

Mainiac Woodturner

Monthly Newsletter of a Maine Chapter of the AAW
October 2006

Malcolm Tibbetts is a genius at segmented turning
Come and see for yourself!



Malcolm Tibbetts does segmented turning like nobody else even dares. These pieces are more than works of art – they're dizzying in their genius. Surely there's something you can learn from this guy Malcom will be with us all day, Sat. Oct. 21— it's worth the trip.

Malcolm's handout is six pages long, and you can save or print it yourself from the [AAW website](#). Please note that he will not be bringing copies to the demo, so bring your own and take notes on it. This is a pdf file, which means you need Adobe Acrobat reader to access it.

You can easily download it for free at [Adobe's website](#).

This year the club is charging for demos by national woodturners: \$20 for members, \$30 for non-members. Anyone wanting to join in the pizza lunch may for an additional \$5. The demonstration will run from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.—and think about staying to help with clean-up.



Club Officers

President Peter McCrea 354-2314
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The Club needs you!

We need a donation from the membership of a TALL bar stool, preferably with a seat back, for the video camera-person.

We also need volunteers-several video camera-persons and several digital photographers.
On the Job training supplied.

Don't forget to check out
the website at
www.mainewoodturners.org

Tibbetts handout – <http://www.woodturner.org/resources/Tibbetts%20Handout.pdf>

Adobe Reader – <http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html>

Back again in his inimitable style

Bob Rosand's demo

By Mark Irving



After finishing with club business, our new president, Peter McCrea, introduced our first demonstrator of the year, Bob Rosand, from Pennsylvania. Bob last demonstrated for us way back in 2002. But this time he brought his wife Susan with him. Susan does the painting on the items that Bob creates. For those of you who couldn't attend, check out Bob's gallery and Susan's painting on their web site, www.rrosand.com. Also on the web site are all the instructions for creating the turnings Bob demonstrated for us.

Bob Rosand at the lathe.

Susan began by passing out a raffle ticket to each attendee. These were used to raffle off all the items which Bob would create during the day. And while Bob was turning, Susan was spending the time painting some Christmas ornaments and other items Bob had turned.

The first item Bob turned was an acorn birdhouse ornament. These items usually sell for between \$25 and \$29 dollars. Starting with a 1-1/4 x 4" blank of maple, pre drilled with a 1/4" hole for the 'bird', Bob turned the bottom portion of the ornament. He noted that it must be square at the point where the perch is attached. If not, the perch will tilt and birds like their perches level.

After drilling a hole in the end, he hollowed out the remaining wood with a round nose scraper following the outside contour. Since this is a tree ornament, enough wood should be removed to make it as light as possible. We don't want tree branches sagging under the weight of a heavy ornament. Next, he parted it off, turned a tenon on the waste block, and glued the bottom on to the tenon. The bottom was then finish turned, sanded, and parted off.

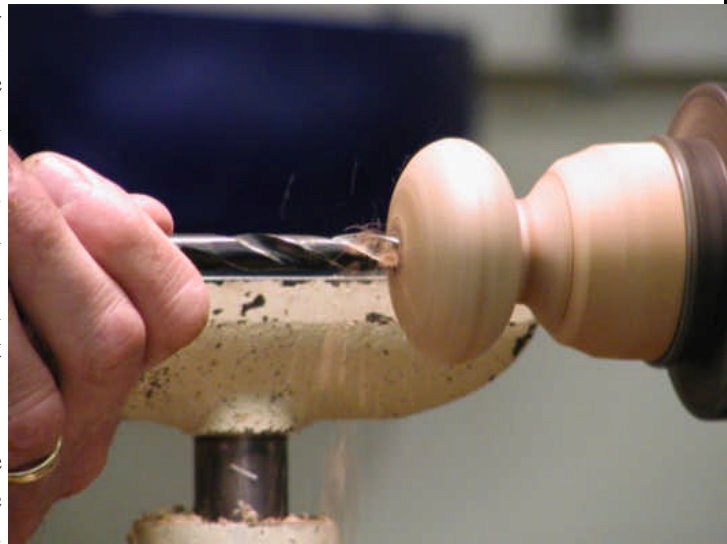
Bob had a coffee can with a 50:50 mixture of Sherwin Williams sanding sealer and turpentine. "Don't use mineral spirits", Bob said. "It doesn't work the same as turpentine". He used this for his final cut on all his pieces to lessen tearout. The theory is, that since he doesn't let it dry completely, and wet wood cuts better than dry wood, ergo fatso, less tearout. When he gets to sanding, he also recommends slowing the lathe down. You don't want to generate too much heat.

