



# WOODTURNERS OF ST. LOUIS

A Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners

April 2005



## RICK MOSLEY DEMO The World According to Rick

Our March Meeting, held April 3<sup>rd</sup> due to the Easter holiday, featured a demonstration by Rick Mosley. Rick is a Carpenter by day and father, husband and wood turner by night. He started turning 4-5 years ago and has become one of our club's premier turners. Rick's demonstration showed us his approach to hollow turning. He discussed wood selection, grain orientation, tools, and methods. He certainly held to his motto of safety first and "if it doesn't feel right, stop the lathe." He amused us with his manual pull start Grizzly lathe and proved that with patience and proper technique a moderate lathe can do more than it's credited for.

Rick demonstrated hollowing out an egg shape. It is important to use green wood when hollow turning, the fresher the better. Rick obtains his wood free by keeping an eye out for fallen trees and making his neighbors aware of his needs. Once he has chosen a piece of wood he selects the grain orientation to give him

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## NEXT MEETING

April 24, 2005 ~ 1-4pm

Woodcraft

12511 Olive Street Road  
Creve Couer, MO 63141  
(Dierbergs Heritage Place)

the effect he's looking for. After the block is cut he drills a 1" hole on each end, directly in the pith if his chosen piece has one, to accept a drive spur and a live center. Then he mounts the blank, turns it true and faces one end to accept a faceplate. He attaches a 4" faceplate with 8 galvanized deck screws (sheet metal screws are also an excellent choice since they are hardened) using them only once before throwing them out. Once mounted to a faceplate he turns his outside shape checking for flat spots with a ruler. He will use a contrasting color paper to better see the shape as he goes along. Once the shape is good he sands to 150 grit and either waxes or applies one coat of shellac to help keep the moisture in.

Now he is ready to begin to hollow the form. He started by drilling a hole to the finished depth. Then he takes lite passes with a Kelton hollowing tool, removing the wood by cutting towards the center. Rick stressed the importance of stopping often to clear the chips and check the wall thickness. Rick brought many examples

*(cont'd on page 2)*

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of how to measure thickness. Some were commercial but many were made with items

which can be found at a hardware store. During his demonstration, he made a set of calipers from 1/4" soft copper tubing, found in the plumbing department of most hardware stores.

Rick turns the wall to finished thickness as he moves deeper into the form. If you try to hollow the form out then come back to the top to reduce the thickness there won't be enough mass to support the cut. As he gets deeper into the form he marks his tool with a marker to help prevent him from going through the bottom. If Rick plans on having a spout he will leave the top thick then finish turn the outside of the spout when finished with hollowing.



Once the hollowing was complete Rick parted the egg from the lathe and with the help of Bill Farney he cut the egg in half with a hacksaw. It sounds like Rick has learned a lot by cutting some of his forms in half.

Normally Rick will reverse chuck his forms with a jam chuck on the exterior of the form not inside the hole. Once centered he will hold the form to the jam chuck with Tyvek tape, adding that it leaves no residue on the wood. Rick powersands his pieces with standard sanding mandrels equipped with an extra piece of foam.

All that's left is to apply the finish. Rick certainly put on a great demonstration

## WOODTURNERS OF ST. LOUIS

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STLWoodturners

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and was well prepared. It is clear that he has focused on turning

hollow forms. We look forward to seeing more of Rick's work as time goes on. If this demonstration inspired you to turn a hollow form bring it to the next meeting, regardless of end result. Even the pieces that don't work out are a success as we learn from every experience.

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## MARCH SHOW & TELL



by Roger



by Roger



by Stan

**Stan** brought an assortment of pens turned from various woods.

**Bill** brought a Sweet Gum bowl finished with Teak oil.

**Matt** brought a cherry bowl with no foot.

**Gary** brought a segmented bowl from Tulipwood and Bloodwood.

**Bill** brought a Maple salad bowl, and two Boxelder hollow forms finished with Krylon 311.

**Roger** brought 2 scratch awls and a segmented wall hanging with a quilters pattern in the center.

## RAFFLE



To raise additional funds for the chapter we will periodically hold raffles.

