

NEXT MEETING
MARCH 25

MARCH - VOLUME 3, ISSUE 3

ASSOCIATION OF REVOLUTIONARY TURNERS

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WWW.REVOLUTIONARY-TURNERS.COM

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

| | |
|----------------------|----|
| FEB MEETING MINUTES | 2 |
| TURNER OF THE MONTH | 5 |
| MEDIA LIBRARY | 7 |
| MARCH MEETING AGENDA | 7 |
| CLUB EVENTS | 7 |
| NOTES FROM THE 'NET | 8 |
| BACK TO SCHOOL... | 12 |
| VENDOR NEWS | 13 |
| MENTORING PROGRAM | 13 |
| TOOL REVIEWS | 14 |
| CLASSIFIEDS | 15 |

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Busy is the descriptor for board members right now. Each is getting entrenched in their respective positions and working on projects that we hope will bring value and entertainment to our members. Feedback on any and all of the activities noted below is welcomed. The more you get involved the better our club will become.

Highlights of things we are working on are:

- A field trip to the Olde Schwab Mill in Arlington on March 27th @ 11:30 A.M., details provided at the meeting on the 25th.
- A top demo followed by a Tops Turning Night to provide joy to children in two local hospitals. Please turn and bring in as many colorful tops as time permits you every month. This is our Community Service Program. Let's make it a success.
- A summer outing is scheduled for July 17th in Norwood. Swimming, drinking, eating, relaxing and tall tale telling are all on the agenda. Maybe even a shaving or two will be created. Any ideas to "fun-up" the event?
- A new barrel of Anchor Seal is on order and hopefully available before this month's meeting.

• A formal program to offer club equipment on a rental basis is being formulated. Any ideas for stuff that would serve the interests of many?

• Demos on tops, twists and eggs are scheduled. A "Name" turner for a future meeting will happen. Who and when is being determined.

• Under consideration is a "Critique Night." Rather than a demo and show-and-tell, members bring in work for a little constructive criticism... and attaboys or attagirls as appropriate. Club members to be surveyed.

As for you President's activities, his feet are propped up on his desk, sipping on a Godfather and just delegating, delegating, delegating. When you've got a great staff that's all you need to do.

- Ken Lindgren

SAFETY TIPS

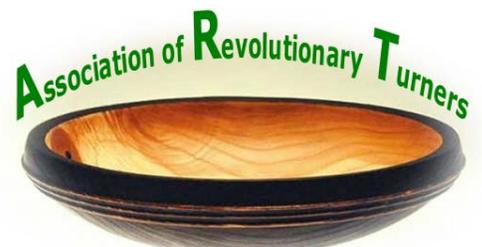
- Always wear a face shield!!!
- Make sure your tailstock is LOCKED before turning on the lathe!!!
- When you have to chase your lathe around the room, you're turning speed is too high.

MEMBERSHIP HAS ITS PRIVILIGES...

CA Glue & Accelerator Available

| | | |
|----------------------|-----|--------|
| Thin CA Glue | 2oz | \$4.00 |
| Medium CA Glue | 2oz | \$4.00 |
| Thick CA Glue | 2oz | \$4.00 |
| Black Medium CA Glue | 2oz | \$6.00 |
| Accelerator w/pump | 2oz | \$3.00 |
| Accelerator Refill | 2oz | \$2.00 |

3" Velcro backed sandpaper discs
- 80 to 400 grit 10/pack \$2.00



FEBRUARY MEETING MINUTES

By Gary Bashian

Ken Lindgren called the meeting to order at 7PM. Ken announced there would be no procedural changes in the meetings. There were no guests to introduce.

Ken mentioned the club had received an email from Woodturning Design, a new magazine devoted to turning. They are soliciting photos and bios of turners for the magazine. Submissions will be categorized as "beginners" (less than 3 years turning experience) or "Advanced" (more than 3 years). Website is www.woodturningdesign.com.

Ken mentioned an email from a gentleman on the Cape who has several hundred pounds of Oregon Myrtle for sale at \$11/bd ft. He can do 12" x 4", a good turning block. See Ken for details. Will Hunt said myrtle is nice to turn but myrtle items do not sell well.

Ken was good enough to bring a box of cookies, which many members enjoyed. He proposed that this be done on a rotating basis monthly. Sharon Green will bring something for the March meeting, Donna Banfield will take April.

Ken said that the monthly demonstrator will get first pick at the wood swap.

The March meeting will be 3/25, the normal 4th Thursday.

Ken mentioned that Peter Teubel is offering his vacuum chuck class at his shop in Milford. Each participant will leave with 1 or 2 chucks. Several people mentioned that vacuum pumps are readily available used, as they are about \$350 new.

Donna will be giving a demo at Pinkerton Academy 3/8.

Bobbi Tornheim spoke about doing demos, and indicated that the demonstrator him/herself often learns and benefits the most.