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Bob Rosand Demo cont'd

He did the cap next, starting with a 2x2x2 maple block. He trued it up, made the bottom concave, then measured the previously turned bottom, and cut a mortise in the bottom of the top. He had a modified square end scraper for making the mortise. This helps to ensure an accurate mortise. After fitting the bottom to the top, he shaped the top of the top and parted it off. Another tenon was created for friction fitting the top back on the lathe for final turning. He put a small dimple in the end to hold it with the tailstock. A Sorby tool was used to texture the surface. Once the turning was complete, he drilled a small hole in the end with a pin vise. Then, without turning off the lathe, he inserted a screw hook without stripping the threads in the wood! He popped off the top and glued it to the bottom.

The perch was next. Made from a 1/2x1/2x3 piece of ebony, held with the pin jaws, and shaped using a spindle roughing gouge. He uses a parting tool and vernier type calipers to size the tenon for inserting the perch into the hole in the ornament. After gluing the perch in the ornament, Bob finishes them with Deft satin spray lacquer and 0000 steel wool. Dale Woerter won this ornament in the raffle.



One of Bob's signature Christmas tree ornaments was next. He started with the globe section, using a 2-1/2 inch square block, 2 inches long, glued to a waste block. This was trued up, then turned to what Bob calls "a flat globe shape, a squished down circle". Leave enough wood on the headstock end to hold the piece for hollowing. Hollowing was done with bent angle tools which Bob makes himself and sells. He had a box full of the these tools for sale for \$20 each. For those of you attending the Christmas meeting, these would make a good gift for the Yankee swap! Check his web site out if you want a few.

More on page 4

Win a Powermatic lathe!

As part of the Fall 2006 membership drive, the AAW will be giving away a free Powermatic 3520B lathe to one lucky member who joined/renewed ONLINE. By joining online, your correct address, phone, etc. will appear in the Directory and your Journal will be mailed to the correct address. If you use the paper mail-in form, mistakes can happen in reading and retyping it. The lathe will be given away in a drawing just after January 1, 2007. To qualify you MUST join or renew online using the AAW website join/renew feature by Jan. 1. The free lathe includes free shipping up to \$400. For more information, visit the AAW website at www.woodturner.org. The first time you login, use the username and password provided to you from the Fall 2006 individual American Woodturner Journal you received. If you just joined the AAW for the first time, the username and password were provided to you either electronically, or via postal mail with your order. After you login, you will be prompted to create a unique username and password combination.

Rosand Demo continued from page 3

Bob actually did some of the hollowing from the other side of the lathe. I don't remember why. Maybe because he's left-handed and the access is better and easier. Consistency of wall thickness is not much of a concern with these because you won't be able to see inside the globe.



Turning to a fine point!

The icicle was next. He started with a 1-1/4 inch blank about 7-1/2 inches long, held with the pin chuck. Since this hangs out quite a ways from the chuck, vibration is a problem. So only one section is done at a time. He does the very end section, sands it, then continues to the next section. Bob said "Woodturning is easy, but it's hard to be good at it." He thinks that is a quote from Betty Scarpino. After the icicle is completed, he

glues it to the completed globe, then starts the top piece. Which he turns similar to the icicle. This is also glued to the top of the globe when finished. This ornament was won by Andy Hoyt in the raffle.

