

# Inland Northwest Woodturners Newsletter

December 2011 Meeting

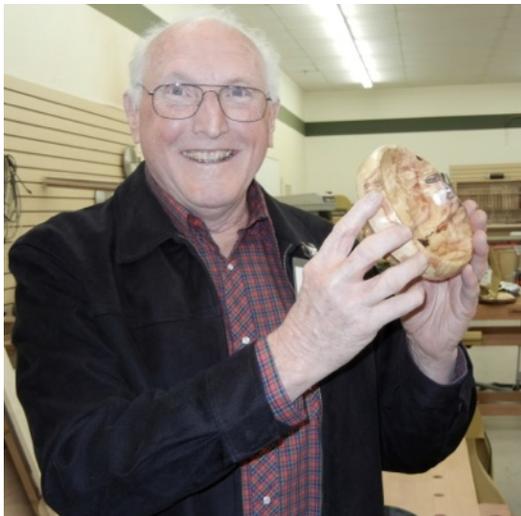


Next meeting: Thursday, January 5, 2012  
7PM, WoodCraft Store, Sullivan and Sprague



It looks like everyone had a pretty good time at the holiday party, thanks to the members who brought tops and toys. The gift exchange was also a big hit, when it comes to woodturning, the next best thing to making something

...is getting a turned piece as a gift.



## Next Meeting:

The January meeting agenda is open turning. We always have a good time when we make a mess, there will be a finial station, making pens from bullet shells and a couple other activities. If you've missed a meeting, it might even be you behind the lathe.

## 2012 Calendar:

This coming year we will have a coring demonstration; a presentation on developing an Art Business Model including a discussion on pricing and marketing your work; a 'return to basics' demo including spindles, beads and coves; tips on multi-axis turning as well as a guest professional turner. If there are activities or demonstrations that you would like to see or be involved in, be sure to give you suggestions to one of the club officers and we'll try to make it happen.

## Up to your ankles in wood chips:

Perhaps the most satisfying aspect of woodturning is sharing your work and skills with other people. Our friend, Russ Fairfield, seemed happiest when he was behind the lathe showing the audience how it's done. We've had the opportunity to do presentations at the Carvers Show, do a turn-and-learn with the Boy Scouts and develop a mentoring program at a local high school as well as within our own club. If you have contacts with organizations that would benefit from learning more about this great craft, give your input to our club president, Pat Hickey.

## Wood Raffle:

Thanks to Ron Gooley, John Altberg and Pat Hickey for being the brains and brawn behind the supply of black walnut for the December wood raffle. When this tree gets seasoned and turned, expect to see some beautiful bowls and hollow forms on the table.



## Members Gallery:



Terrific work and terrific wood, a great combination.

## Another Reason to be a Member:

Many AAW members who sell their work but are not fulltime professional turners, often believe that their homeowner's insurance will cover losses due to theft and fire. In most states, insurance companies consider any business activity to be excluded from coverage under a typical homeowner's policy. It's worth checking with your agent to be sure. If you need it, AAW now offers a new benefit to all US members to insure your Business Personal Property for tools, equipment, materials and inventory. If you do craft shows, you can add a 'Location Floater' rider to cover you while away from your primary location. This insurance is available through Michael George of AJM Insurance Inc., is underwritten by a US rated A+ company. To apply for the Individual Member Property Insurance policy, contact Association Insurance Program at (888)258-6820x172

I get by with a little help from my friends:

## The Tools of the Turner

An essay by Carl Bodenstern

Asked what tool has contributed to my ability to turn a raw chunk of firewood into a potential masterpiece, my mind immediately wanders to the history of my turning experience. So indulge me for a moment. When in college in the late '60's, in Buffalo, NY, I was already a fairly accomplished woodworker, having put myself through college building and selling dulcimers, for which I had achieved much acclaim. One day while visiting my favorite "old time" tool shop, I saw a new acquisition to the store, a brightly yellow painted Delta lathe, model who knows, capacity irrelevant. I am not sure what about it caught me, the color, the shining metal bed? Either way, the store owner had been following my success in the dulcimer trade and said that he had no real candidates for ownership of this strange tool, and would be happy to sell it to me at his cost. Hours later I was on my way to getting banged up with my first lathe experience, having not worked on a lathe in high school shop, and being willing to "learn on the fly", literally!

OK, say you, move the story along to tools... Be patient, fellow craftsmen, be patient.

Well, I bought my first set of "universal tuning tools" with the lathe (also at cost, thank you Mr. Old Tool Store Owner!) and the start of my pursuit of the perfect tool had begun. I, like you, my fellow craftspeople, had the idea that there would be a tool for any given purpose that would allow me to accomplish that task better than I ever had before. And I, like many of you, continued to acquire useless tool after useless tool, as if I were watching TV infomercials and BELIEVING the claims of fantastic turning results, only "turning" hard earned money into chunks of steel with wood handles. Ever play stickball as a kid? Was there a best stickball stick? Did the kid that ALWAYS broke the windows on the 4th floor of the facing apartment building EVER care what stick was put in his hands? I digress...

Yup, say you now, my friends. YOU TOO? Of course, you too! All of us have a collection of the most useless pieces of exquisite manufacture ever

seen, all with the promise of turning us into better turners. All without delivery on the promise. All dust collectors on the shelves of our dreams of skill and success. Oh yes, so, now comes the “tool swap” meetings. You know, most of these useless tools I would not wish on any of you. This is now especially true of the endless contenders for the “never a catch” award, the best deep hollow form tool, and the best coring tool. Oh the money down the sawdust pile! Just like fishing lures, the never-ending search for the tool that will catch the big one!

So, what you ask is my answer to the question of the ultimate “tool” that allows me to turn chunks of wood into (this man’s) art? Simple, grasshopper. Simple. My mind and my hands! My desire to succeed and my willingness to fail. THAT my friends is my answer.

Merry Christmas to All and to All a Good Night!

Thanks to everyone for a fine year with the Inland Northwest Woodturners, thanks to Carl for the 2001 “parting comments” and again to Tom Kimball for taking photos for the newsletter.

Joy to all for the holiday season and Happy New Year!

Chad Gladhart  
INW Club Secretary