

Woodturners of North Texas



A Chapter of the
American Association of Woodturners



Twentieth Anniversary Year

February 2007 Program:

"Microwave Wood Drying"

by Dewayne Hines

Next Meeting:

Thursday,
February 22, 2007
Start Time: 6:30 PM

R.D. Evans Community Ctr.
3242 Lackland Rd.
Fort Worth, TX 76116
817-731-8789

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hours. He will discuss the basics of wood drying and various methods to dry and stabilize wood.

He will also discuss the amount of shrinkage and warping in typical North Texas woods and how it plays into the selection of wood for bowls or boxes.

"I like to start with freshly cut logs, then cut them in half, trim the corners and put them right on the lathe. Woods like Bois d'Arc and Mesquite that are

Dewayne Hines has been turning wood since just before the turn of the millennium. He is currently serving as Vice President of the Woodturners of North Texas and will be giving a demonstration of one of his favorite wood turning tools. The microwave oven. That's right, it turns items made of freshly cut wet "green" wood into stable dry wood in a matter of



about rock hard when dry, will cut like butter when turned green

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President's message

by Stormy Boudreaux

... making Good Shavings

President's State of the Club:

The Woodturners of North Texas has a strong and growing membership. We are fortunate to have a very active turning group (as evidenced by the amount and quality of new work in the monthly "Instant Gallery"). Our club has always been able to field great demonstrators: turners from within our club, demonstrators from around the state and nation, internationally known woodturners from other countries, and other artists from outside the turning community.

The WNT balance sheet is in excellent shape (which has allowed the club to procure video and turning hardware to make demonstrations and hands-on activities very productive).

However, we always gladly welcome a fresh infusion of enthusiasm. Now is not the time to become complacent because of the club's vibrant condition. If you are new to the club, don't lurk in the shadows -- let us know your talents and interests. I am trying to plant the seed that you (yes, YOU!) may be the person who can make a difference and give back to the club some of your time and energy to continue this club in the style and manner it has become accustomed. Think about it! Then help out in any small or large way!

You can start out with submitting an article for the newsletter or the WNT website. Many of you have

unique ideas or techniques that can be food for thought for the rest of us! Here are some article ideas:

- Tell us about when it didn't quite work the way you thought it would and what you did about it.
- How you organize your shop/tools/wood.
- A jig or tool that you made to make your work easier.
- An evaluation of your lathe, tools, finishes. What you like and what you don't.
- A unique way/source that you get wood from.

Scattered Notes:

If you would like to be a featured demonstrator or know someone that would be interesting and informative to watch, please don't keep it to yourself – contact...Wayne Fitch (817) 771-9642

If you have any suggestions (good, bad or indifferent) about anything relating to the club, it's operations or direction – contact...Stormy Boudreaux (817) 441-9238

Keep your tools sharp, your eye and lung protection on and make good shavings.

Stormy



The AAW & the Southwest Region

I was recently elected to the Board of the AAW, and while the election is national in scope and I represent all woodturners in the US and abroad, I know that my main base of support is Texas and the Southwest, and I feel that I am that region's unofficial voice at the AAW, which has grown to over 13,000 members and over 260 local chapters.

In late January I made a five-day trip with the AAW Board. We first went to St. Paul MN, where the AAW headquarters is located. We saw the offices, saw the AAW Gallery and museum, toured the convention center (probable site of the 2011 Symposium), and had an all-day Board training session. We then went on to Portland OR, the site of the 2007 Symposium. We met with the local club liaison people, toured the convention center, toured the several museum locales where AAW exhibitions will be held as part of the 2007 Symposium, and had our first Board meeting. I came away from all this very invigorated with a greatly enhanced view of what the AAW represents, and it is this that I want to share with my fellow Texas and Oklahoma turners. The thoughts and opinions that follow are strictly my own, and do not represent the AAW, its Board or its staff.

