

Northwest Washington Woodturners



A Local Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners

Newsletter for April 2012



Northwest Washington Woodturners....

meets every third Thursday of the month. There is no meeting in December.

We meet at Hillcrest Park Lodge in Mt. Vernon WA. Take Exit I- 5 at Kincaid street, exit 226. Turn east up Kincaid to So 13th St., turn right on 13th St. Hillcrest Park is approx. six blocks south on 13th St. From the south take Exit 225. Turn right on Anderson Rd. Take the first left on Cedardale Rd. Turn right on E. Blackburn Rd. and then left on S. 13th St. The lodge is located in the Northwest corner of the parking lot beyond the tennis courts. Meetings are open to anyone interested in wood turning. All skill levels from beginners to advanced turners are welcome.

Note: See Page 2 for April meeting.

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Hello!

What a fun program we had for our April meeting. Allan Rumpf's top collection was amazing, but just as amazing was listening to Allan's adventures in collecting and spinning tops. It's hard to imagine that his collection was more than twice as large prior to his generous donation to the Everett Children's Museum. I found it particularly interesting how tops are such a traditional part of many cultures around the world. Thanks to George Way for inviting Allan to our club!

Despite it being a very dark and rainy evening, our April Creative Challenge inspired several projects to remind us that Springtime is on the way. Thanks to all who participated. I hope to see even more projects on the table next meeting when the Challenge will be "OVER THE TOP!" After last month's program how can we not be inspired???

For the past 3 months, Fred Holder has been publishing our Newsletter. When I announced that we needed someone to take over that important role, Fred approached me almost immediately and offered to take on the job. Shortly after, Ray Shields offered to proofread all the Newsletter submissions prior to transmitting them to Fred. Now, Ray has decided the Newsletter "business" is so much fun that he wants to try his hand at doing the layout and publication also, beginning with the next issue. Dennis Shinn, has been doing a great job of reporting on our meetings and events, and will continue in that role. It's members like Fred, Ray and Dennis who help make our club special! And a special THANKS to Fred for stepping up when a job needed doing!

Last weekend after a family barbeque, my 8 year old grandson asked if he could go home with us and turn a Harry Potter wand the next day. And turn he did! I'm always impressed how much kids retain. This was his 3rd time on the lathe and it had been 3 months since his previous experience, yet he remembered Anchor-Bevel-Cut and promptly showed me where the bevel was on the roughing gouge and how it should rub the wood. I'm not sure who had the most fun, him or me.....we both had lots of fun. If you have grandchildren or neighbor kids, share your woodturning talents with them.....you may become the inspiration for the next rising star of

our craft, but regardless it will be a very special time for both of you!

Please don't forget to bring Tops for Tots to the next meeting. Hopefully we will be seeing many new styles of tops inspired by Allan Rumpf's collection. Help bring joy to deserving kids!

I look forward to seeing all of you on May 17th when we will see the inspiring work of John Shrader.

To the lathe we go!

Rick

THE CREATIVE CHALLENGE for MAY!

“OVER THE TOP”

For May the CREATIVE CHALLENGE will be “OVER THE TOP!” Our April program should provide us with lots of inspiration! This is a chance to have some fun with our woodturning and to tweak the creativity within our brains. Approach this from whatever level you are turning at.....you do NOT need to be an experienced turner to participate. Your creation may be functional or non-functional.....it's your choice! If you wish, there will even be some time to demonstrate your creation! Your work will be shown on a separate section of the gallery table, but NOT critiqued or judged in any way. This is NOT a contest! There WILL BE PRIZE(S).....everyone who participates will have an equal chance to win a gift certificate to Craft Supply. Crank up your imagination.....we look forward to seeing your next creation!

May Program

May's program (May 17th at Hillcrest) will be a nationally recognized turner from the Seattle area John Shrader. Check out page 58 of the newest AAW magazine or go to his website: crestcreations.net. You can read his description of the demo from the attached letter with pictures. This will be a unique experience for us to further our skill levels. You won't want to miss this one. You can read John's description of his planned demo on Page 6 of this issue.

