



The Burl
Member Chapter

A monthly newsletter for the
Willamette Valley Woodturners

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<http://www.WillametteValleyWoodturners.com>

February, 2013

Next Meeting

Thursday, February 14, 2013

Center 50+

2615 Portland Rd, NE. Salem, OR 97303

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A skewed view.....

First and foremost....to all the ladies out there...Happy Valentine's Day!! Thank you ladies for sharing your husband or boyfriend for the club meeting.

It's February-already...as I look out the window I see sunshine and blue skies-I'm sure this will only last a few minutes..after all, we do live in Oregon. Our February demonstrator is our own Nick Stagg and the topic is bowl basics. I am personally looking forward this demo as it will give me the opportunity to reevaluate my tooling techniques, foot position and refresh my memory on why I shouldn't take the shortcuts that I do. Nick is not only an excellent turner, but a fantastic teacher.

The Freedom Pen project has finally gotten underway!! We've handed out 100 pen kits out of the 200 that were ordered. 100 more to complete!! Anyone who would like to participate just let me know. It would be great to have them all ready to ship by March.

Don't forget about submitting your Turning Tips for the Burl. All members are invited to submit a tip or trick they'd like to share with the rest of us (email myself or Bruce). So get your pen or pencil out and submit a turning tip you'd like to share. The published tips will then be put in the tips section of the website, so this is an easy opportunity for everyone to get a little recognition but more importantly, share the knowledge.

As for the membership drive, Elling has done a great job coercing everyone to pay their dues. So far we have 101 paid members of which 9 are Honored Life Members. We've had a number of new turners join the club during the last few months. Speaking of Elling, I thought he did a fantastic job on describing items for the show and tell table. Kudos to all who brought items in. It is always inspirational to see what others are doing. So, let's keep bringing in those items as I need to keep Elling busy.

Membership tags: There are still some of you who need to pick up your membership tag. They will be placed on the show and tell table.

Don't forget that the March competition is THIN. Put on your thinking cap and regardless of what you turn, it should be THIN, anything from spindles to lamp shades and all items in between.

Need help with a turning problem or just help turning? You can always get help by using the list of mentors on the club webpage. You might also consider taking one of the upcoming workshops!

Time to head to the shop,

Terry



Turning Tip for the Month: MT2 Mill end holder. OK, this idea actually came from Bob Tuck in one of the many conversations I was fortunate to have. Simply, it is a mill end holder. Bob told me that although most people use a jacobs chuck on a morse taper for drilling, there tends to be more wobble with the jacobs chuck. The mill end holder eliminates any wobble and drift. I tried it and you know, Bob was absolutely correct. They are available from most any machine shop. Try The Little Machine Shop, on line.

Terry Gerros

Picture Roster: Proof pages of the picture roster will be on one of the tables near the entrance to the meeting room. Please make corrections, as needed, to the contact information, initial by your picture indicating that you have looked at the proof. If you would like your picture redone contact Walt during the meeting. For an extra fee the webmaster will use photoshop to improve your image. A final version of the roster should be available at the March meeting.

Walt Theis

Club Business

Current & Upcoming Events

February Demonstrator Nick Stagg: Basic Bowl Turning



Nick Stagg has a vast knowledge of how to turn wood and has been a demonstrator for the club many times in the past. He has presented various topics such as lidded boxes, spheres, hollowing, preventing catches and two ways to turn a bowl. I am sure I have missed some of his prior topics. He is also a demonstrator for many other North West clubs as well as Woodcrafters. He has given regular classes for club members on sharpening, spindle turning and bowl turning. This is a long way of saying you will not want to miss his February presentation on basic bowl turning.

March Demonstrator Jon Magill: Rose Engine Turning



Our March meeting will focus on Rose Engine Turning. Jon re-discovered woodturning about a dozen years ago when he was given a lathe. Two years later he stumbled upon the esoteric art of ornamental turning, a highly specialized, Victorian-era technique that enables very precise surface decorations, using a complex lathe called a rose engine. Rose engines were primarily used by jewelers, watchmakers and artists like “Faberge”.

Exposure to the niche of ornamental turning immediately resonated for him and he knew he had found a vehicle that would give him an expressive balance between technical bent and creative desires. Using the rose engine lets him marry the organic nature of wood, the industrial gears to work it, and his own sense of design. The possibilities are limitless but always different. Jon enjoys the challenge of making boxes, particularly the precision required to produce threaded wooden boxes. Recent works also include experimentation with resins and other materials by themselves or in combination with exotic woods.

