



Minnesota Wood Turners Association

An Affiliated Chapter of the American Assn. of Woodturners

June 1998

Volume 12, Issue 5

Editor's Corner

- Check out the details for this year's picnic on p. 2

- The Bonnie Klein demo in May gave us a chance to be inspired once again. More of our members should avail themselves of watching these professional turners. Not only do they make turning look easy they all provide unique tips and ideas for new shapes and objects.

The Board will continue to invite professional demonstrators and if you have a special type of turning you want to see, please contact Ed Johnson.

Board Meeting

The Board had a meeting on the 14th of May to discuss future meetings and demos for the coming year. We will again have two or three professional demos and it was decided that the fees would remain at \$20 for members. My experience with these demos has been that the information and turning tips have been worth considerably more than this fee. The exact dates have not been set as of this date but watch for them in the September newsletter. Please feel free to contact any of the Board members if you have any special topics that could be presented at our meetings.

Notes on the Demo by Bonnie Klein – 5/9/98

It was a beautiful day, and I suppose that a lot of people took advantage of the fishing opener. Those who showed up for this presentation had the advantage of a small class size of only 22 turners. Bonnie did an excellent job of presenting basic skills necessary for producing fun projects that anybody could do. I will try to give an overview of the presentation here, with an emphasis on things that were especially interesting to me, but I have to say that there is no way I could cover everything here.

The first point in any class by Bonnie is the ABC's. Anchor, Bevel, Cut. What this means is, to get a good smooth surface with crisp details you:

Anchor the tool. Be sure the tool is firmly on the tool rest.

Bevel contact with the wood. Let the tool bevel rub on the surface.

Cut using the proper part of the tool edge, advancing it with the bevel remaining in contact with the wood.

She then proceeded to demonstrate the most fundamental spindle turned forms, the cove and bead. The point was made that the cut is essentially the same for both the skew and the gouge. Bonnie has these huge models of cutting tools, apparently carved from 2x4's, that make her explanations of cutting action clear for all present. The key point here was that as long as the path of the wood and the edge of the tool met at a 45-degree angle, the cut would be the cleanest possible with the least effort.

Cont'd on p.3

1998 PICNIC

The annual family picnic is fast approaching. This year it will again be at **John Magnussen's** house from **noon to 6:00** on **Saturday, August 15th**.

The "challenge" this year is to turn a frisbee. Certificates will be awarded for the following categories:

- Largest
- Best Design
- Best Finish
- Most Colorful
- Most Exotic
- Thinnest
- Longest Actual Flight

The frisbee turnings will be used for show-and-tell so put your thinking caps on, put a tool in your hand and turn out some exotic new designs.

The only thing food item you have to bring is any meat and buns for your family. There will be grills available to cook on. Salads, soft drinks, coffee and dessert will be provided.

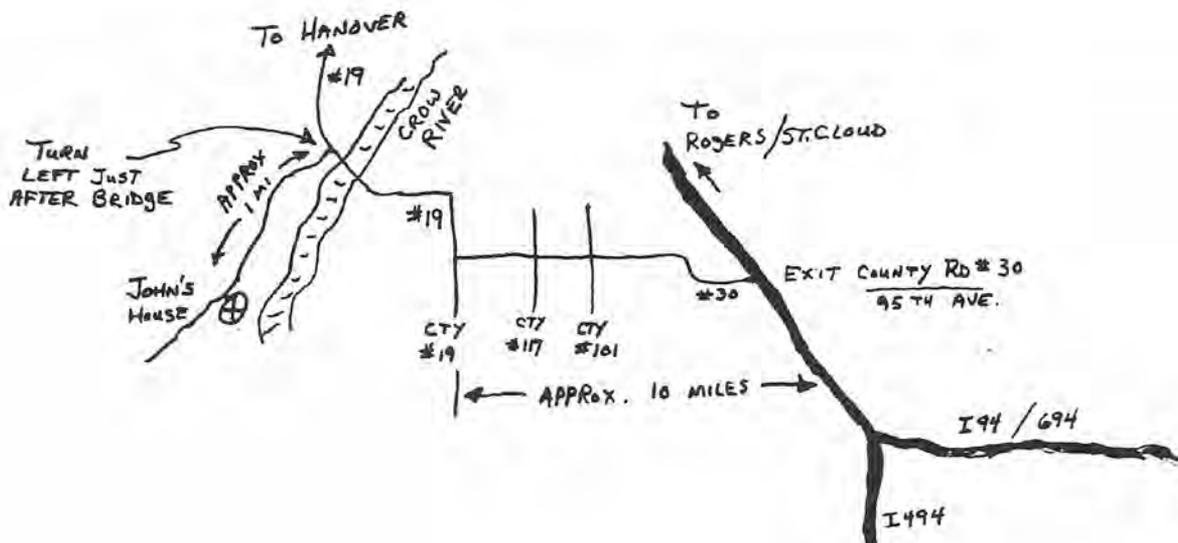
Bring your own lawn chairs and mosquito repellent. John's yard is big so you could even bring along a (*UGH!*) plastic frisbee. There will also be croquet and bocci ball available.

