

Mainiac Woodturner

Monthly Newsletter of the Maine Chapter of the AAW
January 2007

Tall, Elegant Vessels—From Vision to Reality

Ken Keoughan will demonstrate how to create tall, elegant vessels at the club's next meeting at 7 p.m. on Wed. January 17. As far as Ken is concerned, you can start with a sketch on a napkin, and end up with gallery quality art. Involved in the creation are thin hollowing techniques, lathe turned mortise and tenon joints, floating rings, ebonizing processes, and Bondo. He works to close tolerances with precise planning. The resulting pieces sell for respectable prices.

In 1995 after a 35-year career in marketing, Ken immersed himself in the world of wood art. Since then, his work has appeared in myriad shows and galleries in Maine. In 2004 he began the Woodturning Program at Round Top Center for the Arts in Damariscotta, Maine a successful educational program. He participated in the Woodworkers of Mid-coast Maine, an invitational show at the Center for Furniture Craftsmanship in Rockport, Maine in 2004 and 2005.

Also in 2004 his work was featured in 500 Wood Bowls: Bold & Original Designs Blending Tradition and Innovation, Lark Books. He is a former contributing editor of the American Woodturner.

Don't forget the pre-meeting photo shoot at 6:30. See page four for more information



Club Officers

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

Maine Woodturners Christmas Party

A good time was had by all at the “traditional” potluck dinner and Yankee Swap held at Roundtop Center for the Arts in Damariscotta on the evening of December 13, 2006. Twenty members and spouses gathered at Roundtop for a good gam with drinks and appetizers close at hand, followed by a delicious meal of the varied but tasty offerings contributed by the group.

The high point of the evening was most certainly the Yankee Swap, presided over by the swapmeister Mark Irving. There was a report of numerical control by some in the financial sector of the club to ensure that Mark did not - once again - draw the coveted #1 ticket, and that place of honor went to Carol Ray. The least desirable tickets numbered 2 and 3 were compensated by door prizes of sizeable slabs of wood courtesy of Ken Keoughan and the Woodturning Studio - Thanks, Ken.

The gifts were opened with much gusto and some gasps, oohs and ahhs, and exchanges occurred most on items that had their makers mark upon them, with “honors” going to the generous contribution of Mac Ray with a diminutive but precious bowl with a segmented rim.

Peter Asselyn won both the “master strategist” award and Mac’s bowl as Carol was unlikely to reclaim that item, with Mac urging her toward other gems on temporary ownership.

Many thanks to Mark for his leading the group through the process, and to Ken and Katarina Keoughan for their assistance in securing the hall and for help with setup, decoration and cleanup.



Turning to the Future
The Maine Woodturners and
the AAW Encourage and
Welcome Young Turners

If you know a young turner who would like to join the club, all they need to do is give Burt Truman their name. Membership is free to all turners while they are still attending school.

Also, here's a wonderful opportunity:

AAW Juried Youth Exhibit

Calling young turners! In May of 2007, the American Association of Woodturners Gallery in St. Paul will be hosting a juried show of work by turners up to twenty-two years of age.

Winners will have their work exhibited in the AAW Gallery from May 4 to August 3rd, 2007; and photographs of the top pieces in each age category will be featured in American Woodturner and on the AAW website

Work will be judged in four age divisions: 10 and under; 11-14; 15-18; 19-22.

Limit of three pieces per turner and three digital images per piece. Images should show the object clearly - detail images are accepted. Images sent on CD will not be returned. Images may also be submitted by e-mail to gallery@woodturner.org

Applicants need not be AAW members to apply. DEADLINE: February 15, 2007.
ENTRY FEE: \$10

Mail entry fee and images to AAW/Youth Exhibit 75 W 5th St, St Paul, MN 55102.

In Memory of Frank Sudol
(December 2006)

Frank left us at the age of 72. He was known as one of the world's leaders in the woodturning community, exciting aficionados and art collectors with his style of piercing thinly milled birch. He created works known for their color, animal shapes and woven filigree designs.

He lived in Paddockwood, Saskatchewan Canada and was a member of the Prince Albert Woodturners Guild. Frank was also a member of the AAW for many years. He was to be one of the featured demonstrators at the summer 2007 Portland Symposium.

Frank was an inspirational speaker. In one interview with a local newspaper, he shared his philosophy for being a successful artist. "The message for my students is you will never be remembered for what you copied, but you will be remembered for what you created ...Once you reach inside, you will have original work." He is survived by his partner Lois Laycraft and his Children.



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.

Great Opportunity!

Your work photographed in a high quality setting

Don't forget to come early to the meeting (6:30 P.M.) with your latest piece(s) and the form below filled out for each piece you bring in.



Maine Woodturners – Photo Session ID Form

Turner _____ Date Turned _____

Title _____

Finish _____

Facework Dimensions: Diameter _____ Height _____

For Centerwork: Length _____ Thickness _____

I would appreciate some guidance with these issues:

Planning the Form Material Prep Rims Mounting

Bottoms Sharpening Tearout Sanding

Finishing Other _____

I'd like a formal Critique Yes No

Critique to be done in: Public Private

Chips'n'Stuff

President Peter McCrae

It's hard to believe that the Holidays are here and gone and that we have "only" three months of winter and then a bit of hard sledding until the winter covers come off in the boatyard and summer adventures beckon.

Hearing my wife say "be here now, Peter", brings me back to reflect a bit on the flurry of shop activity leading up to Christmas, and the items I produced for the family and friends. A baker's dozen Rosand-style Christmas ornaments were created, each with burlwood hollow globes, ebony top-buttons and thin icicles of walnut, black cherry or pink ivory.

I learned a lot in making that quantity of demanding items, such as the use of letter drills to set the calipers for the many dimensions of the icicles - and a note to pick up more small calipers for "next time"! My 1/4" round skew got quite a workout, both at the grinder and on the wood, and I learned how to use my pinky finger to quell unwanted vibrations in thin sections while taking one final cut.

Opportunities for design alteration came along every so often and beads sometimes appeared in the middle of a cove, or a transition took the form of an unnamed architectural component, but all seemed to come out well (he said with humility). My admiration for Bob Rosand increased many fold as a result of this exercise-skinny finials will no longer be a daunting challenge after my adventures with icicles!

A marked contrast to turning delicate ornaments was the creation of a 29" baseball bat from an ash blank (Craft Supplies) for my seven year-old grandson, Connor, complete with a ash hanger bracket for his bedroom wall. The spindle steady helped control the vi-

brations as the handle reached its final 1" diameter, and I was able to create a logo of "Thomaston Slugger" on the facegrain of the taper with a woodburning tool.

That exercise taught me that I have a lot to learn about woodburning - like how to avoid disastrous overburning on the earlywood part of the grain while waiting for some color to occur on the latewood. Sounds like a good topic for a demo by a member in the future. Any takers....?

Don't forget to bring in Show & Tell items for photography at 6:30 on Wednesday, January 17, and later discussion during a break in the demo.

As before, a short business meeting at 7 PM will precede Ken Keoughan's demo. Hope to see you there!

And remember, keep turning safely.

Peter





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85 Second St.
Hallowell, ME 04347

Return address requested

Coming Events:

- Wed. January 17 – Ken Keoughan on Segmented vessels**
- Wed. February 21 – Ken Shepherd turns an end grain goblet**
- Wed. March 21 – Charles Hargenrader turns some peppermills**

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

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

*Become a Member of the
Maine Woodturners!*

Name:
Phone:
Address:

Email: