



# Between Turns

A Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners

October, 2004

Volume 16, Issue 10

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## Meeting Announcements

- **Nomination and election** of the 2005 Board will take place at the November 7th meeting.
- **Tom announced that the dues** will remain at \$95.00 for 2005, even though the AAW portion has gone up to \$40.00.
- **Tom awarded John Becker** a plaque in recognition of his years of service to the Chapter as Secretary. Thanks, John.
- **Tom handed out** this month's Craft Supply vouchers.
- **Rob Roehrig and Bill Weber** have completed their inventory of the Chapter library. There are a number of videos missing/overdue:

2005.

- **Colleen Bruning-Fann** volunteered to bring the treats for the November 7th meeting. Thanks, Colleen.

## Overseas Report

MAW photographer Jeff Provost writes from his office in Kuwait:

Thanks for the newsletter. Man, looks like I've missed some good stuff. I'm afraid I'm going to have to start from scratch when I get home. Not that I was far above that anyway.

Things are going pretty good here. Its hard for me to believe that I've been here for 2 months. 4 to go. In another week I'll be the old man of the office. Everybody else got here after me. It's a constant change of people. I'm also the senior guy in terms of service. A lot of the people who are volunteering are in their early to mid 20s, with only a few years experience. We've run into some weird stuff here that they have never seen before. Some of it I haven't either, but at least I have a point of reference to try to figure things out from. That's the big reason I was asked to come here. I'm not a supervisor, but I can

*(Continued on page 2)*

### Please Note:

The December meeting will be held on **December 12, 2004**. The Chapter will be participating in the Woodworking Show in Novi December 3 – 5, 2004. Volunteers needed. Details TBA.

### Contact Us

#### President:

Tom Mogford 810-629-6176

#### Vice President:

Pete Buccellato 248-634-7622

#### Treasurer:

Timothy Morris 810-229-7156

#### Secretary:

Phil Clevenger 734-761-8737

#### Photographer:

Jeff Provost: Currently in Kuwait

#### Webmaster:

Paul Elert 734-769-5253

Ed Moulthrop  
From Tree to Table by Mike Mahoney  
Rude Osolnik  
Turned Boxes by Bonnie Klein  
Turned Boxes and other Projects by Bonnie Klein  
Making a Maple Burl Wall Sculpture  
Lath Turned Wood IV  
Instant Gallery, AAW Symposium 1996  
Scenes from 1994 AAW Symposium  
Segmented Wood Turning  
Techniques from 1995 AAW Symposium

Please check your libraries for these titles.

- **The Don Derry workshop has been cancelled.** We will try to re-schedule, perhaps in the spring of

**Mission Statement:**

**Our mission is to provide education, information, and organization to those interested in woodturning. We meet on a monthly basis to share woodturning challenges, insights, and accomplishments. Our chapter accomplishes this through our mentoring program, library, mini-symposiums, monthly newsletters and friendship.**

## Overseas Report

*(Continued from page 1)*

still advise them on how to get things done. With all these kids here, I feel so damned old!

My one journey to see what kind of woodworking or turning things I could find was a bust. Went to the bazaar in Fahaheel, the local city (kind of a suburb of Kuwait City). All the tools are crap Black and Decker or worse. Poorly made hand tools. No Lathes, that I could find. The only wooden items I found were some carvings and small chests that looked like they were made for the tourist trade. I did pick up a few little birds carved from Buffalo Horn.

I don't think Kuwaitis have hobbies like we do. And the working class - referred to as TCNs (Third Country Nationals) don't seem to have the time or money. They're out working already when I get up about 6:30 and are at it til about 4 PM. A lot of them are out in the sun all day.

The weather is getting pretty nice. Highs in the 100-105 range and cooling off to the mid 70s at night. I'll probably freeze my butt off when I get home in January. Gotta go, tell everybody I said Hi.

—Jeff

### Pete Does Christmas Ornaments

Pete Bucellatto favored us with another of his most excellent demonstrations at the October meeting. This time he showed how he makes his Christmas ornaments.

Pete chucks a suitably-sized blank of straight-grained hardwood, say 2" x 2" x 3", marks out the depth, and drills a hole with a 1/2" Forstner bit to about 1/8" short of the line, establishing the wall thickness.

He turns the outside of the ornament, leaving enough at the headstock end to stand up to the hollowing.

Hollowing is done by your tool of choice. Sorby makes a small hollowing tool, but Pete's known to fashion his own from an L-shaped Allen wrench.

Pete shoots for a wall thickness of 1/8" or so. Care must be taken not to enlarge the access hole. After hollowing, Pete uses the Forstner bit to drill another 1/2" or so into the blank, sands to 320 - 400 and parts off the completed ornament globe.

Pete selects a suitable blank for the icicle and finial, mounts it in his chuck, and proceeds to turn the icicle. The top of the icicle is towards the headstock. Pete prefers an icicle of about 4", but your choice. The longer and thinner the better, usually..

Pete sands as he goes. He turns a tenon on the end to fit the 1/2" hole in the ornament globe, then parts off the icicle.

