



## CHATTERMARKS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE  
OLYMPIC PENINSULA CHAPTER OF THE  
AAW

CHAPTER WEB SITE:  
<http://www.geocities.com/opaaw>



### July 2006 MEETING

Kitsap Adventist School July 28th, 7 pm 5088 NW Taylor Rd. Bremerton, WA.

## July's Demonstrator – Dan Ackerman



Most of you know Dan Ackerman from his past and present participation in the club and its activities. This month he will be our demonstrator. Dan has been turning for about 25 years and was one of the founding members for the Kitsap Woodturners Club, a chapter of the AAW as it was known then. Dan sat on the national AAW board for two terms and initiated the recording of sessions at the national symposiums. That program has continued to blossom and provide tapes for members to view. In addition, Dan and his wife Kathy ran a production turning gift business which included 22 gift items for 10 years. For the past 6 years Dan has been doing turned boxes of his own design incorporating turning, carving, inlaying, and sculpting mostly in exotic woods from around the world. Dan will bring all of this experience and knowledge to the meeting and do a program on "Design: a most important element". Bring a piece of your work to be used for discussion, it will be fun and hopefully mind expanding.

## President's Message

Summer is upon us. Some people, like me, who burn to a crisp in five minutes in the sun, do more turning in the summer, and others with more family activities, lawns to mow, etc. do less. Which ever is true for you, we will try to keep your turning interests as hot as the weather.

In the questionnaire many of you said you would be interested in an internal critique session. Thanks to Dan Ackerman, we are going to give this a try at the next meeting. He will be giving us some design pointers, and will critique some pieces which those who are interested have brought in. If you want to take advantage of the potential for improving your design and turning skills, bring in a piece and put it on the table which Cindy will have set up.

Summer also brings on the club picnic. Please mark Saturday August 26th on your calendar. It's also not too early to start turning your 5" dia. wooden balls for the bowling/golf game. Please see Cindy's article below for more details. Make sure to bring your chairs and portable tables if you have them.

Also, in case you were planning to attend the August 16<sup>th</sup> BOD meeting, it has been cancelled. We will reconvene in September.

Have a great summer.

Norm

## Wood at the Auction

Roger Dunn is bringing a lot of spalted, natural edge birch, spalted - figured maple, spalted Mountain Ash, Cherry and fresh Madrone to sell. He will be splitting the proceeds with the club.

On that same note, please try to bring in some special wood for the auction table. This will give some of our newer members an opportunity to try woods that might otherwise be unattainable to them.

## Lathe for Sale



For Sale - Delta 1440 Lathe, 3/4 HP Motor, Variable Speed. 1 year old, \$375. Contact Jimmie Allen at the club meeting or call at home, 360 373-3041.

## Part II – What Your Board Members Do For You, the Secretary.

What does your **Secretary** do for the OPCA AW?

1. The Secretary for the OPCA AW takes notes at all club meetings and all Board of Directors meetings. Notes are distributed to all Board members for confirmation and stored in the club files.
2. The Secretary is responsible for all club correspondence including writing Thank You notes to demonstrators and to our sponsors of our Christmas party.
3. The Secretary is responsible for maintaining current copies of the Club Charter, By Laws, Resolutions, and correspondence, "Chattermarks" and meeting minutes. (Note: Let me know if you ever want to see copies of these items. I usually have everything with me at the meetings)
4. The Secretary is responsible for insuring the club liability insurance is current, making sure replacement insurance is found if needed, and making recommendations to the Board if a change is required.
5. The Secretary is responsible for maintaining an inventory list of all Club Property.
6. The Secretary is responsible for selecting the Club Librarian.
7. The Secretary is responsible for collecting and maintaining a file of handouts from demonstrators. Those handouts may be included in the newsletter or may be published on the club web site.
8. The Secretary is responsible for collecting mail from the post office box rented by the OPCA AW. Mail is distributed to the appropriate officers as needed.