Bobbi mentioned club field trips, particularly the Old Schwamb Mill in Arlington. They have an eccentric lathe used to make oval picture frames, which they will turn on for visitors. There is no op-

erator, but Mike Green offered his services in this regard! There is also a store across the street selling shaker furniture and kits.

Bobbi re-activated the monthly challenge, based on that month's demo. So the gauntlet is down – next month members are challenged to bring in a long, slender turning based on John Moore's demo.

Bobbi spoke about community service, particularly Joann VanPelt's efforts with children's hospitals. Simple lathe-turned tops are a big hit with these kids. Maple is a popular wood for tops. Generally there is no finish, though mineral oil or beeswax can be used. Devon Thibeault mentioned that shellac and mineral oil are approved as food-safe finishes, and that his wife, who works at a hospital, might help distribute tops. Ken asked people to make tops for next time. If everybody makes just one top, we'll have 40+ tops to donate.

Bobbi mentioned the wood harvest on Dave Eaton's website www.eaton9999.com. If you hear of a tree coming down or wood available, put a notice here, and it will be distributed to members who have signed up for the wood-list. Or send an email with contact info and phone# to Dave and he will pass it along.

Gary Bashian asked what members might like to see on the website. New humor was mentioned.

Dave Eaton mentioned an event calendar, names & faces, and photos of people's work that could go on the site.

Gary took a quick survey asking if people sell their work, and a little over half the people raised their hands.

Peter Priestner mentioned opening a "service account", with no interest. Club checks are coming, and Ken will be the second authorized signer of the checks.

Peter mentioned a merchant account for taking credit cards. These services usually charge 4% - 5%.

Pro-pay is a popular processing service. Swipe ma-



Mulberry
Peter Teubel

“ Bobbi re-activated the monthly challenge, based on that month's demo. “



Paper Birch
Peter Teubel



Chinese Elm
Peter Teubel

FEBRUARY MEETING MINUTES (CONT.)

chines are readily available. Andy Osborne mentioned Merchant Bank Supply.

There was discussion on a video-cam and monitor to more easily see the demos, and possibly record them. Dietrich Kulze will price various television options. Devon offered a color security camera to the club. Ken will raise the subject at the next board meeting.

Dick Vose announced that Barbara Clorite-Ventura will be serving as Assistant Librarian and keeper of the books and videos. This will give Dick more time to work on Acquisitions. Dick also displayed "Turning Points" magazine from The Turning Center in Philadelphia, and said he has a selection of books available, as well. The Turning Center is a combination educational facility and gallery, just outside downtown Philadelphia. See Gary or Steve Reznek for more info. Dave suggested the magazines be put in binders.

Andy mentioned the International Turning Exchange, a yearly event sponsored by The Turning Center. The 10-year retrospective of the event is coming in Sept. 2005.

Dick also said that 30+ members have not paid their dues. He will have an updated membership list in a few days. Dave wants to verify that email addresses are correct, as he usually gets a few undeliverables with each mailing.

Ken said that Barbara is also the video reviewer, though anyone can write video or book reviews. Barbara suggested that reviews contain a synopsis of the tape, plus information on tools and techniques.

Peter Teubel solicited contributions and photos for the newsletter or website.

Bobbi encouraged people to bring in wood for the wood swap.

Dave spoke about the Yahoo groups website art_woburn, spear-headed by himself and Robin Cain. Go to www.yahoo.com, click on "Groups" (to the right of "Connect"), search on "art_woburn". Bookmark the site, or add it to MyGroups. The site

can also be reached via a link from Dave's eaton9999 site. The site is a communications tool, with a calendar, photos, files.

Dave indicated that the club by-laws have been amended to include former officers on the Board of Directors.

Ken mentioned the equipment owned by the club – mini-lathe, grinder, tent, shelves. These items are available for a nominal rental fee, in the \$2 - \$5 - \$10 range. Peter Teubel is the Equipment Manager. He will bring items to the Woodcraft store, but at regular meetings only. At all other times, items must be picked up and returned at Peter's shop in Milford, MA. Possession of items will be tracked on the club website.

Ken suggested a summer social outing. This will be a purely social event, spouses are welcome, a chance to get to know people outside the monthly meeting. Location yet to be determined. Ken to come up with a date, possibly in late July.

Andy mentioned that Beall Tool has agreed to give a 10% discount on "selected" items to ART members. The website is bealltool.com, though Andy suggested it might be better to call, and mention ART. Way to go, Andy!

The club has no more Anchor Seal left. Andy will buy another drum. Peter Teubel to store, Ken to transport.

Sy Bobroff said that Cadmium Books is closing their display area and is offering 40% off everything in the display area, for this week-end (2/28 - 2/29) only. Dick will research if there are any good deals for the club here.

