

NEXT MEETING
(MARCH 27)

MARCH - VOLUME 2, ISSUE 2

ASSOCIATION OF REVOLUTIONARY TURNERS

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WWW.REVOLUTIONARY-TURNERS.COM

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SAFETY TIPS

- Always use a dust collector when sanding
- Use the tailstock whenever possible for additional support
- If you are wondering if there are enough screws in the faceplate to hold your project, you don't have enough

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Our February meeting was an overall success. Mike Green was teaching shear cutting with the Ellsworth gouge (a.k.a. the Ellsworth Shuffle) and Peter Teubel taught the back-hollowing technique. Reading about it, watching videos describing it, or seeing a demonstration of it just doesn't compare to the HANDS-ON approach. It's SO much easier when someone actually guides you thru the process first-hand. We had good involvement from the members and everyone who tried the back hollowing technique was doing it successfully by themselves within 2 minutes. I just would like to emphasize that these skills become easier with PRACTICE. As Rude Osolnik once said, "If you want to get good on the lathe, you have to stand in front of it."



Photo by Dave Eaton

Donna Banfield



Photo by Dave Eaton

David Gillette

AN INTERESTING WAY TO SELL...

Posted message from alt.crafts.woodturning Newsgroup

"I do a lot of ones, twos which usually don't pay zilch but are a lot of fun. When a customer calls my general reply is, "Why don't you turn it?". The normal reply is that they don't have the artistic ability, tools or knowledge. My reply is "I have the tools, materials and I'm a damn good instructor.

Get off your dead ass and come on over. Price is one chocolate cake or cherry pie per session." If they still say no then I double my price. If they say yes, then I have an excuse to spend more nights in the shop, get a new friend and have fun."

- Art Ransom, Lancaster, TX

TURNER OF THE MONTH—GEORGE WHIPPEN



Young George began turning under the North Quincy H.S. woodworking teacher Mr. Warren back in 1953. Several years of mechanical drawing courses helped

George design his projects. At the time, scrapers were used much more than now but George does remember using gouges as well on his first turning project – a bowl and candlestick set for his Mom’s dining room table.

Woodworking was back burnered for several years until after George was out of the service and married. Then a cousin who owned a company called ‘Artistic Carving’ let George do a little rough turning at his factory, and eventually gave him a 3 foot spindle turning lathe that the company no longer needed. (The cousin’s company did some of the turning in the restoration of the USS Constitution)

Ever supportive, George’s wife Jean bought him a set of Buck Brothers chisels and a shop was set up in the basement. In those days, Billerica High School had a program through which adults could use the schools shop facilities. George’s big project there was a grandfather clock with turned finials and spindles.

In 1980’s there were few formal places to learn more about turning. However, Russ Zimmerman ran an intense two day workshop out of Putney, Vermont. The course cost \$200 for two days of 8 hours on the lathe with Russ breathing down your neck, including room and board. Russ was considered the “Gestapo of turning teachers”. George found that he learned a lot.

One of George’s best appreciated projects was the restoration of his wife’s grandfather’s antique smoke stand which had lost its legs

decades ago. George turned new ones to match some of the turned details in the body of the stand. You would never know that those legs were not original. Jean now uses the heirloom as a little table with storage.

George enjoys using local woods like cherry, maple, and walnut. He likes to take an odd piece of wood and cogitate over how best to use it, perhaps making preliminary sketches. Club wood swaps are often the source of his material.

Most pieces are quickly finished projects to be given to family members like salt + pepper shaker/grinder sets, pens, duck calls, mirrors, etc.. He is currently working on a 4 poster bed for his daughter. It will be similar to the one he made for himself in 1977.

A while back, you may have noted George attending meetings looking as though he had walked through a flame thrower. That was due to an amazingly violent reaction to cocobolo. Mrs. Whippen declared an end to George’s relationship with that mischievous exotic. George, thinking it was perhaps just a temporary “misunderstanding” snuck down the basement for another tryst. The resulting skin reaction was detected by Mrs. Whippen, and now cocobolo is no longer in George’s vocabulary. We all believe he will be better for it.

- Bobbi Tornheim

“...cocobolo is no longer in George’s vocabulary.”

