



A Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners

November 2010



Our November demonstrator will be David Lancaster. Pages could be written as an introduction but the short version is he is a production turner that uses a vacuum system and a coring system to get the most out of a "lump of timber"





## **Turning a Platter**

Dan't miss this one-learn from a master turner

Wednesday - November 17 at 7 P.M.

#### The Guy That Works in My Shop

#### By Ken Shepherd

This guy has been bad for a number of years! My shop has not been picked up, cleaned, organized or tidied up in a long time. He found lots of jigs and fixtures that had been saved in case he ever did that project again. There were a lot of surprises. Wow! That was a neat job, and that was a neat job – but they were the same fixtures! Somehow, he either didn't remember doing it, or more probably which pile it was buried in. The guy has this notion that wood is very valuable and should not be wasted, hence not disposed of until it gets cut down to about thimble size. Cutoffs from various spindle jobs "must" be save in case he needs a waste wood tenon on another piece of old wood that isn't quite big enough. All of these pieces were in lots of piles on top of all flat surfaces like benches, tables, cabinets, bandsaws, table saws etc. Finally, in order to do another project something had to be done.

The past week has seen a remarkable improvement. I think he has finally got the shop up to Mac's standard of organized. The shop is now somewhat cleaner certainly not up to Jacques's standard but improved. With this cold snap we are having, jigs and cutoffs have provided a nice warm living room by being inserted into the wood stove which is normally reserved for any mistakes the guy might make.

## Ken's Hint of the month

Hint of the month: I do use a random orbit sander for "power scraping", but I also use strips of sandpaper for spindles and detail or spot sanding. I now have invested in sleeves of sandpaper rather than going to the hardware store and getting 1 or 2 sheets at a time. Once I figured out what type of paper that I like to use, buying a sleeve of it costs about one quarter of what the hardware store would cost per sheet. I have also found that having that much removes my guilty conscience about throwing away a used up piece. I no longer wait for a piece of 80 grit to reach the stage of 400 grit! I have also found that a cheap plastic file box can keep the sheets in folders flat and organized, making it easy to deal with. I cut the sheets into quarters with a utility knife, then into about 1" strips. I usually mark the back of each strip with numbers like 8 for 80 grit etc, so when the guy that works in my shop drops a box full of separated strips they can be easily put back in place.

#### **Secretary's Report**

By Tom Raymond

#### MWT Meeting October 2010

The October 2010 meeting of Maine Woodturners was held at Erskine Academy in South China, Maine on Saturday October 30<sup>th</sup>. Forty one members and guests were in attendance.

President Ken Shepherd opened the meeting at 9:02m AM and welcomed 4 new members to the club. He placed AAW Membership applications and other documents on the table for anyone interested.

A moment of reflection was called for due to the passing of our fellow member Lee Prescott.

Ken announced that Peter korn at the School for Furniture Craftsmanship is interested in having a show by the members of the 4 Maine Turning clubs at the Messler Gallery in Rockport in the future.

The Woodturning School has a Rikon lathe with stand and various accessories for sale for \$582

Ken said there is a need to change the bylaws granting free memberships to the club to the staff and faculty of Erskine Academy. This will be voted on by the membership at the next meeting. A discussion was called for and the only comment was that students from Erskine should also be included, but that is covered in another paragraph of the bylaws.

Peter McCrea presented a beautiful cherry burl natural edge bowl to Don Bassett for having given him some wood.

Ken introduced Graeme Priddle from New Zealand as today's demonstrator. The demo started at 9:10 AM and went on until noon.

After lunch Ken announced that the Presidents' Challenge contest at the last meeting was won by our club. A raffle was conducted to award a member of our club. Michael Choate was the lucky winner of a scholarship at the Woodturning School for a value of \$350.

The meeting ended at 4:30 PM

Tom Raymond, Sec.

September Minutes

By acting secretary Joan Coleman

September 15, 2010

President Ken Shepherd called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

The president announced that our group had made a donation to the Belgrade Fire Rescue in memory of Ray Hammond who passed away July 1, 2010.

A round of applause was given to outgoing president Andy Hoyt.