9. The Secretary is a signatory on the club checking account.

Anyone who is interested in helping out when our current secretary, Susan Hurst, is not able to attend meetings should contact her at 360.876.1373.

## John Elliott's Lady's Day All Day Turning Event

As many of you know, John holds an annual lady's day woodturning event in his shop. This year it is being held on August 6th at his home. Bring your tools, any special wood and shop clothes if you have them, otherwise, John will provide. The event starts at 9:00 am until ???.

You can contact John at 360.452.5673 or [jackieledoux@hotmail.com](mailto:jackieledoux@hotmail.com) for directions.

## Sales and Demonstration Event

OPCAAW has been asked to participate in the Poulsbo Art Fair on August 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> to be held in the waterfront parking lot from 10am to 6pm. For those of you who would like to display and/or sell you work this will be a great opportunity. Additionally, we've been asked to demonstrate woodturning as well.

Rick and Susan Hurst can provide a canopy and display hardware. We need volunteers to help setup, take down and man the booth for those days. Also we need volunteers to demonstrate basic woodturning. We would also like to create a small static display of woodturning accessories and tools in addition to samples of our work. Any sales are subject to a 0% honor system commission. (Note, you are not required to sell your work to display it.)

Anyone interested in helping with planning and setup, please contact Rick Hurst, 360.876.1373 or [Rick\\_Hurst@hotmail.com](mailto:Rick_Hurst@hotmail.com). We would like to have at least two demonstrators and four others to help out with manning the booth and setup/takedown. Provided we have enough people interested there will be more information to follow.

## Advice for Beginners

Contributed by Dave Schweitzer and Tones Briggs

*(Ed. Note: Some articles are so good that they deserve to be run again)*

1. Work with an available mentor through your club or friendship with another turner. Very important to help apply terminology to the object.
2. Sharpening -- Utmost import in order to cut wood properly and safely. "Knowing" the difference between a sharp tool and a not sharp tool.
3. Turn "green" wood! New turners should find a readily available source of branch, limb and firewood available for just making chips. *(Ed. Note: Alder works well for this. It is cheap, works easily, readily available and some homeowners might actually pay you to take it away. And by-the-way, when dry it is wonderfully stable.)*
4. Keep "forms" very open and avoid rolled rims and or complex curves.
5. Avoid jumping in too quickly when buying a lathe or lathe tools. See if your local club will let you check out a mini for a month or two, and with the aid of your mentor, you will make wiser selections in tools purchase as well. *(Ed. Note: Try to find someone with an identical or similar model and get their opinion.)*

(The following article excerpted from <http://www.woodcentral.com/russ/russ1.shtml> fits well with this month's program)

## Evaluation of Our Work

The 3 Questions We Should Ask Ourselves

We should look critically and objectively at everything that we do at the lathe, and then ask ourselves three (3) questions:

1. What were we trying to do?
2. How well did we do?
3. What can I do better next time?

The following discussion will describe some of the ways that we can evaluate and improve the woodturning that we do.

### Have A Goal

(What were we trying to do?)

We should always have some idea of the mission before we start. I usually don't believe anyone that says that they didn't know what they were trying to do until the wood was in the lathe, the "I let the wood speak to me" approach. This doesn't mean that we can't change our mind once we have started. We may have several possibilities in mind, and a hidden flaw or defect can determine the option.

Our skills at the lathe will determine the complexity of the goal. The goal of every turning session does not have to be an object. There is nothing wrong with just making chips to practice a turning technique and improve our skills. For the first time beginner, the goal may be spinning a piece of wood in the lathe, doing something with the tool that will make some chips, and doing this without throwing the piece across the room or personal injury. The session was successful if these goals were completed. Every woodturner, beginner or "expert", should occasionally pick up a piece of wood and turn it into chips. It can be a relaxing venture, and a good way to learn a new skill or improve an old one.

### Published Projects

(How well did we do?)