SHOW & TELL

Mike Green brought some of the Peter Toch tool items offered for sale. Mike represents Peter at the club for selling purposes, and offers sharpening jigs for the Ellsworth gouge, thin parting tools, and laser pointers for hollowing. Did I miss anything, Mike?

Dennis Daudelin showed a gavel of curly maple and a bowl of desert ironwood. He also had pens of



Honey Locust
Peter Teubel

" Ken mentioned the equipment owned by the club... "



Maple & Oak Burl
Peter Teubel

FEBRUARY MEETING MINUTES (CONT.)

exotic woods. Angelo lafrate sells pen blanks of stabilized wood very reasonably. Dennis also had a segmented pen, and a pen made of Corian, which is readily available but hard to turn.

Mike Green brought a wavy natural edge bowl of oak burl, and an oak burl vase. Mike also brought a hollow sphere with protrusions and removable "wings". Without the wings, it reminds me of a WWII underwater mine from those old submarine movies. Those spheres are difficult to make.

Sy Levine showed a 14" bowl of Norfolk Island Pine from the South Pacific, that he had soaked in Danish oil.

Dave Eaton showed a red oak bowl with a lacquer finish. Oak contains tannic acid, so steel items should not be left in contact with oak turnings, and steel-wool should not be used, or rust stains may result. Dave also brought another maple burl bowl, and an oak burl with occlusions, finished in lacquer.

Mike Souter showed a small bowl of sea grape, a peach-colored wood from Florida. He also brought a home-made gouge made of recycled drill-rod. He said the handle was just a piece of doweling, but it was the nicest "doweling" I've even seen. Looks more like maple to me, Mike. Nice job.

Donna Banfield brought in a plate and a red maple bowl, turned from a chunk which had separated from a larger turning.

Steve Resnek brought in a nice bowl of apple.

Will Hunt showed a 14" bowl with open segmentations, which he later had spinning on one of the shop lathes.

Ron Pouliot brought a bowl of poplar (similar to quaking aspen), which was translucent when viewed through the end-grain.

Derrick TaPaske brought a large hollow form with the surface ornamentation that is becoming his trademark. This was a large sphere, about 15" diameter, covered with an emulsion ("Country Colors") which also fills cracks. The high spots are

sanded and take on a burnt orange color. There is an ebony rim at the neck.

Jonathan Levy showed a bowl of "smelly maple" and another of spalted beech, finished with Minwax tung oil.

Ken brought in a mesquite burl bowl with bark inclusion. This was turned off-center, and very slow - 200 rpm. This wood is very hard, and tools require extra sharpening.

DEMO

John Moore demonstrated his technique for making thin-stem goblets, which he had shown at an earlier meeting. These are small goblets, under 1" diameter, with a very long, slender shaft. The shafts looked to be in the 3/32" - 1/8" range, and Dave says the longest is 12".

The wood is attached to the lathe with a 4-jaw chuck. John starts the goblet with a Forstner bit, and his gloved hand serves as a steady rest in the early stages. He uses a standard skew chisel or 3/8" parting tool for most of the turning.

When the stem has become narrow and subject to whipping around and breaking, Dave uses a piece of string taped to the tool rest and looped around the spindle. Waxed dental floss could also be used. He uses his magnetic base or a home-made base with a cross-bar as a support for a second piece of string to the rear.

For re-mounting a goblet to the lathe, John uses a dial-indicator with magnetic base to insure the work is centered. Grizzly (1-800-523-4777) has the set-up for \$19.95.

John also passed out literature from Enco (1-800-873-3626, www.use-enco.com)

Thanks for an informative demo, John!

We wrapped up the evening with the wood swap. As demonstrator, John got first pick, and the club took in \$41.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 PM.

" Dave Moore demonstrated his technique for making thin-stem goblets... "

TURNER OF THE MONTH—JEFF LAVINE

By Bobbi Tornheim

What does a work of art tell us about the artist? Could we extrapolate the precision and subtlety of Da Vinci from the Mona Lisa or deduce the passion and madness of Van Gogh from Starry Night? It would be an interesting exer-

cise to display a collage of unlabeled turned items and be asked to match each one to pictures of their creators.

But then there is the puzzle of paradox. Or perhaps there is no paradox, only incomplete information that we use to jump to incorrect conclusions. Meeting Jeff Levine for the first time, I would not necessarily guess that he is the producer of small, exquisite, perfectly rendered snap-top boxes. But he is.

Jeff met his first lathe in Junior High Shop Class where he turned his initial bowl. He describes himself as a "wild youth", somewhat dyslexic who was sent to alternative schools to address his particular issues and learning style. Off the lathe in Shop Class, Jeff enjoyed making band saw boxes. Part of the appeal of box-making was the small size of the project. He could get instant gratification from making boxes quickly. And they must have been pretty good since staff members of the school would buy the boxes from their student to give as presents.

