

The CNEW SKEW

Volume 9 Issue 1

January 2004

The Election: Tempest in a Teapot or Fiduciary Failure?

Special points of interest:

- Election Editorial
- Contact Points for New Officers
- Reports & Coming Events
- Open Shops Locations
- Pictures by
Emilio Iannuccillo

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Those of you who are members of the *AAW* will have received a copy of the December 10 letter “clarifying” certain issues relative to the election of board members to the *AAW*. The gist of the issue is that some candidates were afforded preferential, and therefore improper, treatment in the nomination process. This resulted in failures of the system. The author of the letter, current *AAW* president Phil Brennon sums up the issue by stating that “... the nominating process, was compromised.” The letter goes on to say that outside legal counsel was contacted and that said counsel determined that the election was valid since the members voted in good faith. The letter further encourages members to accept the results of the election “and move forward.” It is noteworthy that three members of the board voted against the acceptance of the election, so the board itself is clearly divided on this issue.

Letters were posted on the *AAW* website by several members offering comments and suggestions which range from full acceptance of the Board’s actions to calls for a new election. I recommend that all interested pay a visit to the website and see what the issues are. One member suggests that the election is indeed

valid, presumably because each of the people elected will be “a great asset to the board”, even though they were improperly nominated. It is hard to see how this justifies the election and seating of improperly nominated candidates. Another white-washes the issue somewhat by stating how important it is to address such issues quickly and applauding the board for its actions, but offering nothing in the way of rectifying the issue. Another amazingly asks why such a big deal is made of “minor procedural imperfections”.

One can probably assume that there were no malicious intentions and that the nominating committee was seeking to address the letter of the by-laws and in doing so totally ignored the spirit thereof. Nevertheless, some members were given preferential treatment and as a result other valid candidates were shortchanged. In my view, this does not condone the seating of the former. If the nominating process was flawed, it is hard to see how the election was not equally flawed, whether or not members voted in good faith and notwithstanding the opinion of a single counsel and a divided board. It is also hard to see how another election needs to cost “several thousand dollars”. It is

(Continued on page 2.)

Club Officers and Contact Info for 2004

President, Reid Gilmore	508-856-5894	<i>reid.gilmore@umassmed.edu</i>
VP, Internal, George Whippen	978-663-4693	
VP, External, Charles Turnage	508-770-8072	
Secretary, Bob Iuliano	401-725-7284	<i>bobio@cox.net</i>
Treasurer, Richard DiPerna	508-358-2471	<i>richard@diperna.com</i>
Newsletter, Norm Mancuso	508-653-4195	<i>nrmancuso@comcast.net</i>
Video Librarian, Al Faul	978-534-3683	<i>alfaul@gis.net</i>
Book Librarian, Glenn Randall	508-836-3814	<i>ageminus@charter.net</i>
Webmaster, Dennis Daudelin	978-456-8005	<i>dennis@daudelin.net</i>

The Election (continued from page 1)

a simple matter to rectify this situation in an equitable manner, though I suspect that given the apathy of most people, the election will stand.

In one post on the website, Phil Brennon offered to discuss these issues on the telephone with any members interested enough to call him, since his typing skills are apparently limited. It would seem that the issue of preferential treatment is not dead. Any statements made on this matter belong in the full scrutiny of all of the members, not simply for the ears of a privileged few. We have all had enough of cop-outs as one member put it.

What is clear from all of this is that the issue of regionalization must be addressed sooner rather than later. Contrary to statements posted on the *AAW* website, regionalization was not addressed in the Winter 2003 issue of the *American Woodturner*. The Board must be enlarged, if necessary, to allow for this, and the proper procedures must be written into the by-laws and followed scrupulously.

A national organization cannot short-circuit its by-laws even if this is occasionally necessary at the local chapter level. If there are not enough candidates available for the open offices, the election should proceed with those available. Appointments can be made later to fill open positions, also in accord with by-laws. And, if anything is clear, it is that the by-laws need some serious work in order to prevent a repetition of this sad affair. This will still not provide a satisfactory answer to anyone who was shortchanged in this past election and that is



President Reid Gilmore officiates at the first 2004 meeting.



