

Turning Times

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE CASCADE WOODTURNERS

February 2011

Please make sure that all content for the next newsletter reaches me by the 5th of March! rgklug@crestviewcable.com Thanks!

**NEXT MEETING: 7:00PM, THURSDAY, FEB 17th AT FRANKLIN HIGH SCHOOL
5405 SE Woodward St, Portland, OR**

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Rambling Thoughts on Design

Perceptions of shapes say something about how we view things. A subtle curve can be compared to the silhouette of a woman or the crest of the Appalachian Mountains outside Roanoke Virginia. Shapes, colors, materials, scale, proportion, context, and symmetry may all carry emotional connotations which may or may not override an objective analysis of the object.

At our last workshop, Don Derry presented his thoughts on design and how we view and evaluate it everyday in what choose to use and make. We look with both practicality and emotion although seldom simultaneously (left-side vs. right-side brain functions). Don's example of the clunky flat bottom popcorn bowl illustrated how we change opinions with our understanding of purpose. Sometimes a functional bowl is just a bowl. But if we add some element of design and relate it to the legendary lost cat-goddess Bastet's gold encrusted water bowl from the tomb of Pharaoh Tut something or other, well...that changes things. One reason a lot of artists include explanatory titles and monographs on their philosophy and thought processes with their work is to help us understand the design. I knew one art patron who helped acquire art for a corporate client and she was far less interested in the artwork itself than the philosophy and angst of the artist.

Perceptions of function and design also vary between cultures and time periods. I am old enough to remember Avocado and Harvest Gold appliances from the 70's, bright orange counters from the 60's and pale Army-green walls from the 50's. On an emotional level I can't stand them no matter how they are revered as 'Retro Chic' today. I have often heard comparisons of vessel shapes to classic Greek design. When you look up the pictures and diagrams of Greek pottery examples, you find a lot of awkward shapes. Without functional context, we have to view them on a purely emotional and aesthetic basis.

(Again, I might change my opinion on one if I knew it was perfectly designed to hold peeled grapes for a bacchanal festival).

Dons' recommendation is that we pay attention to the individual things that we like and dislike and consider our own reasons for that opinion. Also, sit back and watch shoppers around a woodturning display and notice the different emotions and senses that are used to judge the work. Some pieces will draw people to touch and hold them while others may pick up pieces to smell them. I believe most of us gravitate to certain shapes and they are recurring in our daily lives and in the work we produce.

Luckily for us we have another opportunity to put this heightened power of design observation in to action. In March, John Jordon will be here for 3 days to demo and help with a hands-on class - a good percentage of those class openings are already filled! You can spot Johns' signature pieces and style from across the room. That has to be a shape he is fond of. With the variety of demonstrations we have planned this year, I hope you find many shapes and styles you enjoy.

David Williams, President
Cascade Woodturners
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DALE'S CORNER

We had 14 members here for open shop on January 29th. Sharpened lots of tools. Next open shop will be Saturday March 5th at my shop. It will open at about 9:30am. Dress warm because there is some heat in my shop. But the important word there is some heat.

AAW NEWS

On the St Paul Symposium web page is a video giving an outline of the main demonstrators and programs at St Paul. The video is about 8 minutes long. It should get your juices up to come to St Paul this summer. <http://www.woodturner.org/sym/sym2011/>

Remember that February 1 through March 31st voting for the proposed AAW bylaws is going to be on line in the member section of the AAW web page. <http://woodturner.org/member/MemberLogOn.asp>. After you get into the members section on the left side column click on "2011 Bylaws vote". The report to the membership giving the reasons for these changes is in the February Journal or can be read at http://www.woodturner.org/info/bylaws/bylaws_committee_12_2010.pdf. I am asking that you carefully consider the changes then go to the members section and vote. The biggest change is that if a motion to bring an issue before AAW occurs, every member of AAW gets to vote on that issue. Under the current bylaws 5% of our membership can sign petitions and carry the issue. The current procedure in effect disenfranchises

the other 95% of our membership. The new proposed bylaws fix this problem. I would encourage you to vote to approve the proposed bylaws.

Dale
woodbowl@frontier.com

TREASURER'S REMINDER

It's renew your membership time. It went well last year, so let's follow the same procedure this year.