In High School Shop, Jeff took up where he left off. Some generous soul had donated back issues of Fine Woodworking to the school. Jeff devoured them all the way back to the black-and-white issues, enjoying the articles and getting ideas. His shop teacher was quite the opposite of many previ-

ously described. He gave a general overview for safety's sake, but very little direction. Self-motivated, creative students were allowed to blossom.

After High School, a stint at Wentworth in Computer Technology and a year as a chimney sweep, Jeff found himself working for furniture stores in many capacities from delivery to sales to truck driving. Next he kicked himself way upstairs doing "high" work as a mason. He would be the guy way up on the building perched on swing staging while attending to brick and stone restoration. In addition to working on several downtown buildings, he was also part of the restoration of the North Andover Town Hall.

A back injury ended the high flying career, Out for a while on workmen's Comp, Jeff went back to turning on lathes owned by the fathers of friends. Back at work as a security guard, Jeff had time on his hands, so he started carving wood as well. Then he picked up his association with the furniture store, now making unfinished student furniture.

He purchased a little Dremel lathe, eventually upgrading to a Williams and Hussey, and later a Carbo Tech mini lathe. With a few bowls now and then, his main focus continued to be boxes. As his equipment improved, so did his skills. Little finely made objects, like ships in bottles, continued to attract him.

Looking at last to set up his own shop, he transformed his apartment's walk-in closet into a neat, compact work space that produces some of the prettiest snap-top boxes that you will find. I am impressed with how he has made do so cleverly with the amount of space that he has.

The beauty of wood, the call of the odd cut off with a maverick grain will catch his eye and inspire. His aim is to use any kind of wood to create light, elegant forms. Being functional as well is a plus. Jeff is seeking to define his own design, something that can be recognized by those who have seen his work.

Nowadays, he is turning at home when he can steal

“ What does a work of art tell us about the artist? “

TURNER OF THE MONTH—JEFF LAVINE (CONT.)

a little space from raising his three year old Noah Benjamin. Jeff became a single dad when Noah was 8 months old so his time is not his own. Hopefully, a nursery school opportunity is in the not too distant future to provide Jeff with some more wood time.

Meanwhile, Jeff is teaching an occasional class at Wood Craft as well as selling some of his items at "Ritual Arts" in Allston. I can imagine that if production goes up we should start seeing Jeff's little jewels at some of the Boston area's finest gallery stores. I can't imagine that they wouldn't have a broad appeal to collectors and gift givers everywhere.



“ Meanwhile, Jeff is teaching an occasional class at Wood Craft... “



MEDIA LIBRARY

Current Video 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*
- * *(2) 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*
- * *David Ellsworth Tape T - Tools for Hollowing*
- * *Skew Chisel with Alan Lacer*
- * *Turning a Salt & Pepper Mill by Holtham*
- * *1996 AAW Symposium - Techniques*
- * *1997 AAW Symposium - Techniques*
- * *1998 AAW Symposium - Techniques Vol #2*
- * *(2) 1998 AAW Symposium - Techniques Vol #1*

- * *1999 AAW Symposium - Techniques Vol #1*
- * *Vessels of Illusion by Trent Bosch*
- * *From Tree to Table by Mike Mahoney*
- * *Woodturning Wizardry by David Springett*
- * *Woodturning - A Foundation Course*
- * *Mike Darlow DVD set*
-> ONLY available on VHS tapes

Current Book Inventory:

- * *Woodturning - TIME/LIFE Book*
- * *The Fine Art of Small-Scale Woodturning*
- * *Fundamentals of Woodturning by Mike Darlow*
- * *Woodturning Methods by Mike Darlow*
- * *Turning Wooden Jewelry by Judy Ditmer*

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

CLUB EVENTS

- * No club events yet scheduled

MARCH MEETING AGENDA

Remember to bring in some wood for the wood swap to help support the club!

6:30pm–7:00pm

Arrive early for some social time and please remember to **park across the street at the Fleet ATM parking lot.**

7:00pm–7:30pm

- * Club business
- * Announcement

7:30pm to 8:30pm

- * Demonstration: Turning Tops

8:30pm–8:45pm

- * Break

8:45pm-9:15pm

- * Show & tell. Bring your pieces in for discussion.

9:15pm - 9:45pm

- * Wood Swap
- * Cleanup

NOTES FROM THE 'NET

Variable Speed Retrofit on Jet Mini Lathe for less than \$125

=====

By Mark Kauder

As most of you know, I am a dedicated Jet Mini-Lathe user (yes, I am moving up someday). You also know, that when people ask about the new Variable Speed (VS) Jet Mini-Lathe, I am quick to respond, that I was disappointed that Jet chose to put a VS motor on their lathe, but kept the same speed range (500-3975rpm). With that, the VS just became a convenience of not having to change the belt/pulley arrangement as often. You got few of, what in my opinion are the big advantages of a VS lathe – the ability to sand at low speeds, the ability to slowly ramp up the speed with an unbalanced piece, etc.

