

NEXT MEETING
(APRIL 24)

APRIL - VOLUME 2, ISSUE 3

ASSOCIATION OF REVOLUTIONARY TURNERS

APRIL 17, 2003

WWW.REVOLUTIONARY-TURNERS.COM

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PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Our March meeting heralded in a new phase of the club....IDENTITY! We now have an official club logo. The winning logo was designed by myself in response to our need for a logo at the Topsfield Fair last year. Now that that's settled, we'll have membership cards and name tags at the April meeting. In addition, I have also setup an electronic store front for club logo merchandise. Check out <http://www.cafeshops.com/woodart> for more information.

Safety issues have reared its head again and I can PERSONALLY attest to their importance. I have a rule in my shop that states EVERYONE must wear eye protection at all times. Naturally, I was following my own policy and had on my safety glasses. Three weeks ago, I was mounting a natural edge blank on my lathe (the 5th one of the day). I stood off to the side, turned on the lathe, and spun it up to working speed. Satisfied it was running below the vibration threshold, I turned around, got my face shield, then turned back to the lathe while donning my face shield.

I should have had the face shield DOWN already...

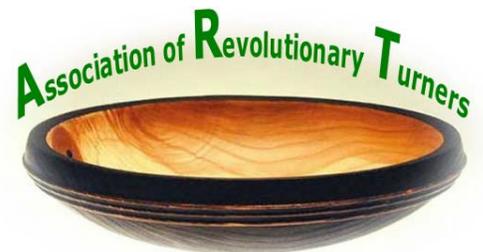
WHACK!!!

A 12" x 6" chunk of bark flew off the blank and hit my square in the nose. OUCH!

So there I was, bleeding like a stuck pig all over the place. At first, I thought I just had the usual bloody nose, but a quick look in the mirror showed that professional medical attention was needed. So I spent the rest of the afternoon at the emergency room getting 8 stitches in my schnoz.

What does this teach us? Make sure you don the face shield and check for loose bark BEFORE turning on the lathe.

- Peter Teubel



SAFETY TIPS

- Always use a face shield!!!
- Check for loose bark or cracks BEFORE turning on the lathe!!!



MEMBERSHIP HAS ITS PRIVILAGES...

CA Glue & Accelerator Available

The club has made a bulk purchase of CA glue & accelerator for resale to club members.

Thin CA Glue	2oz	\$3.00
Medium CA Glue	2oz	\$3.00
Thick CA Glue	2oz	\$3.00
Accelerator w/pump	2oz	\$3.00
Accelerator Refill	2oz	\$2.00

We are still waiting on our 55 gallon drum of Anchorseal end grain sealer. When it arrives, we'll be selling it for \$6.00 per gallon (depending on final shipping costs). It should be available at our May meeting.

TURNER OF THE MONTH—NORM MANCUSO

Probably, watching his father, who was a contractor and woodworker, started Norm in the right direction. Then, while a student at MIT, Norm was introduced to metal working lathes. After being employed first as an organic chemist, then as a designer of analytical instruments for chemical and mass spectrophotometry, Norm obtained a consulting stint in Sweden. This provided the seed money that purchased his first lathe, a Delta attached to a ½ hp variable speed motor – quite sophisticated for the times.

In 1972 there were few options for an aspiring woodturner. Norm bought two books, “The Craftsman Woodturner” by Peter Childs and “Practical Woodturner” by Frank Pains. On his own he learned to make spindles, then bowls, then combinations of the two. With no band saw as yet to round off his square stock, Norm would mount his square bowl blanks and turn the corners off with a parting tool. It was important to be out of the line of fire when each of those four corners cut loose!

Job demands put turning on the back burner in 1978. Happily, by the mid 80’s, Norm was able to dust off the lathe and put time into creating and learning again. After several more job changes, Norm decided the time was right to become a full time woodturner. He bought himself a DVR 3000 that can handle a 29 inch hunk of wood.

“As you approach that 29 inch size”, he points out, “the periphery of the bowl is not something you can be too blithe about when attacking with a tool.”