VIDEO/BOOK REVIEWS

Hollow Form Turning by Melvin Firmager

- Peter Teubel

Melvin Firmager is a British woodturner. This video covers hollow forms and the way he teaches it. Melvin is known for his unusual grinds on his bowl gouges as well as his unique "leading bevel" hollowing tools (also known as "fork" tools). They look alien! The pace of the instruction is a bit slow and tedious, yet its interesting to see a hollow form hollowed out with various bowl gouges.

AAW Symposium Techniques 1996

- Peter Teubel

While the production quality

of this tape is not the greatest, there are a lot of tips one can pick up from watching the demonstrators. Some of the demonstrators included in this tape are Rude Osolnik, Bob Rosand, Michael Hosaluk, Palmer Sharpless.

AAW Symposium Techniques 1997

- Peter Teubel

Production quality gets a little better in this one. More tips and information. Some of the demonstrators included in this tape are David Ellsworth (hollow forms), John Jordan (side ground gouge), Lyle Jamieson (deep hollowing), Johannes Michaelsen (the hat guy).

AAW Symposium Techniques 1998

- Peter Teubel

This is our third "free" video from the AAW. Production quality gets even better. I found this one to be the best so far. Trent Bosch shows how he makes his "vessels of illusion", which I always wanted to know. Sigi Angerer, Ron Flemming, J Paul Fennell are also included on this tape. Richard Raffan has the longest demo on this tape, but if you've seen his Turning Boxes video, you've already seen everything he demonstrates in this tape.

Photo by Peter Teubel



Mulberry
7" x 3"
Peter Teubel

"Melvin is known for his unusual grinds on his bowl gouges...They look alien!"

THE BASICS OF STORING AND DRYING WOOD

- Peter Teubel

Once you cut down a tree (or get some freshly cut logs from a supplier), the clock is ticking. You only have "x" amount time before the wood will become useless for anything except firewood. The value of "x" can be increased a number of ways, but its only SLOWING the process, not stopping it.

The number of different procedures for drying wood is almost as infinite as the number of ways to use a gouge. I will not attempt to cover them all here, but rather to inform

you of what works for me. Most of my work is done with green wood, but I still do a fair amount of dry turning.

When I get a load of logs, I generally cut them a couple inches longer than the diameter. If its 12" in diameter, I cut the log into 14" pieces. I then split the log into two pieces. When I use the term "split", I do NOT mean split with an axe or log splitter. I mean cut in half with a chainsaw. This allows me to remove the pith (very center of the tree) which causes most of the cracking.

If the log is exceptionally large, I'll cut out an inch or so from the center so there is no pith left whatsoever.

At this point, I do one of two things. If I'm in a hurry (or just too darn tired) I just seal the ends with an end grain sealer. I use Anchorseal (which is a water-soluble wax emulsion), but other things can be used in a pinch (latex paint, Liquid Nails, caulking, paraffin wax, white/yellow glue). This slows down the drying process on the end grain so it'll liberate moisture at

Photo by Peter Teubel



Box Elder
10" x 4"
Peter Teubel

Continued on page 4

roughly the same rate as the side grain. Please note that end grain sealers do NOT create a hermetic seal. Moisture will still be released, but at a much slower rate.

If I'm feeling up to doing more preparation, I will then take the half-logs and cut them into turning blanks on my band saw. I then seal ALL the cut surfaces of the blank with end grain sealer.

Either way, I only have a few months to use this wood before cracks will develop. Even less with fruit woods like cherry or apple. Sometimes longer with maple. It depends on the type of wood.

If I want to store the wood indefinitely, I rough turn the blanks. Generally, I turn the blank into the basic shape and leave the wall/bottom thickness about 10% of the diameter. If I have a 10"

rough turned bowl, I'll want to leave the piece 1" thick throughout (walls and bottom). After roughing them out, I coat the end grain and the rim ONLY with end grain sealer and store them in a cool place with little (if any) air movement. In 6-12 months, the bowls should be dry. I then turn them to their final thickness and finish.