After one such rant on WoodCentral, in connection with someone's question about retrofitting the new Jet motor onto an old lathe, received an email from a representative of the Vega Woodworking (the makers of Vega lathes and lathe duplicating machines). All his email said was "variable speed motor for mini lathe", and the URL to their web site.

On that web site, I found that they were selling a 1hp (other sources say 2hp) VS DC motor with controller for \$49 plus \$8 shipping. The picture on the web site showed the motor attached to a small lathe. I called Vega, and talked to Randall McKinny, the man who had sent me the email. He told me that Vega had purchased a large quantity of these motors and controllers surplus (they are GE Treadmill duty motors) for another application, and ended up with "more than they could use in 10 years". After some discussion, Randall offered to send me a motor, free. The only condition, if it did not work, or I did not like it, I would send it back. If I did like it, he only asked that I tell others about it on WoodCentral.

I will get to the bottom line here – I am now full time VS on my Jet Mini. However, Mama did not raise a fool, my Jet Motor and switch is safely tucked away so that I can re-install it if necessary (only takes

about 20 minutes to re-install).

This motor could be attached to most any lathe (I have seen it on the internet attached to a VL-100), the process will be different for each lathe. I will describe how to do it on a Jet Mini.

This project is for the serious do-it-yourself hobbyist. It is not a plug and play operation. What you get is a bare bones motor and mount (no cover or cooling fan), a controller circuit board on an aluminum heat sink, a potentiometer (dial for speed control), and a printed wiring diagram.

The first thing that you are going to need to buy is a pulley for the motor. I found that it was hard to find a small pulley (in the .75" to 1" range) for a 5/8" shaft. I finally just bought another Jet motor pulley. You can use the pulley off of the OEM motor, but I wanted to be able to switch back quickly if I had to. The total cost including shipping, it was less than \$10. Unfortunately, the Jet Motor shaft is smaller than 5/8" (I think it is metric), so I had to drill out the hole in the pulley. I did this by mounting the pulley to my lathe chuck and drilling it using a 5/8" drill mounted in the tailstock.

Next remove the OEM motor by removing the pivot bolt in the back, and the clamping bolt in the front. The switch is a bit of a pain to remove, but not all that hard.

Remove the trapdoor on the end of the lathe that give you access to the motor pulley. You can do this by driving out the pin that goes through the bed of the lathe and the door.

Next you will need to cut/file/grind a 1" wide, 1/8" deep notch in the top middle of the pulley door opening. I did it with an angle grinder, but it can be done with a file as well – it is cast iron, and easy to work with. You need this notch so that the motor mount will clear the bed of the lathe. For the purists out there, it would also be possible to either modify the motor mount, or construct your own mount rather than grind on the lathe bed, but I found that this was the most expedient thing for me, and if I ever went back to the old motor, the door would hide the notch.

" I found that they were selling a 1hp (other sources say 2hp) VS DC motor with controller for \$49 plus \$8 shipping... "

NOTES FROM THE 'NET (CONT.)

At this point, you can slide the motor and pulley through the opening in the left end of the lathe. During my test phase, I had the lathe clamped on my workbench, and so I just clamped the motor down. In my final setup, I screwed the motor to my lathe stand.



Let's take a moment to talk about DC motors. This motor is rated at between 1hp and 2hp, depending on your sources (I can't find anything about it on the GE web site). Frankly, I don't care - it is more powerful than the OEM motor. But VS DC motors deliver less than rated HP depending on the RPM - lower RPM = Lower HP. So, if possible you want to run the motor at a higher RPM, if possible. If you are using the OEM Jet pulleys, you would want to run this motor on the smallest motor pulley, and the largest headstock pulley. Doing this will give you a speed range of 0-1430rpm. If you do spindle turning, you might want to move up to the next pulley, this will give you a 0-2500rpm range.

Now, once the motor is in place, you have to start thinking about two things: 1) Control wiring; 2) Motor and Controller cooling.

Control Wiring: A bare minimum of wiring skill is required. You need to be able to solder wire, and be able to crimp on some connectors. You need to decide where you want to place your controls. I decided that I wanted to make a control stalk, a la Oneway. You will need to buy a 110v on-off switch, and a box to contain the on-off switch and the dial for the speed control. I purchased a plastic one from electrical de-

partment at Lowes with a blank faceplate for a couple of dollars. For my original prototype, I constructed the control stalk from 1/2" PVC with 90 degree long sweep elbows. That stalk worked just fine, but in the end, I made one out of copper tubing, because it looked cool. From a safety standpoint, the PVC was probably safer since I am running 100v wire through it. I have decided to put a grounding wire on the copper tubing.