The most significant event of the trip was the all-day Board training session. The AAW is just beginning a major overhaul of the way it operates administratively. We have a new Executive Director, Larry Sommer, who has joined with Mary Lacer, assistant Executive Director, to effectively double the administrative leadership of the AAW. Our session was led by Emil Angelica, a consultant with expertise in non-profit organizations, and his sessions were outstanding, both for new Board members like me and for others who had already served one or two years. The committee structure of the AAW will be divided between 1) policy and financial matters, which remain the responsibility of the elected Board and 2) administrative matters, which will now be run by the Executive Director and his staff. In addition, Butch and Pat Titus, who have served as Conference Coordinators for several years, have left and have been replaced by a conference coordinating company, which will do many of the tasks previously done by Board members. These changes are important, because up to now the Board members did everything themselves, and the workload on them has become enormous as the AAW has grown in recent years. This represents a major culture shift for the Board, which will now be able to focus on the "big picture", i.e., policy issues and serving the membership that it represents. Look for significant changes in the way things get done, although not overnight – all for the benefit of the membership of the AAW and for woodturning in general

I was impressed by how "pure" the AAW is. There are no politics – everyone is dedicated to the AAW mission of fostering the art and craft of lathe turning. Decisions are reached by consensus, with virtually no dissent.

The financial health of the AAW is sound. Preliminary thinking has already begun about the AAW purchasing its own building to house its offices, merchandise, permanent collection, and museum. I would like the AAW to have its own woodturning school in that building. There are a lot of big things on the horizon – all in the idea stage!!

I was appointed to the Educational Opportunity Grants (EOG) committee, chaired by Malcolm Tibbetts. We are reading 118 applications for EOG's, and we will award money to the most worthy applicants. I encourage more of you to apply next year – I know there are many worthy projects that would receive an EOG in response to a well-written application.

We have a new webmaster, Ed Davidson. Look for a bigger and better website. We are retraining the membership to renew memberships and to vote for Board members online. However, we will provide paper Ballots and registration for those Luddites (see the sidebar on page 4) who have resisted the digital age.

Membership growth is important. After my first Board weekend where I really saw the benefits of AAW membership (the American Woodturner magazine together with the insurance coverage is more than worth the annual dues!) I have changed from a so-so member to a very enthusiastic AAW member. Many of the attendees at club meetings are what I call wannabe turners – they sit and watch, but don't really get into it. We want those members to take a class, meet up with an experienced turner, and then get "hooked" onto woodturning like all the more involved members have become. Then you'll want to join the AAW and enjoy all it can do for you. Without the AAW you would all be in little groups with nothing to unite and advance the progress of woodturning. Look at how woodturning as an art form has progressed in the last decade!

One last thing – I bought one of the new design AAW woodturning smocks while I was in the office. This is the best one I have ever tried – it is light as a feather, zips completely up the front, has vented armpits, and a comfortably snug fit at the collar. Buy a biggish size, as they are longer. I got an XXL, and have turned in it – really comfortable. All for 35 bucks!

I hope this article will stimulate more interest in the AAW and will encourage more of you to become AAW members. I plan to travel about our region describing what the AAW does for you, and I welcome any questions you might have. If you'd like me to visit your club and talk about the AAW, please invite me – I'd love to come.

Larry Genender
AAW Board Member



“Who were the Luddites,” you ask?

In Larry Genender’s report on page 3, he mentioned the term “Luddite” in connection with some changes that are in the works for the AAW web site. He was referring to those who have not yet embraced the online technology available via the Internet, but as Paul Harvey would say, “Here’s the rest of the story.”

Around 1812 England was a mess as Napoleon ruled Europe and English troops were engaged in an unwanted war in North America. Meanwhile, the Industrial Revolution was changing the nature of traditional economic and social relationships all across England and these changes were frequently met with bitter resistance.

One of the groups that opposed the changes brought on by the Industrial Revolution was known as the Luddites, a social movement of English textile workers who felt their livelihood being threatened because for several centuries the weavers from Nottingham enjoyed the status and rewards accorded to fine craftsmen. The weavers of Nottinghamshire produced lace and stockings that dominated the English markets and were prominent items in export trade. These products were hand made, often in the weaver’s home -- what we would call a cottage industry today.

The movement was named after a mythical leader, Ned Ludd. For a short time the movement was so strong that it clashed in battles with the British Army.

Since then the term Luddite has sometimes been applied to those who resist technological change.

Final Report: *The Empty Bowl Challenge*

We have completed our effort for the Empty Bowl Challenge this year with great participation and excellent results. A total of 140 bowls were donated by our club members for this very worthwhile cause.

