

June, 1993  
Number 4

The Woodturners of St. Louis Newsletter is published monthly and mailed to the Chapter members and to other selected woodturners.

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Meetings are held on the fourth Sunday of each Month at Woodcraft Supply 12511 Olive Street Road, (Dierberg Center)

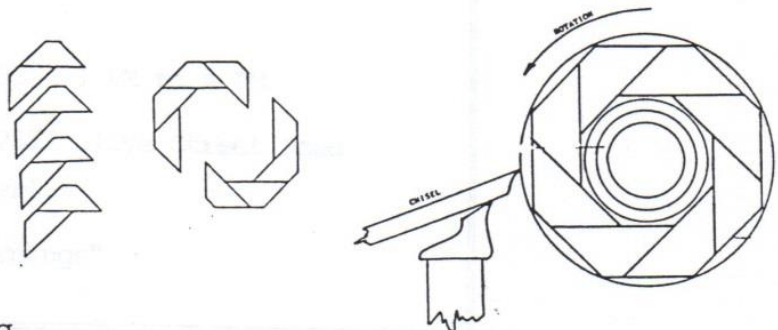
1 PM to 4 PM

(Bring a guest or friend)

### LAST MEETING

Bracelets and napkin rings were the project for May 23. Ewald Altmann and Ken Schaefer described three ways of making these items.

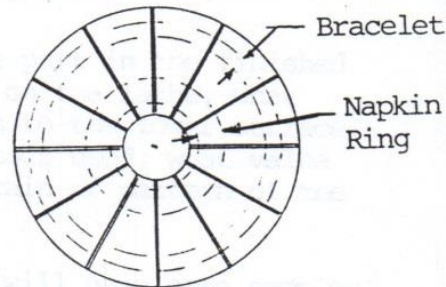
The first, by Ewald, used eight pieces each having 45° end cuts. This was patterned after some made by Denver Ulery and published in the September 1989 issue of the American Woodturner. Denver's wife glues the pieces together in the following order:



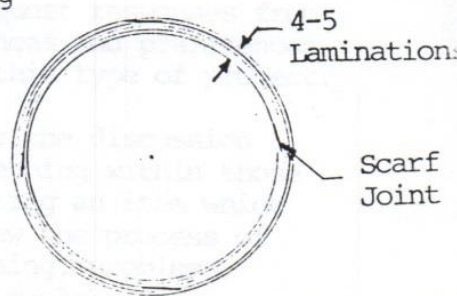
She does not use clamps but achieves sufficient strength by merely rubbing the glue surfaces together and holding for about 10 seconds. When the previous assemblies are dry, she adds more pieces until units of four are achieved. Then Denver sands the mating surfaces to get a good fit and the final glueing is made.

What Ewald added to Denver's system was to make the pieces wider so that a napkin ring as well as a bracelet could be obtained. The amount of glue surface seems sufficient to provide strong finished products. When mounting the assembly on the lathe, care is needed to get the grain direction correct to reduce the amount of end grain contacting the chisel.

Ken showed a second method which was similar to the segmented turnings of Gary Johnson. It consists of glueing many tapered end grain pieces together with thin strips of contrasting color wood between each piece. Although the turned surface always shows flat grain, the glue joint involves only end grain and the result is not as strong as the above method. In fact, a thin bracelet is vulnerable to shocks and often breaks on the glue line.



A third method involves steam bending thin wood strips into circles and then laminating between 4-5 layers into an approximate 1/4" thick ring. End joints are scarfed and staggered to provide structural continuity. This is the best method for thin bracelets because the wood grain is continuous and the glue surface is almost continuous. Although no samples were available, Ken will pursue this system and show some bracelets at a later meeting.



LAST MEETING

(Continued)

Thom Hutchinson, maker of HUT finish, brought samples of pens, pencils and perfume dispensers made from "Diamond" wood--dyed veneer impregnated with phenolic resin and laminated under pressure. Although expensive, Diamond wood provides a wide range of colors and adds considerable interest to the finished product. Thom brought some small pieces for others to try their skill at turning this very hard material.

The "Show and Tell" portion of the afternoon included the latest laminated bowl creation by Gary Johnson, a beautiful bed newel by Roger eigand and some natural edge bowls by Binh Pho. All these turners do creditable work!

NEXT MEETING

Sunday, June 25, 1993 - 1 PM to 4 PM

Woodcraft Supply, 12511 Olive Street Road  
(Dierberg Center)

Subject: "Small Turnings"

JUNE 25 MEETING

An unheard of event happened after the last meeting. Ken Schaefer asked for help during the May meeting and received no responses. That seems normal for most woodworking groups. But, the next day, John Buehrer called and asked if he could help!! Our thanks to John and our hope that he is setting an example for future meetings. There is much to learn during the planning part of a meeting from getting examples made to having ample material available for other turners to use during the hands-on portion of the afternoon. This will be John's first such endeavor so let's all help him make it a successful meeting.

The size of the lathe is meaningless when small turnings are considered. Large lathes handle large and small work. Miniature lathes obviously have a limit but the June meeting is within the scope of any lathe.

What can be made from a 4" diameter x 1½"-2" piece of wood? Obviously, weed pots, coasters, dishes to hold pins or clips, small bowls and many other items can qualify as possible projects. But nothing limits the shape, finish or utilitarian nature of the piece. Those qualities are controlled by the turner and vary widely.

Techniques play a large part in the finished piece. How it is held on the lathe, what type of finish is given to the lower surface, is solid or glued-up stock used, what value is obtained from the grain or pattern of the wood, etc.

John and Ewald Altmann will have some samples of work to show within the 4" dia. x 2" thick range and will request responses from others on their experiences and preferences as to all subjects for this type of project.

To stimulate and further the discussion period, please make something within those dimensional limits or bring an item which fits the subject. Review the process of holding, sanding, finishing, problems, future plans and design goals.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS SYMPOSIUM

As mentioned during the May meeting, about five St. Louis members are going to attend the symposium in New York. This may result in a smaller attendance at the June 25 meeting but the subject of small turnings should stimulate lots of discussion. A summary of the Symposium will be included in the next newsletter.

1997 SYMPOSIUM

As you may remember, St. Louis lost in its bid for the 1994 AAW Symposium because Washington University campus had not been reserved sufficiently in advance to consider having the AAW in 1994. That situation will not repeat itself because communication with the school will start right after the Symposium so St. Louis can be favorably considered for 1997.

COMING MEETINGS

Summer activities and commitments make establishment of a specific subject for each month difficult but the following are subjects that are planned for the next few months.

- Inside/Outside turning
- Salad Tongs
- Perfume and Bottle Stoppers

MEMBER NEWS

Dave Skinner's wife, Peg, died in June.

Bob Schmitz is recovering from multiple by-pass operation.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION - WOODTURNERS of St. Louis

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please print)

Street \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Mail this application with your check for \$15.00 for one year's dues to:  
Woodturners of St. Louis, 430 Bryan Ave., Kirkwood, MO 63122

Mail your check for membership in the American Association of Woodturners directly to the AAW, 667 Harriet Avenue, Shoreview, MN 55126