We do not all have the knowledge or resources available to evaluate our own work. There is nothing wrong with duplicating a published project from a magazine, book, or other source. Then we can measure our success by a comparison with the pictures in the article. The question of "How well?" is answered by the appearance and finish of the end product. All Wood Magazine projects used to include a template. These templates were a valuable addition to the article for many of their readers, and they should not have stopped including them.

Unfortunately, many magazine articles are a disservice to the beginning and intermediate turner whom they are trying to reach. The article can have little resemblance to the techniques required to complete the project. Too often, someone wrote them other than the original craftsman, or many of the details were lost to the editors' cuttings. Videos are often no better because too many details have been left out for them to be of any value. As a club, maybe we should do more reviews of magazine articles, books, and videos for those members who use them for projects or techniques.

### The Instant Gallery

(How well did we do? What can I do better next time?)

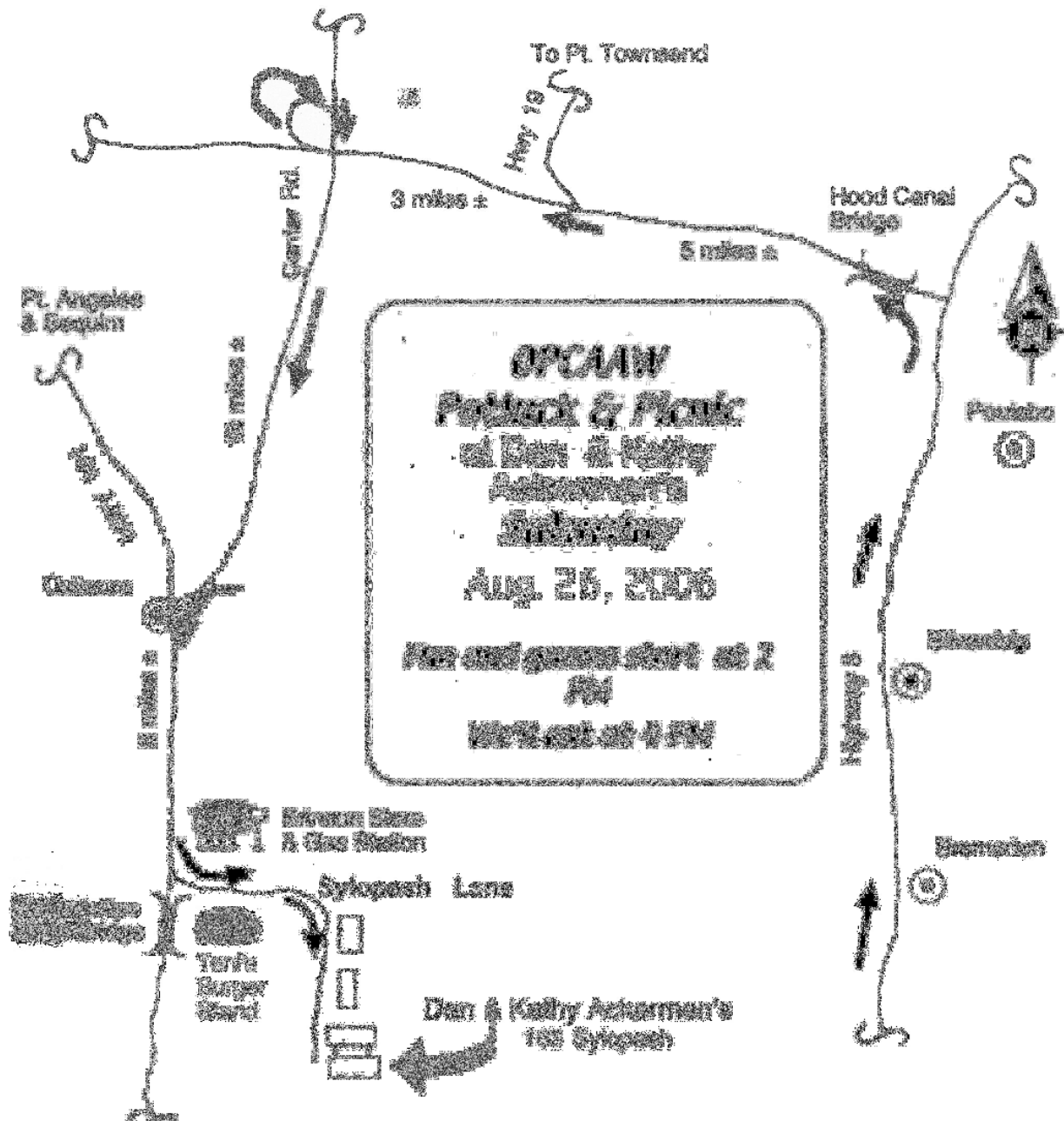
The Instant Gallery at the monthly meeting is one of the benefits of our membership. We can all use these exhibits as a basis for evaluating our own work. The beginner should bring their work for display, and they are encouraged to ask the "experts" to evaluate their work and make suggestions for improvement.