The picnic committee needs to know how many people will be attending so they can have enough food available so please call either of the following members to let them know if you are coming and how many in your party. **Please help out by doing this ASAP.**

Don Robinson 441-8207
Ron Meilahn 633-8902

See the map below for directions to John's.

Note: There will not be a wood raffle at this meeting.



Tips for the use of the chatter tool:
Don't use a tool that is too sharp. A burr or sharp edge will require the chatter to be burnished or sanded after cutting and that reduces the crispness of the design. The faster the lathe is running, the larger the spacing in the pattern.

Bonnie also demonstrated the creation of chatter without a special tool. The chattertool works by having the blade vibrate. A "chatter" can also be made by the wood vibrating. This is often done by bowl turners inadvertently. (Look carefully at those bumps on the inside of a bowl turning, they often take a spiral pattern... chatterwork!) The technique is to cut lightly while applying heavy bevel pressure. On a spindle turning this is facilitated by having the turning supported at the headstock end by only a thin tenon. The actual thickness depends on the wood, size of the turning, etc.

Many turners use a wire held against the wood while it is rotating to create a dark, burnt in, accent line. Since those of us there obviously weren't fishermen, she suggested that stainless steel fishing leader was the ideal wire to use since it didn't temper and break with the heat generated. (Note: **NEVER** wrap the wire around your fingers when doing this procedure. Should it get caught, the tension could cleanly sever your finger. Make handles for the ends of the wire.)

For her third project, she quickly turned a kitchen spatula that only required a little sanding on a drum or belt sander to finish the working end after turning the handle and spatula profile. The finish on her kitchen items consists of a smooth finish and soaking overnight in mineral oil.

A new project that is made possible by the availability of high quality brushes from China sold by Craft Supplies is a small brush with a turned handle. Bonnie's technique for ensuring that the brush is centered in the end of the turned handle is to start with a blank with a hole of the correct size bored into the end. A tenon is turned on a faceplate mounted waste block. The blank is mounted on the tenon which fits quite snugly into the hole in the blank. Friction drives the blank. This enables a thin cross section where the brush is glued in.

The whistle project is based on ancient techniques for simple carved whistles. Similar to the brush project, the whistle blank is also driven by a friction drive. In this case a dowel is required in the mouthpiece end of the whistle to make the sound. This dowel is turned down from 1/2" to the size of the hole in the whistle, about 3/8", but it isn't critical, as long as the dowel fits tightly enough to

drive the blank but not so tight to crack it. The dowel is held in a Jacobs chuck and should fit about 1/2" into the whistle blank. The whistle blank itself can be about 1" square with a hole "as long as the drill" lengthwise into it. Only the mouthpiece is open, so be sure the blank is sufficiently longer than the drill to allow enough room at the tailstock end for finishing off. The whistle turning itself is simple, just don't cut into the hole in the middle and make the area around the notch about a 1/8" wall thickness. After turning the whistle body, the notch is cut into the body at the end of the mouthpiece dowel. The mouthpiece dowel also must be carved or sanded so that a small opening is directed to the wedge shaped "splitter formed by the notch. It just takes practice and trial and error to determine the appropriate shape of these pieces. From experience I can say, it's not that hard. The dowel is ultimately glued in place with superglue. Finishes used on non-kitchen products during the demo were done with Behlens Woodturners finish.