Photo by Peter Teubel



Box Elder
Mike Green

VIDEO LIBRARY

Current Inventory:

- * *Turning Wood with Richard Raffan*
- * *Turning Boxes with Richard Raffan*
- * *Turning Projects with Richard Raffan*
- * *Bowl Turning with Del Stubbs*
- * *Skill Building Projects with Mark St. Leger*
- * *Sharpening Fundamentals*
- * *Turning Projects from Scrap with Bob Rosand*
- * *Natural Lipped Bowls - Ken Bullock*
- * *Wooden Bowls on a Budget - Ken Bullock*
- * *Rude Osolnik - Dean of American Woodturners*
- * *David Ellsworth Tape #1*

- * *David Ellsworth Tape #3*
- * *Skew Chisel with Alan Lacer*
- * *Turning a Salt & Pepper Mill by Holmgren*
- * *1996 AAW Symposium - Techniques (new)*
- * *1997 AAW Symposium - Techniques (new)*
- * *1998 AAW Symposium - Techniques (new)*

If anyone would like to donate any ORIGINAL videos (no copies), please contact any of the club's officers.

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MARCH MEETING AGENDA

We missed the wood swap and show & tell at the last meeting. We won't at this meeting! Bring some wood to help support the club! Also, remember to turn a sphere (any size) for the March Club Challenge.

6:30pm-7:00pm

Arrive early for some social time and get a better parking spot!

7:00pm-8:00pm

- * Club business

- * Announcements
- * Club Logo Vote
- * Club Challenge results
- * Expanded show & tell. Bring your pieces in for discussion. We should have plenty of time at this meeting.
- * Wood swap. We'll have a BIG wood swap this month. Mulberry, Honey Locust, and Amur Cork will be among the species represented.

8:00pm-8:15pm

Break and demo setup

8:15pm-8:45pm

Demonstration: "Turning a Bowl Between Centers" by Bobbi Tornheim

8:45pm-9:00pm

Clean up.

Photo by Peter Teubel



Box Elder Burl
Ken Dubay

TURNER STARTS YOUNG

Posting from the alt.crafts.woodturning
Newsgroup (Author - Tom Baker)

"I mentioned in an earlier post an old Craftsman lathe I impulsively bought off eBay, and afterward read a lot of disparaging things about it in various woodworking forums, and concluded that I might have made a mistake. Several people here made me feel better by telling me the Craftsman isn't all that bad a machine, especially for a beginner, and some people have actually worked wonders with them. Well I got the thing set up and it works quite well, and I really can't find much fault with it. You might think that I just don't have anything to compare it to, but actually I do, now.

What happened was that after I got the old lathe running in the garage, my ten-year-old daughter happened by and became fascinated watching me turn beads and things on some practice spindles, and she wanted to try it too. Up until now she had never paid much attention to my woodworking, but I never had a lathe, and she was never ten. After I made sure everything was safe for her, and got her properly equipped with eye protection, her hair tied back, no loose clothing or other items etc., she went to work and made some interestingly shaped turnings which she took to school the next day, and found her schoolmates to be equally intrigued. So she wanted to learn more. I checked with a local woodworker's supply store called Woodcrafter and found that they offer beginner's classes in woodturning, so I signed both myself and my daughter up for one.

Thus last Saturday we found ourselves in a shop classroom in the back of the store in which a half dozen Jet mini-lathes were arranged in a circle, one for each student, and the instructor demonstrated the lathe and its tools and then talked us through some simple woodturning projects, the first one being a spurtle (I thought it sounded like

something accidental that you had to clean up). It turned out (pun!) that a spurtle is just a fancy stirring stick for stew and such. My little girl, the only child in the group, finished her spurtle first and it was the best-looking one in the class, eliciting a lot of praise from the instructor and the other adults. She went home even more excited about woodturning than before. Her mother liked the pretty cherry-wood stirring stick too.