The finial is done in the much the same way. After completing the top of the finial, Pete uses a #78 bit to drill a hole for receive the hanger. Pete fashions the hangers from pins he gets from Micheals Crafts, but small screw eyes are available from Craft Supplies and other suppliers. You will need to drill a suitably-sized hole to accommodate the

hanger you use to avoid splitting the wood.

He completes the finial by turning the tenon to fit and parting off.

As usual, it was a great demonstration of a straight-forward process. Members are challenged to bring in their ornaments to the November 7th meeting for Show-and-Tell or troubleshooting as needed.

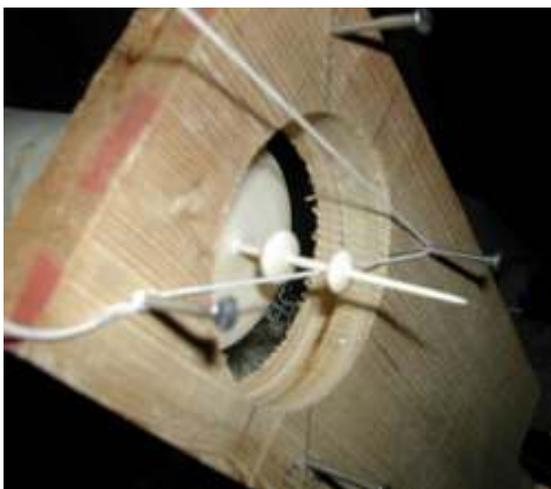
### Making of a Trembleur, Part Deux

By  
Pascal Oudet

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(Repeated for clarity)

Beginning of the wiring: from top left to bottom right and back, around the needle:



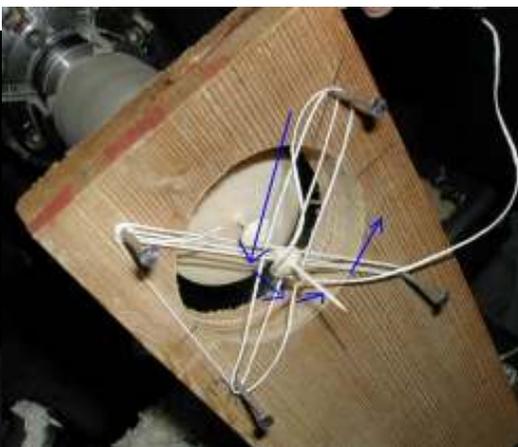
This step is done twice:



Then bottom left to top right and back, twice again. Then again to top right:



Then a half turn around the piece, and back to top. Don't pull too much on the string to avoid bending the fragile



work:

And the same between bottom left and



#### Changes

**Chuck Hanners has a new phone number: 734-383-6621**

**John Becker's corrected phone number is 248-851-0937**

**Please update your rosters.**



### Chapter Mentors

#### General Woodturning:

Russ Clinard 734-663-9689  
Basil Kelsey 734-572-9216

#### Metalworking:

Lynn Grenier 734-475-2305

#### Renaissance Woodturning:

John Becker 248-851-0437

#### Chainsaw use and maintenance:

Jim Madsen 517-645-4594

Chapter Mentors have offered to share their expertise with members. Contact them for help . If you have developed skills that you would be willing to share with our members, please contact Phil Clevenger at 734--761-8737 to be added to the Mentoring Program.

A small knot and that's it. Longer to write than to do.



The string steady rest is setup. It's amazing how you feel comfortable when you have placed it. You really feel you are turning safely, without taking the risk to break the piece.



Final sanding. If you want to cut the piece on the lathe, request some help, or do it with the lathe stopped. It would be



a shame to break it now !



Wa La!

*Pascal Oudet is an amateur woodturner who lives in Goncelin, outside Grenoble, France in the French Alps. He began turning in 2001, studying locally first, then with Graeme Priddle and Richard Raffin. He is a member of AFTAB (Association Française pour le Tournage d'Art sur Bois the French Association for Artistic Woodturning). He writes frequently for Couleurs-Bois, a French woodworking magazine. His website is www.lavieenbois.com.*

## Russ Fairfield Pays a Visit

Russ Fairfield stopped by to give us a one-day presentation on how he makes his "Polychromatic Plates."



Even those of us who run away screaming at the mere mention of segmented turnings got a lot of information out of the demo. A cursory look at his bio ( 50+ years of experience in woodworking, 20+ years as a turner, and 35 years as a mechanical engineer)



shows that the gentleman has a lot of expertise. What's not apparent until you spend some time with him is his gift for conveying that expertise in such an affable, softspoken, and straightforward manner. If ever there were a candidate for a Vulcan Mind Meld, Russ



Russ took us through all of the steps, from layout and glue-up, to turning, sanding and finishing of the plate. He came well prepared with assemblies that illustrated the various steps that go into his multi-generational pieces, and shared his thoughts on bandsaw tune-ups, glues, chucks, tooling sanding, and finishing along the way.