Motor and Controller Cooling: This is an important issue. Not so much the motor, because I turned for hours with this motor, touched it with my bare hand, and it would be cool to the touch, not a bit of warmth. However, the controller is another matter. There are two green voltage-reducing resistors, which get too hot to touch within 30 seconds of the power being turned on.

The resistors are circled in RED.



“ Now, once the motor is in place, you have to start thinking ... “

NOTES FROM THE 'NET

There have been reports by other users, of it getting hot enough to de-solder some connections. I solved this by purchasing a 4.5" 110v fan with a filtered cover (much like a computer case fan) from Grainger (pn 3LE76, 4YD78, 4YD84). I wired the fan so that when the power was on to the motor/controller, the fan was running. Problem solved.



While you are working on the controller, there are several modification worth mentioning. As is, when you apply power to this controller, the motor will not start, unless you dial the speed down to zero, and then advance it to the desired speed. If while turning, you shut the power off of inspect your work, and then want to resume turning, you have to dial the speed back down to zero, and then move it back to where you were. This operation makes perfect sense, when you think about the motor/controller's original purpose - a treadmill. However it is a pain for woodturning. The attached Rocky Mountain Woodturners URL explains how to remove one piece from the controller (transistor, diode, ???), and eliminate the need to dial the speed down to zero before turning it back up. I have done this modification, and it works great.

Another feature of this controller, is that the speed (somewhat) slowly ramps up when you dial in a speed. Again a great feature for a treadmill, some might not want it on a lathe. I do not find it objectionable, and is somewhat of a safety feature. The Rocky Mountain Woodturners URL has a link on how to

disable this feature.

I am not going to waste your time on how I constructed the case for the controller and the motor, you can figure out what works for you. I will point out, that I placed the cooling fan is such a manor, that I blew cooling air across the hot resistors, and through the motor. The air exits out the pulley hole, and provides positive pressure to keep chips and dust out of both the motor and the controller. I also made the cover easy to remove, so that I could blow out any dust that does make it in.



A couple of notes on use:

- 1) Any of you that already use a variable speed DC motor will be accustomed to this, but is sure is nice when I apply cutting pressure to a bowl, to have the motor automatically apply more power. There is a very slight lag before this happens, and a slight rev up when I remove pressure, but it is minor.
- 2) It is very nice to be able to sand at a sub-500rpm speed.
- 3) It is very hard - near impossible for me to stall the motor - the belt slips first. It is a big change from the OEM motor. I can really hog out more wood with out fear of stalling.
- 4) It is nice to have the space under the lathe for tools, and especially nice when I mount my bowl

“ her feature of this controller, is that the speed (somewhat) slowly ramps up ... “

NOTES FROM THE 'NET



steady to not have to worry about hitting the motor.

I want to thank Bruno Melli, at Rocky Mountain Woodturners for his information and assistance. An article on this same subject on the Rocky Mountain Woodturners site:

<http://www.rmwt.org/wtips/motor.html>

A big thanks to Randall McKinney of Vega Woodworking for the opportunity to try this motor and controller. I plan to purchase a couple more, to convert my home-made grinder to variable speed, and maybe even my 1/3 hp drill press.

<http://www.vegawoodworking.com>

I would like to highly encourage you to give this a try. If you are a Mini Lathe user, it will make a huge change in your turning experience.

== UPDATE ==

After a couple more weeks of using the cheap VS motor on the Jet-Mini, I thought I would give everyone an update.

I have not changed anything since I posted the original, and everything is going good. I have been turning a large number (for me) of Christmas Ornaments and Bottle stoppers, as well as working on a couple of new bowls. A couple of days ago, I pulled the cover off of the motor, and there was almost no dust on the controller or in the motor. So, the fan is working to not only cool the controller, but also keeping the dust out of the motor.

I recently bought a couple more of these motor/controllers. Over the last couple of nights, I have in-

stalled one of them on my cheap (\$100) freight sale drill press. Problem was, the motor turned the wrong direction. I had heard the this motor could be reversed, but I did not want to possibly fry the controller by playing too much with the wiring. So, I emailed Randall McKinney at Vega, and he called me and explained how to do it. All you have to do, is remove the motor from the mount, and on the end of the motor opposite the shaft, you reverse the Black and Yellow wires. Both are connected by spade connectors, so it only takes a few seconds. So, now the drill press is working great - much stronger than the "3/4hp" that it originally came with. Now, I will probably re-wire the Lathe so that I can reverse it for sanding.

I am contemplating using the third motor for a Variable Speed Grinder, and or Buffer.

**“ A big thanks to
Randall
McKinney of Vega
Woodworking...”**

BACK TO SCHOOL...

