

Woodchuck Chatter



May 8, 2005

Volume 2, Issue 5

Special points of interest:

- Photos of Last Meeting
- Random Shots: About copying
- Woodchuck News
- The Pen Project
- What's Coming Up

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Meeting on May 19th

At this meeting, Ralph will do a demonstration on turning boxes. After being the highest bidder and reading the Raffan book that John Brislin donated at the last meeting, Ralph has been excited about end grain boxes.

He will bring examples of different boxes he has turned, talk a bit about box design considerations, wood selection and preparation, then



go to the lathe to make some shavings fly. We will end up with a finished box. There will be something for everyone as several chucking techniques will

be shown as well as all of the major types of cutting tools in use. The highlight will include watching Ralph muddle his way through "back hollowing" end grain with the gouge!



Secretary's Report –Meeting of April 21st.

On April 21st we had 30 people, seven of which were new faces.

The pens project:

Bob Bouvier reports there are currently 1440 Vermonters activated. We delivered 250 pens by Christmas. Two hundred of those pens were distributed at Camp Johnson last month at the deactivation ceremonies. Fifty pens did get sent to Iraq, some to the wrong place. An additional 400 pens were delivered at Camp Shelby to troops before they left. There are 4 groups currently being activated of 65, 65, 40, and 600. Bob Martin sent 5 pens to Seabees from White River Junction.

We have 600 pens left to be done. We need 575 more turned before July 4th.



Herb has made 1/3 of all the pens delivered !!!

Murray has prepared all the blanks.

We have spent about \$2300, there is an additional \$100 pledged by Hazlet. We need an additional \$480. We still need to fund raise at



\$20 per pen. We have sold 100 pens at the \$20 price. The street value of the pens we are sending our troops is approximately \$30,000.

Dick Montague is available to teach pen turning to anyone who needs lessons.

Club lathe: The stand is almost

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Random Shots

Woodchuck Chatter

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Woodchuck Chatter will be published monthly. Deadline for submissions is the 7th of the month. Please E-mail all submissions to the Editor in text or Word format. Visuals can be submitted as JPEG or TIFF.

We had an excellent discussion on plagiarism at our meeting. It is very succinctly reported by Joe Barry. Expanding his report, some of the points were:

- ◆ Plagiarism implies using another's ideas without attribution.
- ◆ Teachers expect you to learn from their ideas; to copy some of them; but not to duplicate them verbatim for your own profit.
- ◆ Many woodturning books state that you may not copy the enclosed designs for commercial use.
- ◆ Other books make no restrictions except forbidding copying pages of the book.
- ◆ It is extremely difficult to turn wood without using forms and combinations of forms evocative of someone's work.

There are only 2 kinds of turners. There are those who do this as part of their livelihood and those who will start selling their work as soon as their partner tells them to either sell some or burn some because the house is filling up. So, if you are closely imitating someone, better start innovating and developing your

own signature forms.

We also got started on a discussion of pricing our work. The main thought was that we should not sell our craft too cheaply. It pulls the entire market down. One way to price our goods is to look at what established turners are getting and to gauge our work against theirs for quality and beauty.

If you are selling your work as functional items, you need to calculate cost of production plus cost of your plant plus a wage for yourself. I'm thinking of doing an article on making a business plan to help with pricing.

Another consideration is that we are also creating art and that there is value added in creativity and use of beautiful, usually expensive, stock. A good pen made of available native wood might be worth \$20-\$25. The same pen parts assembled on burl walnut or flame mahogany might be worth 2 or 3 times that for the beauty of the wood even though both use the same mechanism and the same fabrication time. Likewise, two cherry bowls may have basic design and workmanship differences which make one worth \$50 and the other \$200.

Here's a piece of utter nonsense for us to think about before we start setting an actual scale of prices on our work:

Photographers are scared spitless about discussing prices in club meetings because some Professional Photographers of America lawyer advised them that they might be engaging in a restraint of trade practice! Try buying most tools and supplies from a variety of catalogs and see how much price difference you find! Is there a Conference of Woodworking Catalog Merchants fixing prices or is that the result of competition?

