



A Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners

January 2011

January Demonstrator

MARK IRVING

TURNING A PEPPERMILL

MARK IS A PAST PRESIDENT OF MAINE WOODTURNERS, AN INSTRUCTOR AT THE WOODTURNING SCHOOL IN DAMARISCOTTA AND HAS BEEN A DEMONSTRATOR AT MANY WOODTURNING GROUPS.

DO NOT MISS THIS ONE!



Wednesday - January 19 at 7 P.M.



The Guy That Works in My Shop

By Ken Shepherd

Now that the Holidays are over, it is time for the Guy That Works in My Shop to get back to work again. He was really busy turning out stuff for a jillion friends and relatives for presents and house gifts for friends. Think of all the good will that it created. No, he didn't make any money for all this, but think of what he saved by not having to buy stuff for all of them. Frugal (not cheap) seems to be a part of his nature. Now it is time to work down the backlog of roughed pieces that have been sitting in the shop, some for years. A gift of a free log requires a lot of attention right away to get the pieces roughed and stable so they can be set aside. I guess sooner or later that they have to be finished.

Maine Woodturners annual Christmas party was held in the Erskine cafeteria. There were lots of people, lots of gifts and lots of food. The Yankee Swap exchanged gifts, and then exchanged & exchanged some of those, then a few went round and round until it was done. The holiday required numbers of calories were consumed by a wide variety of pot luck food that was provided – nobody went away hungry.

The weather did cooperate for us when we went on a field trip to Bill Housley's place to see, watch and contemplate his Rose Engine. Even though he has only been into it for only a year and a half he has managed to invest a lot of time and money to come up with a lot of fantastic pieces – but never enough time to do it all. We all had time to ask questions and exchange a lot of ideas. Even if the rest of us never obtain a Rose Engine it was inspiring to watch it work and imagine what we could do with some of the ideas. Jeanine Housley put on a fantastic lunch for us all – even if we only showed up for lunch it would have been worth the trip.

Ken's Hint of the month

Lathe bed table cloth! The guy that works in my shop used to have trouble moving the banjo from place to place. Application of WD40 and wiping it down got it going again. It was then discovered that this phenomenon was particularly bad after sanding a piece that was finished. Lo and behold, when you use sandpaper the grit falls off and lands on the bed, so that in addition to stopping the banjo it also grinds down the surface of the bed for future problems. The wood dust from sanding also slows things down but not as much. By keeping an old towel nearby, when it is time for sanding the towel is laid down as a "table cloth" to collect the grit and dust. The cloth can be shaken off outdoors and doesn't have to fly around the shop. This also helps when putting on a finish like poly, or oil or lacquer that any drips (and or spills) don't get onto the bed and mess it up.

Jacques Vesery

February 26 & 27, 2011

Saturday & Sunday 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

This weekend course introduces participants to making beautiful wooden bowls on the lathe, starting with green wood. Through demonstration and one-on-one instruction, Jacques teaches correct use of the bowl gouge. Instruction covers wood selection, mounting wood on the lathe, gouge sharpening, and safe methods of effective turning.

Stephen Gleasner & Jacques Vesery

March 26 & 27, 2011

Saturday and Sunday 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

This intermediate-level, two-day course is designed for people who are familiar with the basic mechanics of turning and want to begin exploring the aesthetics, too. With the benefit of two highly creative and skilled instructors, students learn to "sketch" in wood by turning lots of forms quickly, then to "edit" with the lathes off. Discussion centers on what makes a form sing and what makes it flat. Then comes more turning and more critique, as participants practice switching gears from the right-brain passion of making to the left-brain calculation of the editing table. As Stephen says, "We will have fun. We will learn from each other how to be verbal about a non-verbal thing."

For more information go to

http://www.woodschoool.org/2011/community/index_2011.html

"One of the big things about turning is sanding ... because if you don't sand you'll never know how, so, I'm going to teach you how to sand." With that said, David Lancaster forged ahead using a 12" dried blank of Cherry that had a significant twist to make a platter.

Jam chucking onto the Onaway Chuck with just the force of the tailstock he faced the tail side and then the edge before starting to form the recess for the chuck. "By making a recess (rather than a tenon) I can just eyeball it and just make sure its big enough to fit the chuck... ", he continued to explain why, because, "Most people turn the back first and then turn the front; I like to turn the front first. The front's the part you're going to be looking at, design the front first and than make the back fit."



Using a 3/8" gouge, a custom made tool rest and the tailstock brought up tight for safety David started to define his rim and edge for his detail. Taking his small sharp gouge he moved slowly around the corner to have full control of the tool in riding the bevel and the cutting edge. He prepared the rim for the bead he was going to establish after he removed the bulk of the wood from the center of the platter.