By Donna Banfield

I returned to high school a few weeks ago, but to a place that I was never permitted to enter back in the '70's – Woodshop. Back then girls weren't allowed to take shop. Even though I asked, I was forced to take Home Economics. On March 8, 2004 I was privileged to spend the day turning at Pinkerton Academy in Derry NH. Beginning at 7:10 a.m., a very early start for many of you, but a regular day for me, the first class began. And they continued every 45 minutes or so, for seven periods. In advance I planned my demonstration of rough turning green bowls, small diameter (6-7 inches rough) with just the corners cut off. I can rough turn those in my shop in 10-15 minutes, so I had estimated 20 minutes per bowl assuming stopping for questions. Some classes I turned two bowls, some only one.

There were a couple of kids in the school that, in my opinion, were very good turners. One student had turned a hollow vessel out of box elder using the Sorby swan neck tool. I was pretty impressed. I have to admit my first hollow vessel didn't look nearly as good. I left a green unturned half-log with shop teacher Jack Grube to give to one of the students to see if he could do it. The students turn dry wood because they have to be proficient enough to take a

green bowl from start to finish in one class session. Jack felt that one of his students was capable of doing that. I left another natural edge maple bowl that I rough out with another student to finish.

The final period were all "beginner" students according to Jack – many of them never picked up a gouge or turned a piece of wood. Jack explained that if some of those students proved capable, they would have an opportunity to do some woodturning in the future. During that last session, many of them spent their entire class period watching me turn. Near the end of the class I tossed the roughed-out bowls to them right off the lathe, challenging them. "You can keep it if you finish it." Maybe some of them will, maybe some of them won't. But if one or two of those kids' is interested enough, I may have started them on a lifelong journey.

I had a blast that day and am looking forward to the next time.



Textured Black Cherry
Derrick TePaske

OTHER EVENTS

Thursday, April 8, 6pm–9pm

Peter Teubel will be teaching "The Art of Pen Turning" at the Woodcraft store in Woburn on . In addition to making a European designer pen in class, all students will take home 2 addition pen kits (complete with wood blanks), a set of pen bushings, and a complete set of pen turning tools. Cost is \$80. ** An addition class will be held on April 29, 6pm - 9pm.

Sunday, April 18, 10am - 4pm

Frank Movitz will be teaching a "Peppermill & Salt Shaker" class at the Woodcraft store in Woburn, MA. Impress your family and friends with this beautiful and functional turned pepper mill and, as time permits, salt shaker. This project will challenge your skills and enhance your dining table. Cost is \$85.

Sunday, April 25, 10am - 4pm

Beth Ireland will be holding a "Turning Open Studio" at thje Woodcraft store in Woburn, MA. In this supportive and informative atmosphere let a professional turner help you resolve any technical problems as well as develop your creative potential. Whether you're a beginner or advanced turner, Beth will help you with decorative techniques, embellishment, bowl design and hollow turning. Beth will incorporate new projects each week, as well as help students with their own turning projects. Cost is \$185.

**" Send your tips
to Peter Teubel
for publication in
our Monthly
Shop Tips
section! "**



"Desperate Measures"
Derrick TePaske

VENDOR NEWS

Economy Steady Rest

Woburn Woodcraft Store

Used to prevent whip and vibration in long or thin spindles while turning, this heavy cast iron Steady Rest features three adjustable ball bearing guides with a maximum capacity of 3". The Steady comes with two spacer blocks which allow it to be used on lathes with 12", 14", or 16" swings. Also comes with two clamp

blocks. One is sized for the Nova bed and the other for the Jet/Delta bed. Price is \$39.99.



Green Spirals
Derrick TePaske

A.R.T. MENTORING PROGRAM

Our 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 few hours with anyone to help the beginner get started or the intermediate to advance their skills. All it takes is a phone call to make an appointment.

Peter Teubel - Milford, MA
(508) 662-4932
pteubel@comcast.net

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 - Billerica, MA
978-663-5241
dk3@reuse.com

David Vaughn - Reading, MA
781-944-3389
janvaughn@comcast.net



**“All it takes is a
phone call to
make an
appointment.”**



TOOL REVIEWS

The Drill Doctor

by Peter Teubel

How many times have you been struggling thru a drilling job just because your bit is dull? I have (or rather HAD) a huge amount of dull bits that were relegated to the junk drawer because they couldn't go thru a rotten melon. I always treated drill bits as consumable items just like band saw blades. Once they are dull, you pitch them and get a new one.

I go thru A LOT of bits when making my own tooling. Ever try to drill thru welds? Without a sharp bit, you might as well use your teeth. I used to think the only way to get drill bits to last was to get the expensive cobalt kind. Sure, they drill thru very hard metals easily....for awhile. Then they just smoke in the hole like the HSS ones.

Recently, I got a chance to use a device called the Drill Doctor. Oh sure, I've seen this product before in various stores, but the fact that I also saw it on TV being hyped like the Popiel Pocket fisherman, turned me off to any possibility that it might actually be something useful. Well, now I can actually try it and see if it lives up to its hype.

