



Finger Lakes Woodturners

a Special Interest Group of the
Rochester Woodworkers Society

www.rochesterwoodworkers.org



March 2007

Meetings 3rd Thursday of each month at
WOODCRAFT in Henrietta, NY at 6:30 PM

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Upcoming Events

April: Jim Echter- Spindle Turning -
Also a few minutes with Cindy
Drozda - See Page 5

May: Ed DeMay - Chucking Methods

AAW 2007 SYMPOSIUM
Portland, Oregon - June 29 – July 1,
2007
**YANKEE WOODTURNING SYM-
POSIUM**
Middletown, Conn. June 1-3

TOTALLY TURNING
Albany, New York
October 13 - 14

From the Chairs Eye by Mike Hachey

Lou Stahlman did a great job on showing and telling us the correct way to cut wood and why. There were 49 members who not only received an inside track on how wood likes to be cut but were also entertained with the way Lou presented the material. Thanks Lou.



Our challenge project due at our April meeting is a Napkin Ring. The only limitation is your imagination. To be eligible for the \$10.00 Woodcraft gift certificate you must bring your Napkin Ring to the April meeting.

On April 12 the extended board will be meeting to determine the Board of Directors for each of the clubs. We will also be looking at an initial membership roster for each club based on the choice of nights that you have given us. At the April 19th meeting we will share the rosters and give members the opportunity to change nights. For the May meeting we will have the final roster for each club. The presenter for the April meeting will be Jim Echter who will be demonstrating Spindle Turning



Last Months Demo by Ed DeMay

Last month we were treated to a lecture that I am sure will go down as one of the best of the year. Lou Stahlman is one of the elder statesmen of the Finger Lakes Wood Turners and the Rochester Woodworkers Society and a truly gentleman in all senses. Lou was kind enough to share with us his knowledge on the intricacies of how to read the grain of wood, how a tree grows and "Cutting wood the way it wants to be cut."



Lou started out his presentation with an apology for not having his straight man Jim Hotaling in the audience. Lou held every ones attention with equal portions of wit, knowledge and humor. As for the loss of his straight man Lou made everyone laugh while he played both his and Jim's part. Even though Jim was missed Lou made it seem as if Jim was there in spirit if not in person. By the end of the evening I was asked by several members if I could publish Lou's notes which he has graciously provided. Lou, thanks for a great presentation.

Here are some of the highlights, rules and editorials that I mentioned during our Thursday Meeting

1. Wood comes from trees.
2. When thickness planing a board:
 - A. Plane the pith side with the points of the cathedral's
 - B. Plane the bark side into the points of the cathedral's
3. Woodturners should be organized into 3 levels of competence and knowledge...apprentice, journeyman and master.
4. There is an array of woodturning tools to be mastered:
 - A. Roughing gouge
 - B. Bowl gouge (different grinds are possible)
 - C. Spindle gouge
 - D. Skew chisel
 - E. Scrapers
5. Every wannabe woodturner should begin his woodturning career at the apprentice grade. To qualify for admittance, each wannabe must agree to read/study Frank Pain's "Practical Woodturner", have in his/her reference library a copy of Bruce Hoadley's "Understanding Wood", turn only between centers for the duration of his apprenticeship, become proficient with the entire array of woodturning tools and cut wood the way it prefers to be cut. See Item #8

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Continued from Last Months Demo

6. On promotion to the journeyman level (spindle turning), the rapidly improving wood-turner has the opportunity to continue to refine and perfect his tool skills across the entire array of woodturning tools. At this level, skill at forming/shaping exterior surfaces expands and new skills in shaping/cutting interior surfaces start to develop. Two new rules for cutting wood the way it prefers to be cut are to be memorized. See Item #8
7. Finally...promotion to Master Craftsman (faceplate turning). Only bowl gouges and scrapers are used to shape exterior and interior surfaces. The work piece is fastened to the lathe by one face, either pith side or bark side. The final product is a bowl. The last of 5 rules for cutting wood the way it prefers to be cut is memorized. See Item #8
8. The fastest way to cut wood and simultaneously achieve the smoothest surface is to cut it the way it prefers to be cut.
 - A. When turning between centers, cut from the larger of two diameters to the smaller.
 - B. When to the smaller spindle turning AND shaping an exterior surface, cut from the larger of diameters.
 - C. When spindle turning AND shaping an interior surface, cut from the smaller of two diameters to the larger.
 - D. When faceplate turning AND shaping an exterior surface, cut from the smaller of two diameters to the larger.
 - E. When faceplate turning AND shaping an interior surface, cut from the smaller of two diameters to the larger.
9. When using a scraper:
 - A. Keep the scraper flat on the tool rest. (Shear scraping is a separate topic for another occasion.)
 - B. The cutting edge of a scraper should be 5 degrees lower than the handle.
 - C. When scraping an exterior surface, cut/scrape below the center line.
 - D. When scraping an interior surface, cut/scrape above the center line.
10. You cannot be an artist until you are first a craftsman i.e. master of the tools and materials of your trade.
11. Never plant 12 zucchini's unless you have a stall at the public market

Up Coming Events by Ed DeMay

ROCHESTER WOODWORKERS SOCIETY is presenting *CINDY DROZDA*

Cindy is a Nationally and Internationally know turning living in Boulder Colorado. Cindy's woodworking started at the age of seven with her dad. Her first job as a waitress changed into working for a company that made and assembled player pianos. The owner had a variety of wood and metal working tools and encouraged her to use them and her interest continued to increase. From there she moved to a cabinet shop. Along the way to a career of turning she became a pilot, repaired and manufactured hang gliding equipment and restored and sold aircraft. Cindy eventually was introduced to turning and her creative side took over and she became a full time turner. She joined a local turning club and the American Association of Woodturners. As her turning skills improve the items became more complicated and she began to display items in a variety of Galleries. She regularly provides instruction and provides seminars at the AAW annual Symposium.



Cindy will be presenting at TWO HANDS ON CLASSES at the Henrietta, New York at the Woodcraft store on April 20 and 22, 2007. Each class will contain only 10 students running from 9:30 until 4:00. The cost of the class is \$120.00 for RWS members and \$150.00 non-members and includes materials and lunch.

On Saturday April Cindy will be presenting a DEMO AND DISCUSSION again at Woodcraft but this is not hands on but will be with limited to about 35 participants for a cost of \$40.00 for members and \$50.00 for non members and includes lunch

This is sure to be an exciting weekend and a chance to learn form a World Class Turner. Checkout www.rochesterwoodworkers.org for sign up for this classes and RWS now uses Pay Pal Services.

