



Contact Us

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Grinding Demonstration



Tom at the grinding wheel with sparks a flying



Segmented Christmas ornaments by Malcolm Tibbets

We Have Mail

Please pass this information on to all Chapter members. We realize that some members may not have heard of Franks passing.

In Memory of Frank Sudol (December 2006)

Frank left us at the age of 72. He was known as one of the world's leaders in the woodturning community, exciting aficionados and art collectors with his style of piercing thinly milled birch. He created works known for their color, animal shapes and woven filigree designs.

He lived in Paddockwood, Saskatchewan Canada and was a member of the Prince

Albert Woodturners Guild. Frank was also a member of the AAW for many years.

He was to be one of our featured demonstrators at the summer 2007 Portland Symposium.

Tom stepped in to give a 2 hour informative demonstration on sharpening techniques. Tom covered basic tool sharpening such as the Ellsworth gouge, skew, scraper and fingernail gouge. Many good questions were asked and many good answers given. At the end of the demonstration members got some hands-on time at the grinding wheel to touch up their own personal tools. Thanks Tom

Dues:

\$55.00/year. AAW dues are separate and are each members responsibility.

Remit at the December meeting or by mail to:

Tim Morris, Treasurer
1673 Woodlake Circle
Brighton, MI 48116

Meetings:

will now be held from 1 – 3 p.m. on the first Sunday of the month at the workshop of:

Next Meeting:

Dave Gordon
10621 Milford Rd.
Holly, Michigan
48442

Next Meeting:

**February 7,
2006**



Frank was an inspirational speaker. In one interview with a local newspaper, he shared his philosophy for being a successful artist. "The message for my students is you will never be remembered for what you copied, but you will be remembered for what you created ...Once you reach inside, you will have original work." He is survived by his partner Lois Laycraft and his Children.



Calendar

The calendar listings are an attempt to keep you up to date on upcoming MAW events, as well as other events of particular interest to woodturners.

- Next MAW meeting will be on **February 4, 2007**
- Ruby Cler will demo with the MAW club at the next meeting and demonstrate a pen made from a shell casing and also the art of gold leaf application.
- February 10, 2007 Al Stirt will demo at the Detroit Area Woodturners.
- February 11 & 12, Al Stirt will put on a hands on workshop at the Detroit Area Woodturners.
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Future Demonstrations

Tom threw out some names of prominent turners for consideration for upcoming club demonstrations. Names that were mentioned were: Trent Bosch, Stewart Mortimer, Bob Rosand, and Betty Scarpino. If you have other suggestions, please submit them to Tom for consideration.

MAW Web Site

Please visit the club's website at www.michiganwoodturner.org

The club's website has been given a total makeover. New buttons such as "Techniques", "Club Store", "Club Library", etc. have been added.

Check it out at the above link!

If you have a favorite turning you would like to have posted in the "GALLERY", please email a digital picture to the webmaster.

rroehrig@charter.net

New Faces



Leonard Schemm joined the club at our last meeting. Please introduce yourself and make him feel welcome.

Chain Saw Safety

Many of you have met Chris Ramsey when he gave his great demonstration at our club last year. Many of you don't know he has an identical twin brother that lives here in Lansing, Mi.

Chris wanted to share with all of you an important message that deals with Chain Saw Safety that happened to his brother. I hope all of you will take this to heart and be very careful when using your chainsaw. Above all, please make sure you have the proper safety equipment when operating your saw.



Posted By: Chris Ramsey

Date Posted: Dec 28, 2006

Description: A recent posting prompted me to post this image. It is my identical twin brother's left knee, or what was left of it. David was cutting a large log (in shorts) with his STIHL 066 with a 36" bar.

In the blink of an eye he nearly removed his kneecap along with 1 lb. of USDA Choice.

My intent is not to preach safety but to remind us of what can and does happen.

I don't own a pair of chaps (yet) and, as a full time turner, use my STIHL 066 to cut every day. Thanks to the recent posting by Dick Veitch I am off to the local saw shop to purchase a pair of chaps before I go out to the farm to cut into a large, freshly harvested maple burl.

My brother's recovery after surgery was painful and took about 9 months to fully recover. David is a veterinary ophthalmologist and does between 40 and 60 surgeries per week. He makes a living using his hands, eyes and a million dollars worth of operating microscopes and other assorted eyeball repair equipment. He lost 2 weeks of income and had to refer his workload to his competition. (Another ouch!)