Well said. In addition to being a serious turner, Norm is also a self confessed tool junkie. He owns many specialty tools, and has successfully designed and created some as well.

One of his original touches is to give a gift with a monogram of the receiver’s initials

highlighted artistically. He removes a circular plug of wood from the object and then replaces it with a plug of wood that is a contrasting color. The initials are engraved in the glued in wooden plug. Classy effect!

Norm is attracted to exotics like zebrawood and bubinga. He enjoys the challenge of lamination and segmented turning. “It’s not just gluing a bunch of sticks together!”

An issue that Norm struggles with is the pricing of his product. Ever the scientist, he is trying to develop a formula on the Excel spreadsheet to determine the price of a piece based on type of wood and size, also recognizing that “artistic appeal” has to figure into the formula somehow.

After years of being the only woodturner he knew, Norm slowly became aware of other people suffering alone with no one to bounce their ideas off of, or to share tips with. “It’s incredible how much stumbling around you do. It’s a lot easier when you have someone to talk to.”

Now, Norm is reveling in the camaraderie of not one, but two turning groups within an easy commute of his Natick homestead. He wouldn’t dream of missing a meeting of either A.R.T. or CNEW, since he thoroughly enjoys all those nice people who are willing to share their knowledge. Thanks Norm!!

- Bobbi Tornheim

**“ It’s not just
gluing a bunch
of sticks
together! ”**



VIDEO/BOOK REVIEWS

Vessels of Illusion by Trent Bosch

- Peter Teubel

This video will not only explain the process of making a “vessel within a vessel” but it will also give you some serious tool envy! Trent has the coolest stuff....from his pneumatic work positioner to his hydraulic log grappling crane. This guy has some SERIOUS toys (er....I mean tools)!



From Tree To Table by Mike Mahoney

- Peter Teubel

Mike Mahoney is a very prolific bowl turner. This video explains how he does it...step by step....without going into the minutia of every little detail like so many other videos do. It’s a fast paced straight forward video of turning functional bowls from bucking the logs to final finishing. It’s a real joy to see how fast he can carve out a bowl and the seemingly effortless huge cuts he takes.

Woodturning Wizardry by David Springett

- Peter Teubel

Wizardry is right! More like magic. Ever wonder how one makes those Chinese balls that contain a number of concentrically smaller fully captures spheres? This video will show you how its done and the specialized tools required for the project. One annoyance is the fact he gives all measurements in metric and SAE values over and over and over again. Give it a rest, David! Once is enough!



Photo by Peter Teubel

Mike “Billy Gibbons” Green

“WHERE DO YOU GET YOUR WOOD?”

- Peter Teubel

It’s the age old question among new woodturners. Where does one get free wood? This is one of the only endeavors where our raw material really DOES grow on trees!

Local landscapers and arborists (i.e. Tree Guys). They would rather give you the wood than haul it away themselves. Ask them where they get rid of their stuff. Some simply dump it at a local “tree yard” where its ground up into mulch

Tree Yards. There are many of these tree services in the state. They take wood from various sources and grind it into mulch or split it into fire-

wood.

Stump Dumps. Almost every town has a dumping ground for town-removed trees and stumps. Contact your local municipal department and ask them where they dump their trees. Ask them if you can take some wood for your craft/art. Most allow fire-wood cutting, so you should be all set there.

Follow Your Ears. Simply put, listen. Where there’s a chain-saw running, there’s wood. Approach whomever is cutting and ask them for some wood or at least where they dump it. Most property owners will be more than happy to let you have some (or all) of their wood (unless they

have a wood burning stove).

VERY IMPORTANT: Proper etiquette is paramount to a continued relationship with a (free) wood supplier. When approaching a landscaper who is cutting down a tree, explain to them your craft and show them an example of your work (you should always have a turned item or two with you at ALL TIMES in your vehicle). Offer to make an item of two for them from the wood your will receive. FOLLOW THRU ON THIS PROMISE otherwise you’ll never get another call from them again. This also applies to the property owner who gives you free wood. If you make

“This guy has some SERIOUS toys (er....I mean tools)!“



Photo by Peter Teubel

Frank Movitz, Mike Green, and Harold Hansen

Continued on page 4

Continued from page 3

an appointment to get the wood, BE THERE! That guy is counting on you to remove the wood and if you blow him off, he's never going to call you again.