Several years ago Jon wrote an article for the Journal of the American Association of Woodturners, American Woodturner, detailing how to build a low cost, homemade rose engine lathe. In addition to the article he produced plans and instructions for the entire project. You can get an overview of rose engine work at: <http://www.woodturner.org/products/aw/howto/rose/MDFOverview.pdf> To overcome the hurdles of cost and availability, Jon wrote about, and published the plans for, a homemade rose engine in the Spring 2007 issue of American Woodturner. The lathe, made from a half-sheet of MDF, is now known as the “MDF Rose Engine”. You can read the original article about it here: <http://www.ornamentaltourners.org/assets/content/RoseEngine.pdf>

After seeing the demo, if you are interested in building an MDF Rose Engine, the construction instructions and detailed drawings are available here:

http://www.woodturner.org/products/aw/howto/rose/MDFConstruction_v6%5B1%5D.pdf

<http://www.woodturner.org/products/aw/howto/rose/MDFDrawings.pdf>

At our meeting Jon will discuss and demonstrate the rose engine and talk in general about ornamental turning or anything else you want to know about turning.

Minutes of Meeting on 1/10/13

Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm by President Terry Gerros

Members Present: 73

Visitors: 2

Announcements:

We will be proceeding with the “Freedom Pen” pen turning project for our service men. Crafts Supply has donated 100 pen blanks and Terry had ordered 200 pen kits. We have about 200 pen blanks at this time. Once all parts arrive, we will be having a pen turning session. Members will be notified of the date and time.

Terry found a web site that offers good prices on pen supplies. He suggested Woodturningz, Inc. as a possible source for pen kits.

Terry shared the information that both Bob Elgin and Bob Tuck passed away over the last couple of months. Our thoughts are with their families.

Ron Fox is member of the month. His work on the web site has been invaluable and he has given time to the club for a pen turning saw dust session and as tonight’s demonstrator.

Orders for Craft Supply are sent in on the Monday after the monthly meeting. All orders need to be in to Terry by Sunday evening and the items will be ordered on Monday if we have a \$1,000 order. Your order will be available the following Saturday. The web site has a very convenient form to use (in the Member only section) and makes ordering much easier.

Demonstrator Ron Fox

Ron began by reviewing the different types of pen kits available and pointed out the pros and cons of each kind. He will be turning slim line pens. Once you learn to turn pens, it opens up a variety of things you can make. Ron referred to the Craft Supply catalog as a source for ideas and kits.

Ron discussed various drill bit options and demonstrated preparing the blank for the insertion of the hardware. He discussed the issues with drilling, including build up of shavings and the density of wood. He answered a question about working with burl wood or soft wood. His recommendation was to stabilize soft woods first with CA glue. Ron shared a lot of information on the dos and don’ts of pen turning. Much of what he shared will save time and energy on the part of new wood turners as they learn to make pens.

Primarily Ron uses the CA system of wood finishing. He uses 3-4 layers of CA glue, allowing each coat to dry before applying the next one. The pen dries in 24 hours and then he uses a 400 grit sand paper to polish the surface.

In response to audience questions, Ron explained how to embellish blanks including a Celtic knot. Ron’s handout is attached to the minutes.

Gallery:

Elling Holmes reviewed the items in the wood gallery.

Among many great items, we had a segmented bowl made by Jerry Lelack, and a Yew bowl made by Pete Peterson..

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Club Demo – Pen turning Talking Points

Ron Fox

Types of pens (Ballpoint, Fountain Pen, and Rollerball)

Types of Kits (Slim line, Cigar, Sierra, European, and others)

Other kinds of Kits (Kaleidoscope, Letter openers, Magnifying glass, razors, and others)

Types of plating (Gold, Chrome, Gun Metal, Copper, Black Titanium, Rhodium, and others)

Blanks (Wood, Antler, Plastic, Corium) (¾ x ¾ x 5)

Kit contents

Pen Instruction sheet

Preparing the pen blank (Cutting, Drilling and gluing tubes)

(O → 21/64 10mm → 25/64 V → 25/64 10.5mm → 27/64)

Turning the blank

Applying the finish (CA, Woodturners finish)

Demo – turn a slim line pen

How to assemble the pen

Pen Press alternatives

Fit and Finish

Info sheet

Pricing pens

Embellishing blanks

Casting basics

Other types of kits (Magnifying glass, letter opener, Kaleidoscopes, and other items)

Supplies

Pen Kits and bushings (CSUSA, Woodcraft, Rockler, Woodcrafters, and others)

Pen Mandrel (CSUSA, Woodcraft, Rockler, Woodcrafters, and others)

1 Ton Arbor Press (Harbor Freight – item#3552 \$49.99)

1/2" MT2 Mini-Lathe Drill Chuck (Harbor Freight – item#42340 \$14.99)

28 Piece Transfer Punch Set (Harbor Freight – item#3577 \$9.99)

DEWALT 29 Piece Titanium Drill Bit Set (Home Depot Model # DW1369 \$79.97)

WEB site:

International Association of Pen Turners (<http://www.penturners.org/>)

Project Freedom (<http://www.freedompens.org/>)

Books:

Turning Pens and Pencils (9781861081001 \$17.95)

Complete Guide to Turning Pens & Pencils (978-1-60085-365-4 \$24.95)

The Pen Turner's Bible (978-0-941936-3 \$22.95)

The Pen Turner's Workbook (978-1-56523-319-5 \$14.95)

Ronald Fox

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February Pen Exchange

The Willamette Valley Wood Turners will be holding another Pen Exchange at the February meeting. There were a number of members that were not able to participate in the November one we held and I thought it would be a good time to hold another after my January Pen Demo. I will once again bring in a box to the February meeting and anyone who has made a pen will place their pen in the box and receive a ticket. Then at the first break during the meeting, you will redeem a different pen from the box with your ticket. We want the pens to be wrapped so that it will be kind of a grab bag when you select a pen from the box. You will also need to include an information sheet with the pen describing the pen and who made it. I will be running the pen exchange and if you have any questions let me know.