Steve Russell's Woodturning

An excellent web site for woodturning information can be found at Steve Russell's site. Steve's site has many great educational items of interest that cover all phases of woodturning. Check out his site at the following web site:

<http://www.woodturningvideosplus.com/index.html>

Thanks to Tim Leright for submitting this information

Membership Renewal

As the MAW club enters the second month of the new year, it has come to the club's attention that it has slipped some of our members attention that they have forgotten to pay their 2007 annual MAW dues.

Please see Tim Morris at the next meeting to take care of this.



Finish Your Turnings with Waterlox “Original”

By: Andy Chen

At my first GCWA meeting back in 1994, I showed a segmented bowl that won many praises. Luna Ford especially appreciated the glossy finish on that bowl. (In fact, he still talks about it today.) It might have been a beautiful finish, but the process to achieve it was painful. I had put on 10 coats of polyurethane. (This was before the days of the modern wipe-on products, mind you.) It took me more than two weeks to just put the finish on. Over the years, I have tried many other finishing products, but either the result was less than satisfactory or the process was just too cumbersome and time-consuming. Two years ago, I read in an Internet discussion group posting about Waterlox. The author claimed that **Bud Latven** and **Ray Allen**, two of the best segmented turners, used this product. I decided to give it a try and have been very happy with both the result and the ease of achieving such result. Judging from the response, our club members like the looks of it, too. Here is how I do it.

You start with a proper preparation like any other finishing job. For segmented bowls, I sand to only 220 grit with either just a pad or a power sander with the lathe turning. (**Larry Genender** has a nice article on making a James Johnson style sanding disc in *American Woodturner*, vol. 20, #2, p. 19, 2005.) For turnings from one piece of wood, I sand to 320 with a power sander, with the lathe turning. I blow off the dust and the grit with compressed air before applying the Waterlox. Waterlox is a tung oil-based varnish and as such it is penetrating. I apply the finish with a nylon stocking or just by hand (with nitrile gloves of course), making sure the entire surface is saturated. When the varnish becomes tacky (within 5-10 min depending on the weather), wipe off the excess with paper towels. You can facilitate this process by putting a little of the varnish on the towel to soften the tacky finish. After sitting overnight, steel wool (0000) the turning with the lathe turned on. Apply the second coat the same way. Because it does not require nearly as much to cover the turning this time, simply rub the finish on by hand (without nylon stocking). A couple of hours is all it takes for the second and subsequent coats to dry. I have only applied 3 coats on my turnings. More is fine, but I generally run out of patience after the third coat. Steel wool after the final coat and buff with Tripoli, white diamond and carnauba wax. I have in recent months finished turning on Friday afternoon, put the Waterlox on and brought the turning to the GCWA meeting the next morning. In such cases, I do not wait overnight before I apply the second coat. You just need to be totally positive that the varnish is dry between coats.

One additional benefit of finishing with Waterlox is that it is easy to repair should need arise. One problem with segmented turning is that over time the segments can shift against each other due to environmental changes, creating unevenness to the touch. I have wet-sanded the uneven areas with 320 grit sandpaper with Waterlox. You cannot detect any blemishes after buffing it.

Waterlox comes in many formulations: the satin (TB 6022) satin sealer/finish (TB 5284), high gloss (TB 3182), marine (exterior, TB 3940) and even urethane. What is very confusing is all their tung oil-based varnishes have “Original” on the label. I have only used the satin/sealer (TB 5284) because I like the medium luster it produces. I cannot give you advice on the others. In addition, I believe another tung oil-based product, Liberon, is very similar to Waterlox. **Brian Laing** and **Bob Brown** use it a lot with excellent results.

One problem with all oil-based varnishes is that they tend to cure in the container once you open it. The most likely cause of this is exposure to the air (oxygen). I have tried Bloxygen that displaces the air in the container to extend the life of the finish with little success. Not only is Bloxygen not very effective but it is expensive. I do not recommend it. The saving grace with Waterlox is that once a polymerized film skins over the liquid, it helps protect the varnish from further deterioration. You can retrieve the finish beneath the dried film with an eye dropper. Eventually the film will become a crust. But as long as you can recover the liquid beneath the crust, it does not appear to adversely affect the quality of the finish. I am still using the can that I opened 2 years ago. Another problem with the kind of container in which Waterlox comes is the dried finish tends to gum up the screw cap. The solution to this problem is to cover the opening with a sheet of plastic, like the produce bag you find in supermarkets, before screwing the cap back on.

In almost 30 years that I have been woodworking/woodturning, I have always hated the final and arguably the most critical step, finishing. It is hard to control the outcome and the fumes are nasty. I cannot claim I enjoy it now that I have used Waterlox, but at least I do not dread it any more, at least on lathe-turned work. I hope you will feel the same way after you try Waterlox.