

# WOODTURNERS

of  
St. Louis

A chapter of the American Association of Woodturners

June 1995

Number 27

May Meeting Our regular meeting was held on June 4, 1995 at the Woodcraft Store. There were 22 at the meeting.

Door Prize Charlie Yonk won the clear plastic centering device which Woodcraft donated as a door prize.

Show 'n Tell Rich Hoepfner brought a large segmented vessel which consisted of oak and walnut pieces. Because it was about 15" high, Rich had hollowed out the unit in two pieces and then glued the two together. He left the outer surface of the upper piece larger than the lower piece so that when glued together he could continue the curvature of the lower piece into the upper piece.

Fletcher Hartline showed a box which was supported on four ribs that he made using the inside-out system. As with many of Fletcher's recent works, the finish was a high-build shellac which provided a smooth and glossy finish.

Photographic Results of Last Meeting Binh Pho and Dave Wahl took photographs of some turnings and a box during the April meeting. Binh showed slides of the work noting how lighting and exposure affected the quality of slides. For most of the photographed items, Binh showed three slides which reflected different exposures. As Binh stated, if the work had been photographed at his house, he would know what settings to use rather than having to experiment with three settings. Binh graciously offered to take photographs of anyone's work if they would bring items to his house.

Joy of Turning Symposium Ken Schaefer reported on the current status. Kirkwood High School Cafeteria has been reserved. Four professional turners are expected to demonstrate their work and methods. Registrations and checks have started to be received. As of the meeting, 13 registrations have been made. Three more were submitted during the meeting, and a show of hands indicated that 12 more would be attending. If the \$500.00 grant

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

**President:**

Gary L. Johnson  
12220 Latham  
Bridgeton, MO 63044  
314-739-4791

**Vice President:**

David C. Wahl  
10041 Conway Rd.  
St. Louis, MO 63124  
314-993-4843

**Secretary/Treasurer**

Virginia H. Toone  
736 Linwood Blvd.  
Kirkwood, MO 63122  
314-984-0502

Meetings are held on the fourth Sunday of each month at Woodcraft Supply 12511 Olive St. Rd. (Dierberg Heritage Center)

1PM to 4PM

Bring a guest or a friend!

from AAW was considered in the budget, a break-even of 38 registrations would be required. The total confirmed number is 15 + 12 or, 27 total. Ken asked that turners send in their registration and check soon so the Symposium Committee is able to decide if a cancellation is to be considered.

Metal Spinning Program Harold Thornburg, Industrial Arts teacher at Kirkwood High School, brought samples of student's work and his spinnings and described how successes and failures occurred when spinning metal.

Harold and the students use 16 gauge soft copper or .040" aluminum. He buys aluminum discs but makes copper discs from a full sheet of copper.

Using a hardwood form block attached to a face plate on the head stock, he holds the circular blank of metal in place with a ball bearing center and a 2" diameter metal plate. By adjusting the tail stock plate, he is able to get the metal centered.

Long handled rubbing tools are braced against a pin in the tool rest and pressure applied to the turning disc. A flat stick is pressed against the back of the disc to prevent the edges becoming crinkled. Candle wax, paraffin or soap can be applied to the metal as a lubricant.

At the beginning of shaping the metal, the lathe speed should be in the 600 rpm range. As the metal is pressed around the form block, the speed may be increased to 1200 rpm.

Care is needed to eliminate uneven surfaces in the metal. Proper pressure plus use of the flat stick are two ways of getting a smooth finish.

When the metal has been shaped to match the form block, it will have a thin and sharp edge which needs more work. A roller mounted in a steel bar makes a good tool to roll the edges into a safe and thicker edge than the original metal thickness. Harold indicated that students find using this particular tool is the most difficult of the spinning operation; however, two club members who tried spinning achieved a fairly even rolled edge to the container they made.

Materials and tools for metal spinning can be obtained from:

Paxton Petterson  
5719 West 65th St.  
Chicago, IL 60638.

Two books which Harold brought covering metal spinning were:

Metalwork - Technology & Practice, Glencoe Publishing Co. 1975 (textbook); and

Etching, Spinning, Raising, Tooling Metal by Robert E. Smith and published by McKnight & McKnight Publishing Co. - 1951.

The Club thanks Harold for bringing the tools, blanks and for conducting the demonstration of spinning.

The Beginning Turner Session In the last hour of the meeting, Fletcher Hartline demonstrated proper methods of sharpening tools and did some spindle turning. This part of the program will be repeated each meeting thereby giving members an opportunity to ask questions about problems they are having with turning, sharpening and finishing. As everyone recognizes, Fletcher is an excellent teacher and experienced in all aspects of woodturning. If you have any questions about procedures, tools, etc., plan to stay for the 3-4 p.m. portion of each meeting. While this session is targeted at helping our novice turners, everyone can take part and benefit from it.

Lathe for Sale Craftsman, cast iron bed, new bronze bearings, 36" between centers, 9" diameter swing, 8" & 20" tool rests, ball bearing-spur-cup-screw centers, 4" and 9" face plates, four tools, mounted on wood base, 1/3 HP motor with switch on front of base. \$165.00. Call Ken Schaefer 966-2268.

Next Meeting Our next meeting will be June 25 at the Woodcraft Store from 1 to 4 p.m. The program will be "Turning Spheres" by Fletcher Hartline. If you have turned spheres, please bring it for Show 'N Tell and tell us how you made it. Dave Wahl will tell us about the class he attended which was taught by Michael O'Donnell at Arrowmont.

Hope to see you all at the meeting on June 25, 1995.