Getting the edge set allowed him to use his long straight tool rest to establish the inner depth and to cut a straight line from rim to center. He used a depth gauge to make the tool rest parallel to the edge and cut across the front of the platter. He made his cut with the lower edge of the gouge keeping the tool at the same height and following through to the center. The key is a slow steady controlled movement. This process was to make a platter flat with no tool marks or waving between the edge and the center.

OK, just remember there **may also** be an angle from the edge to the center of about 1 to 2 degrees. So, David was making the angled line flat (smooth, unwavy, not tool marks...)



Now the most important part is the sanding. " I start at 120 grit because I know that starting at 120 grit it will come out perfect every time... I'm using a 5" hard sanding disk and keeping it tight against the platter cutting in a planeing motion. " He wants it nice and flat. From there He quickly sanded through the grits 80,150,180,220 and 420 on a medium 5" pad going in one direction for one grit and changing the direction on the drill for the next grit.

Dave Lancaster demo -continued from page 4

With the lathe off he sanded the edge and the bead detail. Removing wood with a random orbital sander. If the lathe was turning it would defeat the randomness of this sander as you worked through the grits. Then a little hand sanding with the grain.



Next an application of Denatured Alcohol to show any scratches. Finding no sanding marks or other sanding needs David declared the front good and reversed jam chucked the platter to work on the bottom.



Once reset he starts at the rim and carefully works the front edge in width and appearance.



Next comes defining the foot and making the necessary controlled cuts to finish the design.

David left a few ridges on the bottom because, "For those without vacuum you can then finish the bottom and take the nub off and you're done., but I have VACCUM, I'm using it ! "



With the nub removed and the sanding starting again ,Lancaster was asked why he likes the 5" sanding disk and the drill. His laundry list of an answer made it clear that he had tried all the other stuff and found the simplest method is the best for him.

His reasons include: *Four times the sanding area, three times horse power, more surface feet per minute and it doesn't overheat the disk.*

With the right tool for the job David works through eh grits and then out comes the random orbital sander and then applause as the platter is finished.

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Charlie Rapport said, “Lancaster always emphasizes the efficient and less labor intensive ways to get excellent turned results/surfaces. His demo shows ways to get decent lines and curves and smooth surfaces with basic tools and good tool control. He shows how he steadies and controls tools in ways that are simple, but not always obvious. These are the tips that make turning fun. His emphasis on using fresh sandpaper is about as basic as you can get, but using fresh sandpaper is something many turners tend not to do.”

Earlier, Don Caron had asked David to help him understand how he could improve his show and tell bowl. Don had started sanding with a 100 grit paper and started up the grits like he was shown a number of times in classes and in demonstrations, but he was using a smaller disk and faster RPMS. Lancaster chucked the bowl on the ONE WAY and used a 80 grit (Norton Ice paper) on the tear out section of the bowl. In 30 seconds with the new sandpaper and a few **hand** turns of the piece the tear out marks disappeared and a smooth surface is the solution to Dons' sanding problems.



Sanding is part of turning and tonight's demonstration showed us how to achieve professional results quickly and safely. Thank you David for your teaching talent and your professional insight.

Back to the shop for me,

Chuck

The Empty Wooden Bowl Project

This project is fashioned after the “Empty Bowls” project that has local potters donate bowls. For a donation the person receives a bowl, that is taken home, then served a simple meal of soup and bread.

Myself (Brian Libby) and Jack Savona thought that the AAW project of bowl donations for the annual meeting was a nice idea, but it benefits a food bank in Minnasota! We decided to form a committee of woodturners and move forward with this idea.

This is not an “official” committee or project of the Southern Maine woodturners but rather four members that are enlisting the help of all woodturners in the state to donate a utilitarian bowl that will be sold with all proceeds going to The Good Shepherd Food Bank which supplies many of the smaller food banks through out the state.

There are many more details that we are working on so more information will be forthcoming.

Committee members — Brian Libby (chair), Jack Savona, Dick Shryock, and Dave Russell.

Bill Housley's Shop - field trip photos



ROSEBUD-IND

Maine Woodturners Officers

President

Ken Shepherd
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Vice-President

vacant

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Brian Libby
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*We now have 4 woodturning groups
in Maine. Stop by, visit and make
new friends*

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@mf.net

Western Mountain Woodturners

2ND Wednesday at Dirigo HS-Dixfield
Start time 6 PM

For more info contact
Gary Rowland
growland@myfairpoint.net

Southern Maine Woodturners

1ST Wednesday at Rockler- S. Portland
Start time 6:30 PM

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



David Lancaster

of the Maine Woodturners will appear on the Martha Stewart show on Friday January 21 at 10 AM on the Hallmark channel. He will be demonstrating turning a bowl on a OneWay 2436 that he is bringing with him to New York for the filming on January 19. A great opportunity for Dave and the woodturning community.

