

Central New England Woodturners



JUNE 2003 NEWSLETTER

One Thing Most Woodturners Don't Like About Turning

Most people who start woodturning like it. Soon they are dreaming of the day they can retire, maybe quit their job and turn all day whenever they wish.

Some turners like making pens and small things to give to friends and some day to be sold. Others are fascinated by turning bowls, starting with small ones from plain wood, then graduating to large burls and big and bigger bowls.

Others find challenges in segmented turnings, combining many pieces of various species of wood, spending countless hours planning how each has to be cut and where to be placed to end up with a pleasing to the eye finished product.

Since there are lots of things to do, you can be a woodturner for many years and never lose interest. You will always find something new to try.

So what is there that most turners are not happy doing? Could it be the sanding and finishing? Could it be that most wished they had more time to turn in their shop or even

more time to do other things that will add to their enjoying more of the good things in life?

I don't profess to know what others like or dislike, but most turners I have met over the years seem to confess that keeping their tools sharp is a chore they could do without.

At our next meeting of CNEW, which has been changed from our regular first Thursday to the week following because of the 4th of July holiday, the program will be all about sharpening. It will be a night where we all can take part in the evening's activities. There will be, I hope, various grinders so some of our members can demonstrate how they freehand sharpen their tools. There will be various jigs for you to try before you purchase them. So gather up your questions and dull tools and bring them along.

I'll be explaining the difference between hollow grinding and flat grinding, what bevel angles work best for me, but as you try sharpening your dull tools it will teach you more than any book or video will ever do.

See you there on July 10th.

Ernie

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NEXT MEETING

Thursday, **July 10, 2003** - 6:30 P.M.

at the Worcester Center for Crafts

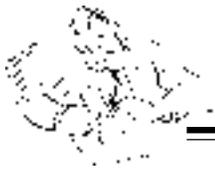
Program: *Sharpening*

Project: *Make & donate a riser*

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**Show & Tell
Wood Swap**

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The Meeting of June 5, 2003

President Joe Harbey opened the meeting at 6:31 P.M. in the lobby of the Worcester Center for Crafts.

Guests present were Don Jackson from Shirley, Glenn Randall's sister from South Dakota and new member David Morrisson from Princeton, MA.

Joe took a little trip down Memory Lane. He remembers that there were originally 53 members – now there are over 100! He asked the members to introduce themselves and state how long they had been turning wood. This was a great way to get to know others.

The next item was the minutes of the last meeting, and if any corrections or additions were needed. None, so it was accepted as printed.

Wendy was unable to attend but let Joe know that there was \$1662.05 in the treasury. She had inquired if CNEW wanted to purchase the videos of the recent New Hampshire Symposium. The motion to do so was passed on a voice vote.

Our President then explained that our new video camera set up that we recently purchased at the New Hampshire Symposium was assembled by Dick Vose who was given a round of applause for the fine work he did making the rig and all the right connections. As soon as we get two TVs everyone will have what will be a front row seat to watch our demos. If you want to donate a TV to CNEW get in touch with Joe.

CNEW received notice from American Crafts Publication Co. that they are publishing a new magazine called Woodturning Design Magazine for woodturners and are looking for photos and other material to be included in future issues.

Phil Bowman mentioned that there will be a Fine Furnishing Show in Providence, RI on November 7 to 9th, 2003 and did we wish to participate. Someone said that Central Connecticut takes part and maybe we could share a booth with them like we have done at the "Big E." The question arose if we could demonstrate at the show, and Ken Dubay was asked to inquire what the rules would be.

Frank White then said if nobody volunteered to host the picnic this year Joe and Mary Harbey would be glad to host the event. It was decided to accept their kind offer and the date would be the first Saturday in August, which will be August 2, 2003.

Emilio Iannuccillo was contacted by Jonathan Frank, the organizer of, "Woodworks," a new show replacing the previous woodworking show at the "Big E" in Springfield that the club has participated at in the past. The show is called Woodworks 2003, and the

website is www.woodworks2003.com. Jonathan is looking for demonstrators. This show will have a gallery of turnings and carvings for clubs to display, free demos and unlike the previous show, we are free to sell items. The show is January 16, 17 and 18, 2004.

