

Turning Times

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE CASCADE WOODTURNERS

April 2011

Please make sure that all content for the next newsletter reaches me by the 7th of May! rgklug@crestviewcable.com Thanks!

**NEXT MEETING: 7:00PM, THURSDAY, APR 21ST AT FRANKLIN HIGH SCHOOL
5405 SE Woodward St, Portland, OR**

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Our March demonstrator, John Jordan once again showed a group of us why he is one of the foremost turners and teachers in the country. He has refined his technique and developed his tools to where he can hollow turn a vessel with hand held tools faster than I can set up a captured hollowing bar and begin. He then spends 90% of his time carving and finishing his pieces. Just as he seeks precision in his turning technique, he also seeks that same level of perfection in his design and carving. He has a routine of starting each session with lathe maintenance and using WD-40 and wax to keep surfaces smooth and the tool rest moving easily. All this and more is outlined in his DVD's and articles. I have a few complimentary copies of the latest Woodworker West available at the meeting which has an article by John Jordan. There are six additional articles on John's website. <http://www.johnjordanwoodturning.com>

We have had numerous requests for a refresher on sharpening and we will have Dale & Howard showing their technique at the April meeting. Also, Dale will give a short primer on his oval chuck.

David Williams, President Cascade Woodturners dwilliams97007@yahoo.com

DALE'S CORNER

Open shop on April 2nd had 9 members here. Several finished bowls were turned and one green bowl was rough turned. Kathleen finished the bottom of some very small bowls. Pete did a little hollowing along John Jordan's style. Open shop for April will be Saturday April 30th beginning about 9:30 am.

Dale
woodbowl@frontier.com

SECRETARY'S REMINDER

Being one big family, we watch out of one another. If you know of anyone who is sick, in the hospital, or just feeling under the weather, give me a call (360.687.9866) or email kenpegkirkman@gmail.com me so I can send them a card just to let them know we are thinking of them.

Ken Kirkman

TREASURER'S REMINDER

We have 89 paid up members so far this year.

Howard Borer

TURNERS TIP

By Joe Escriva

I have been using the "Jamieson Hollowing system with the laser measuring system attached. It does a nice job, except for the laser that comes with it. As I use it, the laser seems to fade out at times, the light will not stay on because of vibration, or the little rubber for the switch forces the button on to hard. So I have switched to a rifle or pistol laser with a push button switch on it. Note the attached pictures.



One can make a small modification with a couple of Nylon Cable Ties. The cost is about the same as if one was to purchase an original replacement laser. Pistol lasers can be purchase on line at the following www.outdoorbunker.com/lazer-sights . Two I found that work well are:

- ❖ SureStrike Red Lazer, \$24.15
- ❖ Nestar Barrol Mt Lazer Sight, \$14.00

For those looking forward to fishing season:

1 millionth of a fish = 1 microfiche

MONTHLY CHALLENGE

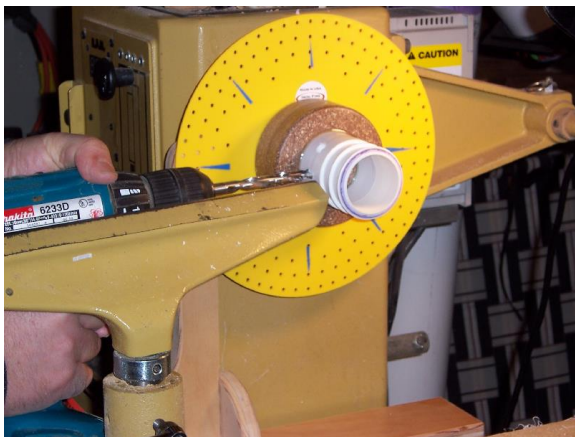
April challenge is to turn eggs. To go along with the Challenge of “eggs”, I decided to build a finger chuck similar to the chuck Dick Sing describes in his book, “Turning Ornaments & Eggs”. I deviated from his by making the inner bore 1-3/4” as that was what the egg in my refrigerator measured. I also mounted the chuck on a home made faceplate turned from left over composite decking. The doubled decking is epoxied together then drilled and threaded to match my lathe spindle.



