One Good Turn

May 9,2007

Coulee Region Woodturners Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners



Professional Turner Stuart Batty will be spending a weekend with us this month on the 19-20. Stuart grew up in England and apprenticed under his father, Allan Batty, in their turning shop. He was featured in the DVD "Two Ways To Make a Bowl" along with Mike Mahoney. He doesn't just show you how, but will tell you why a certain cut or grind will work better in different applications. Stuart is one of the most technical turners in the world. The demo will include bowl turning with just a gouge, along with an explanation of the push cut. Freehand sharpening and the differences in tool steels- why some are better suited for certain applications. Negative rake scraping- a unique grind on a scraper that enables you to make cuts that a regular grind could not. Sphere boxes, hollowing dense exotic end grain and lid fitting along with making spheres and their stands. The two day demo will cost \$60 and will be held at B&B's Studio. Lunch for the Demo's will be provided, with "left over's" used for the Hands-On lunch.

See you there!!



PrezSez:

The warmer weather is finally here and I am sure everyone has a large number of projects to start around the house. I have been so busy, I have not had any time to do much turning. I hope many of you have been able to make some new items on your lathe. One item to try this Spring would be the new challenge, to make a mushroom. We should start to see these in the woods and in our lawns. These would be great to give to your wife to put in the flower gardens. The categories for the challenge will be the most Artistic, most unique, and the best of show. So everyone can attempt a piece, these will also be separated in to experience classes, 1 to 2 years, 3 to 5 years, and anything greater. The due date for these will be the June meeting to give plenty of time. I am sorry I will not be there to see the great creations but Art will take pictures and I will get the see them in that manner.

Speaking of Art, I would like to take the time to thank him for all the time and effort that he puts into publishing our newsletter, he makes them, a work of Art, or maybe a work from Art. He is also our secretary this year and he's the one that takes all the great pictures to put in the newsletter and the website. Next time you see him, thank him for such a good job; our club would not be as good without the help of people like Art.

Our next meeting will be one of our biggest events this year, Stuart Batty will be demonstrating at Bill and Brigitta's shop for two days in May. Hope to see you there, and happy turning.

-John Fisher-

May Meeting—Duane Hill—InLace Demo



CRW Mission Statement: To promote, to educate, and to inspire ourselves and others in the fine art of turned wood.

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John Fisher

May Instant Gallery Artists



Upcoming Meetings & Events

May 19 & 20 Pro turner: Stuart Batty Demo. Location is B&B studio in La Crosse. May 31 Open Shop Night at Duane Hill's Shop.

<u>June.</u> Craft Show Business with Lee G. Location is WWTC

<u>July.</u> Pro turner: Herm deVries Demo. Location: Denis Falch Shop in Winona. (Club sponsored)

<u>Aug.</u>—Ornamental Birdhouses and Stands with Greg Haugen. Location is Shorty's Retreat.

<u>Sept.—Pro Turner. John Jordan Demo.</u> Location is B&B studio in La Crosse.

Oct.—Door Stops with Greg Haugen. Location is Pam Reilly's Studio.

Nov.—Platters by Duane Hill.

<u>**Dec.**</u>Music Boxes by Tom Mruz.

Meeting Leaders;

May—Greg Haugen

June—Duane Hill

July—Denis Snider

August-Bob Patros

Sept.- Greg Haugen





Our Newest CRW Member.

From our member Rich Egan: Andrew John joined our family on April 25 at 12:11pm, or just past noon. He weighed 7lbs, 2.6oz, and measured 19" long. He's doing just fine, and appears to be an intelligent observant young man. He has his parents well-trained already. — Congratulations !!!

From our World Correspondent—Aaron

Gesicki:

This is a view of one tree in a small park in the middle of the oldest part of Valencia, Spain. It's a Ficus Elastica. Note the comparative size of the person standing next to it on the lower left.

What's a Ficus Elastica? Here's your only

hint – everyone says an ant can't move this.

This wooden box was in one of the Museums in Valencia. All the detail work is marquetry – wood veneers and mother-of-pearl or ivory.



Very intricate and very old. Supposedly from the time of the Moors in Spain.



Marquetry on the front.

Note all the ivory balusters in the crest rail.



Check out CRW's web site for more photos and information. http://www.crwoodturner.com

Art Ustby



What do you do for a living:

I worked in the Computer field for about 34 years and just recently took early retirement. This should provide me with lots of free—but it hasn't—still trying to understand that. The past 21 years I worked at

Dairyland Power Cooperative. I've also worked at Sperry-UNIVAC, La Crosse County/City, Trane Co. No kids and never been married.

