

NORTH COAST WOOD TURNERS NEWSLETTER

March, 2012 - NCWT's 24th Year as an AAW Chapter

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Denny Watson Demo

By Mike Hawkins



Denny Watson was today's featured demonstrator. The topic of the demo was tool sharpening. Denny has been getting a lot of requests to do a sharpening demo.

There is a lot more to proper sharpening than most people think.

But if you want to be a proficient turner, doing your own sharpening is part of the process. Denny covered a lot of material today, from the different types of grinding systems available, slow speed versus high speed, wheel grits, tool steel types, etc. Denny's outline for the class is on our website.

Everyone has their own preference on what kind of sharpening system they like, how they grind their bowl gouges, whether or not they like to hone their tools, you get the picture. The systems vary from a basic grinder and a vari-jig, to a slow speed water cooled grinder such as a Tormek.

Each system has its pros and cons. A basic grinder with a vari-jig can be had for around \$150. Advantages include being very quick to use, low cost, easy to learn. The disadvantage of a setup like this is that it removes metal quickly, so if you aren't too sure what you're doing, you can make stubbies out of your tools in short order, pun intended. It is also possible to overheat the tip while grinding and ruin the temper of the metal.

A Tormek system on the other end of the sharpening spectrum is quite a bit more expensive. While it can provide a smoother finish, it also is very slow compared to a regular grinder. For sharpening an already shaped edge, it doesn't take much time at all. If you are trying to reshape a tool, such as going from a blunt bowl gouge to a fingernail profile, best to do the shaping on a regular

grinder. After that you can resharpen on the Tormek without taking much time. The plus side of the Tormek is that it removes metal very slowly, so your tools will last a bit longer and it's a little harder to mess them up while grinding.

So, you can choose whatever type of sharpening system you feel comfortable with. Best to get together with another club member and learn how to sharpen first hand. Then choose your system. Once you feel comfortable sharpening your own tools, you'll get a satisfying feeling every time you fire up your lathe.



NORTH COAST WOOD TURNERS

President's Turn

By Mike Bauman



At The January Board Meeting, I presented the Board with a detailed Business plan as we move forward, for the Northcoast Wood-

turners. At this month's Board meeting we addressed and discussed the proposed club directives. Most feedback was positive, perhaps maybe a little tweaking, but all in all, the board members were in favor of most of the concepts presented.

In the coming weeks some things will be eased in, other things will be a "work in progress". I will keep you all informed as we proceed. Some things will require board attention only, other implementation items shall require member participation and I will be looking for volunteers.

Some of the proposed Plans and programs are as follows:

- A change to our web page, including but not limited to design and perhaps formatting changes. A member Gallery section featur-

ing your work including the artist name and type of wood used for your creation.

- A youth movement and membership drive.
- A weeknight turning session worked out with the staff from the Brecksville Center for the Arts. This would most likely be another way that we could cement our relationship with the city, and to protect one of the club's most valuable assets, our meeting location.
- The need for public demonstrations. What better way to promote woodturning than woodturning. We already have a demo session in the works to be held at Woodcraft, in Oakwood. Mike Novak has agreed to put us on his

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President's Turn (con't.)

By Mike Bauman

flyer mailed to his customer list, send an e-mail to announce the same, as well as to post it on his website. This will be good exposure! We will explore other venues to feature the club and our talented members.

- The creation of a formal mentoring program allowing members who need help in certain areas to get 'one on one' tutelage from our core of mentoring members. The coordination of same would be between the parties.
- We shall seek a way to garner minority participation in the club and to achieve the addition of minority membership and participation. I will try to organize an internal committee to actively pursue this endeavor.

In closing I will say this a most aggressive undertaking and I will need help from our Board, and from our membership to implement the proposed initiatives. I look forward to the challenges ahead, your cooperation, and together we can make this club prosper for years to come. I am excited about the opportunities ahead for the NCWT's and I want my enthusiasm and energy to be a springboard to our members as we collectively move forward.

Sincere thanks to all,

Mike

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February Meeting Minutes

By Dan Maloney

Guests

Mike Marshall from Hudson and Bud from Cleveland Tool & Cutter were our guests.

