COULEE REGION **One Good Turn** Volume 7, Issue 7 July 11, 2007 WOODTIIRNERS Coulee Region Woodturners Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners

# Herm deVries and the Termite

Termites – ugh! Most of us cringe at the thought of the little bugs that eat our woodpiles and ravage our houses. But, there's a different kind of termite out there – the ring tool made by Oneway. Herm deVries of Winnipeg is one of the few who has learned to master this most difficult tool. He will be joining us at the July meeting to demonstrate the wonders and possibilities offered by the Termite. Starting with an open bowl form, he'll explain how lathe speed, tool rest height and tool angle all come into play to make this tool work. Then, he'll move on to deep hollowing using home made boring bars that enable him to hollow vessels in excess of 2 feet deep. He'll also show us a home made steady rest that's a necessity for such deep hollowing, so be prepared to take good notes. There will be plenty of time for some hands on work, so plan on giving the tool a test drive. And, last but not least, let's not forget sharpening. This is a club sponsored, day long demo, so come on out. Maybe he'll even teach us how to sing "O, Canada".....

#### Food will be provided by the club—Thanks to B&B.

## PrezSez:

A CROSSE, W

The last meeting about preparing and selling your work at craft shows was good and I would like to thank Lee Goehring for doing the demo. I would like to also thank everyone involved in helping in the last demonstration preparations. The meeting place was held at one of the rooms at Western Technical College which was a first for us and we may try to use their rooms again but it takes more effort to move all the equipment into the facility and clean up. It takes much effort and many unforeseen hours of the board and planning people to arrange and put on these demonstrations, provide the newsletter, and maintain the web site. This is all volunteered time and some criticism of these peoples efforts tend to hurt when they are doing there best. If you must make a comment or suggestion, bring it to my attention and I will try to address the situation.

While I was in Scotland we noticed people were selling turned articles in a couple of stores in different towns. The quality of the work was equal to our advanced beginners and intermediate turners, which demonstrates the talents within our club. They were asking 40 to 45 pounds, or \$80 to \$90 for a cereal sized bowl made of ash. Too bad we usually do not get these prices.

Our next demo will be Herm deVries on using the Termite tool at Dennis and Doug Falches'. Make sure you bring your chairs to sit in and an appetite, we will have food for this event and we will ask for donations for expenses. Happy turning and see you at the next demo. —*John Fisher*—

## **June Meeting**



## <u>Club Challenge Winners — Mushrooms</u>



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

CRW OFFICERS President: John Fisher (608) 526-4692 minnow1974@charter.net

Vice President: Dennis Snider (608) 779-1294 dsnider@centurytel.net

Treasurer: <u>Bill Gautsch</u> (608) 783-7171 <u>bgautsch@charter.net</u>

Secretary Newsletter Editor: <u>Art Ustby</u> (608) 781-0914 <u>ustby@charter.net</u>



BOARD MEMBERS Librarian: Brigitta Gautsch (608) 783-7171 brigautsch@charter.net

Tool Czar: <u>Bill Gautsch</u> (608) 783-7171 <u>bgautsch@charter.net</u>

Webmaster: <u>Ken Grunke</u> (608) 625-2412 <u>kengrunke@gmail.com</u>





# **CRW Mentors**

Aaron GesickiAll areas of turning. Heat treatingSparta, WI.and tool making. Tool steel and(608) 269-7559tool metallurgyaarona@centurytel.net

Pam ReillyBoxes & surface enhancementElgin, MN.(507) 876-1195gpreilly@embarqmail.com

Ken GrunkeExperimental techniques,La Farge, WI.toolmaking, and metalworking(608) 625-2412kengrunke@gmail.com

Duane HillAlOnalaska, WI.fin(608) 783-0883dlh@dairynet.com

All areas of turning and finishing.

