

WOODTURNERS OF ST. LOUIS

A Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners

April 2009

March Demonstration and Workshop Well Attended

By Thomas Simon



Nick Cook's demonstration drew about 40 participants. He started the day off with a quick snapshot of what he does for a living: one of a kind commissioned vessels, reproduction spindle work and production gift items. He advised observers to get familiar with the skew and proceeded to demonstrate going from square to round with beads and V-cuts. Key words were "Practice Practice, Practice" and "Light cuts for a smooth finish." (Continued on page 2)



Next Meeting

April 26, 2009

1pm

Candlesticks

Some unique twists (see page 3)

Show and tell

Bring your Jigs & Gadgets

Pre-meeting 11am

at

Woodcraft

2077 Congressional Dr.

St. Louis, MO 63146

Upcoming Meetings

May 17 - Build a Tool - Walt Ahlgrim

This meeting will be held at Bill Rubenstein's warehouse.

We will need a count of members who want to build hook tools, round skews, small hollowing tools. Members making tools will need to share the cost of materials.

June 21 - Coloring

July 26 - Commercial Turner

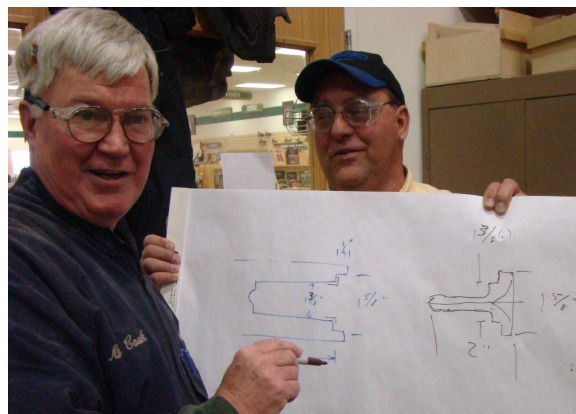
August 23 - Kim Winkle

September 27 - Picnic

October 25 - Ornaments

November 22 - Annual Wine and Cheese Party

Nick demonstrated twelve pieces: **Honey Dipper**, simple but elegant. (I have always used a spoon but now I've got to make a few.); **Garden Dibble**, scored with 1-inch increments for planting bulbs at different depths; **Snowman with Hat**, with inked face and a screw eye for hanging (available from bennyswood-works.com.); **Baby Rattle**, two halves hollowed out with 1-inch core box bit, filled with dried beans then glued together and turned; **Spurtle**, Swedish-style stirring stick for the kitchen; **Spinning Top**, textured using a machinist Knurling tool (available from most suppliers like MSC), produced a nice finish; **Goblet**, shaped cup first then stem, lastly, the base which should be, minimally, half the cup diameter; **Tea Light Candle Holder**, real simple with textured sides for accent and candle hole drilled with 1-1/8 inch Forstner bit; **Salt Shaker**, (This one was different, no holes on top but filled and dispensed from the bottom. The trick was to dome the hole on the inside and make a funnel shaped plug to fit the hole that is approximately 2/3 the length of the hole and drilled with a 1/8 bit. Works great!);



Nick describing salt shaker construction.

Woodturners of St Louis

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Lidded box, (His fit was so precise it created that suction feel I've been reading about but have yet to duplicate); **Pepper Mill**, used Chef Specialties deluxe grinder kit instead of a ceramic crush grinder (He made it look easy. He said that his standard size is 10 inches tall and finished with 4-5 coats of tung oil or urethane.); **Plate/Platter** with textured surface using the Sorby texturing tool and a torch for contrast. Nick recommended a plate or platter foot should be 40-50% of the overall diameter but deeper bowls should have a foot 1/3 the diameter.