Above. Bob Iuliano, wearing his "Hank's Friend" sweat-shirt, demonstrates Inside-out turning for the club members. Hank Cahill disavows all knowledge of this shirt and the corresponding implications thereof!

truly unfortunate. Furthermore, as fallout of this issue, the full minutes of every board meeting should be published on the website and archived along with email, etc.

Norman R. Mancuso

Open Shops Information

Ken Brannock Concord NH.	132 Sewalls Falls Rd. 603-224-4820
Richard DiPerna Wayland Ma.	3 Yeager Way 508-358-2471
Hank Cahill Abington Ma.	409 Washington St. 781-878-0234
Angelo Iafrate Johnston RI.	2 Deer Run Trail 401-934-1349
Ken Dubay Columbia Ct.	154 Route 6 860-228-2695
Joe Harbey Westfield Ma.	47 Lindbergh Blvd. 413-562-6705

Woodturning Cheap!

In a package of postcards that we woodworkers usually get in large quantities, I discovered one card offering the British magazine, *Woodturning*, at a price lower than any I have ever seen. The card offered twelve issues for only \$59.95 in the US. I usually buy this at ca. \$8 per issue on the news stand (\$96/year) and it is available by subscription direct from the publishers at \$82.80 per year. If interested, contact Lightning Publications, 550 N. Reo St., Tampa FL 33609 or go to the website www.lightningpublications.com

Policing the meeting room.

We have been asked to clean up after ourselves at the conclusion of each meeting. I thought that we were generally pretty good about this, but apparently there were some candy wrappers and candy left in the room. While it is true that WCC values our presence and wants to see us continue to meet there, let's be good neighbors and mend our fences before we wear out our welcome.

Next meeting Thurs. Feb. 5, 2004!

Program for the next meeting:

Shop visits are again the order of the day. Speaking of "day", remember that it is the prerogative of the shop-owner to determine the day on which his/her shop will be open, so the date is not cast in stone.

Call ahead (shop locations and Phone #'s in the column to the left) to see if there is still room and to get directions. Attendees at the various locations are asked to take photos (digital are most useful) at the shop. Please forward photo files to the Editor. One person should take notes and forward these also.

Chapter Collaborative Project

This project is for the *AAW* Symposium in Orlando, FL on July 23 -25, 2004. The club has decided that we would display a collaborative project at the upcoming *AAW* Symposium. The decision was made to have the club members each make a walking stick. We will later decide how to display them. A demonstration on how to make a walking stick will be held during our April meeting to be held on April 1, 2004 (No, this is not an April Fool's trick!). Come to the April meeting to learn how to make a walking stick and then bring one to the club by the June meeting to be included in the display!

See or talk to Bob Iuliano if you have any questions!

CENTER for FURNITURE CRAFTSMANSHIP

The Center for Furniture Craftsmanship in Rockport, Maine is just completing a \$2.4million capital campaign to add 3 new buildings to their woodworking "campus". The new woodshop and gallery are now finished and the school will be offering woodturning courses for the first time this year. They have purchased 12 new One-Way lathes for the courses and are launching the program with outstanding instructors. Check their website at www.woodschoo.org. It is an excellent school of craftsmanship offering one and two week courses, as well as 3-month and 9-month programs. Submitted by: Mark Horowitz

Minutes of the Jan. 8 Business Meeting:

The January meeting was held the second Thursday of the month as will the July and September meetings this year. President Reid Gilmore conducted the meeting. I was busy setting up my demo. Hope you all liked it. I did not take actual minutes so here is as best as I can remember. We had a business meeting. There was a lot of discussion. It is so cold today, I cannot remember the details of the meeting. We had show and tell and as usual, the talent of the club is vast. We discussed our chapter collaborative and we can begin that project and turn in your tunings anytime up through the June meeting. Emilio photographed turnings and members. The turnings for the newsletter photos. The members so we can make a directory with photos for the website. If you did not get your photo taken let us know. February will be annual open shop meeting. Be sure to contact the person you wish to visit prior to going. Will someone at each shop take minutes of what goes on and send them directly to Norm or me for our next newsletter.