Shannon Storkel Fundamentals Tomah, WI. (608) 374-2242 stork1@centurytel.net

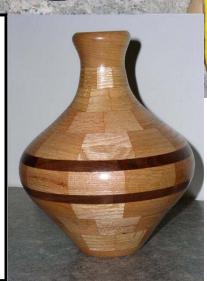
Bob Patros Fundamentals La Crosse, WI. (608) 788-6839 rjpatros@gundluth.org

John Fisher Spine Holmen, WI. (608) 526-4692 minnow1974@charter.net

Spindle turning

## **June Instant Gallery**

Upcoming Meetings & Events July 11 Open Shop Night at Duane's Shop July 21 Pro turner: Herm deVries Demo. Location: Denis Falch Shop in Winona. (Club sponsored) July 26 Open Shop Night at Duane's Shop <u>Aug.–</u> Platters by Duane Hill. Location is Shorty's Retreat. Sept.—Turning "Shorts". Location is B&B studio in La Crosse. Oct.—What can I do to correct this mistake ? Location is Pam Reilly's Studio. <u>Nov.</u>—Shop Basics by Bill Gautsch. Location is B&B studio in La Crosse. <u>Dec.</u>—Router inlays by Art Ustby & Denis Falch. Location: Denis Falch Shop in Winona. <u>Meeting Leaders:</u> <u>July</u>—Denis Snider <u>August-Bob Patros</u> <u>Sept.</u>—Rich Egan



# Woodworking Garage Sale

At our next meeting, we will be having a garage sale for woodworking related equipment. This is a chance to sell, trade, or barter away those tools that you no longer use or are not happy with. Space will be set up outside Denis and Doug Falch's shop for the garage sale items. One primary rule for the sale is nothing gets left. If you bring something for the sale, it either goes home with a different owner or you take it home.

# **Utah Symposium 2007**

From Denis Falch: Just a few comments on the trip. It was another great experience for a novice turner like me. I really did enjoy getting some new ideas and it is always so interesting to see and hear how the professionals do it. There was a turner from Norway (Johannes Rieber) and his story how he got into turning was very interesting. He came from a family who had a long line of doctors so he planned on being a doctor for his living also. Well in Norway they had a little bit to say about that and for his first job they paired him up with a woodturner. The man taught him as much as he possibly could and by the age of 21, Johannes had won the award for trades in Norway. He made a beautiful chalice out of ivory and sterling silver. His demonstration was very interesting to me. He made two different kinds of flasks in his demonstration. Guess what is in my near future plans?

To all my good woodturning friends. If you like smaller crowds and more in-depth demonstrations this is the symposium to go to. Here you have time to talk to all the demonstrators. Also I had two other good friends Art and Duane that I really had a good time.



**From Art Ustby:** This was my second time at Utah. I like it because the crowds are smaller. The sessions I enjoyed the most were a "finger painting" session by Vaughn Rich-



mond. This was done by first putting gold/copper foil on the surface. Then applying paint with your fingers. Followed by a sponge to texture the surface. The other session that was very good, was by Stuart Mortimer. This was the first time I'd seen him. He is very good. He showed how to put rope twists into turnings. All the sessions were great and I recommend this symposium to everyone. (continued on page 6).

