

Shavings

DETROIT AREA
WOODTURNERS



Volume 2, Issue 9

<http://www.DetroitAreaWoodturners.org>

October 17, 2004

President's Corner

Summer is over and we all miss the great weather, sunny days, shorts and tee shirts, swimming and boating, fishing, turning wood in the shade, art shows and no DAW meetings. Now that fall has arrived and our meetings are in full swing we have to juggle DAW, football, hunting, family outings, and retirees travel, and school activities. It just shows how busy we all are at any time of the year.

You may have noticed that several members are starting open shop programs; this is an invite to drop in during the scheduled time and chew the fat, solve problems or whatever. No advance notification is required.

The exec board hopes you like the administrative changes we are making i.e. the printed announcements and planning calendar that is available on the web site.

I have received a lot of feedback regarding our salad bowl project. It has been very positive and has provided a lot of members with the opportunity to improve their turning. It shows that when there is an objective we will all strive to meet it. Lets keep the salad bowls coming.

Greg Smith

DAW Booth at Novi Woodworkers Show

Detroit Area Woodturners will again participate in the Novi Woodworkers show scheduled on December 3-5, 2004.

This is our primary opportunity to get new members - so we're looking for maximum participation from current members. If you're pleased with the DAW contribution to your turning progress, consider sharing that with potential members by signing up for booth duty.

Booth duty shifts will run for half days. Mornings will run from opening to 1:00 PM, afternoons from 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM and evenings from 5:00 PM to closing. A sign up list will be

Professional Turning Demo Nov. 13th

Don Derry will be in the Detroit Area the second week in November. Given the response to our previous professional demonstration and feedback received in the club survey - DAW has engaged Don for a full day Demo on Saturday, November 13th.

Don will demo from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM on Saturday November 13 at the Vietnam Veterans of America, 581 W. Kennett, Waterford, MI, 48330. This is just off Dixie, North of Pontiac.

Specializing in unique coloring and ultra glossy finishes, Don has created his own nich in the woodturning world. His demo and the work he exhibited at he Orlando AAW Symposium won him great acclaim. I recommend internet visits to both Don's site and the AAW site to view his work. His Bio

New DAW Web Site

Matt Harbor, a computer internet professional, has applied those professional skills to the DAW Website. I strongly recommend you visit the site and take advantage of the numerous new features...not the least of which is an accessible archive for past "Shavings" issues. The new URL is :
<http://www.detroitareawoodturners.org/>

Next Meeting -Oct. 17, 2004

Meeting Highlight will be "Turning Christmas Ornaments" by John Fitzpatrick

Detroit Area Woodturners meets at the Shelby River Bends Park, Shadbush Nature Center, Shelby Township, MI, from 2:00 to 4:00 PM. The Park is located on Ryan Road between 21 and 22 Mile Roads opposite the Hamlin Road junction.



'Want To Improve Your Video Recording Skills?

This is the opportunity you have been waiting for, learning how to do some serious video work.

As we discussed in the Sept meeting; DAW needs a member to video record monthly activities. This is an opportunity to learn the ins and outs of video with hands on practice. Just like turning, it takes practice. This is your opportunity to hone those skills. Contact Greg or any of the officers if you are interested.

Basic Woodturning Mentor Program

The DAW mentor program was generally a 2003 success in its first year. Have you considered the opportunity to pass your learning to others?

If you're interested in mentoring woodturning, contact Chet Bisno and we'll tie you in to an interested learner.

You'll be surprised at how much you'll learn when you have to think through what you've been doing naturally. It's great way to have fun and make friends.

Door Prize Reminder

With renewal of meetings after the summer break, please don't forget the Door Prizes. Take a look around your shop for those items (tools, wood, etc.) you're constantly shuffling around.

You know the stuff - it's not needed, yet you can't bring yourself to discard it. Bringing it in for a door prize will assist the club, provide a gem for another member and help clear the decks in your shop.

Adding a 2nd Stage to Your Vacuum or Dust Collection System

Emptying a shop vac or dust collector is a nuisance!! But popping the cover off a trash can is easy and fast. That's the benefit you can get from adding an intermediate stage to your dust collection system.

Adding that stage is as easy as cutting a cover to fit a trash can, adding a groove to the cover that fits the can, applying a seal to the groove and cutting two holes for inlet and outlet hoses.

The minimum can be hoses just poked into the can cover...it'll work! Or you can do more, such as angling the flow to induce swirl. The key is sufficiently slowing the flow to allow the heavier debris to fall out. If you have even a decent fit between the cover and the trash can, air pressure on the outside of the cover will insure a good seal. It's easy and inexpensive - give it a try!