Andy Hoyt suggested that the Maine Woodturners, the Western Maine Woodturners, the Southern Maine Woodturners and The Woodturning School work together to do turning demos at the various fairs and the Maine Woodcarvers Show. Andy will coordinate these efforts.

A certificate of participation in the 24<sup>th</sup> AAW Symposium was given to Brian Libby.

Mike Chase displayed the train created by the Western Maine Woodturners.

President Shepherd introduced the demo for the meeting, a bowl turning contest among the three Maine Woodturner Group Presidents. A prize of a \$350.00 scholarship to the WOODTURING SCHOOL will be awarded the winning group.

The business meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Coleman

#### September 15th Demo

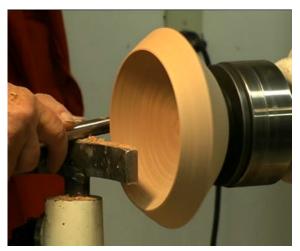


Ken Keoughan's idea to have the three club presidents initiate turning activities during the July 2010 Turn A Round at the Woodturning School was hijacked by Ken Shepherd for this Presidents Challenge.

The challenge was a judged contest between the three current presidents to turn a bowl using a screw chuck, identical dry cherry blanks, four jaw chuck, no limit on tools, no sanding and a 30 minute time limit. The prize was a scholarship certificate from the Woodturning School for Basic Woodturning Classes at the school. A \$350 value. The judges were evaluating on an insightful and entertaining demo (1/3) and the bowl (2/3).

Gary Rowland drew the short straw to be first. He immediately lowered expectations by claiming to turn very few bowls and this is the first time in six months he has turned because of an illness. That maybe so, but, he went right to work hogging out a shape and turning an inside tenon at the base of the bowl. He added a decorative touch of two 1/16 wide circles on the tenon and did a little clean up before stopping to rechuck the blank. His other design element was the indented angled rim.





Gary's tools of choice included a bowl gouge, a parting tool, a large scrapper and a thin parting tool. He roughed out using the 6 inch tool rest and switched to the curved tool rest for coring and finishing inside and outside cuts. Just a single pass with the large scrapper and a light, very light shear cut on the outside with the bowl gouge and Gary completed his bowl in 10 minutes and 40 seconds.

The Beaver gnawed through the cherry and found the bowl inside the blank with ease and few wasted motions. The angled rim was a nice surprise as was the expansion chucking for the bottom. For someone who had just 15 minutes of practice time in the past six months his muscle memory and his eye for design insights did not suffer from the lay off. A very interesting bowl from Gary.

Continued on page 5

#### Challenge the Presidents -continued from page 4

Next up was Ken Shepherd, who quickly stepped to the lathe, screw chucked his blank and brought up the tail stock for safely which helped him align a template for his tenon at the bottom of the bowl. The curved tool rest placed close to the work allowed Ken to rough out the exterior design extremely quickly then it was a very light touch that created down like shavings to finished the outside. He added four lines for embellishment before removing the tail stock and rechucking. Ken likes the classic bowl style; round like a basketball or a bowling ball. Only because it can hold more peanuts.





He reversed the bowl and squared the front and attacked the rim. A thumb edge is turned that helps to hold the bowl while passing the peanuts around or to guard against someone taking it away from his hands. When he neared the bottom Ken used another template that represented the curve he wanted at the bottom. After eyeballing this he made a final cut followed by a shear scrap to clean up the wrong way of the grain. Total time 15 minutes and 10 seconds.

Damon has seemed to me to be a man of few words but a man of action who lets his hands and skills speak for him. Dressed ready to go and with all his tools set in place Damon set the block and pulled the tool rest up close to start hogging out a clean line shape for his bowl. Careful measurements where taken for placement of his foot and the tenon. The bowl gouge plowed into the wood and established from his lines the bottom of the bowl and its outer curve.





Continued on page 6

#### Challenge the Presidents -continued from page 5

During the rechucking Damon explained," At home I use a hose clamp on a wooden piece instead of the compression chuck and that eliminates the chuck marks."

