

Central New England Woodturners



APRIL 2003 NEWSLETTER

Teaching an Old Dog New Tricks



The other weekend, the one on April 5th & 6th, some 15 or so woodturners (woodworkers) spent many hours together with Merryll Saylan at the Worcester Center for Crafts. We were part of a larger group who attended the "New Traditions" program that encompassed many different medias.

We all seemed to have the same goal for ourselves; spending two days doing what turned out to be learning more about wood, design and how to add texture or color and sometimes both.

Why would someone want to change the look of wood? If the wood is bland, why not use another piece of wood? Most of us would do just that, but would we be missing something if we did?

What did we learn? I, for one, learned plenty. There are lots of ways to change the look. Some finishes could make it feel and look

like metal. Some would make it appear to be marble. The ideas are endless.

But what could be more important to making the design work might be changing the shape by cutting some of the base off or maybe making the whole thing thinner or thicker, taller or shorter. Something we may have wondered about before we tossed the turning in the fire.

Most of us have tried to add carving or maybe adding several other woods to make our work more pleasing or attractive.

So what did we (I) really learn? Well, for most of us it had to be a willingness to try new things, new ideas and new products, but most of all, not to be afraid to change.

Would what we are comfortable doing be the way to go? It is up to all of us to make the choice. As woodturners we can practice on free or very inexpensive wood, and who knows, if we try we may end up like "Mikey" in the cereal commercial we all watched many years ago...we might "like it!"

Ernie

2003 CNEW Officers

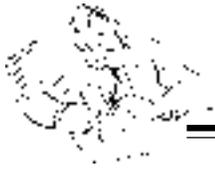
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NEXT MEETING

Thursday, May 8, 2003 - 6:30 P.M.
at the Worcester Center for Crafts

**Program: Linda VanGehuchten Demo
Show & Tell**

GIANT Wood Swap & Auction
(Ken Dubay is bringing another truck load!
mostly honey locust and sassafras)



The Meeting of April 3, 2003

Meeting was called to order at 6:32 by President Joe Harbey in the Refinishing Room at Worcester Center for Crafts.

Guests recognized were: new member, John Styspeck from Monson; Matt Magee and Joseph Guillette who is a member of the "Arts" woodturners who meet at Woodcraft in Woburn.

A report on our Workshop Visit night found half the meetings cancelled because of the snow storm. Dennis Daudelin's shop in Harvard had 6 members show up. Richard DiPerna had his shop open the following week where 8 members were present. Joe Harbey reported 5 people visited him. All agreed it was a success even though the weather did not cooperate.

Treasurer's Report shows \$1637.67.

Will Hunt started the Show & Tell with a large segmented bowl of curly maple, cherry and wenge that was compound cut. He is experimenting with bleaching and coloring wood, and showed a natural edge object that was colored with red aniline dye and black shoe dye.

Ken Dubay, sporting a "Don't like logging? Try plastic toilet paper" t-shirt, showed a large ambrosia maple urn made in two parts with the pith removed and plugged to prevent splitting, a box elder urn, and a red maple natural-edge bowl. All were finished with walnut oil.

Joe Harbey brought a cherry burl bowl with birch salad servers, a maple burl bowl and a cut-off-of-a-stump vase.

Charles Turnage used box elder pieces for a candle stick and a lidded vessel and antler, lacewood, and ebony for another candle holder.

Jim Kephart had a split turning, with two pieces of wood glued together with brown butcher paper without wax between them to form a turning block. After turning, the block is split at the paper, producing two identical pieces. He showed drawer pulls with flame birch tops.

Doug Rand turned a shallow mahogany bowl and a small bowl from what we thought might be pine.

Dennis Daudelin and Richard DiPerna took Johannes Michelsen's hat-making course in Vermont, and each had an ambrosia maple range rider hat and a curly maple ball cap to show for it. They both greatly enjoyed the course and learned a tremendous amount including how to turn thin (3/32") using Johannes's special grind.

Reid Gilmore displayed a maple burl plate, and a maple burl bottle with red bubinga trim.