Conversely, we all have an obligation to "know of which we speak." As a novice, it is difficult to

determine who is qualified to answer our questions. Don't try to "snow" the beginner with knowledge and experience that we don't have. If we are not an "expert", admit that we are not qualified to evaluate someone's work or answer their questions. Nobody benefits from bad advice.

It is not easy to be an "expert." When making an evaluation, the "expert" should consider the "three questions" and also have an understanding of the skills, tools, and equipment that were available, or that the person is willing to acquire. Don't assume that everyone has all the "stuff" that you have accumulated over the years. It does no good to recommend a tool that they don't have or can't grind, or one that they may not care or afford to purchase.

The "experts" should bring more of their works for display. We all benefit from having the opportunity to see excellence and skill. This may be the only comparison available to the beginners for judging their own work. It can also be an inspiration for all of us to improve our skills.



From Brinnon/Blunden go north to Hood Canal Bridge, cross the bridge and go about 8 miles (west) on HWY 104 to the Quilcene junction.

Turn right (north, the road loops around to take you in the correct direction) onto Center Road at the junction stop sign. Go about 10 miles to Quilcene. At the junction with Hwy 101 turn left (still south) and go about 8 miles to Brinnon.

Just before the Dosewallups river on the left is the Brinnon Store. As you face the Brinnon Store.... on the right side of the store is Sylopass Lane, a one lane dirt/gravel road. Go down that lane, we are the third house. Its got a big gray barn and gray house. Thats it!!

## Chapter Officers

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Scott Overby      Vice President of Membership  
(360) 895-8626, hawkinwa@wavecable.com

Steve Austin      Immediate Past President  
(360) 692-6969, austinre@earthlink.net

## MENTORING PROGRAM

The mentoring programs has been set up to answer questions and give help to new members and those whom may be having a problem in a specific area. Although not intended to be free lessons in woodturning (many of those volunteering are professional turners and derive their income from turning and teaching), these are some friendly folks willing to give you a point in the right direction.

Dan Ackerman.....(360)796-4155

“Tones” Briggs.....(360)871-7607

Henry Wischoefer...(360)377-3464



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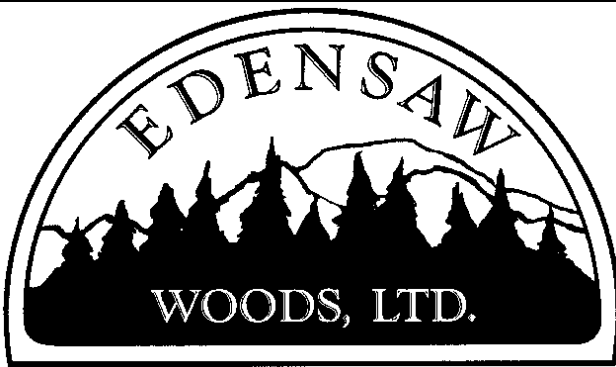
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