Emilio then said he was collecting risers for our Craft Shows. Needed are white ones 2 to 6 inches in diameter and from 2 to 8 inches tall. Joe delivered some risers, and reminded everyone of the need to make some and get them to the club soon. Jack Crean contributed some very low cost, nesting risers made from recycled plastic buckets, to humorous reactions.

Frank White reminded us that the first Thursday in July would be the 4th of July eve. A motion was passed to move the meeting to July 10th, because of the holiday. The theme for the meeting will be sharpening, and he and others would be glad to help with a demo and then hands-on participation. He has spoken with Angelo lafrate about presenting a demo on his recent turnings of magical spheres, and it was tentatively planned for either the September or October meeting.

Joe is looking for volunteers to join a committee to decide on what the club could make for the next AAW Symposium collaborative entry. It's time to start thinking about this project.

Dennis Daudelin talked about a walnut tree that is going to be taken down in Haverhill, MA, and the owner was looking for a way to recoup some of the expense by perhaps exchanging logs for turnings. Woodcarvers in NH will help to pay for the cutting because the tree is 19" in diameter and is 15' before the first branch. Dennis will organize those interested in participating as individuals by e-mail.

The program demo by **Jack Crean** was on carving. Jack gave us a short biography and then told how he makes his own faceplates using a nut that fits the threads on the spindle of his lathe and then has them welded to 3/16 metal stamping for handrail stabilizers. He offered to sell them to members of CNEW for his cost that is usually 4 to 5 dollars each.

He then showed some carbide tips he had made to fit a Sorby Hollowing tool. He also makes his own hollowing tools from bar stock. He heats the stock in a stove or barbeque grill. Several people were invited to take the cutter home to try. If the testers like them, they can purchase them for \$10. Jack believes in keeping it simple.

Jack decided to spend his children's inheritance and bought an Auto-mach reciprocating carver for \$300.

Then he mounted a tool tip that cost \$13 (the tips come in standard carving tool patterns. While still on the lathe he indexes the bowl by making a series of evenly spaced marks, then makes marks between the first set, and then more marks between those. The whole bowl must be done by indexing – you can not do this by eye. He carves curved lines using the indexed lines as a guide. Then he cleans up the edges of the carved areas on a lathe. When carving, the result does not take effect until the bowl is done in entirety. Therefore remember to always finish, even though it is boring and not looking good.

Jack had plenty of ideas to share on how he carves on bowls to add interest or to hide a lot of problems such as a crack. Hint – when sanding, wrap your sandpaper around a steel dowel – it cuts faster than around wood. He had us laughing all night by mixing lots of humor along with hints on how to get great results without spending a fortune. Thanks Jack for a fun-filled demo.

After a break Bob Shanny led the Show and Tell starting with the Challenge pieces. Angels.

Glenn Randall showed an angel that had a poplar bottom. He explained that he went through several heads before he had one he felt was satisfactory, and commented that the angel could be inverted to use as a goblet.

Frank White showed an angel made of box elder, where he had cored out the center first.

Joe Harbey showed a cherry burl angel where he turned it in one piece without a glue block.

Graeme Young made an angel from locust. He also made a bowl and an off-center hollow box, turned eccentric without using an eccentric chuck. The technique was inspired by a Dave Register piece in a magazine. It was made from gingko, the oldest known tree. He also showed a lidded vase turned from a tiny tagua nut.

Richard DiPerna showed a cherry bowl, where he was experimenting with form.

Frank White showed a cherry bowl and a walnut bowl, which had been turned to 1" thickness and then allowed to dry for a year to prevent cracking before finish turning. He also showed a vase that he carved with a Dremel and carbide cutters with the lathe running, then torched it and then turned it to clean up the edges. He explained that he uses the tool rest to mark his pieces for carving.