Frank White coned out a piece of box elder to make 3 natural-edge bowls, and he showed a piece turned from beech and 3 months after turning, sanding will not remove the tool marks.

Chris Ehrenfels' bowl was turned from cherry.

Bobbi Tornheim presented a large ash bowl with green aniline-dyed interior.

George Whippen brought a peppermill made from cutoffs from a bedpost. He commented that the newer mill parts are not being made as well as the old ones were, and wondered if anyone knew where to buy good ones.

A woman asked Greg Drew to turn some pieces to preserve the memories associated with her tree. In exchange, Greg could have the remainder of the tree, which turned out to be fiddleback maple. He made two small winged natural edge candle holders finished with 3 coats of Valspar lacquer for her.

Mike Green turned two maple burl vases with irregular tops and a maple vase with winged trim, no finish, but buffed using the Beal method. He also showed a hollow form that his son decorated for him using pyrography. He has some Peter Toch grinding jigs and some laser lights for hollowing jigs that he would like to sell.

Ken Brannock can order books at a great discount through the Guild of New Hampshire Woodworkers. He reminded us of the Symposium is coming to Derry, NH on May 9th, with David Ellsworth speaking and a full day of demonstrations on May 10th including club members Jim Kephart, Ken Dubay, and Mike Green.

Emilio Iannuccillo reminded us of the Craft Fair coming up on May 2, 3 & 4 at the Craft Center. No limit on what you bring to sell. To participate, you contribute \$10, then the remainder of the \$400 booth fee is taken proportionally from sales. Help is needed to man the booth on Saturday.

Dennis Daudelin announced that he and Richard DiPerna have created a website for the wood turning community, where they have pulled together a good deal of the information on the web in one place, and provided a forum for questions and answers. They would appreciate it if club members would visit the site as its first users, and give feedback to them. The site can be reached at:

www.woodturningonline.com.

Our speaker Merryll Saylan studied design at UCLA and Cal Tech. She showed slides of how her work has progressed over the years from making containers for rice bowls and spoons, lamps that looked like traffic control boxes, barbells and jelly donuts to bowls. As a designer she determines what

she wants to make, and then finds out how. She learns tool skills to create her piece. She first bleaches the wood and then works with clothing dyes on western maple to bring out the grain.

Another successful wood swap and silent auction wrapped up the meeting. Most members went home with wood, thanks to Ken Dubay and others.



Bobbi Tornheim, Richard DiPerna and Ernie Grimes



Ken Dubay



Will Hunt



Will Hunt



Joe Harbey



Charles Turnage



Joe Harbey



Joe Harbey



Jim Kephart



Doug Rand



George Whippen



Mike Green



Reid Gilmore



Reid Gilmore



Mike Green



Dennis Daudeline



Richard DiPerna



Dennis Daudelin



Chris Ehrenfels



Greg Drew



Bobbi Tornheim



Frank White

Photos by Emilio Iannucillo

CNEW MAIL BOX



To the CNEW Editor,
The accomplishments of CNEW and the artistry of its individual members has been a long-standing source of admiration for me. Thus, I am particularly gratified and honored that you have bestowed upon me an honorary lifetime membership in CNEW.

Sincerely,
Brother
Kenneth Dubay

4th New England Woodturning Symposium

May 9th (eve) & 10th (all day), 2003
Pinkerton Academy, Derry, NH.

Sponsored by the Guild of NH Woodworkers and the Granite State Woodturners.

The registration fee is \$40. and lunch if you elect it, is an additional \$6.00. The symposium does have limited space and is on a first-come basis. So, if you are interested in attending, register right away. Registration form is on CNEW website.

Any questions contact Clyde Daggett at: cmdaggett@worldnet.att.net or 603-669-1656

Hi,

I wanted to write and thank the club for co-sponsoring the workshop this past weekend. I enjoyed my time there and hopefully they benefited as well.

I will be exhibiting at Craft Boston in May and hope that members will come by, say hello and talk shop.

Your support of the Worcester Craft Center is terrific and I only wish we had something similar out here.

