



Nor-Cal Shavings

Newsletter of the Nor-Cal Woodturners
An American Association of Woodturners Affiliate

<http://www.norcalwoodturners.org>

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President's Message

LISTENING TO THE EXPERTS!!!!

How does one learn to turn? Read magazines, read books, take classes, and listen to the experts. Okay, now that you're doing everything right, are you still confused? Are the things that the experts are telling us in conflict at times? Generally yes, but that usually means we need to learn more about the circumstances or conditions upon which the expert was basing their answer or advise. Turning is a lifetime of learning. Most of the experts are constantly learning, only a few seem to have 'learned it all'. And that is where I find the joy of having a hobby like woodturning. I get a thrill out of trying new things, new techniques, and new challenges. I am a hobbyist and I never anticipate ever being a production turner. Lucky me!!! With that said, I also appreciate the willingness of the experts to give me insight into what I am doing right or wrong. Hopefully I can return the favor to someone that can use a bit of help to get them on their way to an enjoyable hobby. That is one of the big benefits as I see in our membership in Nor-Cal Woodturners. Help each other out! That's the idea behind having the meeting this month to share ideas that might make turning a bit better, easier, more fun! Share your ideas with others. We don't always need to reinvent the wheel. Don't depend on the other members to fill up the tables with only their ideas. Try to bring one of your own. See more in this newsletter about that.

ATTEND THE NEXT ALL DAY DEMO!!!

If I were to say, the best bowl maker ever will be in town in May, would you believe me? Responding with it's another 'sales pitch' to sell out would not be an unusual answer! But I just finished watching John Jordan's DVD's and in the second DVD John made the comment when

holding up a Madrone bowl made by Dale Larson of Oregon, 'I consider Dale Larson as the BEST bowl maker around. To me that's a pretty strong 'unsolicited' endorsement. Hope you take advantage and sign up for the class.

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN TURNING?????

It is a good open ended question to start off a conversation! I'm always challenged on how to answer that. I turned 3 tapered legs and 3 short dowels in my high school wood shop when I was a senior in high school, and along the way I've turned a few other spindles (cylinders) for various furniture projects so guess I can say I've turned for 50 years!! But how long have I turned seriously or productively or with any degree of quality? Your guess is as good as mine! How many quality pieces have I turned? That could range from 0 to a few, depending upon who is judging the work! But I can say I'm having lots of fun trying. Practice, practice, practice and try to improve along the way.

GIVING BACK TO THE CLUB!!!!

I apologize to the club about the amount of time we spent at the last meeting on discussing the raffles. I believe the board realizes that even though we might make some decisions that are not accepted by all, it is better that we try our best, and go from there. If a bad decision is made, it can be rectified
(Continued on page 4)

Contents

- 2 - Board officers
- 3 - Calendar
- 12 - Commercial Ads
- 3 - Meeting Programs
- 7 - Members' Gallery
- 2 - Mentor list
- 4 - News & Notes
- 1 - President's Message

Nor-Cal Woodturners

Ethel MacLeod Hart Senior Center
915 27th Street, Sacramento CA
Between I and J Streets

General Meetings on the **4th Tuesday** at 6:45 p.m.

Roster of Officers 2010

President: Corwin Jones Phone: 209-951-4622
Email: jones.corwin@comcast.net

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Web Master: Martin Harris Phone: 916-455-8385
Email: himself@martinthewturner.info

Equip. Mgr: Ron Winterton Phone: 916-834-6635
Email: vfrfv40@yahoo.com

Mentors

LOCATION	NAME	PHONE
Auburn	Dan Clark	530-878-0931
Christmas ornaments, Cheese and Cracker Plates		
Citrus Heights	Herb Medsger	916-725-3120
Miniatures, Hollow vessels & Embellishments		
Davis	Bill Flewelling	530-753-2664
General turning of most types, Natural edge		
Granite Bay	Tom Castaldo	916-791-7544
Christmas orn., Natural edge, Texturing & Boxes		
Roseville	Phil Sargent	916-789-1172
Natural edge vessels, General Turning		
Yuba City	Norm Hinman	530-673-5056
Basic Bowl, Basic Spindle and Natural Edge.		

The Mentor program is available to members who have questions about, and/or problems with, turning, Nor-Cal programs, and to get a better 'feel' for the club. Check in with the Mentor(s) in your area of interest (or geography) and get acquainted!