Robert Pacini, playing with color, bleached a maple bowl and applied a lemon yellow stain from Woodcraft to the inside. On the outside, he layered crimson red and yellow to create orange, combined blue and red for a purple rim and then put on a

lacquer coat.

Joe's piece was a cherry burl bowl that he finished using urethane with penetrol. He said something about giving it to Jack Crean after Jack had announced that Joe sometimes snags some nice wood out of his truck.

Peter Teubel made a bowl using a box elder burl, a hollow form using walnut with a purple heart top and a second hollow form using box elder and walnut.

Bill Frost's piece was a small bowl from makore which he got from Hatch, a furniture maker. It is an African variety of mahogany, and turned like mahogany. (Apologies to Bill – we did not get a photo)

Jack Crean showed a natural edge bowl and a staghorn sumac bowl along with a turned desk letter opener and stand from antler.

Will Hunt used a covered pottery bowl that had been in his family for years as inspiration for a shape he used to make a magnificent segmented bowl using quilted maple and cherry.

Ken Dubay finished up the show with a natural edge box elder bowl that he created at the Pinkerton demo, and presented it as a gift to Dennis Daudelin and his wife in appreciation for his help in delivering the demonstration and their hospitality on his way to the Symposium.

The Wood Swap ended the evening. Again a great selection of wood netted the treasury a nice sum of money. \$89.00 Thanks to all for another great evening.



Richard DiPerna, Bobbi Tornheim and Ernie Grimes

CLUB PROJECT - NEW RISERS

*In anticipation of the Craft Fair in November, we will have a better display and show more merchandise if we have 'risers' to place items upon. Club members are asked to participate in a **Riser Construction Club Project**. That is, would club members construct one or two risers, bring them to a meeting, and CNEW will keep them with other booth materials to use for future craft fairs.*

***What is a riser**, you ask? A riser is a block or a cylinder, measuring from 2 inches to 6 inches in height and 4 inches to 8 inches square or round, painted white. Some have suggested sizes to nest one within another, thus saving on storage space.*

So how about it. Chuck up an old fence post, smooth it to a cylinder, paint it white and "voila" a riser. Please bring them to the next meeting.



Will Hunt



Jack Crean



Jack Crean



Peter Teubel



Ken Dubay



Jack Crean



Peter Teubel



Frank White



Frank White



Joe Harbey



Peter Teubel

JUNE'S SHOW AND TELL



Richard DiPerna



Frank White

Photos by Emilio Iannuccillo



Graeme Young



Graeme Young

ANGEL CHALLENGE



Frank White



Joe Harbey



Graeme Young



Glenn Randall



Bob Pacini



Jack Crean demonstrates carving on bowl surfaces for the June Program



Things You May Not Know

When we finish turning off our lathe we are all ready to **close the shop**. But before you leave, take a few minutes to look around to see that everything is okay. Be sure that any rags or paper towels are properly disposed and that shavings are cleared from the lathe especially if green wood or oak was turned. A few minutes spent at the end of your turning session could save lots of time later.

The hardest part when making segmented bowls, besides the design, seems to be getting all those joints to match without leaving space between. Using a **shooting board** could be helpful. How to make and use one is detailed in Wood Smith no. 147 issue. Also there's plenty of info to help you decide which wipe-on finish could be best for your pieces.

American Woodturner, July 2003 issue, is all about **finishing**. It goes into detail how to stain pine. If you have stained pine with less than good results, this article should help.

AAW Pasadena Symposium

Bill Frost, one of the CNEW founders and still active member, has been working with J. Paul Fennell and Andi Wolfe (a turner from Ohio) to get them a "special" piece of wood for a turning that will be donated to the auction in Pasadena. Paul was a charter member of CNEW who moved to Arizona.

Originally Paul planned to use a piece of wood given by Ken Dubay, transported by Richard DiPerna and delivered to Paul by Bill Frost. The practice piece turned out so well that they didn't use "our" wood, but I thought members who knew Paul would be interested in the final result.

http://www.cnew.org/assets/Fennell_Wolfe_collaboration.JPG
Bill and Carol can be reached at: billfrosty@attbi.com



When it comes to choosing a wood for a turning many tuners vote for **American black walnut**. It's easy to turn, looks good and is easy to finish. Many ways of finishing this popular wood are in the June 2003 issue of Popular Woodworking. From the simple oil and wax, the pros and cons are spelled out in easy to understand language by **Bob Flexner**.