The kit that I received contained the Drill Doctor unit, various accessories, instruction book, and a video. Hmmm....looking pretty good so far. Every piece of equipment I've ever purchased that came with an instruction video (like the Kelton Hollowing Rig) has been a first-rate tool. As it turned out, this tool is no exception...

After viewing the video and quickly scanning the instruction manual, I decided to dig out those dozens of dull bits and really put this baby to the test. There are basically 4 steps to sharpening the bits.

1. Set the grind angle (118 or 135 degrees)
2. Set the type of bit (regular, split-point, or masonry)
3. Set the bit properly in the chuck (very simple...

just follow the directions)

4. Grind away
5. (Optional) Grind the split-point

Rather than bore you with the exact details of each step, I would encourage you to check out the video tape which I will donate to the club's library.

After sharpening my first bit (7/16"cobalt), I immediately tested it in a piece of 1/2"thick steel plate. It cut thru that plate with ease....just like when it was new. Ok, that worked. So now I decided to CONVERT that same bit to a split-point to see if the wandering would be reduced. All I can say is....WOW! This unit really does do everything it claims!

I then proceeded to dig out each and every drill bit I owned and went nuts with sharpening. I don't know exactly how long the diamond wheel is supposed to last, but it still works after 100 bits....from 1/8" to 5/8". All sharpened and converted to split-point.

I cannot over-emphasize the usefulness of this tool. If you regularly drill metals, you really NEED this. The Drill Doctor DD500 is available at Woodcraft, who also stocks the replacement diamond wheel and the big chuck (for 1/2" to 3/4" bits).



Jarrah Burl
Derrick TePaske

“ Ever try to drill thru welds? Without a sharp bit, you might as well use your teeth. “



Cherry Burl
Derrick TePaske

CLASSIFIEDS

Look! No Batteries Required...Ever Again! Batteryless, 110 VAC Powered Laser Pointer for those deep hollowing jobs. Plugs into any standard 110 VAC outlet. Use with deep hollowing systems such as the Jamieson, Kelton, Oneway, Pro-Forme, Dave Reeks, homemade, etc. varieties.

Price: \$25.00 each.

Get perfectly side ground edges on all your bowl gouges. Improved, easy to use gouge sharpening jigs. No matter what the sizes of your gouges, there is a sharpening jig to give you that perfectly ground edge. For use with the Wolverine or similar grinding aid. Three sizes to properly fit all gouges:

| Size: | Prices: |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Small (up to 3/8" dia.) | \$12.00 each |
| Medium (3/8" - 5/8" dia.) | \$12.00 each |
| Large (5/8"-7/8" dia.) | \$12.00 each |
| Set of all three: | \$30.00 (Save \$6.00) |

Ultra-Thin Kerf Parting Tool. Blade is only 0.050" thin to give those wood saving and grain matching cuts. Overall length approximately 9-1/2" with comfortable handle for good control. Made from hardened High Speed Steel for a lasting edge and stiffness.

Price: \$20.00 each.



110 VAC Laser Pointer



Bowl Gouge Sharpening Jigs



Ultra-Thin Parting Tool

Please add \$5.00 Shipping and Handling to your order (no matter the number of items ordered being shipped to the same address at the same time).

To order, please make checks payable to Peter Toch and mail to:

Peter Toch
6565 Fairway View Trail
Roanoke, VA 24018

For questions or further information, please contact Peter Toch at (540) 774-4152 or ptoch@adelphia.net

* NOTE: These items are also available thru **Mike Green** at the monthly meetings.

“ Classified ads are free for members . Just send your ad to Peter Teubel.”



For Sale: Kel McNaughton coring system. Brand new, never used. \$200
Contact John Mentus at j.mentus@att.net.



Association of Revolutionary Turners

~ LEGAL STUFF ~

“ G E T I N V O L V E D ”



Save That Punky Wood

by Ken Lindgren

Most of us throw out or burn wood that has become punky. It's not too strong and tear out can be 1/4" or more, not what we usually want in a finished piece.

Recently I "damned the torpedoes" and tried to make something anyway. With a little help from a blow torch, ala Luke Mann and our own Pete Teubel, the end result came out nicely. The OD portions of the piece are obviously black with the valleys created by tear out staying a natural color. A few coats of polyurethane shined up the piece and added strength to hold everything together. Subsequent handling has not broken off any of the punky wood. A gold paint on the inside created some contrast and gave some lightness to the piece. A solid black piece, inside and out, may have yielded a piece that was too dark.

This opens up an endless number of options for how you surface treat the wood, not only in color and shading, but texture as well.

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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2004 MEMBERSHIP DUES

Dues for 2004 is now due. Please have cash or check ready at the January meeting.

MARCH 25 MEETING

- **Demonstration: Turning Tops by Mike Green**
- **Club Challenge: Long Slender Turning**
- **Refreshments: Sharon Green**