Change of subject. I'm probably going to abandon my workshop for a while to straighten up my yard. The weather is better & the mud is turning solid. I'll keep stacking projects up and I promise I'll work on the Pen Project some more. My current goal is to finish the 25 I have ready to go on the lathe. We still have a lot of our guys who deserve our respect and support who haven't got a Woodchuck pen yet.

Arny

Tips For Wise Woodchucks

(These 2 tips coincided & complement each other –Ed.)

When turning bowls, etc. listen to the tool's sound. If you detect a change—ESPECIALLY if you see some wobble—stop the lathe & inspect the object's rim for cracks. Apply thin CA glue & let dry 5 min. You may have to do a semifinal coating of CA to even out the color. Continue to turn to thickness—carefully.

Arny

Keep a tin of acetone and a rag within one arm span of your lathe. When you're

hasty with the CA and become one with your work you can dissolve the bond and minimize the indignity of it all. (Anonymous)



AAW Board Nominations

There will be 3 open positions on the Board of Directors of the AAW this year. Six names will be selected by the Nominating committee from all that apply to be nominated and those six will be on the ballot for the general election to fill the 3 vacant seats. In order to be considered for nomination, the following 3 things must be sent to the AAW Managing Director, 222 Landmark Center, 75 W. Fifth St., St. Paul, MN 55102, postmarked no later than May 15, 2005.

1. A statement of intent including qualifications and reasons for applying.
2. Letters of recommendation from 2 individuals who can affirm your organizational and leadership abilities.
3. A photograph of yourself (shoulders and head).

Many times, the best people do not step forward to serve; they must be asked and encouraged. You know who the leaders in your chapter are. If you feel that

they could bring real leadership skills to the AAW, encourage them to submit the above information before May 15th. If you feel that you could be an asset to the AAW membership, submit your own information.

Dave Barriger
Chairman - AAW Nominating Committee
Dbarriger@earthlink.net

Symposium Registration Info

It is time to encourage all chapter members to register for the 2005 AAW Symposium to be held in Overland Park, Kansas (Suburban Kansas City) on July 22, 23, and 24. To get all necessary information on this great symposium, visit <http://www.woodturner.org/sym/sym2005/>

Registration can be done 4 different ways:

Online until July 2nd.

After that it can be done at the door.

There are registration forms in the Spring AAW Journal to be mailed in.

One can register by calling the AAW office at 651-484-9094.

To register a youth for free, a registration form for the youth must be done through the AAW office. Only those youth that are properly registered through the office will be allowed in the symposium and be eligible for the drawing for the JET mini lathes, chucks, and tool sets. Call the office for the registration form.

We look forward to the entries from the chapters for the "Chapter Collaborative Challenge". See the AAW web site for rules.

Thanks
John Hill - Chapters and Membership Chairman
Johnhill@charter.net

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT!

Here are a couple of options for

getting to and from the symposium to the airport:

TO RESERVE A SHUTTLE CALL:

QuickSilver Transportation - Ask for Cassy or Jim at (800)888-8294 or (913) 262-0905

They will pick you up at the airport for PRE-ARRANGED pick-ups. The ride to the Symposium takes about 1 hour of travel time. The fares vary, depending on the number of passengers in the vehicle. Call for information.

ANOTHER OPTION IS: KCI Shuttle: 800-243-6383 - No reservations required. The fares vary, depending on the number of passengers in the vehicle. Call for information.

Matching Chapters & Demonstrators

One great thing that the AAW can do for its chapters is to help

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News From Away

Club Members Only Promotion Woodturners Supply

Month of May

Dear Club Member,

As this is an exclusive offer, our representatives will not ask you if you belong to a club when ordering. To make sure you receive the special offer pricing, be sure to mention your club name before placing your order.

Club Members Only Promotion

Effective: May 1- May 31

Promotion Description:

20% OFF ANY ITEM VALUED AT \$75.00 OR LESS

During the month of May, Club Members will receive a 20% discount on any one item valued at or below \$75. Offer can not be combined with other specials or discounts and is limited to single items only. If multiple items are ordered, the discount will be applied to the item with the greatest value up

to \$75.

For detailed information please see our club link on www.woodturnerscatalog.com.