Following the lead of the last two Presidents Damon worked his rim and established a ¾" lip on an outside angle from the top. He then scribed a line to mark the inside edge of the bowl for his finished inside edge. Coring came next, but a catch and wobbling bowl stalled Damon for a minute or two as he quickly rechucked the tenon and explained,"... the end of the tenon and the bowl did not have a straight edge for proper holding power". Once fixed; by resetting the chuck on at different place and more pressure from the chuck, Damon made short work of getting to the bottom of his bowl and finding his scribed mark on the rim. No measurements by calipers to show the evenness of the wall or any bumps just a quick announcement that, "If I'm lucky this will be my finish cut". Fifty- two seconds later the bowl was completed ready for the judges. Timed in at 15:08 minutes.





All of the turners completed the task well within the time limit but that did not affect the bowl design nor the skills in executing the cuts. Before the judges took the pieces away the audience had a opportunity to do a touchy feely thing with each bowl. As each was passed from one to another opinions were formed and whispered to their seatmates.

#### **Discoveries:**

- the screw chuck is a basic go to clamping method for fast tenons and shaping.
- the rim starts to be formed while shaping the exterior; when the mass is at the headstock.
- after rechucking and making a few coring cuts spend time and effort defining the rim.
- establish the inner wall depth.
- · when making a cut, follow it through to the end.
- Use a curved tool rest for exterior and interior shaping.
- A bowl does not have to be thin and sit on a tiny foot.
- Refine the process; avoid the unnecessary actions

Judges Ken Keoughan, Mike Chase and Winston Langston took the three entries into the classroom and came back 35 minutes later with some interesting results. Ken spoke briefly about each piece and then awarded the scholarship to the Maine Woodturners President Ken Shepherd. Well that isn't peanuts.

Back to the shop to shave some more,

Chuck

#### President

Ken Shepherd kshep440@myfairpoint.net

s Officers

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#### Vice-President

Eugene Beaupre pixes@aol.com

#### **Secretary**

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#### Newsletter

Brian Libby bglibby@roadrunner.com

We now have <u>4 woodturning groups</u> in Maine. Stop by, visit and make new friends

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## Up There Woodturners of Aroostook County

1st Wednesday of the month At members shops in the Houlton area

For more info contact
Paul Porter
pgporter@mfx.net

## Western Mountain Woodturners

2<sup>ND</sup> Wednesday at Dirigo HS-Dixfield Start time 6 PM

For more info contact
Gary Rowland
girowland@myfairpoint.net

## **Southern Maine Woodturners**

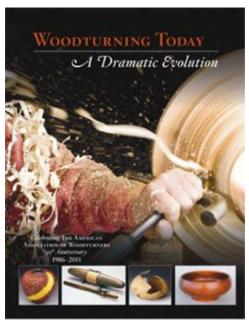
1<sup>ST</sup> Wednesday at Rockler- S. Portland Start time 6:30 PM

For more info contact
Damon Harmon
damon7@maine.rr.com





**25th Anniversary Symposium** - The December journal will have the registration information for the Saint Paul Symposium and the online registration will be available January 1st. If you register before May 15th, the price is the same as last year, \$250. for the three days. After May 15th the price is \$300. After June 15th the price is \$350. Register early (registration opens January 1st online) to insure you get into the host hotel and get tickets to the banquet. Last year's banquet was an award winner.



**25th Anniversary Book** - The 25th Anniversary Book will be a treasured history of woodturning and AAW. Order yours now at the discounted pre-order prices. You can order online. If you order now, you will be able to bring it to Saint Paul and get autographs from some of the star studded cast of demonstrators.

#### Resource Directory by request only, beginning in 2011

AAW is going green with the upcoming 2011 AAW Resource Directory. We are printing paper copies by request only. Note that virtually all of the information contained in the paper copy Resource Directory is also available right here on this website. And, if you want a 2011 paper copy, you must renew your membership by 31 December, 2010. So be sure to check the box on your renewal (or new member sign-up) form if you want a 2011 Resource Directory mailed to you.