Bob Iuliano

Big-E Wood Show Report

WoodWorks was held on Jan. 16-18, 2004 at the Big E in Springfield. *CNEW* shared a booth with our Connecticut brothers. Ken Dubay brought his OneWay 2436 (I'm not sure how he managed to horse around that 900 pound monster) which was used to demonstrate the craft, often two turners at a time! The demos were well received as the photos show. There was never any lack of attention in front of the lathe.

We also shared two tables in an effort to display and, hopefully, to sell a varied collection of turned items, all of which reflected well on those who made them. There was plenty of appreciation for the talent displayed but, as you might expect, little interest in purchasing any of the items.

In addition, several present indicated an interest in attending one of our meetings and extra newsletters were handed out as well as various business cards and other literature.

As to the show itself, I was somewhat disappointed in the number of booths present. Those present were interesting but many were repetitious if one had attended previous wood shows. Some new equipment was present as were some new firms. *Lamello* (biscuit joinery tools) was a new presence as was *Mini-Max*, an Italian manufacturer with some new and neat woodworking machines. Unfortunately, there was no shortage of junk at some of the booths.

Woodturning always seems to get short shrift at these affairs. Of course there were lathes there and, as mentioned above, several demonstrations of woodturning, but a noticeable lack of tools and other equipment of interest to turners. However, another new company there, *New Edge Cutting Tools, LLC* showed a collection of woodturning tools which were new to me. All of these tools sported TiN coated Carbide tips of various shapes screwed onto a hardened steel rod set into european cherry (?) handles. Some people who did have an opportunity to try these tools spoke well of them. The tips comprised round, square and diamond shaped cutters of various sizes. These tools seemed best suited to scraping but a flat machined on the bottom of the steel rod would force the user to present the tool's edge parallel to the lathe axis, rather than at a angle more suitable to shear scraping. It is difficult to see how these tools would replace a gouge. The tools were priced at \$75 each with one cutter and extra cutters were priced at \$15-\$20 each.

The Vendor was approached about making a presentation at a future club meeting where members may be able to use these tools and judge for themselves. The literature available was somewhat difficult to understand implying that these tools would allow a user "*with no sharpening skill*" to change the dull edge by rotating or replacing the tip. No mention is made in print that specifies a cutting life of the tips. Sharpening (honing) may be possible with a diamond slip or with a "green" wheel, but this would certainly wear away the TiN coating.

January Show & Tell (Photos by Emilio Iannuccillo)



Reid Gilmore



Frank Anson



Bobbi Tornheim



Graeme Young



Graeme Young



Reid Gilmore



Dave Hopkins



Arnie Paye



Al Czellecz



Bobbi Tornheim



Dave Durant



Al Faul



Stan Feldman



Dubay & Daudelin Co-op



Richard DiPerna



Frank White



Ray Boutolle



Murphy/Crean Challenge Bowl



David Morrison



Ken Dubay



Bobbi Tornheim



Graeme Young



Frank Anson



Dave Hopkins



Al Faul



Stan Feldman

WoodWorks Show (Pictures by Norm Mancuso)



Coming Events

Thurs., Feb. 5, 2004 Monthly CNEW Meeting.
This is the normal February Open-House meeting at various members' shops. See the information on page 2. This is always a good take.

Sat., February 21, 2004 Woodturning Demo
Ocean Woodturners will host a special all day demonstration by Richard Angus, noted bowl turner, President of the Connecticut Woodturners and frequent demonstrator at woodturning clubs and symposiums.

Please meet at the library in North Kingstown around 9 a.m. The demo will commence around 10. Lunch around 12 and the demo will continue until 2 or 3 pm. The cost to club members is \$10 including lunch. Directions to the library can be found at: <http://www.lori.ri.gov/lori/public/nki.php>

Feb. 22, 23, 24, 2004
Market Square New England at the Royal Plaza Trade Mart in Marlborough, MA

Thurs., Mar. 5, 2004 Monthly CNEW Meeting.
6:30 PM at the Worcester Center for Crafts.