I received the following e-mail message from Jill Whitfill as they were packing the bowls and preparing things for the Empty Bowls Luncheon on February 16:

“First, let me say your bowls for the empty bowls project are wonderful; great job!! Secondly, I just wanted to give the club the latest count. Today, we packed 1300!!!! bowls- wow we were pooped. The wooden bowl turn out was wonderful and Janet commented that the count was higher than last year. GREAT!!! Karma. Please pass this message on to all of WNT!!”

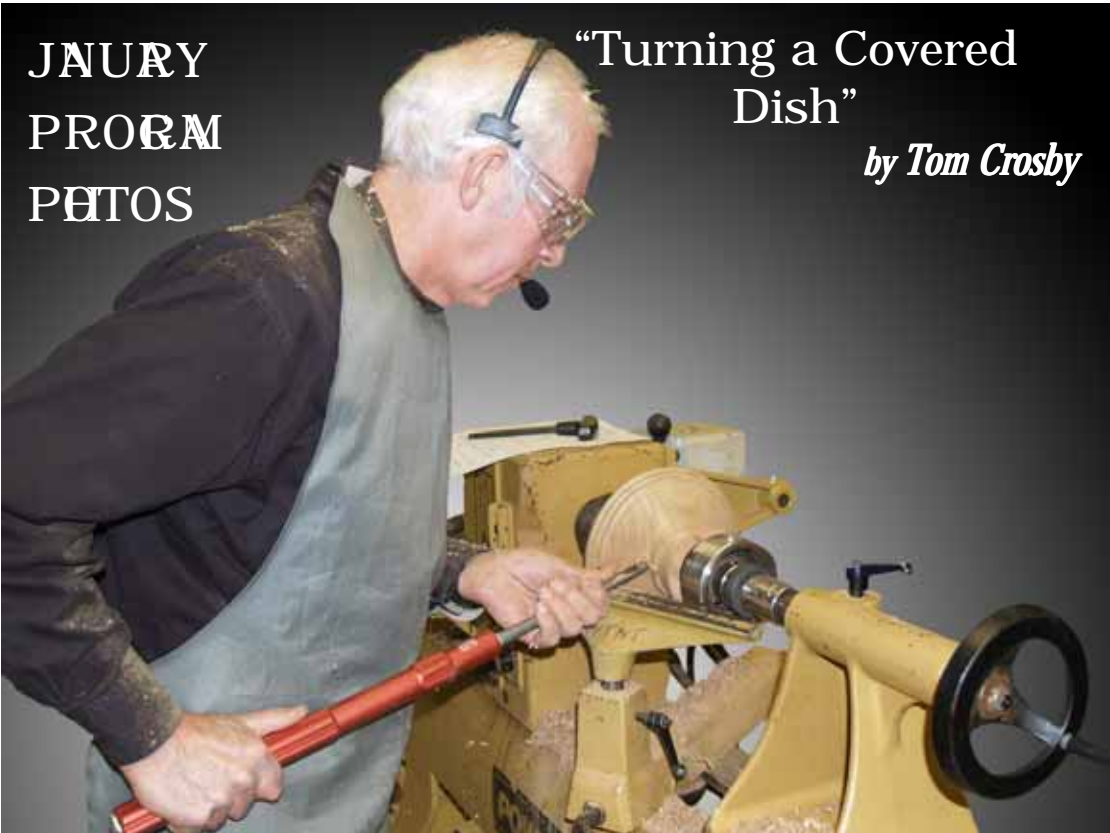
I was also told that some of the wooden bowls that were in the silent auction sold for very good prices.

For all who partipated, thank you very much. And a special thanks to Max Taylor who went well beyond the challenge and turned 19 bowls. Special thanks also to Jimmie Gill, Bill Williams, and Fred Denke who also did an outstanding job and were not far behind Max.

Here is the final Honor Roll for bowls that have been turned for the 2007 Empty Bowls Project.