June Program, Demonstrations, and Workshops

June's program (June 21st) will be a lecture type presentation by Garrit Van Ness and Jim Christiansen regarding form and design. They have put this program on nationally and gave the presentation to our club about five years ago. It is a presentation that stays with me every time my gouge touches a piece of wood. I can't stress enough how valuable this information is when making form and design decisions which we make virtually every time we make a cut.

In addition to the Thursday demo, we are offering two all day workshops with Jim Christiansen at Garrit's shop. They will both be on creating different styles of boxes and Jim is hoping all participants will leave with three different boxes at the end of the day. One of the finest pieces of work I've done was done in one of Jim's workshops so I'm sure you will find the time and money well spent if you are one of the lucky 16 people to sign up for this workshop. The workshops are Friday, June 22 and Saturday, June 23 from 9:00 to 4:00 for \$75. (they are one day workshops with the same topics for each day)

Be sure to bring your \$75 to the May meeting for the June workshops or send your check to Greg Anderson, our treasurer.

SAWDUST SATURDAYS

Sawdust Saturdays have been designed by club volunteers to help new turners develop skills and be introduced to different opportunities in wood turning. Classes are held at Garrett Van Ness' studio in Bayview. We begin the class about 9:00 am and wrap up about 3:00 pm. Our club has eight mini-lathes available to learn on as well as a basic set of turning tools for each lathe.

The next classes will be:

May 19th: Boxes, lidded things

June: Due to a scheduling conflict we will not have a class.

July 28th: We are planning a chainsaw safety class at a different location, more to come.

Sign-up sheets will be available at the Thursday meetings.

Please sign up early. The fee for classes is \$5.00 to cover the cost of materials and treats. For information on classes contact: Ed Frank (360.293.5534) or Mike Young (360.293.4236).

Woodturner's Rendezvous

July 16th - 18th Camping and outdoor woodturning Rendezvous. Ellensburg, Rodeo grounds North RV lot [Kittitas Valley Event Center]. Join us for an unstructured camping and turning get together. Bring your mini lathe come early and stay late. Plan to be entertained by Don Derry on the 17th.

Email Julian Lee julian.s@comcast.net to secure a campsite.

Julian L Lee

360 299 2900

julian.s@comcast.net

Woodturning Symposiums for 2012

Utah Woodturning Symposium--May 17-19, 2012 in Orem, Utah

<http://www.utahwoodturning.com/symposium>

26th Annual AAW Symposium--June 8-10, 2012 in San Jose, California

<http://www.woodturner.org/sym/sym2012/>

Woodturners of Olympia Fifth Annual Symposium, July 28, 2012 in Lacey, Washington

<http://www.woodturnersofolympia.org>

Volunteer needed with website or graphic design experience.

We are forming a small team to redesign the club website. We could use one more persons to help decide on -- and possibly help implement -- new layout, content, and features. If you are interested, please contact Jesse Charette at web@nwwwt.org.

Woodfest 2012



All photos courtesy of Charlie Drake



President Rick Anderson admiring some of the work by the Northwest Corner Woodworkers who were set up next to our area.



Woodfest is about more than display and selling of our work. It provides an opportunity to invite people into the vortex.

After taking a break last year from the usual annual celebration of all things wood, Woodfest again happened in the Sedro-Woolley High School gym Mar 30- Apr 1. While the primary focus of the show is to spotlight local HS woodshop students and their work, vendors and other craft people have the opportunity to display and sell their items as well.

Thanks to George Way for his involvement this year in helping organize the event. The increased publicity



Apologies for not making note of the author of this lovely piece. Just one of many as shown in the photo above. Sales were reported to be good this year.



Bill Cowan concentrates on turning another of his fine pens. George Way, in the background turning on the large club lathe. Everyone who wanted to had an opportunity to make shavings during the two day show.

resulted in a much better turnout than in recent years. Of course the good weather might have had something to do with it as well.