Thurs., Apr. 1, 2004 Monthly CNEW Meeting.
6:30 PM at the Worcester Center for Crafts.

If you know of an event significant to woodturners, or of general interest to the members, please bring it to the attention of the editor. I can be reached at the regular monthly meetings, by phone at 508-647-4999 or via email at nrmancuso@comcast.net.

Websites & Forums

If you haven't visited our website, cnew.org, you are missing a great deal, including links to other websites useful to woodturners. Be certain to also visit the website creation of our fellow members, Dennis Daudelin and Richard DiPerna. If there is one penultimate woodturning website it has to be www.woodturningonline.com.

Repetition is sometimes difficult to avoid. From time to time, you will see some repetition in the newsletter and on the web-site. We are just trying to keep those members who do not have access to the internet up to date and to remind those who do have access that certain events are worth being repetitious about. Also, several forums are available for those who maintain an interest in them.

- Woodturning Online Forums
- Wood Magazine Forums
- AAW Forums
- Google forum rec.crafts.woodturning
- Woodworkersweb.com Forum

The President's Message

February is Open Shop Month for *CNEW*. I realize this is not news for anybody who was at the last meeting or anybody who has looked at other sections of the *CNEW Skew*. We've had six members volunteer to open up their shops. I urge you to take a look at the list of open shops and pick one to visit. It is always worthwhile to see how another turner organizes his/her shop. I know I will return home after an open shop visit with new ideas.

Reid Gilmore



Deadline for ALL inclusions to the monthly newsletter:

All Regular inclusions such as minutes of the meetings, reports of the various committees, and articles submitted for publication **MUST** be in the hands of the editor not later than the 15th of the month. Articles and information received after this date will generally not be able to be included in the regular monthly newsletter.

It is especially important for Club Officers, e.g. the President, the Secretary, Photographers and anyone else whose job it is to report on a monthly basis to maintain this schedule.

2004 Dues Notice!

Our new Treasurer, Richard DiPerna, has requested that members submit their dues for the coming year. Dues remain at \$20.00 per year for 2004. Please attach a slip of paper with your name and address stapled to a twenty-dollar bill or a check for that amount and mail it to Richard at the address below. **If you are moved to the Inactive list, you will no longer receive the newsletter.**

Richard has also inherited the task of being keeper of the membership list. If you are not on the current list or if your information is incorrect, please contact Richard and update your information. You can reach Richard at the telephone number and email address shown after his name on page 2. Don't have email? Send it to:

Richard DiPerna
3 Yeager Way
Wayland, MA 01778

Next meeting Thurs. Feb. 5, 2004!

See page 3 for details of the meeting program.

Looking for Articles, Book & Video Reviews, etc.

A Newsletter provides the best benefits for all members of the club when as many people as possible contribute to the material between the covers. You don't need to be a scholar, expert woodturner or any other expert in order to contribute. All you need is a desire to help the club by providing information useful to some members. If you've read a book on woodturning or even woodworking in general or if you've viewed a video or DVD, you can help your fellows by telling us about your experiences. Don't worry about spelling or punctuation. That's my job as Editor. Just do the best you can...that's all anyone can do and no one, but no one, can find fault with you if you do. Remember that it doesn't have to be a high-tech submission. Send it to me via email or snail-mail at the address below and it will find it's way into these pages in a following issue. Send to:

Norman R. Mancuso
24 Terrane Avenue
Natick, MA 01760

or:

nrmancuso@comcast.net

New Tools/Source

Lee Valley has always been one of my favorite tool suppliers. The new mini-catalog (Jan. 2004) shows that they are serious (if there was any doubt) about woodturning tools as well. There are many new additions for the serious tool junky at prices that I believe will not last long! If you don't have your copy, send a request to:

Lee Valley Tools, Ltd. P.O. Box 1780
Ogdensburg, NY 13669-6780

www.leevalley.com

The CNEW SKEW

CENTRAL NEW ENGLAND WOODTURNERS

Central New England Woodturners
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Mailing Address Line 3
Mailing Address Line 4
Mailing Address Line 5



A Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners

We're on the Web!
www.cnew.org

Fold line

More Pictures from the January '04 Meeting