Name	Bowls Turned
Max Taylor	19
Jimmie Gill	12
Bill Williams	9
Fred Denke	9
Wayne Clowers	6
Kirby Wright	6
Randy Johnson	6
Steve Yauch	6
Larry Roberts	6
Bob Lewis	5
Hollis McLane	5
John Herber	5
Billy Boehme	4
Chelsea Deakins	4
Dan Hudkins	4
John Clark	4
Stormy Boudreaux	4
Steve Ott	3
Byron Constantine	2
Roy Chance	2
Steve Meyer	2
Wayne Ealey	2
Clay Foster	1
Dewayne Hines	1
Mike Jones	1
Kenneth Kilpatrick	1
John Boyle	1
Harv Cox	1
Ken Cardin	1
Unknown	5
Total Bowls	140





JANUARY
PROGRAM
PHOTOS

“Turning a Covered Dish”

by Tom Crosby

Our January demonstration, “Turning a Covered Dish”, was provided by Tom Crosby.

Tom is a member of the East Texas Woodturners and also the Dallas Area Woodturners.



One of the requirements of turning a covered dish is to start with completely dry wood so that the piece does not warp which would result in the lid not fitting properly on the dish. In this respect, turning a covered dish is much like turning a box. On the right, he talks about the cryogenically treated Glaser gouge which is his favorite

gouge for bowl turning.



Tom started his demo using a thoroughly dried piece of ash. He began the process by mounting it between centers to get the initial shape.



After shaping the exterior, he begins separating the dish and lid with a parting



tool and then uses a hand saw to finish the task.

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(continued from page 5)

Tom turned the interior surfaces and then used a spindle adapter on the live center to reverse the chuck and



installed a vacuum chuck to the headstock. This method allows accurate alignment on the vacuum chuck. He then begins the finish

turning process with the tailstock in place to provide necessary support.



Next, he backs the tailstock away to

begin the final work on the lid including turning the knob. The knob can also be turned separately.



And voilà! Here is the completed covered dish. This was a very interesting and informative program.



Stuart Batty is Coming to WNT in April

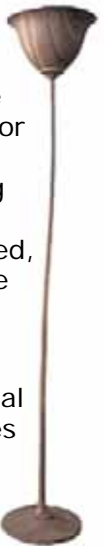


The very talented and energetic young English woodturner, Stuart Batty, will be teaching several hands-on classes as well as an all-day demonstration in April.

Stuart, a third generation woodturner, grew up in the city of Newcastle in the northeast of England. His grandfather and father were both professional

woodturners, and he began learning to turn from his father, Allan Batty, at about the age of ten. His father was a production woodturner making mainly stair spindles, and he helped him on weekends using the traditional woodturning techniques which have been used in Britain for hundreds of years. When he was sixteen, he started working for his father's woodturning business as a production spindle turner and teacher. He spent several years as an in-house demonstrator and teacher at Craft Supplies Ltd. in England, which was at the time the largest wood turning supplier in the world. During the six years that he worked for them he taught and demonstrated, set up and ran their sawmill, and was in charge of importing the over 400 exotic woods which they sold.

He has demonstrated at over thirty International Woodturning Seminars in ten different countries including the annual AAW Symposium. He makes his living from teaching and demonstrating woodturning, as well as making pieces for British galleries. He is an exceptional teacher and his classes are highly recommended. You won't regret being able to learn from Stuart regardless of your experience level. Stuart has experience turning a very great variety of woods and for most of his work, prefers dense, exotic woods.



The all-day demo will take place on Saturday, April 14. The cost is \$20. Hands-on classes will also be offered and sign-up sheets will be available at the monthly meeting.



(“Lidded Bowl Turning”, continued from page 1)

within a week of being cut down. When making natural edge bowls the bark will stick much better on green wood. I typically turn bowls to a final thickness



of one-eighth to one-quarter inch. Then I sand to at least 150 grit while they are still wet.”

“Then I dry them in the microwave. The process which includes several drying sessions can take up to half a day depending on size and thickness. I leave a foot on the bowls so that I can final sand up to 600 grit when dry. I finish artistic bowls with Danish oil



Microwaved Persimmon Hat

overcoated with spray lacquer. Useful bowls are coated with a food-safe paste made from 1 part beeswax melted with 3 parts mineral oil or walnut oil.”

“The drying method is shown as a tutorial on our website. I will go into more detail during the demonstration and welcome any questions. Some people may be nervous about using the microwave for drying. I have dried easily a hundred turnings this way with no disasters to date. I will bring several microwave dried turnings as examples.”



... from the Editor

“Luddites, Arise to the Defense...”