Currently there are 4 raffle prizes available. **Snakewood** chances are \$1.

**Oysterwood** (*only available through a licensed arborist*) chances are \$1.

**Blackwood** chances are \$1 and the

**Glass Hat** (*which was blown at our February meeting*) chances are \$5 each.

*Please come to our next meeting for more details!*

## A PURPLE HEART ...for the Purple Hearts

Chris Stratford brought forth a great idea and we hope many of you will join the efforts and make a few purple heart ink pens.

He is being deployed to Iraq in May and will be there for 4 months. Chris is a flight nurse and will be flying the wounded patients out. Most of them have purple hearts from their injuries. He suggested that many club members make purple heart pens, or any pens for that matter, for the troops and/or the wounded.

He would be more than happy to take them with him when he goes. Many things could be done with the pens... engraving "good luck", "we are thinking of you" etc...

If you're interested in participating in the Purple Heart Pen Effort, please contact Stan King. He will order pen kits at a cost of \$1.50 each.

## MAKING TOOLS FOR HOLLOW TURNING

by Matt Keim

There are a few essential aids to use for hollow turning that can be easily made at home with common items from a hardware store. A good gauge for wall thickness is a piece of stiff wire bent in a loop with a gap set at a pre-determined length (steel wire works best). Bend the wire any way necessary so that when measuring thickness of the wall the gauge is perpendicular to the wall. Rick Mosley sets his gap to match the distance from the tip of his finger to the first crease. He then moves the gauge along the wall using his finger to determine about how thick the wall is. Another good tool for measuring thickness is a caliper. As demonstrated by Rick a cheap, fairly accurate set of calipers can be fabricated from 4' of 1/4" soft copper tubing and a brass screw and nut. To do this cut the tubing into equal lengths and hammer the middle flat. Drill a hole through the center of the flattened section and place the bolt through it, making a X. Now tighten the nut, cut the brass screw down and hammer the threads so it doesn't come loose. On a flat table, bend each end to the desired shape for your current project and ensure that the ends touch on both ends at the same time. Now insert it into your piece and try it out. While not incredibly accurate it will allow measurements in areas standard calipers won't get, since you can re-bend them to fit your needs. Now if you bought 5' of tubing take your left over 1' hammer one end flat and bend it to the shape of a spoon to use for removing chips. Cutting tools can also be made at home if you're adventurous enough.

## \* APRIL \*

### CHALLENGE

Turn a mushroom!

Turn any type of mushroom you wish.

### DEMONSTRATION

For our April meeting Dave McWilliams will demonstrate pen turning. This demonstration is in honor of our Purple Heart Pen Effort for the wounded soldiers in Iraq. There will also be a workshop for individual turning after the meeting for anyone who would like to stay and participate.

## MARCH MEETING

### DOOR PRIZES

**Rick Mosley** won a piece of Siberian Elm  
**Rich Bright** won a piece of Sausage wood  
**Dave McWilliams** won a piece of Camphor wood  
**Donald Pool** won a piece of Sassafras  
**Vicki King** won a piece of cherry  
**Terry McWilliams** won a piece of Persimmon  
**Carl Lang** won a piece of Walnut  
**Gary Roux** won a grab bag of Cocobolo and Lacewood

## PICTURE DAY

Bill Rubenstein has offered to set up a Saturday for our members to bring their turnings to his warehouse for a photo shoot. The only cost to you will be the CD with the photos on it. Check the next issue for more details.



Want to find out how you can get free doughnuts??? Please see Jo Williams or Stan King to get a stack of cards to sell to your family and friends.