No doubt about it, the last 20 years of woodturning has produced more interest and changes than anyone alive can recall. In the June issue of **Woodturning**, the English version, **Ray Keys** shows by words and photos how it has changed from salad bowls and potato mashers to the pieces of art that we see all around us. How to turn stone (alabaster), turning a birdhouse, another article by **Dave Register** which describes the problem of being a professional turner, making twists and many other good ideas are here for you.

Do you have a **dust collector**? If yours is only a few years old you may want to update it. Instead of large filter bags, the newest ones use a filter that looks like a muffler that fell off someone's car. A plus is that now it is easier to dispose of the dust without getting it all over you and your shop.



Our last meeting was well attended and we had two new applicants for membership. Welcome **Don Jackson** and **David Morrisson** to CNEW. We had the opportunity to try out our new video system that worked very well thanks to the efforts of **Dick Vose**. He made all the framing to hold the cameras and wired it the day of our meeting. All that is needed now are two video monitors. Our thanks to Dick for a fine job.

Our demonstrator, **Jack Crean**, was very humorous as well as instructive as he spoke of making faceplates, hollowing tools and the art of power carving on bowls. We all had the opportunity to try his carving tools on pre-turned bowls he supplied. In spite of everything, Jack does very well, especially with his woodturning. Our thanks also go out to him for a great demo.

Congratulations and best wishes to **Charley Turnage** and new bride **Christine**. They were recently married and have gone to Aruba. Perhaps he will bring back some exotic woods from the Island for his turnings.

Mary and I are looking forward to hosting the August picnic in Westfield. You will discover the State of Massachusetts does not end at Rt. 290 when you head West for Exit 3 on the Mass. Pike. Please plan to attend.

Joe Harbey

Coming Events

Thursday, July 10, 2003 - 6:30 PM

CNEW Meeting at Worcester Center for Crafts
Program - Sharpening Tools
Show & Tell - Remember to bring a riser
Wood Swap

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Saturday, July 12, 2003 - 9 AM to 3 PM

Woodturning Projects with Al Mitchell at Homestead School of Woodworking . 888-659-2345

Thursday, Friday & Saturday, July 17 to 19, 2003 -

Guildford Handcraft Center at Guilford, CT

Saturday, July 19, 2003 - Art Beat -

A Festival of the Arts. Music, dance, crafts at Davis Square in Somerville, MA. www.somervilleartscouncil.org

Monday to Friday, July 21 to 26, 2003 -

Make a Windsor Chair with Mario Rodriguez at Connecticut Valley School of Woodworking.

Saturday, August 2, 2003 -

CNEW Picnic at Joe and Mary Harbey's home in Westfield, MA.

Saturday and Sunday, October 25 & 26, 2003 -

2003 Totally Turning Symposium at Sage College Campus, Albany, NY. Sponsored by Adirondack Woodturners Association. More info: Ken Evans - 518-753-7759 or www.adirondackwoodturners.org.

Y July 10th Meeting Y

The program for the July meeting will focus on different sharpening methods. Some of the members will give brief explanations and demonstrations of what methods or systems they use to sharpen their turning tools. The program is still developing, but Ernie has agreed to give a brief presentation, and Richard DiPerna has generously offered to bring his Varigrind system that he uses to sharpen the Ellsworth hollowing tools. We will have a demonstration of freehand sharpening and possibly some hints on sharpening and honing carving tools. Mem-

bers will also get a chance to experiment with some of the different sharpening methods.

*If you wish to try your hand at sharpening, be sure to bring some of your own tools to grind. Even better, perhaps you would like to share some of your own tips on how to get a good edge on turning or carving tools. The meeting will be pretty informal so if you don't get a chance to let me know beforehand, we can set things up last minute. See you on **July 10th**.*

Frank White