After lunch, Bonnie demonstrated the making of an exquisite threaded lid box. I'm not even going to try to describe it here, but most of the information is on the video made by Jim Jacobs. Also, I will put my copy of Bonnie's video showing the making of the threaded lid box into our library. Surprisingly, it doesn't require a lot of turning skill to get the job done, but it does require concentration and attention to the details.

There was time for one more project so she turned a kitchen scoop from some of the wet apple wood that was included in the wood raffle. This is basically the same as Raffan demonstrates. One tip that should save time on this type of turning is when making the parting cut that marks the line between the scoop and the handle, on the outside, make the cut at the same exact depth of the inside of the "bowl" of the scoop. This keeps the bottom of the scoop as thin as the sides for a uniform thickness without having to spend a lot of time on it.

Bonnie generously donated all the projects she turned to the wood raffle, which helps to defray the cost for bringing top professionals to Minnesota. Tom Schwartz was fortunate to win the beautiful box in a special lottery at the end of the session.

If you have specific questions about the procedures I've discussed, feel free to call me at my shop (507) 634-7570, fax me a question at (507) 634-7489 or e-mail at turcanik@means.net.

Mel Turcanik

MWA Board

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Newsletter Editor/Membership:

Don Robinson (612) 441-8207

e-mail: dmrob@worldnet.att.net

Member Helpline

Do you have a question or need help with a project or turning? The following members have volunteered to try and answer your questions or point you in the right direction.

Mel Turcanik	(507) 634-4986
John Engstrom	(612) 475-0307
Jim Jacobs	(612) 437-2302
Ed Johnson	(612) 224-4194
John Magnussen	(612) 477-6294
Dave Schneider	(612) 934-4667
Don Wattenhofer	(612) 572-1045

If any others wish to volunteer for this list please call Don Robinson @ 441-8207.

Notice to all you members !

Send me your thoughts, articles and photos of your work. It's always interesting for us to read about what's being done by the members of the club.

Even a brief outline and sketches would be great and I can help with the final article.

Pictures have always been a problem for the copier to reproduce clearly. To eliminate this problem we are working on the possibility of printing a single photo page separately then inserting it into the regular newsletter.

The newsletter is still being copied by Paul Keller free of charge at his employer's office. **A big THANKS to Andersen Windows inc.**

Don Robinson

APPRECIATION & RECOGNITION

Sometimes in our busy schedules we forget to recognize the effort and contributions that go into making this club interesting and useful to its members. This section will highlight and remind us of these things.

- The Bloomington WoodCraft Store for the free use of its back room for demos.
- The Lake / Lyndale Woodworkers Store for its free use of its basement for demos.
- The many wood related stores for their product discounts to our members. (see list in Feb. newsletter).
- Paul Keller and his employer, Andersen Windows, for copying the newsletter.
- John Ratliff for stapling and mailing the newsletter.
- Board Members for organizing and helping out at the meetings.
- Tim Manning, Don Wattenhofer and John Magnussen for opening their shops for meetings.
- Members who demonstrate their interests and talents at our meetings: Mel Turcanik, Dick Enstad, John Berglund, Mark Reschke, David & Ruth Waterbury, Alan Lacer

THANKS !!

FOR SALE

Classified Ads

Turning related ads are free to members. Commercial ads are billed at \$4 per month, per column inch. To place an ad, call Don Robinson 441-8207.