When approaching a tree yard, be prepared to give them an item or two BEFORE you go picking thru their yard. Each time you go back for more, give them another turned item. They will love you for it and will feel in-

debted to you (even though its usually the other way around). Its politics, but that's the way the world operates. Deal with it or pay the price (i.e. expensive store-bought wood).

If you come across some big wood (or a lot of wood) that you can't handle by yourself, call another A.R.T. member for help. Just because you only want one or two pieces of that walnut tree, doesn't

mean the rest has to go to waste!

Keep in mind that while there is no cash being exchanged, you are still "paying" for the wood in time and energy. But, at least for me, its well worth it!



Photo by Peter Teubel



Amur Cork
Peter Teubel

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
- * 1997 AAW Symposium - Techniques
- * 1998 AAW Symposium - Techniques
- * *Vessels of Illusion* by Trent Bosch
- * *From Tree to Table* by Mike Mahoney
- * *Woodturning Wizardry* by David Springett

Note: Items in red are new acquisitions.

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

APRIL MEETING AGENDA

We had a GREAT wood swap last meeting. Will we have another this month? Perhaps, but everyone needs to help out and bring in some wood to help support the club. **Also, remember to turn a cup for your sphere (any size) for the April Club Challenge.**

6:30pm-7:00pm

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

7:00pm-7:30pm

- * Club business
- * Announcements
- * Club Challenge results
- * Show & tell. Bring your pieces in for discussion

7:30pm to 7:45pm

Break

8:00pm-8:30pm

Group Discussion: Selling Your Work. We would like to ask everyone who is selling to

participate. Where do you sell? How much to you charge? Which craft/art fairs have you been successful at? Which ones are duds? What does your booth/table look like? Are juried venues worth the trouble? **Bring pictures of your display/booth if possible!**

8:30pm-9:00pm

Wood Swap, purchases, etc.

Photo by Peter Teubel



Spalted Maple
Peter Teubel

MONTHLY SHOP TIPS

Thin Kerf Parting Tool

- David Eaton

There are parting tools, narrow parting tools and EXTREMELY narrow parting tools. Each has its place and uses. I have made some really thin ones from a steak knife (courtesy of the Outback Steak House). Just cut the blade at a 45 degree angle and sharpen the edge/point. Excellent for small items and decorative grooves.

Unclogging CA Glue Tips

- David Eaton

If your CA glue tips end up getting clogged with dried glue, you CAN clean them out for reuse. Just put them in a small airtight container with an ounce of Acetone (nail polish remover). In a day or two, the CA glue will be dissolved.

CA Glue Application

- David Eaton

Instead of spreading CA glue around with your bare fingers, try wrapping some Saran Wrap or wax paper around your finger. The glue will go on smoother and you won't get "stuck" with the remainder.

Resharpen Bandsaw Blades

- Peter Teubel

I go thru A LOT of bandsaw blades (sometimes 3 per day). While I try to keep a good supply of new ones on hand, sometimes my inventory control system fails and I end up with a dull blade with new replacements a couple days away. Here the procedure I use for my 3/8" 3TPI hook tooth blades: Unplug the saw (very important). Remove the upper wheel housing. Holding a stone on the table and lightly against the blade (as if you were trying to CUT the stone), manually rotate the wheel BACKWARDS until the blade has made two or three complete passes over the stone. This will cause the blade to rub against the stone and take a little bit of metal off the hook of each tooth...hence a new cutting edge. I've found that this procedure works well for two sharpenings. While it won't get the blade back to "new", it'll sharpen the teeth enough to keep me going for awhile. You also might want to angle the stone a bit to match the "set" of the teeth...a couple passes angled left and an equal number of passes angled right.