New members

Rick McDaniel from Oberlin joined the club today.

Mike Bauman

Tim Niewiadomski's segmented turning demo last month was excellent. Thanks Tim.

Judy Terrigno, a freelance writer attended our meeting. She plans to write an article on NCWT to be published in nine community newspapers/magazines including Bath, Richmond, Sagamore Hills, Brecksville, Hudson, and Broadview Heights.

Mike mentioned some broader goals of the club such as increased youth interest, increased minority participation and more community exposure are being discussed by the board.

Club members are urged to vote on an AAW issue presented to you recently via email needed to bring the AAW into full compliance with 501(c)(3) nonprofit status.

NCWT Code of Regulations were amended and finalized in response to your comments from the January meeting and are accessible via the web site.

King Heiple received a gift card for Participation Points earned in 2011.

Professional turner Alan Carter will be here next month and a class will be offered. Class size is limited so contact Ron Sieloff if you are interested at a cost of \$100. Alan uses "Easy Wood Tools" which reportedly are good for a novice turner as well as other more experienced turners.

Mike reminded us to support our sponsors who are listed on our web site under "Resources" and "Links". Don't forget the discounts.

LET Classes

Paul Kosmos stated that LET classes for 2012 will be in April, August and November. The

classes in 2012 will move from project-oriented sessions to more basic classes that emphasize how to use a tool. Denny Watson and Jim Pugh will be teachers. Spindle turning will be offered in the April class. More details to come.

Other Business

Jim Pugh - Bob Germond, former member has a Sorby eccentric chuck retailing for \$349 retail. Asking price is \$275. Jim also added that Boxelder is one word.

Turn and Learn – Denny Watson's gavel was chosen as the winner. This gavel will be presented to the Mayor of the city of Brecksville. The turn and learn for next month is anything segmented including staved items (like a barrel).

Ron Sieloff

Ron reminded those who have not paid their annual club dues to do so.

George Raeder recommended making Doug Thompson an honorary member of the club. Mike Bauman agreed and plans to send letters Doug and our other sponsors offering free membership.

Membership Notes

There are 127 members in the club. Members at the February meeting totaled 65.

Name Tag Drawing

The winner of the name tag drawing was Allen Armbruster. He chose a green cherry blank donated by King Heiple.



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Turn & Learn

This month's Turn & Learn winner was Denny Watson. The subject of the contest was a gavel and striker plate. Denny turned both out of boccote. The gavel and striker will be presented to the Mayor of Brecksville as a show of appreciation for the hospitality the City has shown for our club. Denny will be making a matching base to hold the gavel, striker, and provide a place for an engraved plaque to be mounted. Nice job Denny.



Show and Tell

February Show and Tell

There were two featured pieces from this month's Show and Tell table.

The first was by Roger Walker. Roger made a bowl out of cherry and inset a maple top with a number of smaller insets built into it. Nice job Roger.



March Turn & Learn

The theme for Show & Tell in March will be a segmented turning. Keep in mind it doesn't have to be as large or complex as the work that Tim Niewiadomski demoed in January. We will be back to our domestic wood only rule, however, so please keep that in mind while building your blank.

A note about our Show and Tell Table:

The Show and Tell table is there for any club member to display their work at each meeting. It is for beginner's and advanced alike. So, if you are just getting started, don't be intimidated by some of the work shown. Bring your pieces in, we want to see them. If you see something you like on the table, don't be afraid to ask the person who made it how they did it. Most are happy to share. Let's keep that table full!

The second piece was a walnut bowl turned by Paul Kosmos.

Besides featuring a nice shape, it had some embellishments on the exterior of it. Very good Paul.



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February Show and Tell



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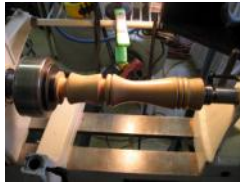
Beginner's Corner "A good turn deserves a good finish"



I stumbled across a new finishing product quite by accident. I stopped in at the recent tool sale at Hartville Hardwar. I was doing my usual meandering around and came across a fellow from General Finishes demoing a new finish developed specifically for wood turners. How could I not stop and watch?