If you have any questions please call our customer representatives at 1-800-551-8876.



Ted's Turn

Sequel to Woodchuck riddle

How many boards could a bored Mongol horde hoard if a bored Mongol horde could hoard boards?

Dear Woodchucks,

I am in the process, due to several new members joining our ranks, of reenergizing the mentoring program. I have 5 mentors and 10 mentored from a list passed at tonight's meeting. For those of you who missed the meeting please let me know if you would serve as a mentor or would like to be mentored. Once I have a complete list I will try to match people up in consideration of proximity and skill level.

Due to the current imbalance in numbers I am making a special appeal to those who could serve as mentors.

Woodturning 101

Since August of 2004 we have had the distinct pleasure of welcoming 14 new members to our Chapter. Many of these new members are just starting to learn the craft of woodturning so it was an appropriate time to reinvigorate the chapter's mentoring program. The catch however was that we ended up with twice as many people wanting to be mentored as there were mentors available. For this reason I thought it would be much more efficient to run a mini course first then assign the people in need of further help, a mentor.

To that end the following classes are set up at my shop in Shelburne on the following Thursday evenings in May from 7 to 9 PM.. Anyone else who would like to attend these basic classes is welcome. Please let me know if you will be attending. (finkhaus@together.net or 802985 2923)

Date

Class

May 5: Chain and band saws, turning tools and their sharpening, safety equipment, lathe + accessories.

May 12 Bowl turning: Turning a green wood bowl inside out and bottom will be demonstrated

May 26 Spindle turning: Rounding a billet with gouge and skew will be demonstrated as well as turning coves and beads.

Upcoming Events Featuring Woodchucks:

May 15 Shelburne Museum Lilac Sunday: Jim Cunningham and Ted Fink will on the porch of the General Store turning lilac pens and bowls respectively. Dick Montague will be turning lilac tops.

May 28th Ted Fink will be demonstrating bowl turning at the Maplewood Gallery at 32 Park St. Stowe in the Chapter's new demonstration tent.

New members and nametags

Since last August we have added **16 new members**. I have made up and begun distributing WC nametags to these new members but it would help in their assimilation into our chapter if everyone wore a nametag at our general meetings. Thanks.

Ted Fink

In House Demos:

May 19: Ralph Tursini: Turning Boxes; lidded vessels

June 16: Michael Mode: Stacked Bowl Construction

July 21: Peter Smith: Finishing Your Work

August 20: Picnic at Herb's—Al Stirt on creative process; also, Turning Stock On The Stump with Ralph

September: TBA

October: Annual meeting & elections



Bowl by David Scrase

(Continued from page 1)



done and will be set up for the extravaganza. Craig has spent a lot of time building the stand. Ralph and Joe are working on a set of guidelines for storage and use of the lathe. Any input would be appreciated.

Mentoring program: Dick will be here an hour before meeting times. Contact him with topics of interest.



Video library and equipment: We need a librarian/quartermaster. Any Takers?

We also need someone with experience doing publicity.

Craig and Dick will take on the task of managing the demo schedule.

Events:

Woodnet gallery opening in

Stowe on Memorial day weekend during the Vermont Open Studio period. That's at 32 Park Street, The Maplewood Gallery.

Turning Bowls with Ralph at Shelburne Craft Center July 22-4

May 17th the ship Louise McClure will kick off Vermont Cultural History Month which will end at the History Expo at Tunbridge Fairgrounds in mid June.

Next Meeting May 19th Possi-



"Over The Top" sundae dish

bly Michael Mode. Not confirmed yet.

June: Finishing

July TBA

August: BBQ at Herb's with

Al Stirt

September: TBA

October: 5th Board meeting

October 20th Annual Meeting

Raffle:

Silent auction for "Turning Boxes" by Richard Raffan

\$15 Woodturning gift certificate

3 magazines

1 maple block

Show & Tell:

Arny: Stacked bowl of Padouk



and Kingwood. He is now using Titebond III rather than Gorilla glue which quickly foams up and creates glue voids

Dick Montague: Tippy toys

Source for pen parts and videos:

Arizona Silhouette

PO Box 11170, Yuma, AZ

85366-9170

(928)329-8039

www.arizonasilhouette.com

Herb: Birch salt and pepper grinders after a 10 year hiatus! Donated to the gallery with proceeds to go to the club.