Bob mentioned that he uses the yellow sandpaper from Klingspor for sanding. He also may use the blue stuff from Norton. He was also using a spindle roughing gouge from Ashley Iles. It was made from a round bar, which I believe was 3/4 inches in diameter. These can be purchased from www.toolsforworkingwood.com for about \$40. If you call, tell them Bob sent ya. These should not be confused with bowl roughing gouges. Which he believes is why they describe them as Spindle roughing gouges. For anyone looking for tools on the less expensive side, try Penn State at www.pennstateind.com. They sell some tools by Benjamin that Alan Lacer has tested and says are of decent quality for the price.

A ring holder was next. While turning this, Bob showed us how to make a mistake. He was drilling the hole in the end, but the drill bit wobbled slightly, resulting in a hole that was off center. When he turned the outside of the stem, he went through to the hole. But all was saved for the raffle because Bob had a ring holder already made that he said he would substitute. And Mac offered to take the slightly irregular one off his hands since he is used to settling for less than perfect! :) The good one was won by me. It's now in my display case at home.

A yo-yo cutoff scrap made from "colorwood" was used next to make a top which was won by Peter McCrea. Then we took a break for lunch. After lunch, Bob started with a more sophisticated birdhouse. These take a little more time than the acorn type, and sell for about \$50. The remainder of the afternoon was spent creating a bell and an oil lamp. The hole for the oil lamp was drilled with an appropriate size Forstner bit, which leaves a divot in the bottom of the hole. But Bob is a professional and likes to turn this out. "Not like Nick Cook!" he says. The second ornament was won by Damon Harmon and Genie Hammond won the bell. I had to leave a little early and don't know who won the oil lamp.

I thoroughly enjoyed Bob's demo. He said someone made a comment to him at one of his demos that he was better than Richard Raffan, another well known turner. Bob was surprised until the person told him that Raffan is so fast that you can't learn anything, but you're slow! Remember, if you are interested in making any of Bob's items, the instructions are all on his [website](#).

My Thanks to the Rosands!

Thanks, Mark

More about Malcolm Tibbetts

Lots of great stuff about Malcolm Tibbetts on www.tahoeturner.com Here's some material from his Frequently Asked Questions.

How long did it take you to make that?

Without a doubt, this is the most frequently asked question and often the first question from gallery visitors. It is also probably the most difficult to answer. I do not punch a time clock when I create a piece. I can construct simple pieces within a few days (not counting the finishing process). Complex pieces can require many weeks of effort. Probably my most time consuming piece thus far has been Deception on the Cocobolo (the table, chairs, and chess pieces). It required a period of more than two months. The answer that I would like to give people is, "it took a lifetime of woodworking experience". It is certainly not a lucrative labor, but a labor of love.

What kind of glue do you use?

I assemble the majority of my joinery using Franklin Titebond Original. Occasionally, I use Titebond Extend and/or Gorilla Glue. I have just started to experiment with Titebond III.

What kind of finish do you put on your pieces?

Because of the variety of woods, I usually do not use any paste fillers. I usually apply several coats of sanding sealer (sanded in between coats) to fill the wood pores and then I apply a minimum of four coats of a tung oil/urethane mixture. I rub the surfaces with super fine steel wool between coats and then buff the final coat with buffing compound. Occasionally, on small pieces that might be subjected to lots of handling, I apply a final coat of Trewax (carnauba).

Are there any special care instructions?

Put this under the heading of dumb warning labels, "Not Dishwasher Safe". On a more serious note, the biggest enemy of fine wood is extended periods of direct sunlight. All woods will eventually darken, but just like your skin, they will darken much more quickly with sun exposure. Unfortunately, the darkening effect on wood is permanent. It is not a good idea to display this type of art in a window facing the sun. The oil finish should provide many years of protection and should only require occasional dusting. If, over time, the surface becomes dull looking, then a fresh coat of finish oil can be applied.

How did you learn to do that?

I have been a worker of wood since childhood. Experience is increased with almost every project; hundreds of projects results in lots of experience. If you would like to "give this a try", my book, [The Art of Segmented Turning](#), is now available.

Do you ever make a mistake?