Eight participants attended Sunday's workshop where Nick's first question was, "Who wants to do what?" The salt shaker was such a hit from the demo that everyone jumped on that as their first project and it was interesting to see the various shapes. From there we all moved on to different items from the previous day. I loved his approach of working individually with each person on their choice of projects through the day. I even tried a bowl. I finally understand that I was only making short vases before with fairly straight up & down sides. His advise for production crafters is to settle on a few basic shapes (on items like wine stoppers) and keep things simple to increase production. If you want to see more of his work, go to his web site: www.nickcookwoodturner.com Questions? Email him at nickcook@earthlink.net (For more on the Nick Cook Weekend, see page 3)

From the editors:

Many of you may not be aware of the new Facebook account for Woodturners of St. Louis. So far there are 26 members, 63 photos and 1 discussion topic. In order to get to this account, you need to be "invited." It's easy to do. Just email one of the officers or Matt or Micki Keim or Dixi Smith or anyone else you know who has joined the group. It's a quick and easy way to view images and communicate with other members of the club. It was not intended to detract from our web page in any way. Just one more opportunity to connect with others of like interest.

Thomas Simon

Katy Hinegardner

WELCOME NEW MEMBER!

*The Woodturners of St. Louis
extends a warm welcome
to our newest member:
Tom Stauder of Columbia, MO*

Announcements

En Sealer now available in 1- and 2-gallon containers for \$10 & \$15, respectively. Just email or call Dave Endres (endrestoh@att.net, 314-568-1244) to make arrangements to pick it up at his office.

The Twist on Candlesticks

Several club members will be presenting their unique take on the lowly candleholder. Examples:
Barley Twist by Dixi Smith;
Torched and Textured by Matt Keim.

Pre-Meeting

Nick Cook in Review

If you have questions about or have had problems completing any projects shown during the demonstration or workshop from last month, this pre-meeting is for you!

Library Notes

By Rich Hinkebein

Your club recently acquired three books on segmented turning. Although the subject is the same, the teaching and projects are much different. They are: *Woodturning with Ray Allen* featuring his southwest Indian style; *Segmented Turning* by Ron Hampton which includes complete instructions on nine different, less complicated projects; and *Segmented Woodturning* by William Smith featuring an open style of segmented turning. In addition, we now have: *500 Wood Bowls*, beautifully photographed examples of excellence; *Ellsworth On Woodturning* by David Ellsworth; *Woodturning Full Circle* by David Springett, featuring small but creative items; *Woodturning Techniques* (within which lies a photo of a piece by our own Gary Johnson) and *Woodturning Methods* by Mike Darlow .

New DVDs include: *Woodturning Wizardry* for those who want to try some interesting complications; and a demonstration of the *Easy Rougher* tool that was demonstrated at our last meeting.

Past and Future

Guest Artists/Demonstrators

Woodturners of St. Louis has consistently brought turners of quality to demonstrate and inspire this club's members while striving to meet the needs of different skill levels in the process. Nick Cook's recent 4-day visit provided a large variety of quick turnings for the crafter. In addition to the day-long demonstration and 3 full days of hands-on learning for 21 individuals, Nick shared slides of his work after the dinner on Saturday evening. This profile reflected the extremes of his turnings. He has produced 8-foot tall bats by tying two lathes together. He has made bar stools and table pedestals from a single chunk of wood and a maple burl sink bowl. His production work goes way beyond snowmen and honey dippers to include multiple balusters, all identical, produced without a template.

Our next guest will be Kim Winkle, who comes highly recommended by Nick. Dave was able to book her for August. Pictured below are images of her intriguing work. She uses milk paint to decorate her clean-lined pieces. More information will be coming as the date draws near.



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION - WOODTURNERS OF ST. LOUIS

NAME _____ DATE _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

HOME PHONE _____ WORK PHONE _____

E-Mail _____

Check applicable boxes below:

Please consider receiving newsletter by email only. It saves a little paper, costs less, you'll receive it sooner and it's in color.

Bring this application to the next meeting along with your check . Or mail to:

Woodturners of St. Louis
c/o Walt Ahlgrim
10 Ramblewood Ln
St. Louis, MO 63141

Make check payable to: **Woodturners of St. Louis**

- New member
- Renewing member
- Individual Membership (\$30)
- Family Membership (\$45)
- I would like to receive the newsletter by email
- I would like to receive the newsletter by snail mail.

Applications for membership in the American Association of Woodturners are available at each chapter meeting.

WOODTURNERS OF ST. LOUIS

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Next Meeting

April 26
1pm
Woodcraft

