What You Can Do  
For Your Club

## November minutes By Tom Raymond

The Maine Woodturners meeting was held at Erskine Academy, South China, Maine on November 16th, 2005. President Mark Irving opened the meeting at 7 PM. Fifty Four members and guests were in attendance. Mark again mentioned that dues are due (\$30) and payable to Treasurer Burt Truman. Last years Christmas Party was at Round Top in Damariscotta by invitation of their President Mr. Melville and very enjoyable and a repeat was recommended for this year. Mark put this to a vote and it was unanimous to go there if the present President, Judy Tar, accepts us. There would be an open house at the Turning Studio at 5:30 before the festivities at 7 PM. Its a bring your own bottle affair and will include the Yankee Swap for all who attend and bring a gift. Mack Ray is scheduled for the Feb. demo and his schedule is in the Board minutes. It is planned to have Show and Tell tonight with many interesting pieces to talk about. Mark advised that we need a member to investigate better video equipment and to be the operator., maintainer and keeper of the equipment in the future. No one volunteered. Kim Dailey is tonight's demonstrator on pen

turning and started his demonstration at 7:10 PM. His demo ended at 8:15 PM. Mark started the Show and Tell session. which ended at 8:37 PM. Mark initiated a raffle with 5 items donated. Jeff Clapp donated 2 Christmas ornaments made from his turnings of aluminum bottles returned from his trip to MT Everest. Demonstrator Nick Cook left 3 items from his demonstration this summer which were included in this raffle. Tickets were \$1 each or 6 for \$5. Only Burt Truman knows how well be boosted the treasury. The meeting ended at 9 PM Tom Raymond, Sec.

### 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](http://www.roundtoparts.org).

### Future Demonstrators:

Tom Raymond– January 2006  
Mac Ray - February 2006  
Peter Asselyn - March 2006  
Need to fill this in. - April 2006  
Tool Making? – May 2006  
Maybe Al Stirt - June 2006

Report from Tom Raymond:

## The Effects of Microwaving to dry a maple bowl

**Material:** Red Maple blank with 24% moisture before turning.

**Instrument:** Pin type moisture meter with 7 to 35% range.

The blank was rough turned to 7.5" dia. and 2.5" high with a 7/8" wall. After turning, the blank had 35%+ moisture level.

**Step 1** Microwaved the bowl for 6 min. on Medium in a plastic bag. When the bowl was removed the inside of the bag was very wet. Let it set to cool for 20 min. outside the bag. Then retested at 25% moisture. The end grain being the highest readings.

**Step 2** Microwaved at Med.-low for 4 min in a new plastic bag. There was some moisture in the bag after the 4 min. Tested the moisture at 35% plus and let cool for 20 min. Retested at 27% after the 20 min. cool. This proves that the moisture is driven from the center of the bowl towards the outside during micro waving.

**Step 3.** Microwaved on med.-low for 3 min., no plastic bag and tested at 35%+. Let cool for 20 min. and retested at 27%. Highest reading in the end grain.

**Step 4.** Microwaved on Low for 3 min., no bag. Reading was 35%+ after micro waving. Let cool for 20 min and retested at 22% moisture.

Moved the blank to the shop for air drying on an open shelf in an environment of 62 degrees F and 67% relative humidity.

After day 1, tested moisture at 16%

After day 2, tested moisture at 13%

After day 3, tested moisture at 14%

After day 4, tested moisture at 9%

After day 5, tested moisture at 8%

After day 6, tested moisture at 8%

After day 7, tested moisture at 8%

After day 8, tested moisture at 7%

**Summary:** After microwaving in the past I would let a bowl set on the shelf for 30 days to air dry. From the experiment above, I would not hesitate to final turn after 5 days.

Tom Raymond 11-2-05

A report of Kim Dailey's penmaking demonstration will be in the January issue.



Photo by Gretchen Felhau

## Secretary's minutes Monthly Board Meeting By Tom Raymond

The Maine Woodturners Board of Directors met at Erskine Academy met before the regular meeting on November 16th at 6:30 PM. The following members were present: President Mark Irving chaired the meeting, Burt Truman, Ken Keoughan, Mack Ray, Peter McCrae, Bill Vogt and Tom Raymond.

The Christmas Meeting is slated for Dec. 16 at 5:30 PM with an open House at the Turning Center if we meet at Round Top. A Potluck Dinner is scheduled for 7 PM. The usual Yankee Swap will take place for all that bring a gift. The spouses are invited.

The current schedule of demonstrations are as follows:

Dec. Christmas Party

January, Tom Raymond, On Segmented turnings  
February, Mack Ray, on a variety of textured surfaces and decorative methods.

March, Peter Asselyn

April, No Assignment although Tool making is planned. Hooked tools for coring were suggested  
May No assignment although Bowl bottoms were suggested

June, no assignment

Demonstrators for next year were proposed for Instructors visiting Maine and Teaching at the School for Furniture Craftsmanship. Bob Rosand in Sept. and Beth Ireland in Oct. Mack Ray will call Alan Stirt to check on his availability for June. Peter McCrae suggested that we consider investing in better Video equipment for filming our demonstrations. Burt Truman advised that we have about \$3500 in the bank. Burt also advised that we should have a member good at video work do an investigation and to also operate the equipment

since he has his hands full as Treasurer. Peter McCrae suggesting giving the Librarian Bill Vogt a budget to add to our video and CD collection.

