



A Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners

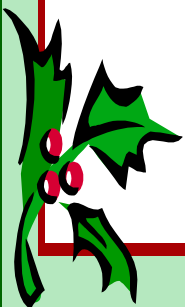
December 2009



YANKEE SWAP and POTLUCK SUPPER

Wednesday, December 16
Good eats and lots of fun

6:30 PM
Erskine Academy Cafeteria



Speaking Of...

BY ANDY HOYT



Buon Natale

Feliz Navidad

Joyeux Noël!

Alles Gute zum Geburtstag

днем рождения

Buon compleanno

Feliz Año Nuevo

Καλή χρονιά

Glückliches neues Jahr

Gee, I love December! It's the only month with three national holidays in it.

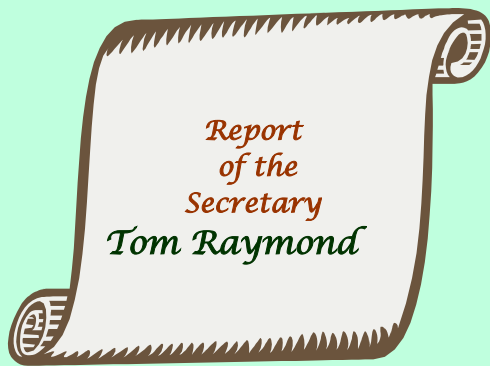
And to kick it off – it's party time! So check the air in your tires, dust off your bah humbug neckties, and wrap up that smile of yours in some holiday spirit; and come on over to our Christmas Party in the Erskine Academy cafeteria on Wednesday the 16th. We can arrive as early as 5 PM to get stuff set up, and perhaps warmed up in the kitchen, although the actual festivities will likely begin around 6:30 PM. As has become our tradition, the evening will feature a pot luck dinner, which will be followed up with a Yankee Swap, so please bring in something extremely valuable to give away during the exchange.

It's my hope that you've been enjoying the videos that I've been showcasing on our web site's home page for the past few weeks and that you don't mind that I've co-opted the space for a few minutes of sharing some warmth with all of you.

Merry Christmas, all!

Andy





The November 2009 meeting of Maine Woodturners was held at Erskine Academy in South China, Maine on Wednesday the 18th. Twenty nine members and guests were in attendance.

President Andy Hoyt opened the meeting at 6:35 PM. He announced that dues are due this month and payable to Treasurer Burt Truman. (\$30)

Any new adapters for the Eagle Cane Project are to be given to Andy Hoyt.

There was literature on the table from the British club Teknow Woodturners. The members are encouraged to bring in a turning at the March meeting to be judged for and exchange with the Teknow Club. If your piece is selected you will forfeit that turning for this exchange.

Andy repeated last months request for turnings to support the Senior class auction fund raiser for Erskine Academy which will take place in March. Donations should be given to Dave Barden.

Lou Landry was commended for his work being accepted for the Annual display of "Maine Woods" at the Messler Gallery at the Center for Furniture Craftsmanship in Rockport.

Ken Shephard is offering 14 and 16" bowl blanks at \$5.00 each from the Woodturning School in Damariscotta.

Burt Truman said he has cherry burls for a club wood auction . Andy promised that there would be an Auction in the spring.

Andy stated if chain saws are used at a Maine Woodturners meeting, only those who are AAW members are covered should an accident happen.

At 6:45 PM Andy introduced Peter Tracy from Farmington who made a presentation of Chainsaw maintenance, clothing and safety which lasted to the end of the meeting at 8:55 PM

Tom Raymond, Sec

Support Erskine Academy's Senior Class

Bring in a turned item before the March meeting
and donate to their auction.

Peter Tracy

November 18, 2009

Chainsaw Safety Demo

The last time I owned a chainsaw was maybe 20 years ago, that's when I was feeding my apartment buildings' heating system with wood. Although I used the chainsaw I really liked using the axe and maul better. To hear and feel the crack of the wood as its split and multiplied was like my bat hitting a fastball for a home run at Fenway Park, a dinger each and every time.

So, after the May Sawdust Session Andy asked me to prepare a demonstration on chainsaw safety I suggested a professional logger should be the one to handle that assignment. Much to my amazement he agreed. So after a rain out in June that would have given us a full day in the woods with Peter, we were given a fantastic journey through the ins and outs of how to be safe in using your chain saw at a regular club meeting.



Peter Tracy comes to us from Farmington. He is a certified logging professional with a long list of qualifications in his vocation. His chain saw safety handouts were worth the price of admission. In just two hours or so he worked to give us the full impact of his usually two day seminar. He wasted no time in getting to the heart of the safety presentation. LUCK is not a plan. Preparing for mistakes to happen is preparing for the prevention of mistakes.

Most of the group has handled a chain saw in some form over the years and like most chain saw owners we read the owners' manual from cover to cover. With that knowledge we proceed to start the saw and move off into the cutting area to handle our problem trees or firewood. But, much like a bench grinder has to be turned into a sharpening machine so must the chainsaw and operator be turned into a cutting machine. Both must be operated with a high degree of caution and safety.