So a few days ago we went to a pen-turning class in the same store, and both of us ended up with a quite lovely looking pen made of tulipwood. Suddenly, I have a little woodturning fanatic on my hands. She wants to make pens for all her relatives, to start with. My wife was so impressed by this creativity that she suggested we buy our little girl her own little Jet mini-lathe. The store owner cooperated to the extent of giving us 25% off on the machine plus the chisels and pen-making equipment we bought with it, because he said that he liked to see children getting into woodworking at the same age that he did (10). In the last couple of days we have found that telling our daughter that she cannot turn wood until her homework is done is the best way yet of getting her right onto her homework after school, no more foot-dragging. Last evening before bedtime she made her mother a "honey-dipper," and this evening she turned another pen, or rather a mechanical pencil of tulipwood to match the pen she made in the lathe class.

So anyway, now I have a Jet mini-lathe in the house and have been helping my daughter operate it (and I drilled and prepared her pencil blank for her today before she got home from school), so I am getting pretty familiar with the Jet. I think I'll switch over to the Jet for little projects like that (at least while my daughter is at school), but I'll keep the Craftsman around for any longer turnings I may do someday or for times when my daughter bumps me off the Jet!"

Photo by Tom Baker



Mary Baker at HER lathe

"My wife was so impressed by this creativity that she suggested we buy our little girl her own little Jet mini-lathe."

Photo by Tom Baker



Mary Baker showing her finished pen



MONTHLY SHOP TIPS

DUST COLLECTOR NOZZLE

- Peter Teubel

I have found that those flexible metal foil dryer hoses are ideal for a dust collection nozzle. You can bent them into various shapes to move the opening exactly where you want to maximize dust collection efficiency. When they wear out, just buy another one (they're cheap enough). They have an inside diameter so 4" so they will fit most dust collector couplers. Cover the exposed edge with duct tape to avoid the sharp edges.

DUST COLLECTION PIPING

- Peter Teubel

If you are going to plumb your shop for dust collections, make it easy on yourself with off-the-shelf components. Standard 3" schedule 40 PVC pipe is not only cheap, but the connectors and couplers have a outside diameter of exactly 4"...perfect for standard 4" flex hose to fit over. If your afraid of the static-electricity-dust-explosion boogieman (wholly unnecessary with home shop DC systems), drill 1/8" holes along the pipes and insert 1/8" pop rivets. Wire them together on the OUTSIDE with copper wire and ground appropriately. Stringing wire on the INSIDE is just begging for clogs (don't ask me how I know...)

BANDSAW BLADE CLEANING

- Peter Teubel

I use "PAM" cooking oil spray to keep the blade clean when cutting sappy green wood. Just spray a bit on the blade as its spinning after every few cuts. If gunk builds up, use a brass wire brush to clean it off (while the saw is turned OFF, of course).

EXCHANGABLE JAWS

- Peter Teubel

Did you know that most of the jaws for the Nova, SuperNova, Oneway (original tommy-bar version), and Talon chucks are interchangeable? The only thing you have to worry about is the travel limiting pin on the Oneway jaws. You have to remove it to put the jaws on a Nova or SuperNova chuck. This is accomplished by just pulling it out with pliers. Don't lose it because you'll want to reinstall it if/when you put the jaws BACK on a Oneway chuck.

Photo by Peter Teubel



Topsfield Fair Booth

"...flexible metal foil dryer hoses are ideal for a dust collection nozzles."



Handy Tool Tray slides onto lathe bed
Mike Green

VENDOR NEWS

Gast Vacuum Pump - \$89.95

www.surpluscenter.com

Search for item 4-1540. This is a 1/4hp Gast rotary-vane unit that is sufficient for use with a vacuum chuck system (any less hp will not work well). The only minor drawback is that it's a 220VAC unit. This company also has a wide variety of blowers that would be ideal for a home-made air filtration system.

R&D BANDSAWS

www.tufftooth.com

Do you go thru a lot of band saw blades? If so, this is the place to buy from! For blank cutting, get the "furniture band" 3/8" 3TPI blade (wider kerf for green wood cutting). For 105", the cost is only \$9.13 per blade (plus shipping). Note that the prices shown on their web site are in Canadian dollars.

CARBA-TEC

www.woodturning.com.au

Current exchange rates are very favorable to us in the USA. As an example, a Vicmarc VM120 chuck will cost you about \$222.90 delivered compared to the same item from Craft Supplies which will cost you \$279.94 delivered. Check out their web site and do the math. You will be surprised!



