



NEWSLETTER

A chapter of the American Association of Woodturners

July 16, 1993

Number 5.

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 - by Dave Skinner

The subject was: "Things which can be made from wood measuring about 4" diameter x 2" thick.

Bob Schmitz spoke about a gallery of pieces made by himself and Ken Schaefer and described how they were made. Bob and Ewald Altmann had blanks attached to glue blocks for use by any person who wished to try their hands making such pieces on the lathes.

Several discussions were held concerning wood finishes and problems involved in making pen and pencil sets. Tom Hutchinson indicated interest in talking with anyone who can help in making the end caps for pens.

Jeff Cohen suggested that one of our future programs be dedicated to types of wood finishes and their applications. Also, a program on harvesting green wood was suggested.

Sandy Minor won the door prize which was a burl about 6" x 6" x 8" donated by Woodcraft Supply.

John Buehrer presented a program on the making of straight and bent tools tipped with machine tool bits for use in hollow wood turning. John made the tools from round tool steel obtained from MCS Industries Supply at 151 Sunnyside Blvd, Plainview, Long Island, NY 11803. MSC will send a catalog upon request.

John also displayed a set of plastic precut angles used to accurately set up a bench saw for cutting segments for glued up stock. These were obtained from Craft Supply in England (not Provo, Utah). He also demonstrated the use of double sided sticky tape for holding wood stock to a face plate. He used Permacel material which developed good holding capability and doesn't easily let go.

NEXT MEETING

July 25, 1993 - Woodcraft Store, 1 PM to 4 PM

Demonstration program: Todd Kinnikin and Ken Schaefer will show and demonstrate inside-out turnings

Hands-on program during the latter portion of the afternoon will allow other turners to try their hand at inside-out turning.

NEXT MEETING - July 25, 1993

As previously announced, a meeting on "split turnings" or "inside-out turnings" would be held. Todd Kinnikin had offered to help with this subject when it was first mentioned so Todd and Ken Schaefer will make the presentation. This technique is not one that most turners will use frequently but it certainly is one that will stimulate some thinking.

What is an inside-out turning? It is a spindle turning with both ends left square which is then cut or separated into four pieces lengthwise. The four outside corners are rotated inward, resulting in four "windows" or silhouettes. The turned shape of the spindle dictates the shape of the silhouette and will produce a symmetrical pattern.

If that description leaves you guessing as to its meaning, so do most efforts to draw a design before starting and fully comprehend what the end result will be. At the meeting, Ken will have some simple drawings and some examples of what the first turning shape will mean when the four pieces are reversed and a second pattern is turned.

And, if the second description leaves you equally cold, come to the meeting and then see if you can write a description that is more understandable!

By the way, there will be reproductions of articles on the subject for you to take and refresh your memory when and if you want to try the system.

1993 AAW SYMPOSIUM

St. Louis was well represented at the American Association of Woodturners New York Symposium by having Fletcher Hartline, Gary Johnson, Pinh Pho and Ken Schaefer there. After the usual opening remarks and introductions, the three days were filled with demonstrations and lectures which provided eleven rotations or groups of choices with eleven subjects in each rotation. Planning your three days was similar to planning an academic year. By selecting the most important subjects, one could determine if attendance at a particular turner's period should be during the first session or postponed to a later one. With this type of juggling, eleven 1½ hour demonstrations were possible to attend.

For me, Ken Schefer, I attended sessions on: making Christmas Ornaments, using strobe lighting when turning natural edge vessels, making bracelets, turning one-of-a-kind bowls, newsletter writing (a session which I really needed to attend) speedy turning tricks, making hollow forms without a hole, "my three worst students", hollow forms using fiber optic lighting, ten cuts with a skew chisel & motors and controls. Having taken notes on most of the meetings, I would be glad to review the contents with anyone interested.

One reason for taking notes was to share some "tricks" of the trade with St. Louis turners. In the next several newsletters, I will record what I believe will be of interest to you.

Here's the first: Paul Fennel showed how to create grooves on the outside of a vessel and not have to make each groove individually. He made a tool from a 24-32 tooth/inch metal tap by breaking off one of

the cutting sections and glueing that metal to the end of a file. He used Hot Shot and oriented the teeth at right angles to the file. In using the tool, he pressed the teeth against the wood and made shallow grooves and then made a second pass and deepened the grooves. His tool had about 4 teeth which allowed him to reach shallow concave curves and not to have too many problems with sharp convex curves. Obviously, teeth in a tap will not be dulled readily by wood so his efforts in making the tool will last a long time.

Another idea was at what speed to sand. Contrary to my practice, two demonstrators suggested sanding at a slow speed so that the sand paper would touch any out-of-round surface. Less dust was created than with my high speed approach and the surface was just as smooth.

THANKS OF THE MONTH

To: John Buehrer, Ewald Altmann, Dave Skinner and Bob Schmitz for their help in the June meeting.

To: Woodcraft Stores for allowing the club to meet in their store and for contributing a "door" prize.

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