WNT member Larry Genender has issued a challenge to all Luddites to embrace 21st century technology regarding AAW activities such as membership renewal, voting, and accessing a wealth of information available on the AAW web site, www.woodturner.org. See his report on page 3. And, if you are wondering who are the Luddites and whether they have infiltrated our club, see the brief account of who they were and what they came to symbolize in the sidebar on page 4.

Other News...

Your Photo is urgently needed for the 2007 Membership Directory. If your picture in the directory is a bit dated, consider having a new picture made or if you are a new member, we need to take your picture at the February meeting so that you do not become a blank face in the directory. This will be the last opportunity for updating your picture and renewing your membership in time to be included in this year's directory. Also, due to the marvels of modern technology all of the portrait pictures taken at the December Holiday Banquet were lost and have gone to digital heaven (Luddites, take note -- you may submit a painted portrait).

Membership ID cards for those who have already renewed their dues for 2007 will be available at the February 22 meeting. These cards will allow you to receive a ten percent discount on most non-sale items except for power tools at Rockler's. Discounts are also available at some of the other businesses listed in the membership directory.

Stuart Batty will be our Spring demonstrator in April. Now is the time to sign up for one of the class dates. For details, see the story on page 6.

The Empty Bowls Luncheon was a success. See the story on page 4 where you can also see the final results for our Empty Bowl Challenge.

Mentor Day will be coming again on April 7. See page 8 for more information.

The Mentoring Program Returns

The Mentoring Program which was very popular and successful last year will be returning on April 7. Sign-up sheets will be available at the monthly meetings in February and March to select your area of interest.

“Bring-Back” Drawing

Here are the names of the January “Bring Back” winners: Steve James, Carl Dumesmil, Chelsea Deakins, John Horn, Alan Siebenthal, and Bill Boehme. If you were the winner if a turned item in January, please bring back a turning that you have made for the February “Bring Back” drawing. If you have fallen behind in bringing a turning to the ‘Bring Back’ drawing please remember to bring a turning to the February meeting.



Advertisements

Anchorseal®

The club has purchased a 55-gallon drum of Anchorseal sealant for green wood and it is available to members for \$8.00 per gallon. It is being stored at Larry Roberts' place, 6409 Calender in southwest Arlington. Contact James Haynes for payment.

See WNT website ads page:
<http://www.wntx.org/ads/ads.html>
for the latest advertisements.

Rules for advertisements: Free ads are available only to WNT members. The deadline for submission or cancellation of an ad is the 10th of the month to be placed in that month's newsletter. Ads will only run for one issue unless notified otherwise. If you wish to continue running an ad for more than one month, please advise the editor, Bill Boehme, by the 10th of the month. Also, if you decide to cancel an ad, please notify the editor by the 10th of the month.

Calendar

NOTE: The Regular Monthly Meetings are held on the last Thursday of each month except in September (SWAT Symposium). Board meetings are held at Cafe Express on University south of I-30. Check the WNT web site for any updates. All WNT members are invited to attend. If you would like to join the group for dinner, it begins at 6 PM and the business meeting starts at 7 PM.

February 22 - Regular Monthly meeting 6:30 PM, R.D. Evans Rec. Center, Demonstrator: **Dewayne Hines**

March 6 - WNT Board meeting -- see above for location and time.

March 29 - Regular Monthly meeting 6:30 PM, R.D. Evans Rec. Center, Demonstrator: **TBD**

April 3 - WNT Board meeting -- see above for location and time.

April 3 - WNT Board meeting -- see above for location and time.

April 26 - Regular Monthly meeting 6:30 PM, R.D. Evans Rec. Center, Demonstrator: **TBD**

Board of Directors

President – Stormy Boudreaux

Home phone 817-441-9238

Vice President – Dewayne Hines

Home Phone 817-448-8956

Treasurer - James Haynes

Home Phone 972-223-3171

Librarian – Randy Johnson

Home Phone 817-795-6018

Activities – Wayne Fitch

Home Phone 817-596-9121

Newsletter – Bill Boehme

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Secretary – Steve Ott

Home Phone 817-246-0855

WNT WEB SITE:

<http://www.wntx.org/>

The Woodturners of North Texas newsletter is published monthly. Inputs are due to the editor by the tenth of each month for inclusion in that month's newsletter.

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