Starting from the floor up Peter shared the mishaps of others and gave us examples of what is right and what can (will) go wrong. And these wrongs happen very quickly. From steel toed boots to leg protection to hand protection to head and eyes and ears protection Peter spent time with the why you should wear them and what happens when you don't use them. His favorite example was his brother in law. His favorite material to use in dressing up for chain sawing is KEVLAR.

From heel to head Kevlar saves limbs and lives.



The chain saw safety features were demonstrated first in the hand out and then by example. Peter was very clear in how each safety feature worked and how they evolved into today's third generation safety feature.

From the Chain Sheath to the Throttle Lock to the Right Hand Guard to the Chain Catcher to the Muffler/Spark Arrestor to the Chain Break all of these engineered safety features are there to protect the worker and the work environment from injury and harm.



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Tracy spent a large amount of time on the chain, how the cutter works and how to sharpen it. With the unique way that wood turners have to cut through a log to establish a turnable blank, Peter was quick to understand our special needs and made suggestions as to the type of chain and the sharpening methods to use with that chain. However, he always placed a disclaimer into his answer by saying that as long as it's safe and you get the results you want then use the method that works best for you. We've heard that before from Lacer, Lancaster and Ray.

Throughout the session he alluded to a test. We never got to it because the last 15 minutes were spent in giving situational safety tips.



So here's a test:

In the picture there are two gentlemen; one chainsawin' a log on the ground. The other person is standing a few feet away looking to help and waiting.

Take some time and from what you know about chain saw safety make a list of all the mistakes or errors that you can find in the picture. Email me the list. Be petty and detailed. Rip it up. Although I'm not a big fan of using negatives to teach I can also recognize that we (I) made several mistakes during our chainsaw session in May. So with your help and keen sense of observation let's see how many BONERS we can find and maybe we'll all learn from mistakes past. Oh yeah, the prize for the best worst list will get a MWT tee shirt. And more important I get to survive the next session that involves CHAIN SAWS.

Thanks very much for Peter Tracy. Let's get him back for a day session in the woods because we still have many questions to ask.

Enough from me; back to turning a thing or two.

Chuck

Good sources for PPE Equipment are:

Labonville, <http://www.labonville.com>
Gemplers, <http://www.gemplers.com/>
Northern Tool, <http://www.northerntool.com/>
Ben Meadows, <http://www.benmeadows.com/>
Grainger, <http://www.grainger.com>

December 16

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Potluck supper and Yankee Swap

Special time **6:30 PM**



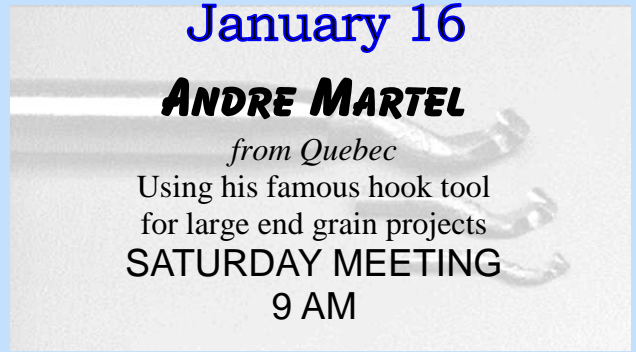
January 16

ANDRE MARTEL

from Quebec

Using his famous hook tool
for large end grain projects

SATURDAY MEETING
9 AM



February 13

KEN LINDGREN

Uses only wood harvested
by mother nature

SATURDAY MEETING
9 AM



March

Maine Woodturners - TBA



Totally Turning - New York
March 27 & 28

April



May



Meetings are held at the Industrial Arts shop

Erskine Academy

309 Windsor Road (route 32), South China, Maine

Our regular meetings are the third Wednesday of each month
(except July and August there are no meetings)

Show and Tell Photos @ 6:30

Demo @ 7 PM

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Thank you to everyone for your support since I became the editor of the “Maine Woodturners Newsletter”.

It has been very enjoyable, even though there is a lot of work publishing it on a monthly basis.

All of your support is greatly appreciated.

HAPPY NEW YEAR



HAVE YOU PAID YOUR DUES ?

SEE BURT TRUMAN

A bargain at \$ 30.00

(that calculates to only \$2.50 per month or 8.2 cents per day)

IF YOU CAN'T CONVINCE THEM

CONFUSE THEM !



TOTALLY TURNING 2010

March 27 & 28, 2010

Saratoga Springs, New York

For more info go to:

WWW.TOTALLYTURNING.COM

Tee Shirts & Sweat Shirts



Tee shirts and sweatshirts are now available at our meetings. A cabinet has been secured so that storage is now possible at Erskine Academy. All sales are cash or check. Most sizes and colors are in stock.