Remember SPEED Kills on a lathe too! You'll improve more problems by slowing down, than increasing lathe speed.

For Sale: 14" Bandsaw



Ken Riedel is offering this 14 inch Cummins band saw, model 3231, with 6 blades for \$175.00 or best offer. Call or email Ken if interested. (ken5312@juno.com / 810-329-4339)

Bill's "Open Shop Tuesday"

In keeping with the educational objectives of the AAW and the DAW, Bill Youngblood will host an "Open Shop" session each Tuesday evening from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM (or ?) to answer questions and work projects. This is an informal gathering to talk turning and will cover those miscellaneous items we don't cover in our scheduled meetings due to normal business and scheduled demos.

These sessions will be address short subjects such as tools, tool sharpening, techniques, wood, finishes, or any other subject of interest. We'll be able to make chips and messes and not worry about cleanup. The coffee pot will be on and of course, there is always something cold in the fridge.

Directions: Take I-94 East to exit 248 (26 Mile Road/Marine City Highway). Turn right and go one mile to County Line Road. Turn left and go 3 miles to 29 Mile Road. Turn left and go to the second driveway on the left, that's the driveway to Bill's shop. If you get lost, call Bill at 586-291-5027.

Hope to see you Tuesdays.

Woodturning Site of the Month.

In searching for unique woodturning information I see a lot excellent sites, thus new Shavings feature - The Internet Woodturning Site of the Month.

As an opener, Richard J Pagano's site (<http://www.beaverpondstudio.com/>) warrants particular recognition as a truly complete site.

The assortment of beautiful work created by Richard Pagano is mind boggling. Extreme complexity, wonderful variety and the broad selection of complementary woods makes this a fantastic site. Mr. Pagano specializes in segmented and laminated turnings. This site also includes a but highly useful assortment of jigs.

DAW Officers - Here to Help! Don't Hesitate to Call

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Honoring our Our Commitment for the AAW New Lathe Grant

Earlier this year DAW received an educational grant from AAW that paid for our new club lathe. Acceptance of that grant incurred some obligation for educational support. Thus, Len Kraska has contacted the Bloomfield Hills School District about volunteering our woodturning skills for a shop class.

An industrial arts teacher responded with a request for our help for making tops. The tops will be used to demonstrate math, science, and build some woodturning skills for the students. There are three classes of 6th graders with 19, 17, and 12 students in each class who will be making the tops. There should be minimal help required from volunteers.

The teacher understands there might be limited body contact involved, such as holding a hand to guide tools and such. DAW is covered by the school for any injury that may occur on site to the student.

The event is planned to occur between Oct. 18 and Dec. 11. The sooner the better to enable use of the tops for class assignments.

The school shop has one lathe, a Powermatic. DAW has one lathe, our 14" Delta. We could use help with your lathe, if it's portable; say a Jet or Delta mini-lathe. We also need your help to assist with a group of students, say 2 or three, depending on the number of DAW volunteers. Contact Len to participate

Biography: Don Derry - Professional Woodturner

<http://www.donalderry.com./art-bio.html>

Donald has been a woodworker for 35 years and has made everything from fine furniture and cabinetry to rock and roll guitars. In 1993 Don and his wife Kathy adopted a baby girl and made the decision for Donald to change his job status from cabinetmaker to full time stay at home dad. Fatherhood gave Donald time to reconsider his career and go into Woodturning. Donald states, "Turning appealed to me because it isn't dependent on the cutting, fitting and endless measuring that my cabinetmaking required."

So in 1993 He began in earnest to teach himself the craft of Woodturning. His interest in color was initiated do to an observation which he made at an American Association of Woodturners symposium in '94. A highlight of the symposium was an instant gallery containing several hundred turnings by amateurs and professionals alike. When he viewed the gallery he asked one question. "What do I not see represented in this exhibition?" Donald noticed that vibrant color and optical quality finishing were two attributes being neglected by modern woodturners and he set out to exploit both to the highest standard of optical brilliance possible. So successful was his quest that his work is, more often than not, thought to be Fine Art Glass rather than finely crafted wood.

Presently Donald is working in Chinese elm because the open grain structure and neutral wood tone lends well to the coloring process he is developing. The colors are pigments from an industrial paint supplier and aniline dyes. The pigments are hand rubbed into the unfinished wood, sanded to the appropriate contrast, blended with solvent and sometimes enhanced by air brushing. Each hollow form is then sprayed with 7 to 10 coats of water white lacquer followed by a 6 step and very intense hand polishing routine until the surface is optically perfect. To give a perspective on the whole process Donald states that, "Coloring, finishing and polishing easily takes more time than the woodturning."