Of course, if I never "screwed up", then I probably would not be "pushing the envelope" very much. Segmented woodturning can be very risky, not from a safety standpoint, but because of the potential for disaster. Many days of work can be quickly lost because of miscalculation or lack of focus. There are many opportunities for one to learn from one's mistakes.

News from the Chairman of the Board

Bob Biette and Sheila Wiken have agreed to serve as Board members for the next two years. Dave Lancaster, the Founder of the Maine Woodturners Association has accepted the position of Advisor to the Board. Thank you all for committing your time.

Bob and Sheila are replacing two of our members, Dave Lancaster and Mac Ray, who have been serving on the board of directors for the last two years. I would like to thank Dave and Mac for their contributions for the last two years. I know both will continue to be assets for the club.

Mark Irving

Board Planning Meeting By Tom Raymond

President Peter McCrea scheduled a Maine Woodturners Planning meeting on 8-25-06 to be held at Erskine Academy in South China, ME on Wed. 9-6-06. He presented an agenda as a guide for this

special meeting. The following officers and members were in attendance: Pres. Peter McCrea, Vice Pres. Andy Hoyt, Treas. Burt Truman, Sec. Tom Raymond, Dave Barden, Dennis Curtis, Librarian, Bill Vogt and Board Chairman, Mark Irving. The meeting began at 7 PM.

1. Establishing topics for the monthly meetings for 06 and 07. Bob Rosand will be the demonstrator on Sat. Sept. 16th. Malcolm Tibbetts will demonstrate on Oct. 21, Ken Shepherd has volunteered to demo on making goblets, Dave Lancaster will demo in Nov., Ken Keoughan will demo in Jan. on making tall vessels. Andy Hoyt will check on obtaining Chuck Hargenrader for a future Demo. A group demo on making bowl rims was suggested by Peter. The annual tool building session is planned for a Sat. as usual and a thin parting tool and a skewchigouge were suggested.

2. Discussion on selecting two new at large Directors. Mac Ray and David Lancaster's terms as Director are up. It was agreed that David Lancaster would stay on as a permanent Advisor to the club. A list was made of candidates for new advisors with attendance and interest in mind.

3. Video Equipment upgrade proposal. The existing video equipment used at meetings was owned and operated by Burt Truman. Burt would like to retire from making videos in the future and concentrate on being Treasurer. Dennis Curtis volunteered to investigate equipment and be the future operator and coordinator. We will be moving towards DVD equipment instead of VHF tapes and hopefully multiple cameras. The goal is easy setup. AAW has a list of recommended equipment. Dennis Curtis presented a block diagram of the three phases of implementation. Phase 1 includes a new digital camera, a DVD recorder, a 27" television, and a rolling cart. The estimated total cost before taxes was \$1650. Burt Truman advised that we have \$4853 in the Treasury. Dennis used PC World for equipment selection and prices. Peter McCrea told Dennis to proceed with the purchase and coordinate payment with Burt.

4. Adding some structure to the photography and Show and Tell sessions. We are experiencing too large a group for the "gather around method". At the Nov. 15th meeting we will introduce a form (available on the website) to be filled out for each piece on display. The form will be located next to the item displayed. More critique for each item was suggested.

5. Proposed DVD purchases for the Library. Peter advised to use last years AAW Symposium as a guide from the website. Librarian Bill Vogt is allowed \$150 for the purchase.

6. Erskine lathe equipment readiness for the season. Dave Barden will take inventory and meet with Dave Lancaster to correct any deficiencies. Dave suggested, the club could purchase specialty items and lock them up.

7. New Member process. Nametags will be provided for the first 6 months for new members. We now have about 65 members. Dues are \$30 per person. Car pooling and member shop visits are encouraged. Peter suggested that maybe we need a membership Chairperson in the future.

8. The Christmas party is tentatively set for being held at Round Top Center for the Arts in Damariscotta on Dec. 13th. Ken Keoughan who is on the Board there was suggested for making the request for the use of their meeting space.

Classified Ads

OneWay Dealer: Dave Lancaster (557-2288) is a Oneway dealer and would be glad to help anyone interested in ordering tools or lathes carried in their catalog.