This first picture shows the pieces needed along with the templates for checking the contour of the turned eggs.

The templates are unsolicited credit cards with the egg profile cut out.

The PVC coupling and reducer are epoxied to the faceplate. Note the groove cut in the faceplate for mounting the coupling.



Clamp rings are reduced not only to align the clamps but to make the coupling assembly more flexible.

The eight holes provide a stopping point for the saw cuts forming the fingers and can be used to remove the egg from the chuck.

Note the home made V-block to hold the coupling when sawing the slots. ALWAYS SUPPORT ROUND ITEMS BEING CUT ON A BANDSAW!



Turn the major diameter of our egg between centers and shape the egg to suit. I used my templates to check the shape and left the ends to cut until the egg is mounted in the chuck. Wrap the clamps after tightening the egg in the chuck with tape to protect your hands. Remember that there are whirling metal clamps that will win every interaction with flesh.

Even with the chuck, use light gentle cuts on the ends to finish the egg. Cutting the shape on the ends allows the end grain to be crisp and unblemished by tear out or sanding flats.



The finished result: Introducing “Egg One” and its prototype.

For more details and suggestions see Dick Sing’s book, “Turning Ornaments & Eggs”. We have a copy in the club library.

Happy Easter,
Jerry Klug

MEETING SCHEDULE 2011

DATE	DEMONSTRATOR	CHALLENGE
APR 21	Sharpening	Decorated Egg
MAY 19		Something Assembled
JUN 16		Kinetic Object
JUL 23	Picnic	Picnic
AUG 18	Graham Priddle	A Plate
SEP 15	Avelino Samuel	Fit in 35mm Film Canister
OCT 20	Auction	Something Tall
NOV 17	Mark Gardener	Christmas Ornaments

MARCH MEETING

John Jordan shared his collection of photos encouraging us to look at shapes and textures.

MARCH CHALLENGE WINNER



Pete van Hemert won the challenge with his whimsical sculpture. Each component was an interesting challenge to turn. All together the pieces made an enjoyable structure to look at and wonder about.

APRIL DEMO

Our own Howard Borer and Dale Larson will be demonstrating tool grinding techniques along with Dale showing how to use an oval chuck.

USES FOR SAWDUST & SHAVINGS

I had been considering uses for sawdust when I came across an article today about how the Japanese Electric Power Co. used a mix of polymer, sawdust and newsprint in an attempt to stop radioactive water leaking from the stricken Fukushima nuclear plant and seeping into the sea. They sprayed it into the water flooding the structure trying to plug up a crack in the wall.

While I will never be relegating my sawdust to nuclear plant repairs, I did find several options for using it locally. In the winter I have used it for traction in snow. I use some wood chips for pathways, especially walnut, cedar and redwood as those tend to suppress weeds. I have a compost bin out back in which I add sawdust to lighten and aerate the mixture. After 6 or 8 months, I add it to my garden where it helps improve the heavy clay soil that is so common here. That is similar to the mixture that the Newberg Sewer Treatment Plant creates with sawdust from a local sawmill and the treated sewage. (You can buy that at local stores where some company bags it, adds some other nutrients and sells it under their name.) You can always use it the way service garages have done for years and sweep it through oil and grease as an absorbent. One of the most common uses for shavings is for pet bedding and there are lots of people who would love to take it away for you. The fruit wood shavings I save for the bar-b-que and smoker. I found a recipe for combining wax and sawdust to create fire starter cubes in egg cartons. Apparently some mushroom farmers use the chips to grow those culinary delicacies. For potters who do Raku firing, the chips are also valuable. And back to Japan, they have an ancient method for using sawdust to create charcoal briquettes called Ogatan. It is nice to find that even our waste products are valuable.

David Williams

CASCADE 13 YEARS AGO

Cascade Woodturners in April, 1998 held the wood auction. Dale Larson reported on boiling Pacific Madrone to minimize cracking. Dale had been perfecting the boiling technique for about three years. He started by using a pressure cooker. Phil Lapp traveled to Vancouver Island to rescue a Oneway lathe. Howard Borer was Pres., Randy Young VP and Laron Thompson did the newsletter.

SYMPOSIUM SCHEDULE

- 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

- Pen Turning (\$40) by George Hays, Apr 16th 10:00-1:00
- Beginning Lathe Turning (\$105) by Bob Tuck, May 28th 10:00-4:00
- Basic Bowl Turning (\$105) by Bob Tuck May 29th 10:00-4:00

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

- Turning Hollow Vessels by Poest, Apr 16th 10:00-3:00

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 is 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”.

SKILL BUILDERS

You have seen the warnings “SPEED KILLS” or the road signs telling you to REDUCE SPEED AHEAD. When turning, what is the correct speed? New turners are either timid to crank the speed up or are unaware of the risks and turn at too high a speed for their abilities. When I began turning, I remember trying to rough out a piece and VERY suddenly there was a loud sound in concert with my tool heading where I had little idea it would go. A catch when the lathe is turning at too high a speed can be quite dramatic.

What is the correct speed? Let's look at the "SPEED RULES" posted on Dale Larson's shop wall:

- ❖ Dale Nish - Diameter (in inches) X RPM = 6000 to 9000
- ❖ John Jordan - If you turn the lathe on and you say "That's Fast", then it's too fast
- ❖ Dale Larson – Turn as slow as you can to get the job done right, because when a piece comes off the lathe and hits you, (and someday a piece will come off your lathe) it will hurt less the slower your turning
- ❖ Jimmy Clewes – Turn as fast as you can. You will get a better cut on the piece

Dale Nish's formula for a 10" bowl at 700 RPM results in the number 7000 which should be a safe turning speed. If you increase speed above 900 RPM you have exceeded his recommended maximum number of 9000 and that would be too fast. Many experienced turners rough out and hollow at around 800 RPM. Nish's guideline is a reasonable starting point. For that 1-1/2" top you are turning, you need to be reasonable and aware of your comfort zone. A 1-1/5" X 6000 RPM = 9000. I don't know of any wood lathe that spins up that fast. This points out that using Nish's formula works well for turnings above 3" or 4" diameter.

Just to illustrate the speed that the tool is traveling with respect to the surface of the turning, think of the movement in miles per hour. When cutting the rim of a 10 inch bowl at 800 RPM the wood is being removed by a scraper or gouge traveling at about 25 MPH.

There are a number of considerations we need to observe in conjunction with the 25 MPH effective tool speed. First is that things can happen quite quickly and at faster speeds they happen way too quickly. Secondly is that the tool can be heated and/or worn away pretty rapidly at these speeds. You need to sharpen your tool frequently because of this friction and you need to learn to present the tool to the wood so that the cutting edge is efficient. Learn light pressure gliding of the bevel to make the edge hold up as long as able.

As you get more experience and those pesky catches get less frequent you may want to try higher speeds. What Jimmy Clewes says about getting a better finish has some merit but be aware that you will finish your turning much faster turning slower if you don't have to make that trip to your first aid kit.

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

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.

Note the price increase on walnut oil – still a good bargain

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	\$4.00 each

CLASSIFIEDS

To place or continue an ad, contact Jerry Klug at rgklug@crestviewcable.com . We will run ads in the next newsletter after receiving your ad. Let us know if you want your ad continued more than one month.

Wanted: Room Mate to share motel room at Utah Symposium. May 17th – 21st. (541)550-6299

For Sale: Oxy-acetylene tanks on stand. Bottles are empty. \$175.
Dayton 8" grinder. 3450 RPM. Excellent condition. \$150.
Call/email Howard at 503.658.3409 or howbor@yahoo.com

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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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