Participation in Woodfest isn't limited to sales and display; we also set up several club mini-lathes (some folks even bring their own) to provide artist in action demonstrations. We've had several new members join the Northwest WA Woodturners primarily due to becoming ac-

quainted with our club at activities such as Woodfest.

All club members are invited and encouraged to take part in our live turning shows like Woodfest. It's a great chance to promote our hobby-art form as well as a good excuse to do nothing but turn all day! Check the club calendar (on our website) and/or contact Dave Blair to let him know if you want to participate. We look forward to your being part of the fun.

What do you get

when you put a group of inquisitive grownups in front of a table covered with every style, shape and size of spinning tops imaginable? A group of would be 12 year olds bent on mastering the art of making them spin. That was the scene at the April meeting when Allan Rumpf from the Seattle chapter brought along just a sampling of his huge (400+) tops from around the world.

During Allan's career with the Boeing company as an aviation engineer, he visited almost every corner of the globe. His fascination with the simple

toys he, and many of us in the club enjoyed as youngsters led him to seek out and compare the ways children in other parts of the world amused themselves. Not too surprisingly, the simplest of objects not unlike those we had in



Allan Rumpf; More tops than you can throw a ... top at!

Can You Top This?

our youth were equally enjoyed everywhere Allan traveled. And everywhere he went he ended up bringing home a representative example of the local version of a simple top. Thus over the years his collection grew to such a size that he recently donated a good portion of it to the Seattle Children's Mu-



Onlookers provide a cheering section as Rick Anderson exhibits presidential form in his attempt to throw his peg top.

seum. If there ever was a *Top Gun* in the wood turning community, Allan is certainly the one!

After Allan's delightful talk about the many types of tops and how they're spun we all had an



A "few" examples from Allan's extensive collection of tops from around the world

opportunity to try our hand at throwing and (occasionally) spinning a peg top. Now, if you missed the meeting and aren't familiar

with "peg" tops, I suggest you visit one of the web sites listed below to get an idea of what they look like. No doubt if you look around you'll find more and perhaps better sources.

Next month's *Creative Challenge* involves your interpretation and creation of one or several forms associated with tops in general. Alongside our regular solicitation for our *Tops for Tots*, let's see what all we can come up with. Check out these resources:

www.topmuseum.org

www.marshmallowpeeps.org/tops/peg.html

www.angelfire.com/folk/bobrian/topspegshape/peg_top_shapes.htm



It takes a bit of practice to get a peg top to spin. Experience dictates that there should be nothing of great value between the novice thrower and unpredictable path of the top!

Upcoming Presentation by John Shrader on May 17.

Inlaying metal into wood

I really like the vividness of the contrast between inlaid silver or brass and a dark hardwood such as Macassar Ebony. I will demonstrate two techniques that I have developed to accomplish this using square wire. Most of the bowls I make these days incorporate a metal band or bands near the rim of the bowl as a decorative accent, which I will demonstrate. A typical bowl with an inlaid silver accent band is shown in Figure 1. While there are a few problems to avoid that I will discuss, it is a fairly easy and quick process. It takes me about a half hour to cut the groove, inlay the metal, file it so it is flush with the wood surface, and polish it. The second technique I will demonstrate is to use a wire to draw a picture or design on a flat or gently curved surface like the top of a round box as shown in Figure 2. I use a pantograph to transfer the design from paper to the wood surface. A pantograph is an arrangement of four bars that allows for tracing a design in one location with a stylus and cutting this design at half size in a different location. A photo of the pantograph is shown in Figure 3, which may or may not help you understand how it works. If you're still confused, come watch the demonstration in May. It's much easier to understand when you see it in action! Depending on the complexity of the design, the time to complete a design can vary from a half hour to several hours. I will have a handout available which identifies sources for the materials needed for this process.



Figure 1. Inlaid silver accent band.



Figure 3.



Figure 2. Using wire to draw a picture or design on a flat or gently curved surface.

