

Woodturners of North Texas

A CHAPTER OF THE
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS

Next Meeting: April 28
7:00 – 9:15pm
R.D. Evans Recreational Center
3200 Lackland Road, Fort Worth

Demonstrator: Trent Bosch

Trent Bosch, of Fort Collins, Colorado will be our Spring demonstrator and "hands on" class instructor from April 28 through May 4.

The visit of Trent Bosch will begin on Thursday, April 28 when he presents the program for our April meeting . There will then be an all day demonstration on Saturday, April 30 for only \$10 for WNT club members or \$20 for non-members.

Trent is best known for his "vessel within a vessel" turnings concept that brought him into the spotlight at the 1997 AAW symposium in San Antonio.



Classes will cost \$100 per day. We will offer both one and two day hands-on sessions that will cover a variety of subjects, including, but not limited to, surface decoration and treatment, hollow form technique, and different treatments for bowls.

Trent has produced three different videos that would be a valuable addition to your personal library. If you have not signed up for a class yet, there are still a few vacancies available. If interested, please contact John Horn to sign up for one of the classes.

There will be a one-day session on Friday, April 29, a two-day session on May 1 – 2, and another two days session on May 3 – 4. Those who are signed up for the Trent Bosch hands-on sessions should have their money in by club

COLLABORATIVE PROJECT REPORT

WNT members who are participating in building parts our Coffee Grinder entry in the Collaborative Challenge should bring their completed unfinished part to the April WNT meeting. I will not be able to attend the meeting but you may leave your work with Paul Tiefel who will collect it for me. If you have not finished you task, please call me at 817-292-3479 or e-mail at fdenke@aol.com. If I am out of town and you use the phone please leave a message. When I have an inventory of the parts and know when everything will be completed, we will meet for an assembly workday. More on this later.

Fred Denke
Collaborative Team Leader

meeting time. A slot cannot be reserved without payment of the fee of \$100 per day of instruction. Space is limited and only a few places are left at this time. Make your reservation quickly if you plan to attend.

If you have registered for one of Trent's turning classes, the following list of tools and supplies to bring to the class is recommended, but all are optional.

1. A few pre-turned pieces as dry as possible if you want to focus on carving.
2. A Foredom or other rotary carving tool.
3. Any other carving tools they would like to use.
4. Notebook or sketch pad with clippings or sketches of ideas you may be interested in exploring.
5. Turning tools -- 1/2" bowl gouge, 3/8" bowl gouge, hollowing turning tools, any tool that may be giving you trouble.
6. A few pieces that you have turned - some that you like and some that you don't (actual pieces or photos).
7. Anything else that you feel is appropriate.
8. A few tools will also be available for your use, as well.



DUES DONE DUE, DUDE

It is the new year and if you have been busy and overlooked paying your 2005 chapter dues, please either mail your dues payment to James Haynes, 202 Jefferson Ave., DeSoto, TX 75115 or bring them to the April meeting.

2005 WNT Directory

The WNT Directory for 2005 will be printed soon. We need your picture if you are a new member, didn't have a picture in the 2004 directory, or wish to update your picture for the new directory. You can send a picture to Bill Boehme, preferably in digital format at newsletter@woodturnersofnorthtexas.org or by snail mail to Bill Boehme, 2705 Park Place Ct., Dalworthington Gardens, TX 76016.

Making Good Shavings

April will be a busy month with the classes and demos with Trent Bosch. I hope that you will be able to attend some of these. Trent is an outstanding turner and teacher. His first demo will be at our April monthly meeting on April 28th.

April also starts the spring season of art festivals in the North Texas area. I encourage you to attend some of these because there are often woodturners and woodworkers displaying their work. You can meet fellow crafts persons as well as get some new ideas.

At the March meeting, I talked at length about the possibility of doing an exhibition at the Fort Worth Community Arts Center. Sorry to be so long winded about this, but I felt the idea required a complete explanation. There has been a very limited response to this idea so we will not proceed as a club activity at this time.

