
AS THE WOOD TURNS

August 2013 - Issue number 191 - Minutes of the July 20, 2013 cook-out/meeting

Nigel's annual party on July 20th took the place of our regular July meeting and hands-on




Nigel trying out Wally's Treadle lathe

It is August and we have had our summer party and a chance to relax and so there is not much to write about. Herewith then is an excerpt from one of Ernie Grimes' newsletters from the past. It's still timely today.

"The Best Turner You May Ever Meet" by Ernie Grimes

-When I was 13 years old, I got a job in Mr. Taylor's shop. There were three other turners. They all came from England because Mr. Taylor would not hire anyone who hadn't come from there. The three other turners were old men. Well, anyway, they were to a teenager. They were really old, anybody over twenty five had to be.

The two oldest were Willy, whose real name was William; the other was Al, whose real name was Alfred or Albert. We never knew which because Al was all he would admit to. Those two never got along with each other. Why? Probably because each thought he was the better turner of the two, and that made them in their minds the best. Every so often they would challenge the other to prove they were better. They would battle it out on their lunchtime by turning the longest shaving or turning a spindle without using a tool rest or some other foolishness.

<p>2013 MSSW Officers</p> <p>President- Nigel Howe (508) 837-3394 nbhturnings@yahoo.com</p> <p>Vice president Bob Allen (781) 934-9583 trn3345@gmail.com</p> <p>Treasurer Wayne Miller (781)784-7820 wayne33@planetzaide.com</p> <p>Secretary Jeff Keller (781) 878-7310 jkeller@nerej.com</p> <p>Librarian Charles Rosen (781) 848-6589 charlesrosen@comcast.net</p> <p>Web site: http://www.msswt.org/</p>		<p>Next Meeting</p> <p>Tuesday, August 27, 2013 -7 PM at Hank's dust bowl at 409 Washington St., Abington, MA</p> <p>Refreshments – will be provided by Kevin Conneaney</p> <p>Member Challenge – make a birdhouse ornament</p> <p>Demonstration – Mickey Goodman : - demonstrate the casting of lids for vases, making the molds on the lathe, turning the casting on the lathe, decorating the casting and threading the casting to accept a finial.</p>
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As a member of the AAW you have the opportunity to practice what is stated on the letterhead of the Central New England Woodturners to "be dedicated to the advancement of woodturning". This is just as important today as it was in 1989 when it was printed.

How can it be done? Most of us think that the best way is to bring some neighbor or friend who likes to work with wood to one of our meetings. That may be one way, but to me it is not the only way.

Out there in the non-woodturning world most people don't know what a woodturner does. Let's start with an elderly widow who lives with her daughter a few houses away. Why not turn a weed pot from a branch from some tree in your yard or theirs? If she has a grandchild living with them, what would cheer her up more than having that child pick a flower or a dandelion to put in that weed pot?

Most of us know some friend whose health has deteriorated over the years, and now they are home-bound or in a nursing home. Instead of bath powder or candy, why not turn something and take it to them next time you visit? They probably will cherish that more than the usual gifts of soap and talcum powder.

The curly redhead you see many times who lives with his single parent and who dreams of being a big league ballplayer like Ted or Carl someday. Why not turn a baseball bat for him out of ash? A wooden bat is much better than a plastic or aluminum one. And why not have them sign it, and then you can burn it into the wood? It will not only be treasured, but it will be the only one like it in the whole world.

A top is easy to turn and hard to find in a store. When is the last time you saw one in Walmart? Turn a bunch and take them to a day care center for disadvantaged children and you will see smiles and receive thanks that you will cherish for years.

And how about your own children or grandchildren? What better way to share your joy of turning than to help them turn something? A turned box for pencils for a favorite teacher, a rolling pin for mom or grandmother who will be glad to make their favorite pie. Too young and may get hurt? No problem, I'll be glad to send you plans for a pole lathe or a treadle lathe, powered by them and a bicycle sprocket and chain. My treadle lathe has traveled all over New England and has been enjoyed by hundreds if not thousands of boys and girls.

Oh! -and who is the best or even the greatest turner you may ever meet? Just like "beauty is in the eye of the beholder", the ones you cheer by giving them a turning you made may think the person, whom you see every time you look into a mirror, might be the BEST TURNER that they and you will ever know.

Ernie

A note from Charlie Rosen:



In the past I've had my grandchildren at the lathe making bowls and boxes. This past week they were on vacation in Festival park, Roanoke Island, NC it's a village like Plymouth plantation called the lost colony. Was from 1587. And sure enough they found a lathe.

- Charlie Rosen

Some notes –

The club took in \$95 from the tool sale at Nigel's. Most of it was Ernie's items but Wayne had some other power tools.

Nigel plans to have the kits to make pens for troops available at the August meeting for those people who requested the free kits.

There was a hands-on session on Saturday August 3



Gil Blais observes Glen Shaffer on the lathe



David Rice works with Bob Courchesne



Bob 's cedar natural edge bowl



some of David Rice's turning tools*



Bill Dodge on the lathe, Wally in the background



Ken Whiting turns as Bill Dooley looks on

*L to R

1. Ian Manley helped me make a deep boring tool. High speed steel from Harbor Freight(\$4.00) bar (\$2.50)& ferrule (\$4.00)from Home Depot. A total of \$12.50.

2. Easy finisher: Cutter from Wood Craft(\$17.95), bar from WT Tool (\$2.50), ferrule from Home Depot (.50). A total of \$22.20.

3. Boring bar : double end boring bar 45/90 (\$7.95), ferrule from Home Depot (\$5.00). A total of (\$12.95)

Easy to make with a bench grinder and drill press. (handles were a separate project)

Coming events and shows

-Fuller Craft Museum exhibit Across the Grain: Turned and Carved Wood (April 7 - September 15, 2013)

-The House of Prayer Lutheran Church in Hingham is hosting an Octoberfest craft festival on September 28 (11-5) and Sunday September 29 (11-4). Contact Jeff.

--A Conversation with Silas Kopf Sunday, October 6, 2013, 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm at the Fuller Craft Museum – the topic is “Marquetry: Does an old European craft have any relevance for 21st century American furniture?” Kopf is the acknowledged American master of marquetry. Members Free, Nonmembers \$20.

--Fuller Craft Museum : "Made in Massachusetts: Studio Furniture of the Bay State" October 12, 2013 - February 9, 2014 - Opening Reception Sunday, October 20, 1:00 – 5:00 pm, with a talk by Professor Brock Jobe, Winterthur Museum

-Farm Day in Marshfield Saturday, October 19th from 10-4 we will turn and sell. Contact Jeff

Craft Show at the Abington Senior Center Saturday, October 26th from 10-3. We will demonstrate turning and sell items. Contact Jeff

Saturday November 2nd . Sarah Robinson will give a talk on the "Spalting of Wood". It will be live on the internet at 10 am our time consisting of an hour and a half demo and a half hour for Q & A. You will be able to talk to her through interactive video. This is in place of the monthly Hands On.

South Shore Audubon exhibit & sale December 7 through 21st. Open House Saturday, 10-3. Turners are invited to attend. Please email a list of your items for sale to Emily at esimmer@massaudubon.org in advance. Set up is Monday thru Thursday December 2nd through 5th. All items for sale must have the turners name and contact info attached to them.

Items for sale

If you have any items sitting around that you no longer want, why not draw up a list and prepare some pictures that we could use in a forthcoming newsletter?

Club store : We have CA glue 2 oz \$4, 8 oz \$12, 16oz \$21. Accelerator 2 oz spray \$3, 8 oz refill \$5. Debonder 2 oz \$3. Anchor seal \$15/gallon. Hats \$15. Sanding discs, Steve Worcester 2" \$2.50, 3" \$4/10 PAC, Klingspor 2" \$2.25, 3" \$3.25.
stevwsmn@aol.com Steve Wiseman

Blue Mule lathe - \$300 o.b.o Peter Cahill

Jet Mortiser - retail \$355, buy now for \$200 From charlesrosen@comcast.net