The meeting ended at 7 PM.

Tom Raymond, Sec

## Round Top Classes offer "Quick and Easy Gifts"

During the 2-week period from Dec. 5-16 the Woodturning Program at Round Top Center for the Arts will be featuring "Quick and Easy Gifts."

Ken Keoughan, Director of the Woodturning Program says, "We are making oil lamps that throw enough light to help in a power outage or for very nice décor; small multi-colored confetti lights that burn smokeless oil and are wonderful individually or in clusters for table settings or ambiance. Pepper mills are a favorite, but require some skill, instruction and patience. Beautifully turned pocket or purse pill containers are very easy and very well engineered. Bottle stoppers are another favorite. A perennial, the spin top or dreidel, has been very popular in this class. Bud vases are quick and easy and can be as creative as your imagination permits.

"Quick and Easy" classes will be offered in the daytime Monday 12/5 and 12/12 from 1:00-4:00 PM; and Tuesday evening 12/6 and 12/13 from 6:00-9:00 PM. Tuition is \$60 for non – RTCA Members: \$50 for Members. There is an additional \$20 fee for materials plus the cost of whatever hardware items are used. Sign up for

**See next page**

## As the Wood Turns: President Mark Irving



Here I sit. Waitin for inspiration. Got nothin. I'm still lookin for a new (or used) lathe. Waitin for Dave L to call me about a used one that I'd like to look at. You folks out there shoulda otta know where I kin find a lathe. Preferably a Oneway, 2036 or larger, to fit my growin budget. The longa I can't find one, the more moolah I will have to spend on one. But at the rate I'm goin, I'll be able to afford two of 'em. We gut how many members? Don't you guys know where there are any Oneways?

Went up to Dixfield to do a demo for the Western Maine Woodturners the week before our November meeting. They jus purchased a new Powermatic 3520A, the older edition. Sweet machine. Not as sweet as a Oneway, mind you, but nevertheless a right nice lathe. Powermatic has come out with an updated model, the 3520B, with some new features, so some old 3520A's are still available at a lower price than the new ones. They finally figgered out that the digital speed readout belongs on the same side of the lathe the operator is standing on. Imagine that? Why they eva put the thing on the wrong side of the lathe in the first place is beyond me! What were they thinkin? "I'll jus lean out over this giant, waist high, spinnin piece of hardwood and take a look at xactly how fast I got 'er goin"? So durin the demo the people in the audience would attempt to read the thing. I think it was in code. They left off a zero or sumpin. I didn't think the number matched up with what I thought the speed actually was. Who needs the thing anyway. The good turners just dial in a speed that works for the job bein done. Nuff said. It's still a decent lathe. Not a Oneway, mind you, but a decent lathe. Turned out a righteous rollin pin that night.

Then there was the ride home! Snow again! In November? Nevah shoulda happened. The weight that shoulda been in the back of my 2 wheel drive truck is in the same place it was last year for that historic ride home. Up in the attic of my garage. Actually, it's not up in the attic, but the important thing here is that it wasn't in the back of my truck. But this ride wasn't as bad as last years. For about 20 miles I followed an 18 wheeler doin 30 mph that had its emergency lights blinkin the whole time. I could barely keep up with him, what with no plows, no sand, no salt, no traction, no 4 wheel drive, no weight, no chains, no studs, no nuthin. Slippery as all get-out until I got to Turner, where it turned to rain and the roads were just wet.

Hope you are all looking forward to the annual Christmas party, pot luck, yankee swap event. I know I am. Three out of the last four years I've drawn the number one. Last year, I even drew last to give you guys a chance and you still blew it. Don't bother making out a number one ticket. Just assign number one to me and put numbers 2 and higher in the bucket for the drawing. I'm bringing my shrimp dip with some chips. Mmmmm. Remember, it's a Friday night, the 16th of December.

### Round Top classes continued from page 5

both sessions and take care of your entire gift list. The prerequisite for this class is 3 to 6 months of woodturning experience. Don't have that? Why not give yourself woodturning lessons at Round Top as your Christmas gift and be ready for next year!

Prospective students gift samples in the Round Top reception room. At the time of sign-up choose the gifts you want to make and hardware will be ordered. For registration call Round Top Center for the Arts at 563-1507.

If you have any questions on this class or the Woodturning Program, call Ken Keoughan at 832-6538.



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85 Second St.  
Hallowell, ME 04347

Return address requested

### *Coming Events:*

**Christmas Party, Fri. 6 p.m. Dec. 16 at Round Top Center for the Arts in Damariscotta**

Next month: Tom Raymond back at Erskine

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 is the first building on the left.)

The club always welcomes new members. To join, send \$30 to:

Burt Truman

Maine Woodturners Treasurer

85 Second St.

Hallowell, ME 04347

**One good turn deserves another!**

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

*Become a Member of the  
Maine Woodturners!*

*Name:*

*Phone:*

*Address:*

*Email:*