1. Bring a ball point pen and either \$25 in cash or a check for \$25 made out to Cascade Woodturners.
2. Take an envelope from the plastic tub marked "Applications".
3. Write your name on the application in the envelope.
4. If you are renewing, update any information that has changed from last year. If nothing has changed, you're done.
5. If you are a new member, fill out the application. Please write legibly, especially the email address.
6. Put completed application in the envelope, along with your \$25.
7. Seal the envelope and write your name on the outside.
8. Put the envelope in the plastic tub marked "Completed Applications".
9. Get a membership card. Write your name on it, and "11" for the year.
10. Enjoy a year with the gang at Cascade Woodturners.

Howard Borer, Treasurer

MEETING SCHEDULE 2011

DATE	DEMONSTRATOR	CHALLENGE
FEB 17	Eric Lofstrom	Jewelry Piece
MAR 17	John Jordon	Sculpture
APR 21	Sharpening	Decorated Egg
MAY 19		Something Assembled
JUN 16		Kinetic Object
JUL 21		Other than wood
AUG 20	Picnic	A Plate
SEP 15	Avelino Samuel	Fit in 35mm Film Canister
OCT 20	Auction	Something Tall
NOV 17		Christmas Ornaments

MONTHLY CHALLENGE

February is the month to show off your skill at making jewelry.

JANUARY MEETING

Don Derry not only gave a lot of examples and challenges for us to really look at what design is pleasing to us, but he also recommended that we try Google image search to find images to see. Try searching for mushrooms and you will find 8,970,000 images to choose from. The video on natural interrelationships using fiboacci numbers is at:

<http://www.metropolismag.com/pov/20101206/design-by-numbers>

We had about 75 members at the meeting and 8 guests. There were a number of smiling faces after the wood raffle as well.

JANUARY CHALLENGE WINNER

Neil Seigel won the challenge with his ash tool handle with a lovely spiral grip.



FEBRUARY DEMO

Eric Lofstrom will be demonstrating at the February meeting. Eric loves to turn thin and he enjoys challenging design. His thin work includes both square shapes as well as hollow forms. His design choices vary from textured surfaces to multi centered turnings. In addition to exploring his own creative voice, Eric is passionate about sharing the journey with others. He enjoys demonstrating woodturning techniques, especially focusing on

the fundamentals of tool control and the exploration of graceful curves and natural forms. With a background in athletic medicine and biomechanics, Eric is enthusiastic about teaching the connection between body movement, tool control, and the dance of creating flowing forms. This promises to be both informative and entertaining.

www.EricLofstrom.com .

Print out the demo flyer from this link:
<http://www.ericlofstrom.com/publicfiles/Triple Axis Turning Demo- Article- Flyer- 8pgs.pdf>



Trinity Flame (above) and Seattle Sunshine (right)– by Eric Lofstrom



500 OF EVERYTHING

‘500 Bowls’ is a terrific book in our Cascade library, so I bought myself a copy. My son does glass blowing so when I found ‘500 Glass Objects’, I bought it for him. For Christmas I received ‘500 Cabinets’ and ‘500 Tables’. Now I find out that there are two dozen other titles in the series. (See below.) It is a good thing I like sets of things, because I know what I am getting for the next 5 years of birthdays and Christmas. I find these books to be a great inspiration and source of ideas. I was also pleasantly surprised by how many woodturners were represented in the various books. The range of ideas and styles is so varied that you almost can’t help but be impressed by something in there. Whether it is a ring design or pottery piece, I automatically think about how I can scale it and do it in wood. As many of us are exploring how to combine other media in our turnings, these books open a multitude of possibilities. When you come across books that you think would be good for our library, let Mike Worthington know.

(400 Wood Boxes, 500 Chairs, 500 Teapots, 500 Bracelets, 500 Brooches, 500 Ceramic Sculptures, 500 Art Quilts, 500 Beaded Objects, 500 Animals in Clay, 500 Cups, 500 Earrings, 500 Enameled Objects, 500 Figures in Clay, 500 Gemstone Jewels, 500 Handmade Books, 500 Handmade Dolls, 500 Judaica, 500 Knives, 500 Necklaces, 500 Metal Vessels, 500 Pendants & Locketts, 500 Pitchers, 500 Plastic Jewelry Designs, 500 Plates & Chargers, 500 Raku, 500 Silver Jewelry Designs, 500 Tiles, 500 Vases, and 500 Wedding rings.) (Also, 400 Polymer Clay Designs, 1000 Rings, 1000 Glass Beads, I guess they are small enough to put several on a page.) **Whew!**

David Williams

For Travelers Delayed by Winters Weather:

Ratio of an igloo's circumference to its diameter = Eskimo Pi

SYMPOSIUM SCHEDULE

- Desert Woodturning Roundup, Mesa AZ Feb 18-20, 2011
- Southern States XI Woodturning Symposium, Gainesville GA Apr 29-May 1st
- Utah Woodturning Symposium, Orem UT May 19th – 21st
- AAW 25th Anniversary Symposium, St Paul, Minn June 24th -26th
- Woodturners of Olympia Symposium, Olympia WA July 23rd
- SWATurners Symposium, Waco TX August 26th – 28th
- Rocky Mountain Woodturning Symposium, Loveland CO Sept 11th – 12th
- North Carolina Woodturners Bi-Annual Symposium, Greensboro NC Nov 4th – 6th

DEMOS - CLASSES – SEMINARS

Rockler Woodworking 503-672-7266, www.rockler.com

- Contact store for details

Woodcraft 503-684-1428, www.woodcraft.com

- Turn Bottle Stoppers (\$85) by Fred Kline, Feb 12th 10:00-2:00
- Beginning Lathe Turning (\$105) by Bob Tuck, Feb 26th 10:00-4:00
- Basic Bowl Turning (\$105) by Bob Tuck Feb 27th 10:00-4:00
- Pen Turning (\$40) by George Hays, Mar 3rd 6:00-9:00
- Pen Turning (\$40) by Woodcraft Staff, Mar 27th 1:00-4:00

Woodcrafters 503-231-0226, 212 NE 6th Ave, Portland, www.woodcrafters.us

- Off Center Turning Demo by Bob Tuck, Feb 19th 10:00-3:00

Cascade Woodturners

- John Jordan Class - March

Northwest Woodturners

- Bob Rosand Class - March

Willamette Valley Woodturners

- Reed Gray Class - March
- Dave Schweitzer Class - April

Northwest Washington Woodturners

Camping and Turning Rendezvous

July 8th through 24th 2011

North RV Lot, Kittitas Valley Event Center (Ellensburg Rodeo Grounds)

Fees: Daily camping fee, \$13 per rig for hookups to power and water, \$8 per rig or tent for dry camping. Dumpsite available nearby.

This is an unstructured camping and outdoor turning get together where like minded folk can relax and share experiences. Bring your own mini lathe and come for as long as you wish during these dates.

Contact Julian Lee - julian.s@comcast.net - Telephone 360 299 2900 to confirm your reservation.

Companion event:

For those turners interested in learning to carve, or improve their carving, there are classes available at Northwest Carvers Academy within the Event Center from July 10th through 15th.

Information on this is available on line at www.Cascadecarvers.com and click on “Carving Academy”.

CASCADE 10 YEARS AGO

Cascade Woodturners in February, 2001 had a multi station demonstration for the meeting by Carl Asch showing his vacuum system, Alyce Asch showing how Carl got the fine finish on his bowls, Jim Hall showed how he lays out the spirals on tall finials and Howard Borer demonstrated carving on bowls. The Show 'N' Tell had a number of platters and bowls but the highlight was the variety of hollow forms shown. Laron Thompson was Pres., Randy Dickinson VP and Randy Rhine did the newsletter.

COMPANY STORE

If a number of members want a certain item, and we are low on it please email Jerry Harris at westwoodct@comcast.net a week ahead, he could have it with no out of stock.

Company Store Item	Price
Accelerator (for Cyanoacrylate adhesives/CA), sprayer, 8 oz	\$6.75 each
Anchor Seal, one gallon	\$12.50 each
Cyanoacrylate adhesives (CA) - Thin, Medium and Thick, 2oz bottles	\$5.75 each bottle
Sandpaper, Aluminum oxide with heavy cotton cloth backing in 80, 100, 120, 180, 220, 320 & 400 grits	\$1.00 each sheet
Walnut Oil - filtered, 16 oz	\$3.00 each

CWT MENTORS

Cascade Wood Turners has a mentoring program and the member turners providing assistance are listed in the "Resources" section of the web page <http://www.cascadewoodturners.com/resources.htm>. These members are available for you to contact if you need help in different areas of woodturning. If you would like to be a mentor yourself and be contacted with woodturning related questions e-mail me at rgklug@crestviewcable.com and I will add you to the list!

QUICK LINKS:

There is a listing of web links used by club members in the "Resources" section of the web site <http://www.cascadewoodturners.com/resources.htm> . If you have a favorite or new site that would be useful to club members, e-mail it to me to include it with the list. rgklug@crestviewcable.com

SKILL BUILDERS

This month we are starting with comments on holding your work. Dale Larson and Howard Borer helped in preparing this section.