Wooturners Tip *Wooturners Tip*

Like most of us, I suspect, power sanding a work piece is something we want to accomplish and put quickly behind us. My procedure had been to mount a clean disc on the hook&loop foam pad, power sand the object, pick up an abrasive cleaning stick to hold against the spinning disc to clean it, replace the disc with the next grit and repeat, over and over. Because I have some arthritic discomfort in my wrist, holding the heavy electric drill sander in one hand and the cleaner stick in the other was a step that I wanted to eliminate by immobilizing the cleaner stick.

A gander at the Klingspor catalog showed a benchmount version for \$5.95 (less 10% with the Maine Woodturner discount) that filled the bill! As the photo shows, a few scraps of wood and a spring clamp makes the assembly immobile on the ways of the lathe and one takes a fast swipe at the cleaner without changing one's (two handed) grip on the sander. It is a simple gear change that has made an unpleasant task go easier and quicker.



Peter McCrea

From the Editor

In July, a 52-year-old Canadian woodturner died from a blow to his head. While no one knows exactly what happened, the evidence of a broken chisel and stray piece of wood, the smaller portion still attached to the lathe, suggests a major catch and no faceshield.

Recently, I taught a hands-on workshop. One man showed up with the most strangely ground bowl gouges I had ever seen, and I've seen some odd ones. He said he learned how to sharpen from watching a video. (I seriously wondered which one.)

After editing an article for an upcoming issue, I realized what went wrong with this turner's interpretation of how to sharpen a bowl gouge. He had performed only step one, which was to reshape the profile by holding the tool with the flute upside down on the grinding wheel. The short length of his bowl gouges amazed me... he had spent a lot of time grinding and turning.

I'm fairly certain I got him and the gouges straightened out, but what about other woodturners who do not know much about turning? The Gulf Coast Woodturners Association's spring retreat offers a perfect solution. This annual two-day, hands-on workshop provides turners with the skills they need to be safe and to enjoy turning. Read more about it on page 7.

I encourage everyone to participate in some form of hands-on woodturning lessons, either to share knowledge or to receive instruction. Most turning mishaps don't result in death;



however, enjoyment of woodturning is enhanced when proper techniques are used.

— Betty Scarpino

President's Letter



The Board of Directors' primary objective is to provide more value to the AAW membership. The following initiatives have been implemented just this year to give our members more value for their money:

- *Adoption of a health care insurance arrangement that offers significant savings to some.* While this benefit will not apply to those who receive Medicare or who have preexisting conditions, it has been a significant cost improvement for some members. One member said, "My savings in health

insurance costs, resulting from switching to AAW's new program, was enough in the first 12 months to pay my AAW dues for the next 42 years."

- *Expansion of AW journal to six issues per year in 2010.* This means more articles on a wider range of woodturning topics that are of interest to beginning, intermediate, advanced, and professional turners. There will also be more information on a timelier basis for such things as events and chapter activities.
- *Launching of a new online sales venue where members can list their work for sale.* With only two months of operation, this venue has been highly successful. Over 240 pieces of work have been listed, with a total value approaching \$1 million. Sales have already exceeded \$60,000. Since the inauguration of this sales venue, AAW website hits have grown significantly. In terms of site visits, our website ranks in the top 1/10 of a percent of the total global Internet.
- *Exhibitions abound!* The WOOD (Wood Objects On Display) exhibits started this year with three exhibits, and there are four more planned in subsequent years. These exhibits offer AAW members more opportunities to showcase work in fine galleries while exposing more of the public to woodturning.
- *Distribution of a comprehensive handbook of symposium demonstrator handouts and symposium program information to all attendees.* This four-color handbook was received with much acclaim.
- *Implementation of a monthly electronic chapters newsletter.* This newsletter, in a new easy-to-read format, provides information that is timelier and more pertinent to local chapters. Chapters are encouraged to forward the newsletter to their members, and many do.

The purpose of the AAW is to foster a wider understanding and appreciation of lathe turning as a traditional and contemporary craft and a form of art among the general public, hobbyist turners, part-time, and professional turners. This is to be accomplished by providing education, information, organization, technical assistance, and publications related to woodturning. This fall, we will conduct a survey of the membership to get their input, which will help us to gauge the membership's opinion on the association's success in meeting these goals. We value your feedback and look forward to your response.

We are a vibrant and growing organization that is a worldwide leader in the woodturning field and an invaluable resource for our members. Our membership continues to grow and our programs continue to expand and offer more to our members.

Bill

Bill Haskell
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2009—2010

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GLUE



**AIR, HEAT, EVAPORATION AND MOISTURE ARE THE
VARIOUS ENEMIES OF MOST GLUES.**

**SOME ARE CURED BY MOISTURE, SOME ARE CURED
BY DRYING OUT.**

**TO STOP GLUE FROM DRYING OUT, STORE THE
CONTAINER UPSIDE DOWN.**

KEEP GLUES AWAY FROM HIGH HEAT.

SOME MISTAKES ARE TOO MUCH FUN TO ONLY MAKE ONCE.



The American Association of Woodturners

ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM 2010



Hartford, CT - June 18 - 20
Connecticut Convention Center

Do not miss this event !