Ads will run one month unless you call to extend your ad each additional month. Submission deadline is the 1st of the month prior to publication. (I.e. The 1st of Aug, Oct, Dec, Feb, Apr)

For Sale

1" Delta Belt Sander
Model 31-050

Mint Condition-Hardly Used
\$35.00
Ron Meilahn
633-8902

For Sale

Heavy Duty custom-built lathe,
12" swing X 36" bed
Similar to a Delta 4 speed lathe
#2 Morse taper, live & dead centers
Misc. Accessories
Must see this fine lathe.
\$495
Hal Malmlov
831-7676

WANTED

Rosewood Stanley plane
handle for #4 plane.
Will buy or trade for old
tools.
Jim Jacobs
437-2302

For Sale

Estate Sale of woodcarver's tools.
Several hand tools, chisels,
Foredom power carver and
carving bench.
If interested, call Jim Jacobs
437-2302

Treasurer's Report as of 5/31/98

May 31, 1998 Begin. Bank Bal. 1401

INCOME:

A.) 1998 Memb. Dues Rec'vd	1720
B.) Wood Raffle/Name Tag Sales	160
<u>Total Income</u>	1880

EXPENSES:

C.) Prof. Demo Costs (loss)	(344)
D.) NL Print'g & Post'g	(102)
E.) Annual Liab. Insur.	-
F.) Holiday Party, Picnic	-
G.) Glue sales/Purch's. (net)	(84)
H.) Awards, prizes, Misc. Supplies Kits, Refreshmt's	(176)
I.) Libr. Tapes, VCR Rental, etc.	(38)
J.) 2 Yr Mag. Subscript. Woodtrn'g	-
K.) Equip., Upgrade, Repairs, Tools	(110)
<u>Total Expenses</u>	(854)

NET OPERATIONS YTD-FAV	1026
Memb. Dep's-Libr tapes	40
Bank Balance 5/31/98	2467

FOR SALE:

- Oliver Woodturning Lathe with Kimble Var. Speed Motor Head
- All Heavy Duty Cast Iron Construction
- Model # 51A Serial # 26724
- 12" Swing w/48" Bed and a 14" Extension
- Variable Speed 110/220 VAC Motor (Head can be moved along bed or reversed for a bowl lathe)
- (1)- 3" face Plate
- (2)- 4" face Plates
- (2)- 6" face Plates
- (1)-6" Tool rest
- (1)-12" Tool rest
- Set of 7 Sorby Gouges, Scrapers and Parting Tool
- Excellent Condition
- Complete Package for \$750.00

Heavy Duty Floor Stand for Outboard Turning-
Will hold any size tool rest with standard 1" diameter shaft
\$50.00

Contact:

Dave Schneider
16777 Thatcher Rd
Eden Prairie, MN 55347
612-934-4667 e-mail: DschWdTurn@aol.com

Minnesota Woodturners Association

Dedicated to providing education, information and an organization to those interested in woodturning.

The Minnesota Woodturners Association was formed in 1987 with approximately 25 charter members and now has about 100 members. The Association is non-profit and all work by members is done voluntarily.

The skill level of our members ranges from complete beginners to skilled professionals. Membership includes a few professionals but hobbyists make up the majority. The members live mostly in the Twin Cities metro area, however there are members in all areas of Minnesota stretching into western Wisconsin.

The Association normally schedules meetings once a month during fall, winter and spring of the year. (September thru May) The meetings are normally held on Tuesdays or Saturdays and the group meets in a different location each time. The meeting locations vary from members shops, educational associations, to the various woodworking stores located throughout the metro area.

The Newsletter is published bi-monthly, 5 times a year, excluding the months of July/August

The meetings usually consist of some sort of turning demonstration or related subject. The subjects of the demonstrations vary from basic techniques to advanced levels. The meetings are always open to questions from the members and we invite and encourage them to share their knowledge and skills freely. The Association tries to arrange at least one professional demonstration each year, with past professional demonstrators coming from all areas of the United States, England and as far away as Australia.



Editor
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First Class Mail