

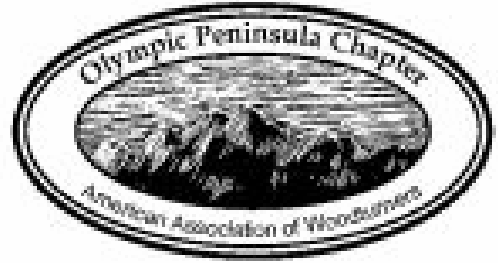


CHATTERMARKS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE
OLYMPIC PENINSULA CHAPTER OF THE
AAW

CHAPTER WEB SITE:

<http://www.geocities.com/opaaw>



September 2005 MEETING

When: September 28th, 7 pm

Where: Kitsap Adventist School
5088 NW Taylor Rd. Bremerton, WA.

JAMES LEARY – WOODTURNER

Jim attended the University of California, Berkeley, and holds advanced degrees in Architecture. He taught architectural design at U.C. Berkeley and at University College in London. James Prestini was his mentor professor in the Architecture Department at Berkeley. Jim is a licensed architect who has recently retired from his own Architecture and Planning firm.

Jim's long-time passion has been woodworking, both as a woodcarver and furniture-maker. He has been a woodturner for about 15 years. He enjoys woodturning because of the inherent beauty of wood and because of the discipline of the lathe. Form, proportion and understated decoration are consistent design considerations in his work. A current concept that is intriguing his design sense is that of creating "transparency" in his turned objects. He is constantly exploring the qualities and challenges of working with almost any wood that he can procure. He tries to balance producing functional pieces and purely decorative pieces, although most of his "show" pieces are of a decorative or sculptural nature.

Jim is a member of the American Association of Woodturners, the San Diego Woodturners Association, the Olympic Peninsula Woodturners Club and Ornamental Woodturners International. Although self-taught, he has won many awards and accolades at both the club level and in such shows as the Design in wood show in Del Mar, California. One of his pieces was recently featured on the cover of the *Fine Woodworking Magazine*.

President's Turn

If you missed the picnic, you really missed out! The weather was perfect, the food was fabulous and the company was congenial. Thanks are due to Roger Dunn for organizing the event and purchasing the food and supplies; to Dave Schweitzer, Cindy Allen and Don Avery for presiding over the grills. Our special thanks go Dan and Kathy Ackerman for again providing us with an idyllic setting.

News from the Board of Directors, the board has decided that a new projector screen would be a lasting Memorial for David Bradbury. A screen compatible with our projector has been ordered. Planning for the Christmas Party has begun. This year we will have three Sweazy Gouges as grand prizes instead of one mini lathe. If you would like to help organize the Christmas Party, contact Roger Dunn at 360.437.7907.

The Nominating Committee has been hard at work coming up with a full slate of qualified candidates who will be listed elsewhere in this issue of *Chattermarks*.

Steve Austin, President

AAW Hurricane Emergency Relief Fund

(Ed. Note: If you would like to donate contact any OPCAOW officer or contact John Hill as described below.)

During this time of tragedy, the AAW has established an Emergency Relief Fund to which Chapters and individuals can make tax-deductible donations. The purpose of this Emergency Relief Fund is to aid AAW chapters and individual AAW members affected by tragic events. A special committee will be established to receive special emergency relief grant applications and to distribute grants from the funds available. If enough money is raised, this fund can help AAW chapters and individual AAW members involved

with not only this current tragedy, but future events as well.

Each AAW chapter is encouraged to "pass the hat" or come up with its own fund raising effort to gather money for this worthwhile cause. Please send checks made payable to AAW- Emergency Relief Fund to 222 Landmark Center, 75 W. Fifth St., St. Paul, MN 55102 or donations by credit card can be made by calling the AAW office at 651-484-9094. Do not send cash.

Woodturners are known for their sharing and generous spirit. We share ideas, our time, and our knowledge freely to help each other. Now it is time to really help a fellow member in need. Each individual AAW member is encouraged to make a generous contribution to this fund. If you are a professional turner, you may want to select a piece of your work and send the amount of money that you would realize from its sale.

Victims of this current disaster are spread all over the country, in shelters, staying with relatives or friends, or considering permanent relocation. If any are in your area, please open your chapter's welcoming arms to these displaced AAW members as guests at your meetings or as new members. Also, ask these affected members to contact their chapter president back home to let them know where they are, how they can be reached and what their status is.

This fund is designed to help our chapters and AAW members in a time of need. Please do what you can and please forward this message to your chapter members.