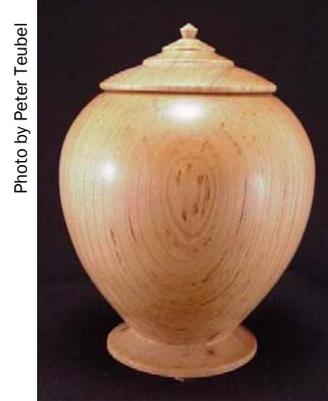


Photo by Peter Teubel

Cherry Pet Urn
Peter Teubel

" I have made some really thin ones from a steak knife (courtesy of the Outback Steak House)."



Photo by Peter Teubel

Tools
Peter Teubel

VENDOR NEWS

SUPER CHEAP SANDPAPER

www.ebay.com

eBay is a wonderful place to sell. But finding a good deal can be frustrating because eBay tends to turn everything into a commodity. There ARE still great deals to be had....*IF* you look carefully. Case in point: I recently purchased 600 Velcro sanding discs (5", 400 grit, 3M brand) for \$38.16 delivered. That's about 6¢ each! I can either

use them as is on a 5" mandrel or cut them into 3" discs with enough left over for a 2" disc (and reduce my price per piece to 3¢ each.

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 few 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
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David Vaughn - Reading, MA
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Photo by Peter Teubel

Amur Cork
Peter Teubel

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



Photo by Peter Teubel

Mulberry
Peter Teubel

DUST COLLECTION REDUX

By Andy Osborne

I finally got tired of dragging the vacuum hose around the shop only to find it never quite reached to where I wanted. Then I had to go back and forth to move the dust collector only to trip over the hose both ways. So, I bit the bullet and started on a “permanent” shop dust collection system.

The first step was to get an education. There is a myriad of advice on the internet, mostly anecdotal, some good and some confusingly incomplete. Go this route and if you learn what you need, terrific. If not, I recommend “Woodshop Dust Control” by Sandor Nagyszalanczy, available from our Woodcraft host and Amazon.com. There is a new edition out, mine is from 1996. It contains a good discussion of the dust hazards and different control methods, from simple masks to central systems. There is also a lengthy chapter on the design of a central collection system, with pictures and diagrams.

Well armed with newfound knowledge (keep the pipe runs as short and with as few turns as possible), I immediately prepared a diagram of my intended system only to realize that without actual measurements, I had no idea of locations, distances and angles. The last is more important than one might think,

particularly if you have the challenges of pipes and beams in a basement workshop in a 100+ year old house. Down to the basement with tape measure and protractor to create a working plan from which I could determine equipment locations, rough distances and the parts needed.

Home Depot has the heavy PVC pipe (Schedule 40) and a lighter weight (Schedule 80) with adapters to join the two. The big advantage of the lighter weight pipe is price. The drawback is that there are limited types of connectors, straight, Wye, T and 90°. The pipes come in 10' lengths and if your runs are longer, get straight connectors. You will need a variety of other connectors, wide and short 90° elbows, 60°, 45° and perhaps 22.5°, Wye and T connectors. The leg on the Wye is also 45° so I used an additional 45° connector to achieve a 90° horizontal or vertical. Don't forget hangers or some sort of strapping and 4" hose clamps. You may also need end caps. The blast gates, you have a choice of metal and plastic, I purchased from Woodcraft, Woodworkers Warehouse and Rockler. Amazon.com has them too.

Following the advice of a handy plumber, I used a backsaw (he suggested a cross-cut saw) to cut the

pipe. The cuts need not be perfect since the flange on the connectors is almost 2" deep. The heavier pipe was used on the main runs and the lighter weight pipe in the areas getting limited use. The piping and connectors are held together with the duct tape. Adhesive is way to permanent for me. The blast gates were taped into the heavy pipe or attached to black pipe connectors (purchased with the blast gates) with flexible hose and clamps. The black pipe connectors were clamped to the light weight pipe and taped to the heavy stuff. I also used flexible hose and clamps to make semi-permanent connections to the machines.