It's called "Wood Turners Finish", easy enough to remember. The unique thing about it is that it is a water based urethane. So if you are tired of smelling up your shop with the solvent based finishes, you may want to give this a try. It comes in an 8 ounce bottle and also quart cans.

It is very easy to apply, dries in less than five minutes, flows out nice and is odorless. It can be applied with a small piece of cloth while the piece is spinning on the lathe. You can also use a sponge brush, or even spray it with a small air brush sprayer.



The one thing you don't do is treat it like a friction finish. In other words, when applying it, wet the wood, applying an even coat, and then remove the rag or brush. Being that it is a water-based product, it will raise the grain after the first coat. Lightly sand with 320 or 400 grit, being careful not to sand through the finish. Continue to apply additional coats. It builds up a good film after three coats and develops a pretty good shine. Five or six coats will give you a very glossy finish that will also be extremely durable and resistant to any solvent based products.

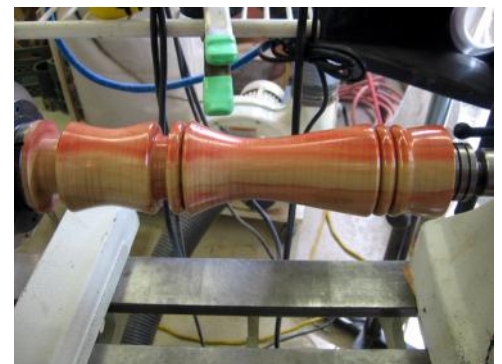


For a glass-like finish, after your last coat, use the micromesh sanding system and run through the various grits. It will look like it just came off the high speed buffer.

I tried this out on a new peppermill I had just turned. I put five coats on and haven't sanded with the micromesh as of yet. I don't have any and have to

get some. I'll bring it to the next meeting so you can see it up close.

The bottle pictured sells for \$11.99 and is available at Woodcraft and Hartville Hardware. I have used some of the other products from General Finishes and have been very satisfied with the results. So if you are looking for a nice finish that's durable and doesn't make your nose wrinkle, give it a try.



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Meeting Information

First Saturday of the Month
unless otherwise noted
Doors open 9:00 AM
Meeting begins 9:30 AM

Blossom Hill

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| Date | Topic |
|---------------|---|
| January 7 | Tin Niewiadomski segmented turning demo, Show & Tell, Turn & Learn- multi-axis turning or Bob Rosand item, Wood Raffle, Nametag drawing. |
| February 4 | Denny Watson sharpening demo, Show & Tell, Turn & Learn- Gavel and striker plate, Wood Raffle, Nametag drawing. |
| March 10-11 | Pro turner Alan Carter. Demo Saturday, classes on Sunday, Turn & Learn is a segmented piece, No wood raffle, Nametag drawing. |
| April 7 | Paul Kosmos wood burning demo, Show & Tell, Turn & Learn TBA. LET class in the afternoon will be a spindle turning 101 class. Wood Raffle, Nametag drawing. |
| May 5-6 | Pro turner Alan Lacer. Demo Saturday, classes on Sunday, Turn & Learn will be a thin-stemmed goblet, No wood raffle, Nametag drawing |
| June 2 | Jim Bohmer spindle turning demo, Show & Tell, Wood Raffle, Turn & Learn TBA, Nametag drawing. |
| July 7 | Joe Hermann demo, Show & Tell, Wood Raffle, Nametag drawing. |
| August 4 | Demo TBA, Show & Tell, Turn & Learn- , Wood Raffle, Nametag drawing. |
| September 8-9 | Pro turner Alan Hollor. Demo on Saturday, classes on Sunday, No wood raffle, Nametag drawing |
| October 6 | Demo TBA, Show & Tell, Wood Raffle, Nametag drawing. |
| November 3-4 | Demo TBA, Turn & Learn TBA, No wood raffle, Nametag drawing |
| December 1 | Annual Auction |