



INLAND NORTHWEST WOODTURNERS NEWSLETTER

Next Meeting is Thursday,
September 3, 2009 7PM at the
WoodCraft Store classroom,
N.E. corner of Sprague and
Sullivan (north side of the Fred
Meyer parking lot.

July 2009 Meeting

If you've travelled around the country, on land or on the internet, you know we have a lot of talent and experience right here in our club. The July meeting was an open forum to take advantage of that talent and share tips, techniques and solutions to turning questions of all kinds. While there isn't a "right" answer for every turning question, there are usually some better solutions, some that don't work well and some that are just plain dangerous.

Logs into turning stock: The chain saw is often the first choice, but if you don't have a proper stand or can't keep the log steady, you won't get a good result. The bandsaw works well, but there are a number of woodworkers who have come to know one of the several fine hand surgeons in our community because of this finger-eating machine. Spend some time getting ready and



always keep an adequate push stick close to the saw. A "Sterling Stick" screwed to the end of a piece of round stock will prevent 'roll' and give you something to hang on to. The "Paetow Sled" (1x4's joined at a right angle) provides a stable base to glue or screw the stock to. Also, Russ suggests mounting the piece between centers, cutting most of the way through with a parting tool and finishing with a hand saw. Or get some help, Joel Gese owns and operates a portable saw mill that can handle logs up to 36" diameter.

Stabilizing wood: When you have a piece of wood in which portions are soft or pithy, you can change that several ways. Equal parts of white glue and distilled water (depending on where you live, tap water may contain chlorine or other substances that may cause discoloration).

Pentacryl is a combination of polymers that will bind wood fibers together. Woodcraft usually stocks it on the east wall by the stains. PEG 1000 (polyethylene glycol) is also useful as a stabilizer. Diffused into the wood, it bulks up the fibers reducing shrink and warp.

Pith: A short discussion regarding what you ‘have to’ do with the pith followed. Cut it out, fill it, stabilize it -- it was agreed that again, there are no absolutes. Russ suggested you challenge yourself to make it a design element, turning a bowl with the pith right in the middle of the bowl.

Finishes: We have enough new members that not everyone knows the recipe for Russ’ finish: Equal parts of tung oil, turpentine and varnish. (Russ likes McCloskey’s Man ‘o War in the red can) Add just a bit of Japan Dryer also.

Sharing Table:



Galen Buterbaugh & Bob Olson check out the table. Roy Behm turned this mostly maple urn and Ron Gooley’s segmented work continues to impress. Below, Norm MacPhee’s big ambrosia maple bowl and great colors in this piece of douglas fir by Russ Fairfield.



In My Shop:



Rich Greinert brought his handy rolling tool caddy/chisel rack. He said the cart was a garage sale find and holders standard dimensional lumber. For convenience or ease of storage, wheels are a great idea.

Announcement/Change of Officers:

Ron Gooley has volunteered to take over as club president for the remainder of this year. Mike Perry has resigned to care for some health issues in his family. Thanks to both these gentlemen for their time and energy.



(It's not clear if Ron was smiling before or after he volunteered)



(don't forget, if you want laser engraving done, contact Joe Wing)

Remember the picnic on July 26 replaces the regular August meeting, see you September 3. On the agenda is Russ Fairfield turning platters.

Quote for the month: "If mistakes are an opportunity to learn, then I must be in graduate school."

Keep turning!

Chad Gladhart,
Club Secretary