Who or what turned you onto woodworking: Like many, I first turned in High School. I also learned and was encouraged in woodworking from a friends Dad. Then a fellow I worked with (Duane Hill) talked me into going to a meeting for a club he wanted to start in La Crosse (CRW). That started my turning desire. Duane and Denis Falch have given me lots of ideas and encouragement. I enjoy woodturning, because many projects can be started and completed in the same session.

What classes have you taken / what symposiums have you gone to / which would you recommend:

I've attended several Woodcraft classes in Minneapolis and Madison. These were nice because the class size was small. I've also attended presentations from other clubs. I have attended the AAW and Utah symposiums. Both of these were excellent and had great instant gallery! I found the instant galleries as a source for ideas and

encouragement. I feel the Utah Symposium is better because the sessions have fewer people allowing better viewing and a more intimate experience. I'm attending the Utah Symposium for the second time next month. If you ever have a chance, attend one of these Symposiums and you will come away with new enthusiasm.

What type of turning do you like best: I like to turn bowls and hollow forms. I love to turn walnut wood. I love a lacquer finish.

Something most people don't know about you:

I started college majoring in architecture, but switched to computers before my Junior year. My first job was writing communication programs for submarines. Next I wrote programs that prevented midair plane collisions.

What's your next purchase:

I would like to purchase a low priced airbrush and/or air gun. I really need to stop buying stuff and start using what I have.

What's your next turning project:

I would like to turn several hollow forms. Then I would like to try my hand at coloring. For a long time I've had an interest to try an airbrush.

What are your other interests beyond turning:

I enjoy technology (computer, video-digital/ analog, short wave radio, etc.). I have an extensive music collection. I also enjoy flat woodworking.

July Special Treat

We all have tools in our shop that we bought, tried, and wish we'd never even seen. For most of us, the skew is the first thing that comes to mind. However, Oneway's ring tool, the Termite, is another that when tried, very quickly gets retired to the dark, back corners of the shop. Herm deVries is one of the few who has mastered the intricacies of this tool. He hails from

Winnipeg, Manitoba and is the founder of the World of Woodturners website, the largest online gallery of turnings in the world. Herm is so comfortable with the Termite that he uses it for all his hollowing and has even made his own boring bars in which to mount the bits to facilitate deep hollowing – deep being in the range of 2+ feet!! Herm will be coming to regale us with his finesse using the Termite for the July meeting.

Club Apparel

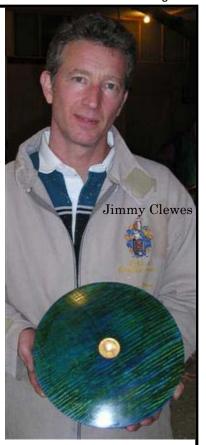
During the last club apparel order, the club picked up some extra caps, both crowned and uncrowned, and patches. The caps sell for \$11.25 and the patches sell for \$5 each. Caps and patches will be available at upcoming meeting, while the supply lasts.

Hands On Class and Demo With Jimmy Clewes — Duane Hill

On May 4 & 5, I was fortunate enough to take a hands on class and attend a demo with Jimmy Clewes. Minnesota Woodturners was hosting Jimmy for 4 days of hands-on and a 1 day demonstration.

Jimmy Clewes has been turning for over twenty years and is completely self taught. He stated that he will use any tool, any grind, any configuration, if it can be used for the purpose he is intending. He does not like using scrapers. However, he hones his tools and always sharpens on the Oneway Wolverine. He does a lot things non-traditionally. He also states, right up front, that what he is showing is his way, but by no means the only way. He also states that he is always learning, especially from his students. Jimmy is very personable and a shear joy to watch and listen to.