Thanks,
John Hill
Chairman of AAW Chapters and Membership Committee
Johnrhill@charter.net
828-645-6633

"A BIG Thank You"

from Rita Callahan of Kitsap Adventist Christian School, "to all who have donated items for our annual fundraiser in the past." This year's date is November 6, so if you would like to donate any turnings for the auction please bring them to the October meeting. Note: For those of you who donated last spring and are wondering why it is so soon, this annual event is scheduled in the fall, but

due to unforeseen situations in the 2004-5 school year it was held last spring.

Barb Davis



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MENTORING PROGRAM

The mentoring program has been set up to answer questions and give directional 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
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SANDRA A. REESE
President

Need Some Wood?

"My daughter-in-law's father is about to cut down a Chinese Empress tree and a black walnut tree. The Empress tree is pretty large.....I know the walnut tree is tall but I don't recall the diameter. Anyway, he lives in Mossyrock.....and would be interested in any and all offers for the trees"

If anyone is interested contact Don Young.
email: dyou@cablespeed.com
phone: (360) 344-3542

Meeting Dates for the Rest of the Year

Because of the holidays, our meeting dates are different from normal for November and December. Here are the 2005 meeting dates for the rest of the year.

September 28
October 26
November 16
December 14

Don't forget to plan for the December meeting. Bring your favorite desert or snack and celebrate the holiday season with your favorite turning club.

Roger, Russ & Rick

Nominations for OPCAAW Offices for 2006

President

Dave Schweitzer
Bob Hickernell

Sergeant at Arms

Cindy Allen
Floyd Walker

VP of Education and Training

Jonathan Spool
Russ Robinette

VP of Public Relations

Rick Hurst
Maxx Pehling

VP of Membership

George Willock
Norm Hicks

Secretary

Don Young
Michael Jones

Treasurer

Stan Stumbo
Ted Ripley

Pacific Yew

(*Brevis taxifolia*)

by Rick Hurst

It is a privilege to turn Pacific Yew. Taxol was first found in the leaves and bark of this tree. For those of you who do not know, taxol (paclitaxol) is a drug that is effective in the treatment of certain kinds of breast cancer. So, like olive wood and lignum vitae it is one of the woods with a social significance.

One of my first bowls was made of Pacific Yew, a piece that I bought at an Olympic Woodturner's auction (good reason to come to the meetings). I was surprised at how easily it turned; it was almost like butter, a characteristic it coincidentally shares with olive wood. It did have a tendency to crack while sanding. (Back in those days, I had to sand a lot.) Anyhow, I was able to repair the cracks with a little super glue.



If allowed to dry without waxing it may develop small to very large cracks. Given the value and quality of this wood, it is worth the time to coat, in my opinion.

Pacific Yew is also used to make bows and for bending.

Contrary to popular belief, Pacific Yew is not listed as endangered or threatened. There are, however, regulations governing harvest of the tree. Here is a web site that will tell you more than you'll ever want to know about Pacific Yew:

http://www.pfc.forestry.ca/ecology/yew/index_e.html

Our Advertisers

First, let me say that we have some wonderful sponsors.

As some of you may recall I took a straw pole of our members as to how much they spent at our sponsors during the last six months. Here are some of the responses:

"In the last six months, I have spent more than \$50 with each of the following:

*Rockler
Woodcraft
Treeline
Industrial Abrasives
Craft Supply
Packard"*

"Yep, me too! Lots more."

These are typical responses, everyone who responded spent more than \$50.

I want to relate a few personal experiences I have

had with our advertisers.

#1 – I made some Key Ring Pens from kits that I purchased from Craft Supplies USA. One of my customers lost the cap and refill. I called to ask if I could buy these components separately. I couldn't. Their solution, send me an entire kit free!! That's customer service.

#2 – I lost the pins for my 3/8" pin chuck. Not remembering whom I had purchased it from I contacted Craft Supplies USA and asked if I could purchase just the pins. Turns out, I didn't get it from them. Their solution, they gave me the correct vendor (Packard Woodworks) and the Packard stock number. That's customer service.

#3 – I contacted Packard and asked the same question; "Can I get just the pins". Their solution, Brad Packard contacted me personally, sent me the two pins free, and promised to start carrying them as a separate item (I guess I'm not the only one who drops them into a deep pile of chips.) That's customer service.

We have some exceptional sponsors and I urge all of you to use their goods and services.

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Saving Money

It costs the club roughly \$1.00 to mail a newsletter and nothing to send the same information by e-mail. I urge you to begin receiving your newsletter by email if at all possible. If everyone did it would save us over \$60 per month.

Rick

Call for Articles

As editor and being basically lazy, I'm always on the lookout for interesting material for Chattermarks. Unless you want to read two pages of my mindless drivel every month I urge you to contribute an article or two. It is said that everyone has a book in them so surely each of you has several paragraphs. Can't write? Well, neither can I but together we might be able to come up with something intelligible.