This space is set aside for members to advertise free of charge to sell or purchase tools, wood, etc. Please submit your ad to the Newsletter Editor by the last Thursday of the month or submit it to him at the meeting for inclusion in the next months newsletter.

MORE WOODTURNING

The magazine for turners. Published 10 times a year by Fred Holder.

One year: \$35.00;

Two years: \$70.00;

Three years \$105.00.

Electronic version \$25/yr. delivered from More Woodturning online at:

www.morewoodturning.net Lots of great information for your browsing pleasure.

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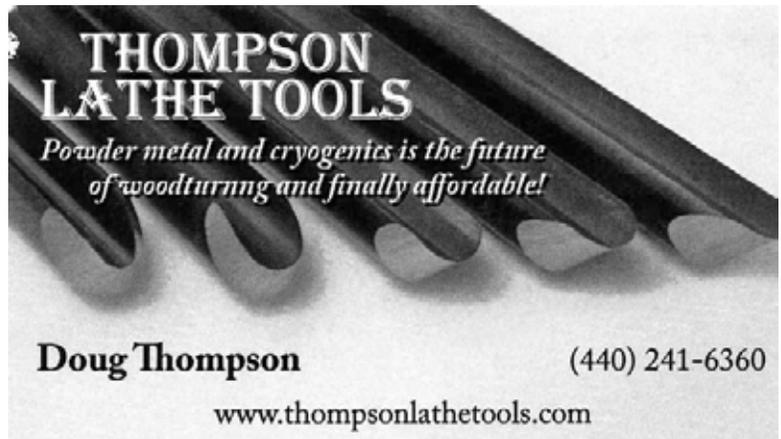
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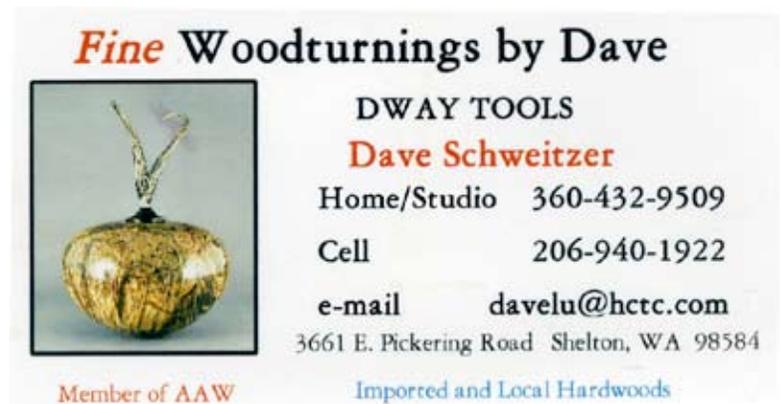
Oby says: NWWoodturner Club members will get 10% off on their Purchases.

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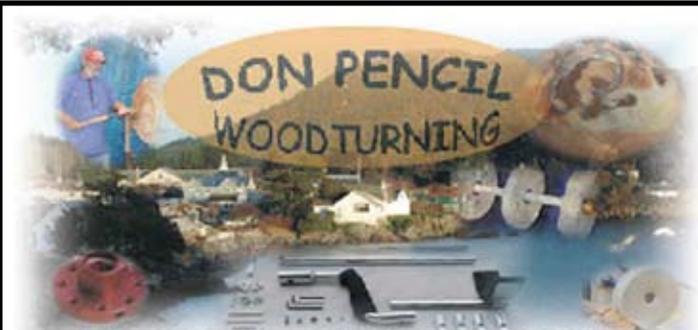
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Membership Information

In accordance with a motion passed by the board in October 2011, we will begin sharing member contact information with the general membership. Starting after the March 15th meeting, all members in good standing will receive a Member Listing by email. We ask that members use this information for club business and activities only and not to share it with nonmembers.

Please review your contact information at the membership table during the March meeting, to verify that it is correct and something you wish to share with the general membership. If you will not be able to attend the meeting, please contact the Membership Committee by email or phone.

If you wish to opt-out of having your contact information shared in this way, please inform the Membership Committee.



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