Craig: natural edge cherry bowl

Ted: Oak sample showing rays to amplify illustration from last month.

The "over the top" ice cream bowl which will hold a full quart!

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<http://www.woodturningcenter.org/links.html>

<http://www.woodcentral.com/>

<http://www.woodturningonline.com/>

<http://www.cnew.org/> (Central New England Woodturners)

<http://www.woodturnerscatalog.com/>

<http://www.packardwoodworks.com/>

<http://www.tools-for-woodworking.com/> (Highland Hardware)

<http://www.pennstateindustries.com/>

AAW News Items continued

(Continued from page 3)

facilitate matching chapters with demonstrators. Quality demonstrations will help insure the success of your chapter. Any member of the AAW that wants to be listed as a demonstrator on the AAW web site

[http://www.woodturner.org/community/members/members_pro.pl?submit=](http://www.woodturner.org/community/members/members_pro.pl?submit=Edit+Demonstrator+Search)

[Edit+Demonstrator+Search](http://www.woodturner.org/community/members/members_pro.pl?submit=Edit+Demonstrator+Search) must first register with the AAW Professional Outreach Program (POP). You can go to the above site and search for demonstrators by their name, location, or by key words in their description that they have submitted. For instance, if you would like a demonstrator that turns pens, type the word "pens" in the key word search box and all demonstrators that have said "pens" in their description will be shown. Once located, you can ask them for other chapter refer-

ences if you do not already know much about them as a demonstrator.

If you have a demonstrator lined up and would like to share travel costs with other chapters in your area or simply make it more attractive for the demonstrator to have more venues, you can compose an email and send it to chapters@woodturner.org. You must tell me the states or provinces to which you want it sent. I will redirect your message to the chapter presidents in those states or provinces. The message will appear to come from you and any replies will be sent to you. I am only the conduit.

Good luck in finding the right demonstrators to make your chapter a real success.

I have added a paragraph at the bottom of the page that will let you see the information that you have submitted and is currently being shown for your chapter on the AAW web site

<http://www.woodturner.org/community/chapters/members.pl?submit=Chapter+List>.

Review your information and edit it as necessary, particularly the number of members, chapter web site, meeting place, etc. When you complete it, click "save" and it will be sent to me by magic and I will correct it on the web site.

John Hill- Chairman Chapters and Membership
828-645-6633

johnrhill@charter.net

To update your chapter information, click on this link or cut and paste it into your browser:

<http://woodturner.org/community/chapters/signup.pl?submit=Update&uid=RIXp11C0Wf38kQA1ZxoA>

Then update your information, click on Save, and your new information will be added to the database.

" I'll be giving woodturning demonstrations so you will be able to see the transformation from a tree to a bowl. "

Woodchuck News

Tursini Woodturning and Bowl Works Open Studio Weekend

See Ralph Tursini's new studio while the shavings fly. He will show how he turns a wooden bowl from a tree.

TIME: May 28, 29 (Saturday and Sunday) from 10:00 - 5:00

I am opening the doors for the 13th annual Vermont Open Studio Weekend. Having moved this winter you can see my new studio and my most recent work on display and for sale. I'll be giving woodturning demonstrations so you will be able to see the transformation from

a tree to a bowl. If you become hooked you can sign up for customized individual instruction available any experience level.

LOCATION:
Tursini Woodturning and Bowl Works 184 John Putnam Memorial Drive Cambridge, VT (802) 644-5131
Business Park in Cambridge. From I-89 take exit 15, and Rte 15 W to Jericho. Go through Jericho and pass Clark's Truck Center on right and the gas station/general store on left. From gas station travel 9.3 miles more to the "Business Park in Cambridge". Turn left into business park. Make next left on John

Putnam Memorial Drive. Turn right into second (and last) drive. Studio entrance is the last door on the right when facing building from parking lot. From Rte. 15 East in Morrisville or Johnson travel through Jeffersonville to Cambridge Village.
From Lower Pleasant Valley Rd. on left travel 1.5 miles to the "Business Park in Cambridge" and follow directions above.