The finished piece was donated to the LCWA Charity Auction we supported this year. Thanks to Tom Mogford for providing the bandsaw and to Russ Clinard for providing the RV parking spot. Check out Russ Fairfield at [www.woodturnerruss.com](http://www.woodturnerruss.com) or Russ's Corner at [www.woodcentral.com](http://www.woodcentral.com).



### Dues:

\$95.00/year, includes A.A.W. Membership. Remit at the December meeting or by mail to:

Timothy Morris, Treasurer  
1673 Woodlake Circle  
Brighton, MI 48116

### Meetings:

are held at 1 p.m. on the first Sunday of the month at the workshop of:

Russ Clinard  
2892 Bateson Court  
Ann Arbor, MI 48105  
734-663-9689

### Next Meeting:

November 7th, 2004

# Renaissance Festivals for Fun and Profit

By John Becker



My customers are beer drinkers, wine drinkers, and people who want hand crafted quality pieces for their homes. Therefore, my mugs are thick and heavy,



but guaranteed for my lifetime. If they buy one of my pieces I will repair or re-finish it free of charge for my life. Why



do I do this? My customers wear the pieces on their belts, use them at every festival, and I want anything with my

*(Continued on page 7)*



For 7 weekends in August and September I spend my time at the Michigan Renaissance Festival. Is it worth it, darn bet ya? I sold 243 pieces, drank Irish whiskey with



friends, flirted with beautiful women (note: all women are beautiful), wore a kilt, and didn't get arrested. What more could a person ask for?

One reason my products sell well at the festival is because I know the market.

Museum quality pieces are great if you are selling to museums and wealthy collectors.

## Your Input Needed

- What would you like to see at future meetings? More instruction? More hands-on? Vendor presentations? More Show-and-Tell? Toolmaking demos? More cookies? Speak up! Any worthwhile organization needs the active participation of its members to thrive. Contact Tom Mogford or Pete Buccellato with ideas for future programs and direction.
- What would you like to see in future Newsletters? Have something to contribute? Are you happy with the current direction or should it just go away? Contact Phil Clevenger and share your ideas.



name on it to look good and last. Useful wood turnings must be made so they can survive that use.



Sometimes, as woodturners, we have to realize that most people look at the base of our pieces, not to see



how we turned off the base, but what price we put on it. Woodturners visiting my shop can easily be identified, they hold pieces in the light to look for faint tool marks, they closely examine the base, they ask why the piece isn't thinner, etc. If you are making pieces for a non-collector, look at utility. A bowl that is between a quarter and three eighths inches thick will be regarded as light and thin by most users. Collectors would think it is too thick. A bowl that will be used for pretzels or fruit does not need to have a museum quality finish, but the finish needs to have some shine. Most people equate gloss with fin-



ish. In short find out what your customers want and then deliver on that, if you want to sell to them.

My point is, whether you decide to sell at a Renaissance Festival, a street fair, or an art gallery, find out what customers at that venue want. Then make the types of items those customers want. You can always throw in a couple of your favorite pieces, but don't be disappointed if they don't sell. Most people



don't go to Olive Garden for steak or Outback for pasta, but once in a while, someone may stop in and just have to have it, so carry a little, just don't try to make a living off selling pasta at Outback.



925 Duncan Street  
Ann Arbor, MI 48103

Visit our Website: [www.MichiganWoodturner.org](http://www.MichiganWoodturner.org)

## Do you have Something to sell? Something to buy?

Listing is free to members.

Please contact Phil Clevenger 734-761-8737 or [PhilClevenger@comcast.net](mailto:PhilClevenger@comcast.net) by the Friday following the monthly meeting.

Ads will run for three months unless you cancel.

## Classified Ads

**Metal Lathe**, partially converted for woodturning. Contact Russ Clinard for details at 734-663-9689.

**Oneway 2432 Lathe for sale.** Never used. Contact Chuck Hanners at 734-383-6621.

**Powermatic 90 Lathe for sale.** Good condi-

tion. \$650. 1 h.p. Motor, includes 2 faceplates and knockout bar. Contact Chuck Hanners at 734-383-6621.

**Cherry, Black Locust, Black Walnut, Red Oak timber available.** Free. Contact Steve St. Charles at 734-449-4148.

## Upcoming Events

**Sunday, November 7, 2004: Nominations and election of the 2005 Board.** Members are encouraged to bring their Christmas ornaments from the October challenge for Show-and-Tell. John Becker will demonstrate the techniques he uses to make some of the items he does for the Michigan Renaissance Festival. Members will be challenged to bring their mugs and goblets to the December meeting.

**PLEASE NOTE: The December meeting has been rescheduled to December 12th,**

**2004** due to the Chapter's participation in the Woodworking Show in Novi December 3 – 5th. Details TBA.

**Sunday, December 12th, 2004:** Tom Mogford will demonstrate the use of the Ellsworth grind and Show-and-Tell.

**Sunday, January 2nd, 2005:** Basil Kelsey will demonstrate the use of the Batty grind and Show-and-tell.