I created six stations as follows:

1. Jointer
2. Lathe-connected to a Plexiglas collection box which will eventually be mounted on a bracket moveable in three dimensions
3. Floor level open connection to accept a quick connect adapter and hose.
4. Workbench surface
5. Ceiling level (remember, I am in the basement) open connection to accept a quick connect adapter and hose to provide a second collection point for the lathe and whatever moveable equipment is nearby



“ I finally got tired of dragging the vacuum hose around the shop only to find it never quite reached to where I wanted.”



Continued from page 7

6. Band saw and drill press with reducer to 2.5" and flexible hose of that diameter. I shift the hose from one to the other as needed and can use it to clean around the area.

I have read the debate about the problem of static electricity induce explosions in PVC systems. There does not appear to be a definitive answers, although most commentators agree that the risk

is small. I intend to add screws or rivets through the pipe walls connected to an external copper wire. The wire will be grounded.



THE BUSINESS OF WOODTURNING

By Andy Osborne

This is the first in a proposed series of occasional articles. Let us know whether you find it useful. Send us your comments, kind ones only please.

Like it or not woodturning is similar to any other business. You may have the best product or service in the world, but unless you pay attention to the details, you will never know whether you are a financial success. Driving ahead with your eyes closed may lead to some nasty surprises. Some of us may define success in other terms, a subject for endless discussion and beyond cramming into a newsletter. Even so, the details will help you put a reasonable price on your work.

If you want to make a "living" from woodturning, you must know how much money you must bring in to achieve your target life style. Assuming that you can sell whatever you produce, do you know what profit is made on each item. The gross sales price is but a starting point. Your

costs include not only your labor, but a myriad of other items, direct and indirect. Each may only be pennies, but they will add up quickly.

Where is your shop? Is it in your house or garage or do you rent space? What is the cost of maintenance, insurance and utilities? Did you include the new light fixtures and the AAW apron that you just had to have?

There are durable items, capital investments, which have a long but finite lifetime. These include your lathe, gouges, skewers, grinders, vacuum system and the like. Equipment must be maintained and occasionally (one hopes) repaired.

Consumable items include the costs of that unique block of wood, sandpaper, coloring agents, finishes and any other items you and to a given piece.

Once you have produced a series of pieces that the public is going drooling over, how do you get it out there? Advertising, whether in print

media, or the internet or by leaflet, has a real cost. Who designs the ad, web site or flyer? What is the cost of production? Free business cards from a site like Vistaprint.com carry a shipping cost.

The cost of a craft show starts with the booth fee. To create a presentable bare bones booth is like to cost a \$100 or more. If you want to sell at an outdoor venue, a canopy is a must. EZ-Up is well know, but there are others selling shelter of varying quality and price. Don't forget the cost of getting to the show. Do you have to stay overnight in a motel? Factor in your meals. For some of us, that pickup truck or van we never had, but now can't live without, jumps up costs very quickly.

Did you remember you business partner, the Internal Revenue Service. Keeping good records is a must. More about this later.



" Driving ahead with your eyes closed may lead to some nasty surprises. "



MARCH SHOW & TELL



Peter Teubel



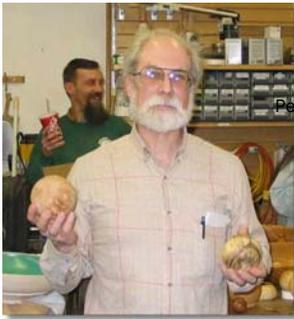
Dietrich Kulze



Mike Green



Bobbi Tornheim



Peter Teubel

Andy Osborne



Jon Leavy



David Gillette



Jeff Lavine



Frank Movitz



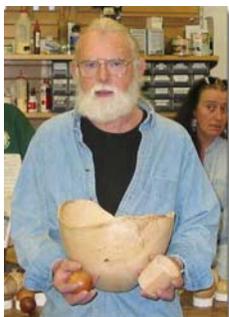
Norm Mancuso



Ken Lindgren



Ron Pouliot



John Moore



Peter Priestner

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



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 April 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

- Club Purchases (CA Glue, endsealer)
- Club Logo Merchandise Online Store
- Group Discussion: Selling Your Work
- Another BIG wood swap