Have a good Symposium and I'll look forward to seeing some of you in May.

Regards,

Merryll Saylan (merrylls@attbi.com)

Norway Woodturning Cruise 2004

The cruise is scheduled for August 16-28, 2004. Joanna and I are going for a return visit and I believe Joe and Mary Harbey are also signed on.

I can't begin to describe the whole thing — 11 days going through the fjords from the southern tip (Stavanger) to the North Cape (Honningsvåg — last city before the North Pole). Roughly 50 passengers (including wives) and 6-7 professional turners (Johannes Michelsen included) with great side trips in 12 cities.

The cabins are about 50% taken already so not a lot of time to think about it.

Those interested can get details on www.woodturningcruise.com. The organizer is Odd Erik Thjomoe at www.verktoyas. E-mail is woodturning@ogreid.no.

I will be in California until 4/22 but will be happy to take calls when I'm back.

Will Hunt

www.cnew.org

The link to the new woodturning online website is now on our homepage. The link is www.woodturningonline.com, and Richard and I have gotten some great feedback and are looking for additional club members to test the site for us. Our plan is to go live in May once we get all the club's inputs... We appreciate everyone's help in making this site valuable to woodturners world wide!!

Dennis Daudelin, CNEW Webmaster



VISIT OUR WEB PAGE AT:
www.cnew.org

The newsletter is on our page!

Things You May Not Know

Most woodworkers I have met have at some point used worn sandpaper as a substitute for a finer grit. Then we wonder why the finish doesn't turn out as good as we wished. We forget that sandpaper is a cutting tool and using worn sandpaper is like using a dull chisel or plane.

*Lots of information is in the **instructions** that come with every tool we purchase, but most of us read them after we have tried to use our new acquisition. A point I missed until I had used a Nova chuck for years was that I had been using too high a speed than was safe. For the gripping of a tenon they recommend no more than 800 RPM. For a dovetail grip, they recommend no greater than 600 RPM.*

*Did you ever use **abrasive cords**? These are threads and cords coated with an abrasive that is helpful to get those small areas in turnings before and after finishing. They come in many grits from coarse to very fine. A company like Klingspor (800-228-000) makes it convenient to obtain what you need.*

*More and more of us are at last realizing that **wood dust** is not what we should be breathing. American Woodworker, May 2003 has an article on how to design and install a dust collection system in a small workshop. Bifocal safety glasses for us older folks, and lots of hints for woodworkers are also in this issue.*

*Find it hard to picture what your turning will look like after removing lots of wood? We all have had that problem. But take heart, Woodwork magazine, for one, has started to have **measured drawings** of some turnings you can make. In the May 2003 issue Chris Child shows in detail how you can turn a candleholder that is a good piece to make while learning bowl turning, faceplate and spindle turning. Chris uses a nice piece of burl, but any wood will teach you the same methods. The Gallery also has many turnings pictured.*

*Maybe you don't have 36 turning tools (who would need so many?) but a **lathe tool holder** pictured in April 2003 Fine Woodworking might be an idea you could use. The same issue has an article on "The Chair" the exhibition that was held at the Worcester Center for Crafts recently. The pros and cons of using aerosol cans to apply finishes to your work will save you time and money if you wish to use them.*

*Those of us who used to be glued to the TV screen watching Scott Phillips, Roy Underhill and a few others before they left the screen to Norm Abrams can expect to see more **DIY programs** return to cable, but this time it will be available on your computer where you can print what appeals to you. Call 877-9GETBIY to get it added to your cable supplier.*

Fine Woodworking June 2003 has a hint on making a small drive center for your lathe, how some New Hampshire furniture makers have been mentoring prisoners at the state prison on how to build top notch furniture, three finishes you can use on figured maple and how to turn and carve a flame finial. In the gallery section is a 12" sphere made from 320 pieces of wood and it took 100 hours to cut, glue up, turn and finish. Whew!