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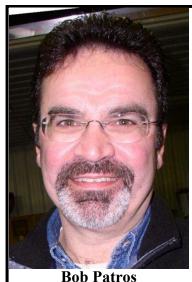
**Utah Symposium 2007** From Duane Hill: This year, Art Ustby, Denis Falch and myself traveled to the Utah Woodturning Symposium in Provo, Utah. All of us had been to the Utah Symposium before and were looking forward to another good one. This year, we were going to try something different. In the past, we would leave on Wednesday and get to Craft Supplies about 1:00 PM. We could catch some demos and see what was left from Super Wednesday. This year, we decided to leave on Tuesday and experience all of Super Wednesday. The garage sale, known as Super Wednesday, starts at 8:00 at Craft Supplies. We got there about 7:30 and looked very personable guy and adds a lot at what was available from a distance. Prior to opening the doors at three of us had a chance to chat 8, there was a least 150 people waiting to get in. When the doors opened, it was a mad rush to check out the bargains. There were some good deals to be had if you could get to them and didn't loose a limb. Think feeding frenzy. Everybody was crowding around the tables and it was hard to move from table to table. Some of the items I saw on the tables were Trend Airshields, chucks, chuck parts, books, videos, and tools. Some of these were marked down 50% or more. I was fortunate enough to come away with an air switch for my Powercrafter, a beading tool, and some crushed pink coral. Also, the dye I like using (Chestnut brand) was on the give away table. Colors were limited, but I still was able to come away with three bottles. After the mad house at the sale, there were some great demonstrations being held around Craft Supplies. I think they had 9 areas set up with a demo in each area. The best part was they were free. Some

were demonstrators from the Symposium and others were invited by Craft Supplies. I got to sit in on a demo by Dennis Ligget, a turner from the Colorado Springs area who turns vessels in aspen and decorates them with inlaid stones. This was an interesting and informative demo. I also saw Anthony Harris, a turner from Kansas City who does thread chasing. I got a chance to talk with him later and found out he does do club demos and would be interested in coming up to Wisconsin for one. I also saw a good demo by Mark Baker on decorative effects (burning, dyeing, carving, etc on pieces.). I always enjoy Mark's demos. He is a of humor to his good demos. The with him for a bit while we were looking through Treeline. I know Art and Denis sat in on a demo with Kirk DeHeer on using the Vicmarc oval turning device. From threads can be chased in a combiwhat I saw, a very interesting device, but a little pricey. At \$2000 a pop, I don't know if they will be selling much of them. By the end of the day Wednesday, we were hot (temperature around 100) and very tired. We went back to the hotel to cool off before going to get our packets from the Symposium.

The Symposium, itself, was good. The Instant Gallery was, as usual, extraordinary. Some of the pieces were simply mind boggling. I entered 3 pieces, my winged mesquite bowl, my black southwestern water jar and the green dyed piece. None of them were for sale and I didn't get any note from del Mano saying that they wanted to display my work. (I didn't expect any, but one can dream, can't I?) It is hard to pick my one favorite

demonstration. The ones I enjoyed the most were "Colour You World" with Vaughn Richmond, "Threaded Boxes" with Alan Batty and two carving sessions with Dixie Biggs. Vaughn Richmond is from England. He had a very interesting approach to coloring. He places acrylic colors on top of gold or copper leafed objects and gets a very interesting effect. He had a lot of fun demonstrating this and the audience had a lot of fun trying it. This despite a lathe that kept shutting down on its own. For a collaborative piece, he and Richard Raffan did a bowl. Richard turned the bowl and Vaughn colored it. This was placed in the silent auction and did pretty well. The session on threaded boxes with Alan Batty was very informative. Watching him chase threads was amazing. He said if a wood was too soft to chase threads, it can be enhanced with epoxy and the nation of the wood and epoxy. Dixie Biggs is a turner from Florida who does a lot of craft shows and adds a lot of color and carving to her pieces. Her primary carving is adding a leaf motif to a vessel. The leaves are carved on after the vessel is turned. Some of the leaves have a lift off appearance. She showed how she does this. Some of her carvings take 5 weeks to carve. She also had some interesting effects with an engraver. There are three things that I want to try as soon as I can. First is to try and chase threads on a softer piece of wood (with epoxy embedded). I also would like to try some of the coloring Vaughn Richmond did. Finally, I want to try some of the techniques Dennis Ligget showed on his aspen vessels.