There are two areas to ponder, the driver in the headstock and the support in the tailstock. For bowls and boxes, only the headstock drive end may be required. There are a lot of well written books, articles and videos on different ways to hold your turning stock. There are some listed at the end of this section.

For the drive end, when turning between centers, newer turners would be well advised to use either a “safety” center or a Steb center. Both have a ring to provide the friction outside a pin center. The Steb center’s ring is toothed. The advantage becomes clear if you have a catch and the center makes a whirring sound instead of your cutting tool launching out of your grip. The slipping by the center is a good learning device compared to the four pronged drive center that came with your lathe. That pronged center’s drive ability is not easily overcome.

Other ways to drive a piece involve a large number of devices from simple home made cup chucks to elaborate vacuum systems. The typical lathe comes with a face plate that can be used by itself or as a platform to mount a plywood work holding table that is elegant in its simplicity. Michael Werner demonstrated off center turning in October by adding a weight to balance the turning stock. One of the most useful drivers is the jamb chuck, again easy to make and adaptable to many shapes. Any scrap wood can usually be used from end cutoffs to construction lumber, as long as the wood is sound. Turn a hub or socket with a slight interference fit to your work piece and then taper the edge so that your work piece almost slips on. Then take very light cuts until the piece can be shoved onto the jamb. Whether you are holding a box, bowl, finial or sphere, you only need about 1/8 inch or less to hold the piece on the jamb. Cup chucks can be turned from similar scrap and either threaded to fit your spindle or you can cut a Morse taper to insert into the spindle. You may note that not only are the previous items simple but nearly free. Just ask one of the “old timers” to show you how these are made.

Most turners have added a scroll chuck to their tool set as these are easy to use, provide strong grip and hold a wide range of sizes. The Nova line of chucks were first on the scene and offer a good mid priced product that often goes on sale at the local woodturning vendors. Nova assures that the run out of the chuck will be under 0.005”. That is nearly the thickness of a black human hair. Pretty good machining but when removing and remounting a turning, if you don’t position your stock exactly in the same place, you will see that 0.005” quite easily and blending a new cut into an existing finished surface can be frustrating. Dale Larson advises buying the best quality scroll chuck you can afford. Many of the club members have opted for the Oneway. The jaw profile available for the Oneway chucks has an aggressive tooth that almost eliminates pull out and spindle thread adaptor has a very close tolerance to assist in minimal run out. There are a lot of lower cost scroll chucks showing up on the market and they may be good but ask around before investing in them.

The tail stock usually is equipped with a usable live center meaning that there is a bearing to permit free spinning of the center. This is adequate until you want to utilize special end support, like a home made cup chuck to turn spheres. Then you will want a live center with interchangeable tips, or one that you can drill through to make lamp bodies. There are a number of fine live centers that offer a variety of tips as well as a threaded shaft to make your own end supports.

On long turnings or vase like turnings that hang a long way off the headstock, you may need additional supporting for the turning. Again there are fine commercial steady rests available but those can be duplicated using plywood frames and in line skate wheels on adjustable arms. Another center rest for delicate long thin turnings is a string rest. The string is wound from four nails at quarter points in the rest around the spindle to eliminate whip of the long turning.

The theme here is that you can do a great variety of turning without spending a lot on your work holding. The main thing to remember is to work safely. Only use sheet metal or "Spax" screws, never common sheet rock screws to attach material to the face plate or when assembling that awesome off center jig. Ask an experienced club member to show you how to make a cup chuck. If you don't know who to ask, look at the mentors list on the web site. The best way for us to increase our knowledge of turning is to teach someone else. This is a belief held by the club members.

For more ideas on work holding check these items from our club library:

- A Guide To Work Holding on the Lathe by Fred Holder
- Turning Ornaments & Eggs by Dick Sing
- Dick Sing Turns Miniature Birdhouses
- Any Richard Raffan video
- Any Jimmy Clews video
- Any Eli Avisera video
- Dale Larson "Turning Spheres" Demo at Cascade 2004 Video
- Michael Werner Demo article Nov-2010 Turning Times

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Support of the sponsors listed helps maintain our hobby supplies. Remember that your current membership card is good for discounts at these firms. For additional information see the website <http://www.cascadewoodturners.com/sponsors.htm> .

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