## Up coming Events

November 17

David Lancaster

Weeks Mills, Maine

Turning a Platter

December 15

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Erskine Academy South China

## 2011 Demonstrators TBA

January

February

March

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



# Message from AAW Board member Kurt Hertzog

**Bylaws Committee Update** - The bylaws rewrite committee, headed by Dale Larson and Ron Sardo, with the support of a team of AAW members, has been working over the past couple of months to propose updates to the AAW bylaws. Their efforts will bring the bylaws into compliance with Minnesota law. The committee completed a rough draft of the proposed changes in early October and gave the draft to the BOD for review. It is planned that the proposed changes to the bylaws will go out to the membership for a vote in early 2011.

**AAW Membership Information Update** - The AAW privacy policy mandates that the use of member information is permitted only for AAW business. The chapter and member rosters provided via the *Resource Directory* and the Members' area of the website are for the use of AAW members, with this same guideline. Any mass use of this member information for commercial or unofficial business is a violation of the copyright of the material, as well as the AAW privacy policy. A recent misuse is being addressed. Please respect the AAW copyright and the members' right to privacy.

25th Anniversary Symposium in St. Paul - Planning continues for our 25th anniversary celebration in St. Paul. We have a great slate of demonstrators. All living Honorary Lifetime Members have been invited to participate. Those accepting to date include Nick Cook, David Ellsworth, Dick Gerard, Ray Key, Bonnie Klein, Alan Lacer, Mark Lindquist, Albert LeCoff, Arthur and Jane Mason, Dale Nish, and Al Stirt. Along with the Life Members, invitations were extended to Dixie Biggs, Clay Foster, Michael Hosaluk, Todd Hoyer, John Jordan, Jerry Kermode, Chris Stott, Hayley Smith and Malcolm Tibbetts. Additional demonstrators will be selected later this year.

**Return to the Community** - The project this year is for <u>Empty Bowls</u>: Turn a bowl - feed the hungry! It's that simple. We encourage everyone who attends the symposium to donate a turned bowl for Empty Bowls. Together, we can help fill a huge void in area food banks.

Regards, <u>Kurt Hertzog</u>, Board Member American Association of Woodturners

For Kurt's full message go to: woodturner.org

### TWELVE GOOD RULES IF YOU OPEN IT, CLOSE IT. IF YOU TURN IT ON, TURN IT OFF. IF YOU UNLOCK IT, LOCK IT. 4) IF YOU BREAK IT, REPAIR IT. IF YOU CAN'T REPAIR IT, FIND SOMEONE WHO CAN. IF YOU BORROW IT, RETURN IT. IF YOU USE IT, TAKE CARE OF IT. 8) IF YOU MAKE A MESS, CLEAN IT UP. IF YOU MOVE IT, PUT IT BACK. 10) IF IT BELONGS TO SOMEONE ELSE AND YOU WANT TO USE IT, GET PERMISSION. 11) IF YOU DON'T KNOW HOW TO OPERATE IT, LEAVE IT ALONE. 12) IF IT DOESN'T CONCERN YOU, MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS.



### **Eagle Cane Adapters**

Coordinator - Gary Kitchen

kitch @ roadrunner.com



A lot of turning elements need to be done slowly. This is not a race. It does not need to get done fast, get it done right. The satisfaction comes from a job well done not a job done fast.

For the beginner it takes time to think through all the pieces of the puzzle. There are many elements to the process and they are all coming at you all at once. After some significant practice, you don't have to think so much and the tool just becomes an extension of your body. For the advanced turner it takes time to refine the perfect axis, the perfect scale, the perfect shape, the perfect line, the perfect grain orientation, the perfect color balance. Slow down and make it all come together.

Details that need some thought and therefore spending more time on them is worthwhile.

#### Start with a plan.

- Slow down and draw out the shape you want.
- You can always adjust the shape once you get it into 3-D but you will have greater success if you know where you are going before you start.
- Where is the largest diameter, what is the mouth opening size, what is the foot diameter.
- What is the proportion between the foot and the mouth, does it have a neck.
- Are you considering the golden rectangle proportions.
- Is it supposed to look functional-strong-heavy-sturdy-aggressive.
- Is it supposed to look fragile-light-nonfunctional-suggestive.
- What is the ratio of height vs. diameter????????????

This information is from Lyle Jamison's website From his July 2010 newsletter

LYLE JAMIESON sculptor & instructor of turned objects

https://www.lylejamieson.com/