A.R.T. MENTORING PROGRAM

Our new Mentoring program is designed to help the novice as well as the intermediate turners in the club. Take advantage of the Mentors listed below. They've all agreed to spend a couple hours with any beginner to help the beginner get started or any intermediate to advance their skills. All it takes is a phone call to make an appointment.

Peter Teubel - Milford, MA
 (508) 662-4932
 pteubel@attbi.com

Mike Green - Lowell, MA
 978-459-8308
 mgreenburl@juno.com

Frank Movitz - Marblehead, MA
 781-631-4411
 gwpb@attbi.com

Derrick TePaske - Belmont, MA
 617-489-0169
 go.den@verizon.net

Steve Reznek - Concord, MA
 978-287-4821
 reznek@aol.com

Jack Grube - Londonderry, NH
 603-432-4060
 jackgrube@aol.com

Dietrich Kulze - Concord, MA
 978-663-5241
 dk3@reuse.com

David Vaughn - Reading, MA
 781-944-3389
 janvaughn@attbi.com



Frank Movitz and an OLD pal

"All it takes is a phone call to make an appointment."

FEBRUARY SHOW & TELL

Photo by Dave's Camera



Scorched Ash Table Set
Peter Teubel

Photo by Dave Eaton



Box Elder & Spalted Maple
Derrick TePaske

Photo by Dave Eaton



Birdseye Maple & Jarrah
David Vaughn

Photo by Dave Eaton



Scorched Ash Table Set
Peter Teubel

Photo by Dave Eaton



Canarywood & Tulipwood Light Pulls
Peter Priestner

Photo by Dave Eaton



Miniatures w/Snap Lids
Jeff Levine

Photo by Dave Eaton



The Suggestion "Log"
Mike Green

Remember to
bring your new
projects to each
meeting for
show & tell!

CLUB LOGO SUBMISSIONS

Here's the submissions of potential club logos. The vote will occur during our March meeting. ONE of these will be our new club logo!



#1



#2



#3



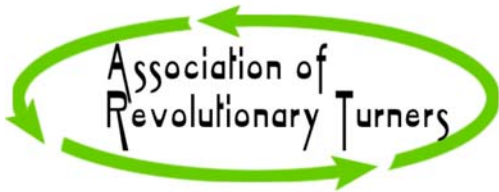
#4



#5



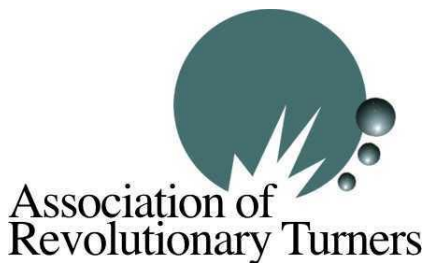
#6



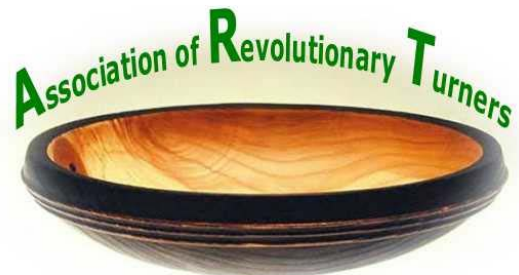
#8



#7



#9



#10



Association of Revolutionary Turners

“ GET INVOLVED ”



~ LEGAL STUFF ~

The Association of Revolutionary Turners (A.R.T.) was founded in 2001 to support the needs of woodturners in eastern Massachusetts. Its purpose is to provide education, information, and organization to those interested in woodturning. We meet on the 4th Thursday of every month at the Woodcraft Store in Woburn, MA. Memberships are on a calendar basis from January 1st through December 31st. Annual dues is \$20 per person.

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2003 MEMBERSHIP DUES

Club dues are due for fiscal year 2003. Please help the club continue to prosper by bringing your dues to the March meeting. We now have an official club bank account so we CAN accept checks (no plastic yet, though, but we're working on it!). Please see our Treasurer (Andy Osborne).

APRIL 24 MEETING

- New Club Challenge
- Logo Merchandising Plans
- Discussion: Selling Your Work