*The English magazine Woodturning always seems to have plenty of articles of interest with each issue, and the issue of April 2003 has something for every woodturner. Where most American turners seem to turn bowls, bowls and more bowls, this magazine covers the **whole spectrum**. From thimbles to large segmented pieces by Bud Latven it is all there.*

*If you wish to subscribe to this Woodturning magazine, Carving or any other magazine published by Britain's Guild of Master Craftsmen, the easiest way to do so and save money is to order through John Kelsey who owns **Cambium Books**, PO Box 909, Bethel, CT 06801, 800-238-7724, fax 203-778-2785 or www.cambiumbooks.com. Woodturning costs \$70 for 1 year, saving \$12.80 from the newsstands; 2 years costs \$125 instead of \$165.60 at the store. Last year I did so direct from England and paid \$142 for two years. Ask for their catalog.*



Attendance at meetings seems to be on the increase with new members and members we have not seen for a while. It would be nice to know reasons for such increases as well as decreases.

Over the years it has been known that in times of strife and a slow economy there is a surge of hobbies, small home type business and a general trend to do more hands-on activities. As woodturners and woodworkers we have this with our imagination and versatility, as we know there are

many areas to explore.

How then can we keep our attendance high and attract new members? My thought are that we need your input as to running meetings, programs and any activities pertaining to woodturning. More importantly, we need you to participate in the activities.

Our last meeting went well with **Merryl Saylor's** slide presentation of her work and photos of trucks, wheels, pipes and fences. (I dug out my old 35 mm camera!!) I did see a contrast between West Coast and East Coast (New England) turnings.

Ken Dubay did another grand wood swap program. In the near future we should be seeing more of the club's great works at Show & Tell.

May is fast approaching as so is the **Craft Fair** at the WCC. This is a fine opportunity to be involved in a craft show, to show your work, be a sales person and promote CNEW along with fellow turners who will gladly help you.

Joe Harbey

Next Meeting on May 8, 2003

Linda VanGehuchten, one of the AAW directors from Penna., will demonstrate how she turns her angels and candle sticks.



Coming Events

— **Thursday, May 1, 2003 - CNEW Meeting changed to MAY 8, 2003** —

Friday to Sunday, May 2, 3 and 4, 2003 -

33rd Annual May Craft Fair at Worcester Center for Crafts. CNEW will have a booth. Volunteers to show, sell and help in other ways are always needed. Phone Emilio 401-253-5450 for more information.

Thursday, May 8, 2003 - 6:30 PM

CNEW Meeting at Worcester Center for Crafts

Program - Demo by Linda VanGehuchten

Show & Tell

Giant Wood Swap - thanks to Ken Dubay!

Friday, May 9, 2003 - 7:30 P.M.

Saturday, May 10, 2003 - 9 A.M. to 5 P.M.

4th New England Woodturning Symposium at the Pinkerton Academy, Derry, New Hampshire. Friday's program at Derry Opera House with David Ellsworth. Saturday's program at Pinkerton Academy. Registrations required. \$40 fee. Email: cmdaggett@worldnet.att.net

Friday to Sunday, May 16, 17 and 18, 2003 -

Craft Boston at Hynes Convention Center, Boston, MA 617-232-2264

Saturday & Sunday, May 17 and 18, 2003 -

Basic Woodturning with Al Czellecz at CT Valley School of Woodworking. Manchester, CT 860-647-0303

Saturday, May 24, 2003 - 9 AM to 3 PM

Bowl Turning with Dick Batchelder at Homestead Woodworking School. 888-659-2345

Alt. Thursdays, May 29 to Sept. 7, 2003 - 7 to 10 PM

Woodturning with Andy Motter at Homestead Woodworking School. 888-659-2345

Thursday, June 5, 2003 - 6:30 PM

CNEW Meeting at Worcester Center for Crafts

Program, Show & Tell and Wood Swap

Saturday, June 7, 2003 - 5th Annual Connecticut

Woodcarvers One Day Show and Sale at New England Carousel Museum, Bristol, CT 860-663-1274

Saturday - Sunday, June 28 & 29, 2003 -

Wood Days at Shaker Village Museum in Canterbury, New Hampshire. 603-783-9511 or www.shaker.org