# "Meet our Members"



Some personal back-Gundersen Lutheran Medical Center in La-Crosse for 32 years. I am an RN and went to school at Viterbo (College) University. About half my working life was in a clinical setting, mostly heart care. Currently, I work in the Department of Regional Services. Kathy and I have been married for 28 years. We have

three children, and soon, a grandchild. Who got me interested? My brother turned me onto woodworking. It took me a while to find the right woodworking passion for me. Woodturning was it. How did I train to be a woodturner? My "training" has been primarily hands-on, and have not taken any formal courses in woodworking. I have turned pieces described in training videos and have worked on projects in various journals. The club library is a valuable asset. I appreciate hands-on instruction, and would recommend working with someone (professional, club member) that knows how to use a tool you are interested in becoming proficient. John Fisher. came over one night and instructed me on the proper use of the detail gouge. After that, using it was fun. While spending a day with Alan Lacer, the skew became less intimidating and is now a useful member of my tool team.

What type of turning do you like ? I enjoy a variety when turning. I think that mixing it up has helped me stay interested as well as learn. Art was kind enough to take a few pictures of things I like to turn. How did I get started? Two years ago, I attended a demonstration at A-Line and met Duane Hill. He kindly invited me to his shop to show me some turning techniques, and to learn more about the club. My wife encouraged me to join, and have been a member since. When I joined, Art was the tool Czar. I stopped over one night to pick up the club lathe and grinder loaners, and saw Art was working on a vessel. A week or so later in Art's shop, we spent 4 hours working on my first vessel. It is still on my shelf at home, almost no bottom because I parted it off poorly, and one of my proudest achievements.

Next purchase ? I am set when it comes to equipground? I have worked at ment, until I see the next thing I need to get. I probably have more tools than I need, but can't seem to part with any of them. My Delta Ironbed has served me well. If I bought a new lathe, I would lean towards the Powermatic. My shop is in my detached, uninsulated garage. I am in the process of insulating. A little brisk last winter, a little hot right now.

> I enjoy turning boxes, bottle stoppers, platters, bowls, and vases. I would like to get better at design, form, and finishing. The Instant Gallery has been helpful in recognizing where improvements can be made in my turnings. I view it as a lifelong endeavor.



### Ever consider becoming the program director ?

The club is looking for a program director. This person would help determine who the club would like to see. They would talk with the pro turner and determine scheduling. They would help organize and coordinate topics and presenters for meetings. It is a board position and would report to the club officers. The officers will give support and guidance during the transition. If interested, please contact a board member.

## July Open Shop Night

Open Shop Nights: Wednesday July 11 & Thursday July 26. Open Shop Night is held on selected 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.

## What topics and who would you like to see next year ?

The club wants you to think about what topics you would like to see and what pro turners you would like the club to get in for next year. Start writing down your ideas.

## **October meeting....**

We're going to try something a little different for the October meeting - "What can I do to correct this mistake?". We need you to look on your "shelf of shame", for those pieces that you set off to the side because something didn't work out (design, shape or other problems). In October, we will look at them, give ideas and maybe even fix the piece to make it better. Start looking at your problem turnings — I know I have lots of them.

## AAW Portland Symposium 2007

#### From Dennis Snider:

Ansel Heram and I set out for Portland early on Thursday morning. The flights were fairly uneventful at least going out, arriving somewhat on time. Our return flight however did not manage to get us back to La Crosse until 12:30 A.M. on Monday morning. 10 1/2 hours in an airport is really not my idea of fun. Yet I have to say that as far as the trip was concerned, that was the only down side. Our time there (yes I think I can speak for Ansel here) was great.

As a part of my time in Portland, I worked as a videographer for AAW. I videotaped 5 sessions as the turners worked their craft. I definitely had the best seat in the house for those sessions. I worked with Trent Bosch for his presentation on "Vessels of Illusion, Lyle Jamieson as he utilized his "Jamison system" creating a very thin walled goblet, Russ Fairfield who created a "Collectors Pen", Fred Holder who gave a wonderful demonstration on hand chased threads and finally Reed Gray who demonstrated 4 different bowl coring systems.

