



NEWSLETTER

A chapter of the American Association of Woodturners

August 11, 1993

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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)

NEXT MEETING - August 22, 1993

Leonard Hartline showed a small vessel during the July meeting that had sharp intersections between the main body of the vessel and some projections. As he explained, sharp edges are often lost if the turner resorts to sanding. His vessel's surfaces were completely finished using a technique called "shear scraping". Sufficient interest was expressed on Leonard's description of shear scraping that the August meeting subject changed from turning bottle stoppers to shear scraping and Leonard offered to chair the meeting.

Whether sharp edges or intersections are the goal or just the reduction in use of sand paper, this technique is practical for all types of turning whether face plate or spindle. If you have never tried shear scraping or want to know more about it, the August meeting should be a valuable source of information. During the after-meeting session, Leonard and others will provide guidance to those who want to try a hand at turning and shear scraping.

LAST MEETING

The subject was "split turnings" or "inside-out turnings". Originally, Todd Kinnikin has offered to help with the meeting but his place was flooded and he had no electric service to turn demonstration pieces. Bob Schmitz and Dave Skinner filled in for Todd along with Ken Schaefer

Ken used drawings to describe the effect on the second turning when specific amounts of wood were removed on the first turning. As an example, if the first turned piece was as large a cylinder as allowed by the square stock, no opening would occur when starting the second turning. The deeper the cut on the first turning, the wider the opening in the second operation.

Planning the finished appearance before starting the first turning is possible but it may take a few trial turnings to fully understand the opportunities and limitations. Copies of several magazine articles were passed out which described how to approach the design of the first turning and how to supplement openings and shapes in the second turning.

There are uses for inside-out turning techniques but considerable work is required to obtain perfectly matched square stock, to determine what should be turned away on the first turning, to split the 4 pieces apart and reglue for the second turning and then turning a second time. The conclusion at the meeting was that, although the technique is interesting, applications are few and might be achieved with less time intensive approaches.

AAW SYMPOSIUM TRICKS

Michael Mode described a method he uses to dry small pieces of wood before turning bowls or similar pieces. He build a plywood box measuring about 12" x 12" on the bottom and about 36" high. In the bottom, he put a 300W lamp controlled by a rheostat to reduce the wattage and to lengthen the bulb life. Above the bulb, he installed a grating on which to rest the wood. The top was removable for inserting and removing pieces to be dried. Michael said the temperature inside the box reached 140-160°F. After about a week, he found that wood was at about 7% moisture content.

Alan Lacer conducted a lecture on 10 uses for a skew. The ten included: roughing, planing, shouldering, vee cuts, parting, pommel, saucer, rolling, rough grain, and cover (seldome used) Although all cuts and techniques are possible with a skew, he admitted that many cuts wers easier made with other tools. Alan grinds his skews at an approximate 70° angle. If the skew is oval shape in cross section, the cutting edge may be on a curbe and then the 70° applies to a straight line between the ends of the curve. The length of the bevel should be about twice the thickness of the tool. He normally uses a white wheel for grinding and a medium density fiberboard wheel on a mandrel for fine honing. For the latter, he uses a stainless steel honing compound.

THANKS OF THE MONTH

To Woodcraft for continuing to allow the Club to use their facilities and for providing valuable door prizes.

ALAN LACER SEMINAR

On Saturday, December 11 and Sunday, December 12, Alan Lacer, President of the American Association of Woodturners, is coming to Woodcraft Supply from Oklahoma to demonstrate spindle and bowl turning, discuss and show many ways to use a skew, show slides of his work and work of others and to fill the two days with woodturning topics.

Please mark your calendar for these dates. After the formal announcement and opening of reservations, more information will be given to you. As you know, Woodcraft's class room has limited capacity and early placement of your reservation will assure you of attendance.

N E X T M E E T I N G

August 22, 1993 - Woodcraft Store, 1 PM to 4 PM

Demonstration Program: Leonard Hartline will
discuss, demonstrate and
answer questions on shear
scraping