The annual AAW Symposium is coming up July 22-24th in Kansas City (Overland Park). The location is only a one-day drive at just over 500 miles from Fort Worth. If you are planning to go, you need to register and make reservations. Go to the AAW website at www.woodturner.org and follow the buttons to the registration page. (NOTE: The website is woodturner – singular, not plural). The website also has a lot of information about the symposium.

Regards,
Paul Tiefel

Microwave Drying of Turned Wood by WNT member Dewayne Hines

This article deals with one of the most frustrating things that beginning woodturners encounter - cracking wood. You put a piece of wood on the lathe and turn a nice bowl then several days later it starts to crack and sometimes you end up with a two piece bowl. Well, there is good news and bad news. The good news is that there are solutions to the cracking problem that work very well. The bad news is that there is no panacea and no instant fixes.

There is one thing that will help reduce cracking tendencies in any piece and that is to turn a uniform thickness. This is true whether you do a two step process (rough turn, let the wood dry and then finish turn) or you turn green wood to finish form. It is not possible with some designs to have a uniform thickness but when you can it will help the wood dry more evenly.

When I first started turning 5 years ago I had a lot to learn. One of the first things was that green wood is much easier to turn than dry wood. And you can find thicker pieces of green wood for bowls. Another thing I learned is that when you ask experienced wood turners for advice -- you get advice. The advice I got for using green wood was to turn the bowls 1 inch thick, place them in paper bags for a year to let them air dry and then turn them to the final thickness. I was told to expect a forty percent failure rate while drying due to cracking and warping.

I didn't want to wait a year so I started looking for information and found a couple items on the Internet that mentioned using a microwave oven to dry the wood quickly. I tried it and was pleased with the results. I have made dozens of bowls and dried them all successfully in the microwave. The bowls still warp and crack, but because it is done in stages, the cracks are glued up when they first start. Warped bowls are viewed by many people to be artistic.

Start by turning green or partially dried wood into a bowl shape. Once you are satisfied with the shape, cut the sides of the bowl to desired thickness. I prefer a thickness of one-eighth to one-quarter inch. Sand the bowl to 220 grit. If the wood is extremely wet, it may be better to sand it after drying. The foot on the base of the bowl can be left on to allow sanding after drying. If the bowl will be left unattended for more than an hour during the turning process cover it with a plastic bag to prevent cracking. Any cracks that occur during turning can be filled with CA glue and sawdust.

Microwave Drying Procedure:

- 1) Cover the bowl with paper towels and a dishtowel and place in a plastic grocery bag.
- 2) Tie the bag loosely to let air escape and place in the microwave.
- 3) Set the microwave oven to low power. (Level 1 or 2 out of 10)
- 4) Set the timer for 2 minutes.
- 5) Start the oven.
- 6) When the microwave stops let the bowl sit in the bag in the oven for 10 minutes.

- 7) Take the bowl out and unwrap it. The bag and the towels will be wet.
- 8) Let the bowl sit uncovered for 20 minutes. Check it for cracks – glue up if needed.
- 9) Rewrap with dry towels and continue drying until there is no water on the bag.
- 10) Large bowls (up to 14 inches) take 6-8 turns. Small bowls 4-5.

You can spread out the drying over several days by drying a turn or two each day and then covering the bowl with towels and plastic to wait till the next day.

Several points of caution need to be added. First, do not leave wood unattended in the microwave. Also, be careful with the timer because touch pad devices can develop erratic problems like jumping from 2:00 minutes to 20:00 minutes! Finally, after you remove the wood from the microwave it should be watched at least 30 minutes for signs of internal combustion. Microwaves heat from the inside and overheating can start the wood to burn inside. This should not be a problem at the power levels and times described here, but it never hurts to err on the side of caution. It is also a good idea to keep a fire extinguisher handy.

If you want to investigate other articles on micro waving wood, check out Steve Worcester's website <http://www.turningwood.com> and click on "How to Articles". If you have a drying method that you have found effective please share it with other WNT members. Write an article and send it to Bill Boehme or Paul Tiefel.

WNT May Board Meeting

The next scheduled meeting of the WNT Board of Directors will be on Tuesday, May 2, at Logan's Road House next to Northeast Mall. All WNT members are invited to attend. If you would like to join the group for dinner, it begins at 6 PM and the business meeting starts at 7 PM.