Mini Woodturning Workshops

A workshop will be held at Norm Hinman's shop Saturday, May 1. Sign-ups for a second one on Saturday, May 15 will be accepted if the first one fills. Up to three turners per session... 3 full-sized lathes available. **Sign up at the meeting.**

*Dues for the calendar year are \$35 per member and \$10 for spouse (if they desire to join) Commercial memberships are available for \$50 per year. This membership includes yearly advertising in the newsletter. Ads are to be business card size and may be changed from month to month. Contact Treasurer Dan Clark for more membership information. Newsletter deadline is the tenth of each month. All submissions should be sent to **Nor-Cal Woodturners, Norm Hinman, 302 Peck Ave., Yuba City, CA 95991. E-mail to: nhinman@yahoo.com***

Proprietary names which may be included herein are for information purposes only, and no endorsement of any particular product or supplier mentioned or criticism of others not mentioned by Nor-Cal Woodturners is implied.

CALENDAR

2010

- Apr - 27 - General Meeting. 6:45 PM
Tips and jigs for easier problem solving.
Raffle.
- May 3 - Board Meeting. (6:00 dinner, 7:00 meeting) Denney's 3rd. & J
- May 5 - Super Wednesday at Craft Supplies USA
- May 6-8 - Utah Woodturning Symposium, Orem, Utah
- May 18 - Dale Larsen Demo: 9:00 - 4:00
Woodcraft Supplies, Inc. 9545 Folsom Boulevard, Sacramento
- May 25 - General Meeting. 6:45 PM
Program TBD
President's Challenge: Make a Box.
Auction of pieces by Cindy Drozda and Bob Rosand.
- May 31 - Board Meeting. (6:00 dinner, 7:00 meeting) Denney's 3rd. & J
- June 22 - General Meeting. 6:45 PM
Program TBD
Raffle.
- June 28 - Board Meeting. (6:00 dinner, 7:00 meeting) Denney's 3rd. & J
- July 14-Aug 1 - California State Fair
- July 27 - General Meeting. 6:45 PM
Program TBD (Ice Cream Social?)
President's Challenge: Turn a Utility Item.
Auction of pieces by David Ellsworth and Bob Rosand.
- Aug 2 - Board Meeting. (6:00 dinner, 7:00 meeting) Denney's 3rd. & J
- Aug 24 - General Meeting. 6:45 PM
Program TBD.
Raffle.
- Aug 30 - Board Meeting. (6:00 dinner, 7:00 meeting) Denney's 3rd. & J
- Sept 28 - General Meeting. 6:45 PM
Nomination of Officers.
Program TBD.
President's Challenge: "Bowling Gone Wild".
Auction of pieces by David Ellsworth and Jimmy Clewes.

- Oct 4 - Board Meeting. (6:00 dinner, 7:00 meeting) Denney's 3rd. & J
- Oct 26 - General Meeting. 6:45 PM
Election of Officers.
Program TBD.
Raffle.
- Nov 1 - Board Meeting. (6:00 dinner, 7:00 meeting) Denney's 3rd. & J
- Dec (?) Christmas party? Date TBD

LAST MEETING

Dale Blue discussed how he makes his pedestal boxes. Jay Ritchins described the steps involved in making his decorative bowls.

NEXT MEETING

Members will bring in examples of their shop-made items that assist them in doing what they do. Each one will describe, briefly but in sufficient detail to allow viewers to 'take home' the prescient information, what his/her item is, how it was made, what it does, how it is used and why it was developed..

JOHN JORDAN CHALLENGE PROJECT

After we have a demo, we ask the attendees to design and finish a project much within the guidelines of what we were taught by the demonstrator. We will hold the John Jordan challenge in the month of June. Bring something ala John Jordan to the June meeting for review. Since many of you may have seen John Jordan at another venue, or read literature, or watched his DVD's, join us in this challenge to broaden our turning skills. Nothing ventured, nothing gained!!!

Davis Library Display

Don't forget to bring pieces of your turnings to the May meeting. Norm Hinman will collect them for the Davis Library Display. The display will run during the month of June. The pieces will be returned at the July meeting.

NEWS & NOTES

Nor-Cal Woodturners welcomes

New Members:

(No new members this month)

Attendance

57 attended the March meeting.