I also had an opportunity to see Mark Sfrini who completed a multi axis turning. He was an absolute delight to watch as he interacted with the crowd during his demo. A fun guy with a lot to offer as he produced his finished product. Perhaps one of the best demos I saw was with Jimmy Clews as he created an ornamental lidded box. He was also an absolute stitch to listen to as he appeared to effortlessly create an exquisite lidded box which eventually was bought by one of the vendors selling lathes. I have to say I enjoyed each demonstrator I saw. As for a favorite, I

just find it difficult to pick just one. The creativity and versatility of the demonstrators was wonderful.

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#### AAW Portland Symposium 2007

While in Portland, I have to tell you that I was tempted beyond my ability to resist. I did end up purchasing a new Powermatic 3520B lathe. What can I say, Aaron made me do it!!!!!!!!!! As a matter of fact, I was about 5 minutes behind him in my purchase. He purchased the same lathe and my sense is that together we will have a lot of fun with our new "tool".

Having this new lathe will allow me to begin learning thread chasing for lidded boxed and such, which I have wanted to do for some time. Fred Holder's demo was a real kick in the pants to try my hand at this. I look forward to being able to show my first piece soon.

As I think about my time at the symposium, I am reminded of not only the possibilities one has when working with wood, but the new and renewed friendships which are possible. Part of my time was also spent with Phil Pratt the "official photographer for AAW as we photographed the galleries as well as the live action. Yes Aaron, those were my hands you saw on the screen after dinner. (Oh by the way, we had 1,730 persons for dinner on Saturday evening). With so much to see and do, my hope is that each of you will take the time to attend a symposium at some point. I have no doubt that you will enjoy yourself and find great learning and friendships in the process. **From Lyle Solem:** 

My wife Donna and I have just completed in participating in our 3rd consecutive AAW Symposium. The Convention Center was very large and easy to get to, it was just across the street from the Red Lion Hotel where we stayed. Portland is a large, very easy city to get around in. We came out on Wednesday and when we arrived at the Airport we immediately got on a train that took us into the city and our hotel for 85 cents per person. (Old timers rate.) On Thursday and Monday we have been tourist and have traveled around the city.

#### A few comments about the Symposium.

Donna has always been registered as a full member and she has attended each of the sessions. You had a choice of about 160 sessions to go to. The same sessions are sometimes repeated on consecutive days. To get a good viewing seat at all the sessions you general have to get to them early. We have come up with a system that helps. Because she is a registered member she will generally leave the session we are presently attending a little early to go to the next session and try and get us a good viewing seat which has worked real well.

We attended 10 session or rotations. All of them were very good and some I really got a lot out of were:



#### AAW Portland Symposium 2007

- Tom Crabb.Turning a natural edge Hollow Form on the bias.

Lyle Jamieson, Thin-Walled Goblets.
Molly Winton, Introduction to Surface Enhancements.

Jon Magill, Building a Homemade Rose Engine Lathe. This session was always very full and hard to get into.
Mike Jackofsky, Turning Natural-Edge Hollow Forms, a very fast turner and outstanding instructor.

- Trent Bosch, Decorated Utility Bowls, Trent is another outstanding instructor.

- Linda Van Gehuchten, Natural-Edge Angels, Very good and what she covered was recently written up in the AAW Journal.

- Keith Gotschall, Off-Center Platter. I will be turning one of these. Keith's presentation was also in one of the recent issues of the Journal.

Saturday night was the banquet and auction sale of donated items, a very enjoyable evening. All proceeds from the Auction go to the AAW Foundation Scholarship Fund. Around 65 items were auctioned off for a total of \$100,165 dollars. One item, a collaboration between Bhin Pho and Frank Sudol sold for \$30,000 and another turning collaboration between Bonnie Klien and Jack Vessery sold for \$20,000.