Thanks,
Rick

Club Bylaws

An electronic copy OPCA AW bylaws are attached to the email containing this document. Non-email receiving members may obtain a copy by contacting Rick Hurst, who will send you a printed copy. Available to members only.

Tip #1

Have you ever noticed the wood dust that collects on the bed of your lathe when you sand. Well don't throw that stuff away. Find a small container, such as a pill bottle, place the dust in it, label it and put it in a place where you can find it again (I use an old refrigerator to keep my finishing, painting and repair supplies in). Next time you need to fill a crack (and you don't want it to be fluorescent purple) find that container, fill the crack with dust and super glue; you're ready to keep on turnin'.

(Ed. note: I found small snap top containers about 1" x 1" at JoAnn's in Silverdale that are perfect for this, just in case you don't take a lot of pills.)

The article on the next two pages was contributed by Frank Van Atta (our July demonstrator). You can see more of Frank's work at <http://stores.ebay.com/FGVminiATURES>.

Thank you Frank for contributing to Chattermarks.

Basic Miniature Bowl Turning

The purpose of this article is to introduce the woodturning methods peculiar to miniature bowls. No attempt is made to teach basic woodturning, tool usage, or sharpening - it is assumed you already have those skills.

Our starting point will be a 3/4 in. square block 1 1/2 in. long. This is the basic size I use for turning miniatures; I can make a vase, 2 or 3 bowls, or a vase and a bowl from one of these blanks. (For this article, I will be using the bottom third of a maple blank from which a vase has already been turned.)



Since miniatures don't incur as much stress as full size turnings, you can attach them with CA glue to a waste block and chuck the two pieces using a scroll chuck (a screw chuck will also work). I favor the use of waste blocks because they are cheap, easy to make, allow you to use **all** of your blank, and they provide a method for accurate rechucking.



The waste block used in this example is a piece of Oak 1 1/2 inches square and about 3 in. long (easily made from a 2x4, 2x6, etc.). It has been turned round for about 75% of its length, leaving 1/2" to 1" square on one end to be gripped by the chuck. The block doesn't have to be Oak, but it should definitely be a hardwood, as the jaw pressure from the scroll chuck will deform the corners.

Note that concentric circles have been cut into the end of the waste block. These circles help center the blank and also create glue channels



which help hold it. The circles were cut with the tip of a skew chisel.



Attach the blank to the end of the waste block using thick CA glue. Clamp and set aside for at least an hour before you begin turning. You could use accelerator and start turning right away, but if the glue isn't thoroughly set underneath the blank you could knock it off as you are roughing it down. This usually results in some unnecessary down time for repairs.

When mounting in a scroll chuck, mark the sides of the waste block to correspond with the jaw numbers on the chuck. This will make the assembly easy to reposition accurately later for sanding, oiling, finishing, whatever. I usually keep 6 of these assemblies going at a time. This allows me to work on one piece while the finish is setting up on the other(s).

If you don't have a scroll chuck, a screw chuck will work just as well.



The first thing you have to do is round the blank off. In this case, I am using the remainder of a blank that has already been used to turn a vase. (Making of the vase is covered in the FGVminiATURES™ [Basic Miniature Vase Turning](#) article.



Next, establish the outside shape using a sharp bowl gouge and/or skew. If you **must** use a scraper, angle it for a shearing cut; a straight scraping cut will leave the surface rough enough that you may have to significantly reduce the diameter or alter the shape to get it smooth. In large turnings this problem is insignificant; in miniatures you can lose your basic shape at the outset by leaving too rough a surface.



Sand and finish the outside. Despite what many "purists" would say, I think sandpaper is an acceptable shaping tool - especially in miniatures. After sanding to at least 600 grit, you can put on a coat of Walnut oil - or any other oil, for that matter - to "pop out" the grain of lighter woods like maple, if you like. (If you compare wood that has been oiled to that which has not, you will find that the oil generally accentuates the grain, but also makes the wood appear a little darker and slightly yellowish.) Oil will have little or no effect on darker woods. When the oil is dry, buff with 600 to 1000 grit and add the finish of your choice.

Now hollow the inside to conform to the shape of the outside and establish the wall thickness. It helps to make a starter hole in the center of the bowl with the point of a skew. Then you can hollow it with a small round nose scraper (made from a screwdriver) or a small gouge. You can hollow from the outside in, or from the inside out - either method works. Just be careful when using a gouge to go from the outside in - one slip and part of the rim will be gone. It helps to use a parting tool or the point of a skew to establish the rim thickness before using a

gouge.

Once the inside is shaped, smooth it and finish just like the outside. Then part off the bowl from the waste block and finish the bottom.

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