The Pen Project

The 11th hour request went out so we could meet the need for the 400+ pens to bring to Camp Shelby. You responded overwhelmingly and we made it. We in fact have a few more for the next batch. I really appreciate your support/help!

By the way--when I delivered the pens, it was arranged for me to leave them at the guard gate. One of the two guards there was one of those we gave pens to last Saturday. He thanked me again and said it meant a lot that there were Vermonters thinking about him and his comrades and in fact making the pens as token remem-

brance of that! 🍷

YOU DID GOOD!!!!

Thanks again,

Bob....

Fellow Woodchucks,

Today I delivered 170 pens to



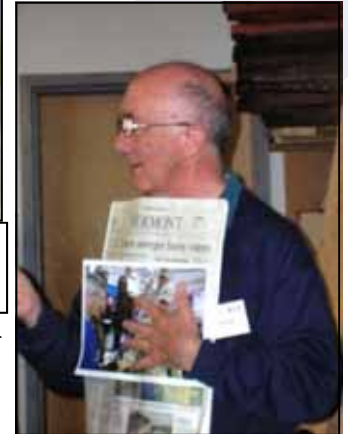
Herb presenting one of 200 pens to the Guard at the welcoming ceremony.

Camp Johnson. This will suffice the 3 small groups (65+65+40). We now have only 600 left to deliver to meet our commitment. Based on the push 2 weeks ago to complete the 400 needed, I still have additional pens. In fact we have 25 toward the last 600

needed. So only 575 to go. Hopefully we can complete that by July 4th!

Thanks again for the continued support for this worthwhile project!

Bob....



Bob says we made the news.

Future Programs



June— Michael Mode will demonstrate cutting circles from a plank to make a stacked, laminated bowl. Michael is a renowned turner and teacher.

July—Our visitor from Princeton, NJ will show some finishing techniques. He's Peter Smith.

August—Our annual Woodchuck's Picnic. Master of the Grill Herb will preside. He will be asking us to contribute parts of the feed. He will co-ordinate the items so we get a chance at a balanced meal. Our guest will be Al Stirt. The program will be on creativity and each of us is asked to bring items for Al's excellent appraisal.



This Space Could Be Yours!!

At their last meeting, the Board established a Corporate Membership. For \$50 a year, a supplier can have full membership in WTNV PLUS an ad space like this each issue. All we need is a logo, and some items of interest. You may send "Chatter" new items each month. Current readership is 40+, all interested in working wood. "Chatter" is flexible in page count and nothing gets crowded out. Contact Ted Fink for further info.

**Woodchuck Turners of
Northern Vermont
An associated chapter
of
American Association of
Woodturners**

Publisher:
Army Spahn
1620 Hebard Hill Rd.
Randolph, VT

" I'll be giving woodturning demonstrations so you will be able to see the transformation from a tree to a bowl. "



Some of our newest members. From the left, Dennis Belisle, Sue Howle, Charlotte & Skip Parker, Rob Libby.

This Space For Mailing Label

Secretary's Report—Continued

(Continued from page 5)



Curly redwood puzzle bowls
Beech bowl
Ralph: red maple and rosewood spheres
David: Al Stirt inspired carved black gesso on cherry bowls. 2 small, one large with Dan-

ish oil top coat.

The topic of the evening was a spirited discussion of plagiarism and copying. The general consensus was that it is good to learn by copying the masters but unethical to try to sell copies of their work.

Treasurer's Report:

As of 4/24/05

<u>Chapter monies</u>	
Balance forward	\$1992.86
Income 4/21/05	
Raffle	46.00
Dues	120.00
<u>Auction</u>	7.00
Balance	\$2165.86

Expenses

Materials lathe base	-94.84
Polycarbonate shield	
<u>for Chapter lathe</u>	-36.64
Balance forward	\$2034.38

Pens Project

Balance Forward	\$193.47
Income	0
Expenses	
292 6pk velvet covers	-199.79
1200 letters for pens	- 16.00
Balance Forward	\$(22.32)

Ted Fink
Treasurer