Membership:

On March 25th. Nor-Cal membership stood at:

81

DALE LARSON

DEMONSTRATION

DALE Larson, woodturner from Gresham, Oregon, and AAW board member, will be at **Woodcraft Supplies, Inc. 9545 Folsom Boulevard, Sacramento. Nor-Cal Woodturners** was able to schedule him to do a demo for us on Tuesday, May 18. Sign up soon to save a place for yourself. Send a \$30 check, payable to Nor-Cal Woodturners, to:

Dan Clark
5250 Morningside Ave
Auburn, CA 95602-9699

Greenwood Sealer

Greenwood sealer is available in **5-gallon** quantities only. If you smaller quantities, get in touch with some of your turning buddies and split 5-gallons among yourselves. For the near future, at least, contact Dwight Rutherford to obtain it. If you need it posthaste, give Dwight a call at 916-783-5082 and go to his house at 1407 Hermitage Way, Roseville, 95661. Otherwise, give Dwight a call, and he will bring it to the next meeting.

ROSTER REMINDER

If you are not getting your newsletter it may be that your address or email address has changed. Notify Dan Clark (at the Treasurer's desk)

President's Message: (cont. from page 1) over time, and hopefully for the betterment of the club. I think the statement that I will remember most from the discussion was the comment regarding giving back to the club. What we receive from the club is not what will make this a great club, **WHAT WE GIVE BACK TO THE CLUB IS WHAT WILL MAKE THIS A GREAT CLUB.** I thank those of you that are giving back to the club.

Notes from the Library

Library materials may be checked out by members for one month at a time. There is a 50 cent fee for each book or magazine and a \$1.00 fee for each DVD or VHS tape that is checked out. There is a limit of three library items that may be checked out at any one time. Be sure to return the items at the next meeting.

New arrivals:

Lessons In Segmented Woodturning, Volume 3: Exploring Possibilities with Malcolm Tibbetts

Malcolm created this DVD for the experienced segmenter and woodworker. He offers a variety of techniques such as Compound-Mitered Staves, Ribbons, Icosahedrons, Tubular Construction, and what he calls a Ribbon Bowl. Malcolm has taken many basic "methods of work" to a new place and therefore, hopefully has provided the tools and inspiration for others to take their own work in new directions.

Volumes 1 and 2 are also available in the library. The Aesthetics & Properties of Wood with John Jordan

On the 2-disc DVD, John discusses the aesthetics and properties of wood that every woodturner needs to know:

- How to use grain and color for the best effect
- The advantages of using fresh, green wood
- Why wood cracks and how to prevent it- simply
- Dealing with wood movement and shrinkage
- The myths about using green wood
- It is actually simple and does not require chemicals, guesswork, solutions or complicated methods.

John Jordan generously donated this DVD to the club.

Woodturning Magazine: For many years, Nor-Cal

Woodturners has subscribed to this high-quality woodturning magazine published in England. We currently have most of the issues from 2005 through 2009. Although the subscription lapsed for several months, we recently renewed the subscription for another two years and should begin receiving new issues in the near future. This magazine is full of techniques, tips, projects and lots of ideas.

New Benefits of AAW Membership!

- All current AAW members now have online access through the AAW website to every issue of American Woodturner. All twenty-five years!
- The AAW is now offering a full membership for \$38 per year to members who would prefer to read American Woodturner and the resource directory online, through the AAW website. This membership provides a major cost savings to anyone wishing full membership, and preferring to read the journal and access the resource directory online.
- Beginning in March 2010, there will be a monthly drawing for a variety of prizes, generously provided by our business members and supporters. Thereafter, at the end of each month, names will be randomly drawn from the current membership roster and all available prizes awarded.

For more information, see page 4 of the April 2010 issue of the American Woodturner or www.woodturner.org.

Surface Decoration

by **Jay Richens**

Many turners are exploring ways to add extra interest and appeal to their bowls, vases and platters. This short article reviews some of the many ways to surface decorate. For adding decoration to a bowl or vase, there are conventional techniques such as adding beads or grooves to a portion or a whole surface. However, there are many other options available to the wood-turner. Surface decoration consists of two main types. The first involves removing more material from the wood surface. This may be a more acceptable method to some wood-

turners, because we are already familiar with removing wood to form shapes. Surfaces can be carved, sandblasted, wire-brushed, scorched or burned, textured or pierced. The second type of surface decoration involves adding to an existing surface, such as with painting, dying or metal leafing. Several of these methods can be used together to create very unique surfaces.