# St. Louis Wood Turners

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## NEW MEMBERS

### Dan Burleson

85 Hwy KK  
Troy, MO 63379  
636-295-1141  
dburleeson@larimore.net

### Edward Lisciandra

2408 Mountain Pead Ct  
Pacific, MO 63069  
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edwardlisciandra@aol.com

### Mark Penacho

715 Bell Ave  
Webster Groves, MO 63119  
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## 19<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL

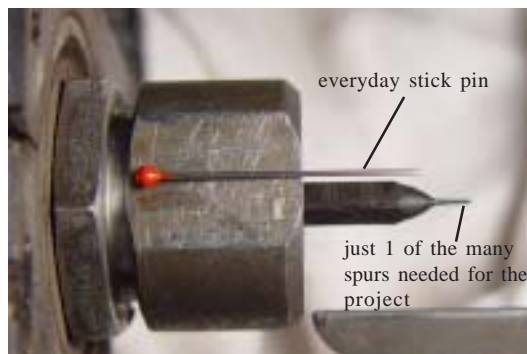
## AAW SYMPOSIUM

The 19th annual AAW Symposium will be held in Kansas City, July 22-24. Many members of our chapter will be attending. The Sheraton Overland Park has blocks of rooms reserved for the convention. Please call (913) 234-2100 to make your reservations and ask for a room in the AAW Block.

AAW is also looking for volunteers to help with the symposium registration and the demos. If you are interested in volunteering please call (651) 484-9094.

## COLLABORATIVE

Much progress has been made on the collaborative project for this year's entry at the AAW Symposium. See a sample of a spur for a dragonfly's leg below. Elaine has turned close to 200 of these for two of the three dragonflies in the project.



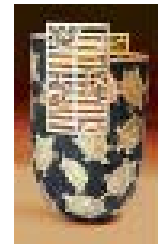
## WORD TO THE WISE

Often we find ourselves looking to professionally made videos on woodturning for ideas and instruction. We assume that because the video was made by a popular woodturner that they won't steer us wrong.

This, as we heard at March's meeting, is not always the case. In our Library we have a video on turning natural edge bowls that repeatedly shows the turner cutting in the wrong direction on a bowl. Doing this causes more tearout as he is cutting unsupported grain. This is probably why he turns the piece over to his wife for sanding, she starts at 40 grit!

So keep in mind that while woodturning videos are interesting and can provide a wealth of information, they do not always use good technique.

If you are interested in participating in our mentoring program please contact Joe Schumacher at (636) 464-8385, or [jfshoes@charter.net](mailto:jfshoes@charter.net). The mentoring program offers a great advantage to members of the St. Louis Woodturners. You have the unique opportunity to pair up with an experienced turner. This program can help any level turner, with any aspect of turning.



## A CHANCE TO WIN A BINH PHO MASTERPIECE

Southbound II - Ambrosia Maple, Acrylic, Dye and Gold Leaf - 6" x 3.5"

## A RAFFLE TO BENEFIT THE VIETNAMESE AMERICAN CANCER FOUNDATION

Visit [www.johnsonartcollection.com](http://www.johnsonartcollection.com) and click on VACF Raffle for more information on the featured artists and Asian inspired artwork available for raffle.

Tickets will be sold for each of three individual art pieces, one by Binh Pho, Alexandru Darida and Jia Lu. 1 ticket = \$10, 3 tickets = \$20, 10 or more = \$5 each. Call 323-655-5738 to order your tickets or e-mail your order to: [mikejohnson@johnsonartcollection.com](mailto:mikejohnson@johnsonartcollection.com).

Drawing will be held at the Opening Reception of "Asia: Then and Now" Sunday, April 24th, 2005 from 4-9pm. Need not be present to win.

# MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION --WOODTURNERS OF ST. LOUIS

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

STREET ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ WORK PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Mail this application along with your check for \$20 for one-year's dues to:

**Woodturners of St. Louis**  
**6548 Ike Drive**  
**Barnhart, MO 63012**

or, bring it to the next Meeting.

## WOODTURNERS OF ST. LOUIS

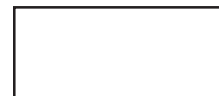
**Micki Keim, Editor**  
**2649 Forest Glen Estates Drive**  
**Pacific, MO 63069**

### CALENDAR

**April 23, 9am-1pm**  
Collaborative Meeting

**April 24, 1-4pm**  
Meeting at Woodcraft

**May 14, 9am-1pm**  
Collaborative Meeting



**Dues are Due!**

**If you haven't paid your dues please pay Stan King to prevent being dropped from the member list.**