The hands-on classes were held at the shop of Jim Sannerud in Ham Lake, Minnesota and were limited to 8 people per session. Each person turned on a mini lathe, all owned by Minnesota Woodturners. Each lathe had a chuck and various drives with it. The class started off with Jimmy taking a piece of birch and turning an end grain, thin walled, natural edged vase (that's pronounced vahse.) This is very similar to the vase he does in his first DVD, "Turn It Round". He showed us how he uses a swept back bowl gouge to round out the piece and do the rough shaping. In fact, for this whole project he used a swept back bowl gouge (1/2" & 3/8"), a ¼" standard grind gouge, a parting tool and a spindle gouge. He then started with a reference curve on the outside. Then he started hollowing the inside. He used the bowl gouges and Hamlet's Little Brother to hollow out the inside. He likes to shape the inside first then bring the outside to shape and thickness. He does this by using his natural calipers (fingers) and eyes (translucent sides). He shapes the inside in an ogee curve. He mimics this curve on the outside. However, once he is past his reference



curve, he is turning blind. As I mentioned, he uses his fingers and the light shining through the sides of the vessel to gage wall thickness. After completing the inside, he sprays the inside with denatured alcohol and then lights it. He keeps the vessel constantly moving by hand. The alcohol raises the grain and dries the surface so it is ready for sanding (be careful if attempting this). Make sure shavings are clear and a fire extinguisher is handy. He then sands the inside by hand. After he completes the outside, he again sprays it with denatured alcohol and lights it, again to raise the grain and dry it. He then sands and parts off the piece. He showed some excellent techniques for parting off a thin walled vessel like this. He then released us to our lathes and to try this project.

I found the roughing with the bowl gouge to be very easy and fun. We were also using freshly cut birch. The ribbons were just flying off. It was great! I then made my reference curve and stared hollowing the piece. I had brought both my Hamlet Big Brother and Little Brother hollowing tools, as I wanted to pick up some tips on their use. I normally use the Hamlet hollowing tools to clear out the inside to about 3/8" wall thickness. After that, I just didn't have the confidence in my abilities with this tool. I talked with Jimmy, and showed me several tips. I was the only one there with the Hamlet tools and he seemed very pleased that someone had brought one and was looking to improve in it's use. Some of the tips he showed me were:

1). Mount the cutter under the bar instead of on top. This makes the tool handle better. 2). Have the tool rest above center (as with a scraper). 3). Rotating the tool towards you decreases the aggressiveness of the cut. Using these three tips, I proceeded to hollow out the top of the vessel with the Hamlet. I am pleased to say that I got the top within 1/8", all with the Hamlet! This, to me was worth the cost of the class. Anyway, I was having so much fun that I went past the top rim, a couple of times, and had to produce a smaller, thin walled goblet. But I got a lot of practice in on the use of the Hamlet.

May Open Shop Night

Open Shop Nights: Thursday May 31. Open Shop Night is held on selected Thursday evenings from 7 PM-9 PM at Duane Hill's shop (808 Quincy in Onalaska). The topic is whatever you wish to discuss or try, providing it is woodturning related.

Hands On Class and Demo With Jimmy Clewes (continued).

I did my outside of the bowl and was please with the curve. Jimmy thought I had done an excellent job on the curve also. I stared hollowing the bowl and did well on the first third. I missed the inside curve as the curve starts cutting across the grain. This, according to Jimmy, is a typical mistake. I thoroughly enjoyed the hands on class. I learned some new techniques and had a lot of fun. Jimmy's demo covered 3 projects, an oriental bowl, the end grained vase we did in class and a colored form with gold leaf. The oriental bowl was a version of a winged bowl with the wings coming over and supporting the piece. He had this 4" wide by 2" thick by 10" long piece spinning at 2500 to 3000 rpm. It sounded like a plane ready to take off. When he cut the inside of the bowl, his tool work was excellent! You did not need to sand the inside at all. He then fit a lid, based on a winged bowl again. The coloring demo was great fun to watch and see his process. He uses alcohol based dyes and lights the alcohol to set the dye. He produced an amazing piece. I have included pictures of Jimmy's pieces, my thin walled goblet and my bowl. Again, I thoroughly enjoyed myself and would highly recommend attending one of Jimmy's demos and/or hands on classes, if you get the chance.

— Duane Hill



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"A Turn For the Better"

Next Meeting — May 19 & 20, 9am — At the Brigitta & Bill Gautsch Studio in Onalaska.

Directions to N4671 Old Hickory Drive in Onalaska.

190 to Wisconsin Highway 16 to County Road OS [Main St.]. This is the Woodman's intersection. OS west to Meadow Wood to Old Hickory, then to the end at the top of the hill. Look for the red driveway.

We'll start the program promptly, so you'll need to be a little early just to get one of The Uecker Seats. Remember—you have to bring your own chair to have a place to sit.

If you get lost or delayed, call (608) 783-7171 before the meeting for help or directions.

We'll have coffee, so donuts are ALWAYS welcome. Especially Chocolate.