What is required to participate in the pen exchange:

Hand crafted pen

Information sheet included with pen

Enclosed in a wrapped package

The idea is to have fun making a pen for a fellow member. Just do your best and I am sure who ever receives your pen will appreciate the work you put into making it. It is also nice to have items that other members have made and this will help you to get an item from someone else.

Enjoy, and be sure to bring your wrapped pen to the February meeting.

Thanks,

Ron

Freedom Pen Project:

The Freedom Pens Project is an all-volunteer effort spearheaded by the members of SawMill Creek Woodworkers Forums. It is to provide custom hand crafted pens to American servicemen and women overseas. Everyone is invited to participate in the project, all we need is your time and talent to provide handmade pens for our military stationed in foreign countries who are in harm's way. Every Freedom Pen that is delivered serves as a constant reminder to our troops that they are not alone and have our continued support until each and every one has returned home. The project was started in 2004 and to date, wood turners from all over the US have turned more than 145,000 pens.

I have ordered 200 pen kits for the project. Craft Supply generously donated 100 pen blanks and another 50 have also shown up. Once the pen kits arrive, we will drill the blanks, glue in the tubes and then we'll hold a Pen Turn-a-Thon on a Saturday in January or February, get the pens turned, then shipped off. The actual time of the Turn-A-Thon will depend on when the pens arrive. Perhaps if all goes well, we can be repeat offenders and set a goal of 1000 pens for the year.

Membership Rewards (sorry, available to club members only)

Library

A friendly reminder to members with books and /or videos checked out from the library. Please return them at this next meeting.

Wood Gathering

Sign-up sheets will be available to indicate your availability to help with wood gathering. Anyone who learns of a tree or log that is available to the club should notify Jerry Lelack (503 510-1577) or Bob Hutchinson (503 508-3279). The intent is to gather wood, process it to usable pieces, store it at the home of Terry Gerros', and then make it available to members. Terry can be reached at 503 580-5013.

From Terry Gerros:

I am also a distributor for Stick Fast CA glue, Sharpfast Sharpening systems, and the Holdfast vacuum chucking system. If you have an interest in these products, give me a call or send me an email for details.

Supplies

The club purchases a few supplies in bulk and sells it to members at club cost. We routinely have superglue (\$5), black or brown superglue (\$10) accelerator (\$6) and Anchor Seal (\$10/gal). Recently the club purchased a small supply of half round protractors (\$6) used to measure the angle ground on a tool, and depth gauge (\$5). Bob Quadros will have the resale items still available at the meeting. Please bring the correct change for the items you want.

Club Member Discounts

- From Terry Gerros: Club orders will be going out on **February 18th**. If our order equals or exceeds \$1,000, Craft Supply gives us a 13% discount plus free shipping. If you order from the sales items, you will receive the club discount in addition to the sale discount, making many items available at very attractive prices.

- Club members are registered with Klingspor's Woodworking Shop at www.woodworkingshop.com or 800-228-0000, they have your name and will give you a 10% discount.
- Hartville Tool will give club members a 20% discount for the next year and a 15% discount after that: www.hartvilletool.com or 800-345-2396
- If you show your club card at checkout time to the cashier at Woodcraft in Tigard they will give you a 10% discount (may not apply to some machinery).
- Exotic Wood is offering a discount of 15% off any orders placed at: www.exoticwoodsusa.com . (This includes sale items and free shipping on orders over \$300). Use promo code ewusaAAW
- Gilmer Wood now offers our club a 10% discount on purchases made there. If you haven't been to Gilmers, it is well worth the trip to Portland, if only to make your mouth water and make you cry if you leave empty handed.
- North Wood Figured Wood can be viewed at North Woods Figured Wood. Here's our website www.nwfiguredwoods.com . Please take a look! We're happy to offer you our courtesy 15% discount. Anyone from our club can simply type in "WOODTURNERS" at check out to receive the sale price. No minimum purchase. We've got beautiful Big Leaf Maple, Black Locust, Madronne, White Oak, Ash, Elm and Yew.....turning blanks, slabs, burls and lumber.

Sale Item: General International Wood Turning Lathe: Maxi-Lathe 25-100, 6 spindle speeds, 10" Swing Over Bed, 7 1/2" Swing Over Base, 15" Distance between center. Good shape, getting a larger one. Comes with a Jet Adjustable Mini Lathe Stand. Great starter lathe, asking \$275. Call Bob Thompson at 503 390-6695

Burl is a Publication of the Willamette Valley Woodturners

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