Bring Back / Raffle Winners from March

Here are the names of the March "Bring Back" or Raffle winners: John Boyle, Phil Herskowitz, Dale Green (2), Humberto Hernandez, Max Taylor, Willis McCaslin, Robert Lawrence, Larry Denning, and Carol Denning. If you were a winner in March, please bring back an item for the April "Bring Back" raffle.

Woodturning Demonstration at Birdville ISD

Jeff Carrell received a request for WNT participation again this year in a program called "Fine Arts Day" at Snow Heights Elementary School in Birdville ISD. The school will have artisans from various crafts visit them to do demonstrations and instruction for the kids.

WNT members participated in three turning sessions there in 2003, where we assisted the kids in making candle holders - they each got to turn, sand and finish a six inch candle holder. There were approximately 36 kids who participated in turning event. We had four or five mini-lathes operating and a great time was had by all.

This year, the school will be having their Fine Arts Day program on May13. The WNT Board of Directors has approved the club's participation in this event including funds and equipment. Jeff Carrell will be coordinating our participation in this event. If you are interested in introducing kids to woodturning and being a part of this event please contact Jeff at jcarrell@woodturnersofnorthtexas.org or (817) 285-8242. This would be a great first-time introduction to one of the aspects of woodworking – and – for many of the kids who otherwise may never have an opportunity to see real woodworking in action, this may be a seed for a future interest.

What Do You Think About 6:30 PM?

The WNT board is recommending that we change our monthly meeting start time from 7:00 PM to 6:30 PM. The reason is to try to get out of the R.D. Evans center a little earlier. The center's regular hours end at 8:30 PM and we have to pay for the time we use the facility after that time. If we start at 6:30 PM we should be able to be out by 9:00 PM. This would also give us a little more time for demonstrations and make for a less frantic clean up.

The proposed time change requires the approval of the membership and will be put to a vote at the April monthly meeting. This will not effect the start time for the April meeting, which will start at 7:00 PM

Paul Tiefel

Nova Lathe For Sale

I've been persuaded to make several large pieces of furniture and need to make more room in the shop so I am selling my Nova 3000 lathe. It has a variable speed 1.5 HP Leeson DC motor, magnetic switch, two bed extensions, hand wheel, vacuum adapter with face plates, mobile stand, several tool rests, drive spur, Nova live center, and other accessories. The swing is 16 inches and can turn spindles about 5 feet long. It is wired for 240 volts. Selling price is \$700, firm. Phil Joines 940-482-6522 – call before noon weekdays (I work 3rd shift). We are located 3 1/2 miles west of IH35 just north of Denton.

Free Wood

I have also been persuaded to clean up the shop and yard. There is a bunch of wood suitable for turning available free. If interested, please call Phil Joines 940-482-6522 before noon weekdays (I work 3rd shift). We are located 3 1/2 miles west of IH35 just north of Denton.

Bandsaw For Sale

14" bandsaw with 12 inch resaw capacity, ball bearing blade guides, 6 inch riser block, new 105 inch Timberwolf 1/2" blade. \$300.00. John Herber 817-280-0081, or 817-944-6951.

Calendar of Events

Apr 28 Regular Monthly meeting R.D. Evans Rec. Center 7:00pm Trent Bosch will be the featured demonstrator.	May 26 Regular Monthly meeting R.D. Evans Rec. Center 7:00pm Demonstrator: Wayne Clowers
Apr 30 Special all day demonstration by Trent Bosch at R. D. Evans Rec. Center.	June 30 Regular Monthly meeting R.D. Evans Rec. Center 7:00pm Demonstrator: Paul Tiefel

Board of Directors

President – Paul Tiefel Home phone 817-379-9533 Vice President – Ken Cardin Home Phone 817-540-3591 Treasurer - James Haynes Home Phone 972-223-3171 Librarian – Dan Hudkins Home Phone 817-2184-3871	Activities – John Horn Home Phone 817-485-7397 Newsletter – Bill Boehme Home Phone 817-275-7473 Secretary – Linda Gryfon Home Phone 817-295-9764 WNT WEB SITE: http://www.woodturnersofnorthtexas.org
--	---