The vendor show was also very interesting and many items for sale that every person needs. Yes, I did purchase a few items plus some \$80.00 worth of burls that cost \$98.00 to ship home by UPS.

The Instant Gallery was outstanding, from standard type turnings, to some you are not really sure what they are and how were they ever turned.

In closing I would like to stress that by attending a symposium such as this you really can learn a lot about wood turning, design, form, tool usage, etc. I would recommend that more of our Chapter members try and attend next years Symposium that will be held on

June 20 - 22, 2008 in Richmond Virginia.

**From Aaron Gesicki:** Having attended previous Symposia, and now being familiar with the overall plan and protocol, I decided to attend again this year, but do it a little differently than in the past. Previously, the travel was hard work and left no space on either end of the event. This year my intent was to get there before the event started and stay into the day after. I realize this takes time and money, but after having this experience, I highly recommend this schedule to any and all of you who plan to go in the future.

I started my trip on Tuesday evening, boarding the Amtrak Empire Builder in La Crosse. Riding the rails is easy, cheap, and stress-free. Granted, you don't sleep very comfortably, but consider it to be like tent camping and you get the idea. The route to Portland goes to St. Paul, through Fargo and Grand Forks and Williston [all in ND], through Wolf Point and Havre, over the Continental Divide through Maria's Pass and around Glacier National Park and through Whitefish [all in Montana—a really long state], through the Idaho panhandle [which I never saw, since it was the middle of the night both times] to Spokane, then to Pasco to Vancouver [WA] all the while in the Columbia River Gorge [well, it's a gorge some of the time, but mostly it's a river valley]. From Vancouver you cross the Columbia, take a left and you're in Portlandabout 40 hours after leaving La Crosse. I arrived late morning on Thursday.

The Convention Center and nearby hotels are across the Willamette River from the train station and downtown Portland. I needed some exercise after two days on the train, so I hoofed it to the hotel, crossing on the Broadway Street bridge.

I checked in at the Holiday Inn [Finally! Some use for those Priority Points I've been accumulating with all the business travel]. A quick wash and brush, some lunch, and on to the Convention Center which was a 10-minute stroll away.

Registration packets could be picked up on Thursday, and I was there at the head of the line, waiting for them to open. Now, some comments about the facilities.

No doubt about it, these were the best we have had for a Symposium. The Convention Center is more than big enough, the demonstration rooms were more than big enough [except for the room used for the Instant Gallery Critique-that was SRO], the Instant Gallery Hall had room to spare, the Trade Show was nice and roomy, and the banquet hall was in the same building and was just the right size and proportion. The hotels were just a short walk away. The light rail service that connected to the airport, downtown, and all the way to Beaverton if you wanted to go that far was right outside the Convention Hall door. Overall an excellent location for our event.

The three symposium days were like they've been in the past—four rotations on Friday and Saturday [2 in AM, 2 in PM] and three on Sunday [2 AM, one PM]. I skipped a couple rotations to allow enough time to tour the trade show and the Instant Gallery. Like years past, there is no shortage of equipment and tools to drool over, no shortage of burls and exotics to tempt, and a huge display of turned objects of every kind and type, most of them made out of wood. I find it quite overwhelming each time, as well as greatly inspirational.

Here are some Symposium Highlights:

• Turning Green—the juried theme exhibit, showing at the Oregon School of Art. While it took some effort to get out there, it was worth the trip. I even bought a gift for Amy from the school gift shop—a ceramic bowl of excellent form with an unusual recrystallized glaze [Material Scientists appreciate this glazing method more than the average bear].

