



WOODTURNERS OF ST. LOUIS

A Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners

September 2003

Next Meeting: Sept. 28

12—? PM

at

Spencer Creek Park

see detailed map

inside

Sept. Program

Creating Creatures

Challenge for the next meeting

Turn something that resembles a body part or decoration. Anything from eyeballs, legs, feet, spikes, claws, round shapes, curvy shapes, big or small it doesn't matter. Let your imagination go wild.

Bring your work to the picnic and together we will create either one large alien, several weird bugs or eerie humanoids. Who knows? Lathes will be there to turn needed parts on the spot.

When we are done, we'll draw from names of the attendees to see who gets to take the creatures home.

Bat Man Came to the August Meeting **Bill Farny did his 127th bat turning demo**



Ernie helps while Bill transfers measurements

M. Marxer

After weeks of slaving away at Busch Stadium, churning out an endless number of baseball bats, Bill Farny still had the stamina to treat our members to yet one more demo. Rawlings has him use northern white ash, since it varies in weight more than other woods, to give batters a choice in the weight of their bat. With two gouges and a parting tool he turns what he says is "simple spindle work with a heavy sanding process." At the end of the demonstration he generously offered the \$50 demo bat for a door prize. Thank you, Bill.

(See page 3 for Bill's story.)

Forget to email Stan or call Ray? Help Ray guess how much meat to buy. Please call him at 636-279-1936, or email Stan King skyking999@sbcglobal.net if you plan to attend and how many people are coming with you. **At the July meeting it was decided to have everyone bring their own coolers and drinks. The club will still provide the meat.**

New Woodturning Magazine

Joseph Herrmann, editor of a soon to be published magazine dedicated solely to woodturning, has contacted our club in search of material. He is looking for authors to write projects and informational articles, feature stories, product reviews and all the other things a magazine might contain. He's also looking for good quality photos of members' work to feature in the "Readers' Showcase" gallery. Contact him at 440-576-7697, or email:

latheturner@earthlink.net

Woodturners of St Louis Officers:

President

Mario Vitale
314-423-8120

mariol.vitale@worldnet.att.net

Vice President

Dixi Smith
636-723-5435

dsmith10@mail.win.org

Secretary

Bill Farny
636-343-2207
bfarny@msn.com

Treasurer

Stan King
636-467-3977
skyking999@sbcglobal.net

Newsletter Editor

Elaine Navarro
636-532-3153
enavarro@sbcglobal.net

Conference Coordinator

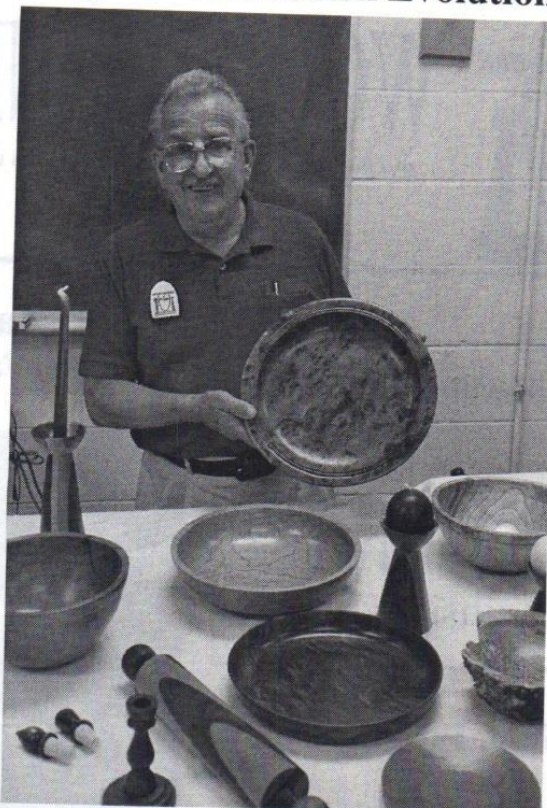
John Buehrer
314-423-6522

Web Site

<http://www.stltturners.amcominc.net>

Yahoo e-group
STLWoodturners

August's Revolution Evolution



M.Marxer

Hans Neumann said his work was made for "mostly utilitarian purposes." He puts one coat of Deft, then two of mineral oil. That mighty fine utilitarian rolling pin must make pie crusts taste better.