Tips From the Sunrise Woodcraft Site

http://www.sunrisewoodcrafts.ns.ca/woodturning_tips/QuickTips.htm

Tip 1. My chuck slowly gets clogged up with fine wood dust and the key operation becomes quite sticky. So I will occasionally blow out all the dust with the shopvac, and lubricate the mechanism with graphite lubricant. This is a fine graphite dust and is sold in hardware stores for lubricating door locks, amongst other things.

After I turn the jaws in and out a few times, they become noticeably easier to operate. And when I put it back on the lathe I get a much better feel for the amount of gripping pressure I apply. I have been turning a lot of bottle stoppers lately, and before cleaning I was finding the dowel had a tendency to come out of the jaws at the slightest provocation. After cleaning the mechanism I get a much better grip. I assume that more of the key torque is transferred to the jaws when the gears are operating smoothly.

Tip 2. A pencil line on many exotic woods is nearly invisible. The bark of most trees is equally difficult to mark for cutting. One answer is a white china marking pencil, available from office supply stores. It is designed to mark on glossy surfaces, and the white line is easily visible.

Tip 3. Do you ever cut tiny slivers off with the bandsaw, only to find that they get stuck between the blade and the throat?

When I am cutting small pieces I use a couple of sheets of fridge magnet material (in sheet form) on the table, set so there is zero clearance between them and the blade.

I used to stick cardboard to the table, but the magnetic sheets are much more convenient. When they are not in use I slap them on the top door of the saw.

Join the AAW!!



Safety Sam

Bandsaw Safety

Hi People. I hope you all had an enjoyable and safe summer. Unfortunately, I heard of two member who experienced minor accidents. The good news is that they weren't injured as badly as they might have been.

The first was a violation of the old adage that if the blade is dull, just push a little harder. This does not work. One slip and it could cost you a finger, cut tendons, or any number of other serious injuries. Bandsaws are great tools and almost a necessity for bowl turners. However, they must be treated with the greatest respect. Our injured member got off with a few stitches and a couple weeks of recuperation time.

It is ironic that in the Fall issue of "American Woodturner" Alan Lacer has an article on bandsaws. It covers all aspects of bandsaw use for the turner. Be sure to see it beginning on page 60. For AAW non-members "American Woodturner" is the official AAW publication. I urge you to join and receive the four quarterly issues per year. It is well worth the investment.

One of the most dangerous things in any craft or trade is dull tools. Take the time to sharpen your tools or replace dull saw blades with sharp ones. **It takes a lot less time than a trip to a hospital.**

Next month we will cover the other injury about which I heard that testifies to the mandatory use of face shields. Happy turning.

Future Meeting Highlights

Here's what's planned for future meetings:

- November 21st - Chucks & Chucking - Chet Bisno
- December 19 - Turning Natural Edges - Gary Hoover
- January 16 - Plates and Platters - Ray Frase
- February 20 - Small Boxes - Bill Youngblood
- March - Sharpening and Turning Oil Lamps - Greg Smith

Don Derry's "Hands-On" Workshop in November

If you've read the preceding material about Don Derry and want even more, there are two "Hands-on" workshops scheduled for Nov 8-9 and Nov. 10-11. The cost to participate is \$285 in classes of 10 turners.

The event is sponsored by Russ Clinard at 734 663-9689. **This is not a DAW sponsored event.**

Do You Want to Learn How to Photograph Your Work?

Learn how to set up a mini studio and take digital photos. Practice sessions are available on a monthly basis and at specially organized training sessions.

Contact Greg or any of the officers if you are interested.

Using Live Tailstock Centers

Posted at the below URL by Fred Holder's "More Woodturning" newspaper. It is accessible at: <http://www.fholder.com/Woodturning/tips.htm>

1) When turning very small items between centres, I used to find that my live centre sometimes penetrated too far into the end grain of the timber. I found that if you insert a very small flat washer (4/40 UNC or the like) over the end of the centre it will only allow a minimum penetration, will still centre and the washer applies ample pressure on the end of the timber.

2) Still on the subject of live centres. I found on occasions that I wanted to apply pressure to a work piece, say the base of a bowl when the inside is finished and it is mounted in a jamb chuck, without marking the timber. I put a plastic or neoprene cup, of the type used on tubular steel furniture legs to protect your floors, over the point of the centre. If you use a white or light coloured cup it will allow sufficient



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Stamp

Visit the NEW DAW Website at: <http://www.detroitareawoodturners.org/>