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#### AAW Portland Symposium 2007

- Talking to Normand Lavoie and Bill Luce about their pieces in the Exhibit.
- The lecture by Bill Luce on design. IMNSHO, the best rotation at the Symposium. If you want to learn about form and design, spend time with Bill. He's really good, and does a great job as a lecturer.
- As in other years, the Instant Gallery Critique was a shouldn't-bemissed event. The room was overflowing, and Messrs Brolly and Hogbin did a great job. Much better, IMNSHO, than the two previous years.
- The Instant Gallery overall was a delight. Especially when you would chat up someone sitting alongside in one of the demo rotations and they would tell you what they have on display and then talk about it. This occurred numerous times and enabled me to learn a lot more about the work of others.
- I spent some time in the Trade Show this year, but not like in previous years, where I wanted to see what was out there and how it worked. This year I was shopping in earnest, and I finally put my money where my mouth was—I bought a Powermatic 3520B.
   \$2600 delivered, including tax and a bed extension. As Stuart Batty and Nick Cook both told me—this is as good or better than any of the other lathes out there, and it's less than half the price of any of them.
- Last but not least, there was the banquet and auction. After that fiasco in Louisville, anything

Woodworking Project

Rich Egan has been busy. Not turning, but building a crib for his son, Andrew. Nice work Rich !

would have been better, but this was completely on the other end of the spectrum. Facilities were excellent, meal was very good, and 69 pieces were sold for an aggregate of ~\$101,000, with the top one at \$30K and the next one at \$24K. You had to be there—the energy in that room just crackled. Plus, with the silent auction preceding the verbal bidding, the pace was much better. The event was over before 10:00 PM. One last teaser-do you know that the wife of one of our members bought one of the auction items? [no more hints]

At the end of the day on Sunday I bought a few discount items, like wood, since it was easy to bring it back on the train. [That hotel van driver earned his tip when he had to load and unload my bags and boxes to get me to the station.]

Now, with the Symposium over, it was time to explore Portland. I had Sunday evening and most of Monday to do that.

Sunday, I walked downtown. Portland is famous for microbreweries, and so I followed my nose right to the Rock Bottom Brewery. A nice leisurely stroll, taking lots of pictures, and having an excellent pub meal with a few pints of Morrison Stout [very similar to Mackeson's, for you heavier-thanale aficionados] was a great way to end the symposium. On Monday, my train didn't leave Portland until late afternoon, so it left time for being a tourist. First stop was Washington Park. It's west of the downtown area. accessible via that light rail train [they call it MAX] route going to Beaverton. This park and all the stuff within it is a treasure—I'd go back to Portland just to go back to that park and see all it has to offer. After a couple of miles of walking, I had to end the tour and start heading back.

My first stop was at The Real Mother Goose, one of the best "craft" galleries on the west Coast. There are some big names selling their stuff there, including Stephen Hatcher, Curt Theobald, Wally Dickerman, Andi Wolfe, and Dale Larson [Trivia Comment: Dale Larson is a recently retired Portland policeman. I learned all about him from his former partner, who was raised in Omro and is still a policeman.] That store is like an Instant Gallery on steroids, with a lot of pieces from the best people. Put it on your must see list for your next visit. There are also furniture, glass, ceramics, and fabric creations—a fascinating place to browse for an hour or more.

Next, I stopped at Powell's Books, the largest book store on the west coast. I bought a few cook books and oenology references for Amy. This place puts Border's to shame. Finally, I had to stop at the University of Oregon bookstore, and get my grandson a U of O Gang Green Ducks Unlimited hooded camo sweatshirt. After another late pub lunch, this time at Paddy's Bar & Grill [an award winner from the Daily Oregonian] and it was time to head back and catch that train. I was in La Crosse on Wednesday afternoon.

Having extra time on both ends of the Symposium was so much more convenient, especially in Portland. This is a city I'd like to see again. I've posted some pictures of the trip in my album on the CRW website. They're all here

http://www.crwoodturner.com/gallery/ AAW-Symposium-Portland





Art Ustby, Secretary / Editor 1923 Wood St. La Crosse, WI 54603

Phone: 608-781-0914 Email: ustby@charter.net

#### "A Turn For the Better"

Stamp goes here.