Mike's M.Marxer



Dixi's M.Marxer

Show & Tell

Ernie Guhl—corian miniature collection, and tops
Dan Schmoker—captive rings, European buckthorn top and wood sample

Elaine Navarro—baby rattle w/captive rings

Brad Sakran—1st natural edge bowl and a quilted maple bowl

Mike Marxer—a captive hollow form (see pic.)

Dixi Smith—interlocking captive rings (see pic.)

Paul Widmer—3 shots at captive rings

Bill Rubenstein—necklace pendant w/captive ring and lace bobbin w/captive ring

Mike Williams—2 bowls, one of Chechen burl

Ray Koenemann—2 captive rings, 2 burl bowls

Roy Richardson—4 baby rattles w/3captive rings

Rick Mosley—walnut hollow vessel

Gary Hinegardner—something so enthralling I forgot to write it down

John Beach—3rd bowl (jarrah), black walnut bowl

John Buehrer—textured Bradford pear mushroom

A Day in the Life of Bat Man

By Bill Farny

Actually the day starts the night before, with an inventory and sharpening of various gouges and parting tools, laying out the Rawlings "Making the Game" uniform and cleaning my tennis shoes. On game day I arrive at the Ole' yard two and a half hours prior to game time, park in the employee lot and stroll two blocks to the stadium. As I pass through security the young guard starts to ask me to open my tool roll, but he is stopped short by the old guard, "He's okay, that's Rawlings Bat Man and those are his turning tools." I proceed to the "Family Pavilion" between gates 7 and 8 on the main level and arrive at the Rawlings "Making the Game" booth.

The first order of business is to turn on the laser engraver so it will be ready for action when the crowd arrives, then on to setting up the ball stitching chair, bat display and finally taking the cover off the lathe. I review the lathe set-up, change the spur drive for a safety-drive and install my steady rest. The tool roll is opened and the freshly sharpened gouges and parting tools are laid out, roughing gouges on the left, spindle gouge in the middle and the parting tool on the right. A trip to the back room brings out the other tools required for tonight's adventure—calipers, pencil, pull saw and sandpaper.

I review the template bats available: Shawn Green, Woody Williams, Willie Mays, Mark McGwire and a standard Rawlings 33" Big Stick. The decision is made and I mount a turning billet on the lathe. On the rack above the lathe I place the Mark McGwire template. The sight of this lethal weapon brings sweat to the brow of managers, fear to the hearts of most pitchers, delight to all Cardinals fans and makes all the pretty girls weak in the knees.

It's now ten minutes before gate opening, a quick glance at the gate tells me it will be a very busy night. I make a trip to the men's room to freshen up and then go to Homer's Landing for a glass of water. It's two minutes till gate opening. Putting on my smock and donning my safety glasses I sit back and await the crowd to pour in.

As the fans steam in and gather in front of the lathe, I place the template bat on the tool rest and transfer the marked section lines to the billet with a



carpenter's pencil. Then I rotate the billet slowly by hand while holding the pencil on each of the transferred marks so they are continuous around the billet. The lathe is turned on and with a parting tool the first cuts are made defining the ends of the bat. Using calipers a measurement is taken of the first section line on the template bat. Bringing the calipers to the corresponding section line on the billet, a cut is made with a parting tool to the specified depth. This process continues down the billet until all section lines have been cut to depth. A pencil is used to mark each groove to serve as an index for the cutting and sanding procedure.

Child: "What is that man doing, Daddy?"

Dad: "He is turning a bat on a lathe."

Child: "Out of WOOD?!?!?"

Using a spindle gouge, the barrel end of the billet is turned down to the penciled index line and the end of the barrel is rounded. Next using a mixture of roughing and spindle gouges, each section of the billet is turned down to the penciled index lines—just playing connect the dots. With a spindle gouge the knob is refined to resemble the template bat, and now the sanding process is ready to begin. Using 80 grit sandpaper the billet is encircled. Extreme pressure is applied by holding the sandpaper with both hands and pulling up. The billet is smoothed out, the penciled index lines disappear and a final sanding pass is made with 120 grit.

See Bat Man, page 7

Club Picnic

September 28, 2003

Bring a dish or don't. Just come to the meeting/picnic, rain or shine.
Family and friends, too.