- **Carving:** Carving may consist of shallow chip-carving on a plain surface or through a textured or painted surface. Carving may also be deep beyond the surface and may reshape the item completely.
- **Sandblasting:** Sandblasting can be done on any wood surface, and tends to look better on woods that have greater variations in density within the growth rings such as ash, pine and fir. Sand blasted wood looks splendid unfinished or with a light wax on the surface, such as renaissance wax.
- **Wire-brushing:** Wire-brushing can be done while a piece is spinning on the lathe or after it has been removed. It can be done with a light touch or done heavily, to deeply groove the surface.
- **Burning:** This can be done over large surfaces with a torch, then wire-brushing to remove loose material or done with wood-burning pens to create a vast number of patterns, designs and images.
- **Texturing:** Texturing can be done on the lathe with tools such as a Sorby texturing tool to create many interesting patterns or off the lathe with wood-burning pens or grinding with burrs.
- **Piercing:** Piercing is done with high speed grinders such as a Dremel or an air-driven tool.
- **Metal Leafing:** This is done by gluing thin sheets of metal to the wood surfaces.

It can be applied to a smooth surface or textured surface allowing the leaf to tear and the under-lying surface to show through.

- **Dying wood:** Many different dyes are available for wood. Some are water-based while others are alcohol-based. Some are opaque while others are transparent, allowing the wood to be seen. Colored inks are also a great option for wood as they can be wiped on, brushed on, or sprayed with an air-brush gun.
- **Bleaching and Liming:** Two-part wood bleach consisting of lye and hydrogen peroxide is the most effective in removing pigment from wood. Some woods however are resistant to bleaching so a little research and experimenting may be necessary.

Liming is done with liming wax and works best over porous woods such as oak and ash. This looks wonderful when the wood is dyed black or dark and then limed.

- **Painting:** Quality spray paint, such as Montana Gold acrylic lacquer, comes in a variety of colors. Five different nozzles are available for wide to very fine line spraying. Verdigris paints, rust paints, and crackle paints add a nice “old or weathered” look and are easy to use.

Air-brushing is nice option for adding color to wood. The colors can be opaque and transparent to show the wood.

Liquid metal leaf comes in several metallic colors and can be brushed on like paint. Metallic wax, such as “Rub and Buff,” is also available and is just rubbed onto a surface to give a metallic look.

Finally, oil and acrylic paints are available in hundreds of colors. Texture paste is easily mixed with acrylic paint for

colored textured.

Resources

University Art Supplies: 2610 Marconi Ave.
Sacramento 916-484-1640 or 2601 J street
Sacramento 916-444-8864

Utrecht Art Supply: 1612 Howe Ave. Sacramento
916-641-6400

These stores are both good sources for a variety of paints, liquid leafs, and metal leafs.

Craft Supplies USA

www.woodturnerscatalog.com: a good resource for gold leaf, wood dye, wood-burning supplies, liming wax and grinding burrs.

Books

There are many books that show good examples of surface decoration, but two books that show and describe technique well are:

New Masters of Woodturning: Expanding the Boundaries of Wood Art by Terry Martin and Kevin Wallace. 2008 Fox Chapel Publishing Company, Inc.

The Art of Turned Bowls: Designing Bowls with a World-Class Turner by Richard Raffan. 2008 The Taunton Press, Inc.

MEMBERS' GALLERY



Craig Milliron's Black Walnut bowl



Dale Blue's Apricot closed vessel



Dale Blue's Apricot bowl



Phil Sargent's Pear bowl



Dale Blue's Ornamental Pear vessel
with walnut collar



Bob McClurg's Cocobolo box
with Koa top



Phil Manning's Oak multi-center turning



Ted Young's spalted Maple hollow vessel



James Terrell's Oak bowl



Ted Young's winged bowl



James Terrell's Oak mushrooms



Ted Young's Chestnut winged bowl



Ted Young's Olive vase



Tony White's platter



Tony White's Butternut bowl



Tony White's Bloodwood box



Tony White's Olive bowl



Dwight Rutherford's natural edged vessel of Honey Locust and Mistletoe (collaboration with Bill Flewelling)



Corwin Jones' segmented bud vases of Walnut, Oak, Privet, Red Cedar and Maple



Phil Sargent's Mable burl platter (chuck-free burl turning)



John DePiazza's bowl



Floyd Norling's Bamboo duck calls



John DePiazza's vessel



John DePiazza's bowl



John DePiazza's bowl



John DePiazza's bowl



Tool handle by unidentified turner.




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 Phone: 916-362-9664

Hrs: M-T-W-F: 9am - 7pm, Th: 9am - 9pm, Sat: 9am - 6pm, Sun: 12pm - 5pm

Address Correction Requested

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 Yuba City, CA 95991