



CHATTERMARKS
THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE
OLYMPIC PENINSULA CHAPTER OF THE
AAW
CHAPTER WEB SITE:
<http://www.opcaaw.com>



November 2007 MEETING

Kitsap Adventist School November 28th, 7:00 pm, 5088 NW Taylor Rd. Bremerton, WA.

In Remembrance of Russ Robinette

by Robert Hickernell

After a brief but courageous battle with a relentless foe, Russ Robinette passed on Saturday night, November 10th. Services will be held Friday, November 30th, first at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints at 10:30 AM at the Sinclair View Ward, Mullenix Bldg., 3877 SE Mullenix Rd, Port Orchard WA 98367, followed by services at Tahoma National Cemetery 18600 Southeast 240th St. Kent WA 98042 at 3:00 PM.

I remember Russ as a "Go To" guy where anything that needed done, Russ was one of the first to volunteer and, if nominated, you could be assured he would complete the assignment. And the assignment would be completed within schedule and budget. Russ held several offices in the Chapter, including President (2002-2003), Librarian and Audio Specialist. During his tenure as President, the Chapter membership doubled. At that time Russ took it upon himself to institute some organization to the Chapter by creating a Board of Directors and delineating their duties. At last the Chapter was being run as a business.

Every endeavor by Russ was marked by his hand with specifications and meticulous detail. A major acquisition during his tenure was the purchase of a Club lathe. A small committee was formed and given Russ' "Mind Map"- a flowchart complete with specifications. I recall one of the specifications was: "Must be able to leap tall buildings in a single bound". Being a "Tool Nut" himself, he graciously gave of his time and knowledge in fabricating special tools for other members.

I will miss him!

We will all miss him

President's Message

The Holidays are upon us. I hope you are finding time for quiet contemplation, just you and your lathe. Remembering why this is such a great hobby!

This is a busy time for all. There are presents to turn (unless you've reached the "NO MORE TURNED GIFTS" threshold with your family). There are bazaars to attend! Hopefully you were productive the last few months and are selling more than you are buying. There are community club events which are always looking for one more door prize. Surely you have some thing that you can spare.

Your Board of Director's are busy, too! Scrambling around rounding up the gifts from our sponsors for the annual OPCAAW Holiday party! I think we are well on our way. George Kromka tells me the lathe mounted drawing barrel is ready for service. I know Cindy has the food all planned. Food and gifts! Sounds like a party to me!

Hope you find time to do it all, and still have a great Thanksgiving!

Norm

This Month's Demonstrator: Eric Lofstrom

Bowl Turning

There is nothing more powerful than being inspired by an idea and having the confidence to create that one-of-a-kind piece on the lathe- this is what woodturning is all about!

I stumbled upon the world of turning in October of 2001 at a woodworking store in Sumner, WA. Attending a free woodworking demonstration on turning pens and letter openers was all it took to



hook my curiosity. Thoughts of creating shavings on a lathe consumed me for the next few weeks as I wrapped my brain around how a finished piece could emerge from rough materials so quickly! After hearing every last detail (several times), my wife pursued this spark of excitement and set my woodturning journey in motion with a mini lathe and tool set for Christmas...the rest is history.

Like many turners, my woodturning adventures began with scraps of kiln-dried 2x4s and "factory sharpened" tools. Several violent catches in the first few projects quickly focused me on the why's and how's of creating a

curl instead of settling for sawdust. Gaining tool control and improving my technique became an ongoing personal quest. From fitted lid boxes, bowls, off-center winged bowls and decorative hollow forms, I continue to enjoy selecting new projects which challenge me to improve my skills.

In 2002, I became a member of the South Puget Sound Chapter of the AAW and have served on the board of directors since 2005.

Mentoring at our club's monthly sawdust sessions, demonstrating, and teaching woodturning classes at local woodworking stores has continued to transform my awareness and understanding of turning. I have become even more conscious of the importance for



turners to understand the mechanics involved in controlling our tools. I strongly believe it is equally important to know *which* techniques work and *why* they work.

I look forward to helping others build confidence in tool control and developing their voice in woodturning!

Olympic Woodturner's Annual Christmas Party

Remember to mark your calendars for the Olympic Woodturner's Christmas Party on December 12th at 6:30pm. 5:00pm set up time. Bring your favorite desert or snack and celebrate the holiday season with your turning club. Members with the last name starting with A - L, please bring hors d'oeuvres or your favorite potluck dish. Members with last name starting with M - Z, please bring deserts. We'll also have a table for members to display their best work of the year for family members to see. We've seen some pretty extraordinary turnings over this year and it'd be great to share and give an opportunity for others to see this talent.

We have wonderful sponsors who have consistently donated some great items, so remember to bring in wood donations to help build up those points (extra tickets) and increase your chances of winning.

For members who have items to donate for the December party's raffle, I will be collecting them at the November OPCA AW club meeting. Thank you in advance for your generosity and support.

Cindy

Snakewood, the World's Rarest Wood

Piratinera guianensis, syn. *Brosinum guianensis*

Other Common Names: Letterwood

Distribution: Guianas, Trinidad, and the Amazon region; a rare to occasional

The Tree: Unbuttressed small tree, up to 80 ft in height with trunk diameters of 12 to 20 in.; bole is cylindrical and clear for 40 to 50 ft.

The Wood:

General Characteristics: Heartwood dark red to reddish brown with irregular radial black markings or with black vertical stripes alone or in conjunction with the speckles; sapwood very thick, yellowish white, line of demarcation often irregular and not very sharp. Luster medium to high; texture fine and uniform; grain straight; odorless and tasteless.



Weight: Basic specific gravity (green volume/oven-dry weight) 0.82 to 1.10 -dry density 63 to 84 pcf.

Mechanical Properties: No strength values available but reported to be a strong hardwood that splits rather easily, heartwood is rather brittle.

Drying and Shrinkage: Should be dried carefully and in small pieces; shrinkage is reported to be rather high.

Working Properties: Works with difficulty because of hardness; turns well and takes a beautiful polish.

Durability: Heartwood very resistant to attack by decay fungi and wood termites.

Uses: Inlay, turnery, fancy handles for cutlery, violin bows, walking sticks, drum sticks, butts of fishing rods.

Chapter Officers

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George Kromka Vice President of Membership
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MENTORING PROGRAM

We are looking for some new mentors. The folks who are currently doing the great service have been doing it for a long time. George Kromka has stepped up to the plate but based on what I see every month at the show and tell table there could be a lot more. See any of the board officers if you are interested.

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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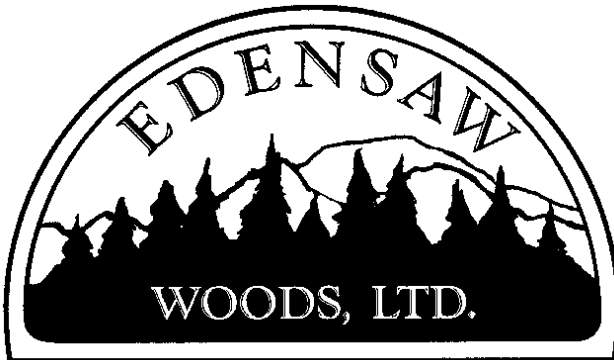
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