Buffing Wheels:

Buffing the finish after it has fully cured is one of the most important things you can do to improve the overall quality of your woodturnings. This is a critical last step in the overall finishing process and one that can (if done properly) dramatically improve the look and feel of your woodturnings.



Eagle Cane Adapters

Coordinator - Gary Kitchen

kitch@roadrunner.com

DEMONSTRATIONS

January 19

Mark Irving

Turning a peppermill

February 19

David Lancaster

"The Complete Bowl"

Saturday demo

March 16

Ann Prescott

Fundamentals and new tools

April 20

Al Mather

Getting down to business with the skew

May 21

Marilyn Campbell

Kincardine, Ontario

Saturday demo

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

AAW Bylaws - Proposed Changes

There is a Report to the membership from Dale Larson and Ron Sardo , co-chairs of the bylaws subcommittee at the following link:

http://www.woodturner.org/info/bylaws/bylaws_committee_12_2010.pdf

The membership will be given an opportunity to vote on adoption of the revised Bylaws, as described on the AAW website.

Each member may electronically vote in favor of, or against the proposed Bylaws changes using the online voting facility that will be found in the members area. Voting will be available to members from February 1, 2011 through March 31, 2011.

The American Association of Woodturners will celebrate its 25-year anniversary in 2011 at the St. Paul symposium. One of the many special events there will be an exhibition, *Turning 25 – A Celebration*. Each chapter of the AAW is encouraged and welcome to enter this exhibit. The exhibit goal is to have every AAW chapter represented and for each chapter to enter a lathe-turned work that exemplifies and represents that chapter.



Totally Turning 2011

Saratoga Springs, New York

*Saturday and Sunday
March 26 and 27, 2011*

*Brought to you by
The Adirondack Woodturners Association*

DEMONSTRATORS

RICK ANGUS
ANDY DIPIETRO
JOHN FRANKLIN
GILES GILSON
GEORGE GUADIANE
KURT HERTZOG
DALE NISH
PAUL PETRIE
RICHARD RAFFAN
JENNIFER SHIRLEY
CURT THEOBALD

There is an instant Gallery as well as a Trade show

<http://www.totallyturning.com/>

LATHE SAFETY GUIDELINES

- Safe, effective use of a wood lathe requires study and knowledge of procedures for using the tool. Read and thoroughly understand the label warnings on the lathe and in the owner/operator's manual.
- Always wear safety goggles or safety glasses and a full face shield when needed. Use a dust mask in dusty work conditions. Wear hearing protection during extended periods of operation.
- Tie back long hair, do not wear gloves, loose clothing, jewelry or any dangling objects that may catch in rotating parts or accessories.
- Check the owner/operator's manual for proper speed recommendations. Use slower speeds for larger diameter or rough pieces, and increased speed for smaller diameters and pieces that are 'true' or cylindrical. IF the lathe is shaking or vibrating, lower the speed. If the workpiece vibrates, always stop the machine to check the reason.
- Make certain that the belt guard or cover is in place. Check that all clamping devices (locks), such as on the tailstock and toolrest, are tight.
- Rotate the workpiece by hand to make sure it clears the toolrest and bed before turning the lathe on. Be sure that the workpiece turns freely and is firmly mounted. Never adjust the toolrest with the lathe turned on.
- Use only defect-free stock, without cracks, splits, checks or knots which could chip and fly out, causing serious injury.
- Hold turning chisels securely on the toolrest, and hold the tool firmly. Always use a slower speed when starting until the workpiece is cylindrical. This helps avoid the possibility of an unbalanced piece jumping out of the lathe and striking the operator.
- When running a lathe in reverse, it is possible for a chuck or faceplate to unscrew unless it is securely tightened on the lathe spindle.
- It is recommended that you rough out your workpiece on a bandsaw or with a chainsaw before mounting it on the lathe.
- When using a faceplate, be certain the workpiece is solidly mounted. When turning between centers, be certain the workpiece is secure.
- Always remove the toolrest before sanding or polishing operations.
- Don't over-reach, keep proper footing and balance at all times.
- Keep lathe in good repair. Check for damaged parts, alignment, binding of moving parts, and other conditions that may affect its operation.
- Keep tools sharp and clean for better and safer performance. Don't force a dull tool. Don't use a tool for a purpose not intended. Keep tools out of reach of children.
- Consider your work environment. Don't use lathe in damp or wet locations. Do not use in presence of flammable liquids or gases. Keep work area well lit.
- Stay alert. Watch what you are doing, use common sense. Don't operate tool when you are tired, or under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- Guard against electric shock. Inspect electric cords for damage. Avoid the use of extension cords.
- Remove chuck keys and adjusting wrenches. Form a habit of checking for these before switching on the lathe.
- Never leave the lathe running unattended. Turn power off. Don't leave the lathe until it comes to a complete stop.

American Association of Woodturners