For Sale

Foredom SR wood carver set - 1/6 hp at 1800 rpm - hanging unit with foot control and three

collets and 47 piece accessory kit, have new box and all books. Unit is less than 3 months old. Klingspor sells this for \$209 plus shipping - **asking \$180.00**

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Making Chips and Good Stuff

By President Peter McCrea

The Bob Rosand demo was a good start to the season for the Maine Woodturners; and both Bob and his talented spouse, Susan, seemed to enjoy giving the many fruits of the demo away as soon as they were created. Bob continues to show that "good stuff" doesn't require a large volume of starting material, nor large lathe capacity. I walked away from that session with a new respect for the capabilities of a smallish spindle roughing gouge, as well as envy over Bob's unique multi-bevel stepped grind on a square-nosed scraper used to accurately size flange ID's to a previously-formed tenon on mating parts.

A portion of our new video equipment was unveiled and enthusiastically applauded - in the form of a 27" Toshiba flat tube monitor hooked up to Burt's camera. There was considerably less mystery of what was occurring at the work piece with the large new screen. Hopefully, for this upcoming meeting, we will have both the new video camera and a new DVD recorder. We are looking into suspending the monitor from the mirror rail to minimize neck fatigue. Volunteer camera-persons are needed to learn the new gear and to trade-off duties during long sessions like last months demo. Remember, the camera guy/gal has the best seat in the place! Talk to either Dennis Curtis, Andy Hoyt or myself to see what's involved.

Speaking of volunteers, we also need a few digital photographers to help with the photo capture of Show & Tell treasures, beginning with the November meeting. Arriving members will have their turned items photographed and identified just inside the entry door. Images will appear on the website and possibly in the newsletter. If everyone cooperates and arrives a bit early, no one will miss the demo. See Andy or myself for more info. The idea behind training multiple volunteers for these tasks is to ensure that we will always have coverage for these important real-time duties.

I expect to see a good turnout of members for the Malcolm Tibbetts day-long demo on Saturday the 21st at Erskine. Malcolm is a magician at forming colorful shapes which spend *some* time on a lathe, but then undergo alteration in strange ways. Come and see! And — **Keep turning safely.**

Secretary's Report

By Tom Raymond

The September 2006 regular meeting of the Maine Woodturners, was held on Saturday the 16th at Erskine Academy in South China, Maine. President Peter McCrea opened the meeting at 9:04 AM. He advised that each member has a

nametag on the Show and Tell table for this meeting. All should wear their tags and attendance will be determined by this new system. He then advised that dues are due and payable to Burt Truman.

A new club owned Toshiba 27" Video Monitor was set up for display of the demo and making of a video of today's demonstration. Dennis Curtis set it up with Burt Truman's camera. It will be located in a more strategic location in the future. By show of hands, it was determined that the future camera will be for making DVDs instead of VHS videos.

Peter said that a new Show and Tell format will be introduced to better identify who's work is displayed and discussion would follow with the submitter.

Bill Vogt is making new purchases of video's for the library. He advised that 15 Videos are out and would the users please return them. Bill is collecting and picking up lunches for today's demonstration. Burt Truman is collecting \$20 (\$30 for nonmembers) per members for today's demonstration.

Mark Irving is writing up the article on today's demonstration for the newsletter. Peter asked for a volunteer to take digital photo's for Show and Tell at future meetings.

Bob Rosand and his wife Susan from PA were introduced as today's demonstrators which started at 9:11 am and ended at 3:30 PM.



Oct. 06 issue



85 Second St.
Hallowell, ME 04347

Return address requested

Coming Events:

Malcolm Tibbetts—Oct 21, 2006 - Segmented Turning

Wed Nov 15 Dave Lancaster on sharpening- Chainsaws to gouges

Wed Dec 13 Xmas Party at Roundtop (Confirmed)

January: Ken Keoughan: Design and creation of tall elegant Vessels

February: Ken Shepherd: Goblets

March: Chuck Hargenrader: Peppermill

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

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: