

# TURNERS ANONYMOUS

An Association of Wood Turners in Western Pennsylvania

## NEWSLETTER

No 93

February 2006

Chair Dave Beringer 412 655 8524	Vice-Chair Tim Janeway 412 761 3518	Treasurer Rich Evans 412 655 8524	Secretary Ted Owen 724 625 1038
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**Meeting Date:** February 18, 2006

**Meeting Location:** Max Woodworking

**Meeting Time:** 9:30 for Coffee and Doughnuts  
10:00 for the Meeting

**Meeting Topic:** Pushing and Pulling

### Meeting Synopsis

The meeting will hopefully be a little messy. If the meeting is successful, Max's Shop floor will be covered in long streamers of wood shavings from YOU. The topic of the meeting will be cuts that can be used to rough out and finish bowls. We will review the basic point of both the PULL CUT (David Ellesworth style) and the PUSH CUT (Stuart Batty style) approaches. Doug Trembath, Tim Janeway and Dave Beringer will demonstrate these cuts, both on the inside and outside of a bowl. Then the fun starts. We will have several mini lathes equipped with bowl blanks that will be ready to go. At the beginning of the meeting you will randomly be assigned a group number. Each group will have a group leader and lathe assignment. Your assignment will be to have fun, get to know the members of your group and when it your turn practice the cuts demonstrated at the beginning of the meeting. Participation is a must so please come in your turning clothes and if you have a favorite bowl turning gouge please bring it. Again the wood free so do not be afraid to make a mistake, it is the only way to improve

### Last Meeting

During the last meeting, the club held its annual elections. The following new board members were elected at that meeting:

- o Nick Bodnar
- o Bill Hayes
- o Joe Rostas

Additionally, Bob Henry and Bob Zentner were re-elected and thus retain their seats for another 3 years. John Bridges asked to step away from the board. Please thank John for his years of service when you see him.

Thus the new board of directors and their phone numbers follow:

Dave Beringer	412-655-8524
Nick Bodnar	412-279-1767
Rich Evans	412-653-6214
Bill Hayes	412-741-5150
Bob Henry	724-248-3537
Tim Janeway	412-761-3518
Terry Morrill	724-845-6611
Ted Owen	724-625-1038
Joe Rostas	412-367-0629
Craig Smith	412-996-5666
Ralph Sprang	412-635-2663
Bob Zentner	724-864-0997

Email addresses for the board members are available on our web site

[www.turnersanonymous.org](http://www.turnersanonymous.org).

Immediately after the annual meeting, a brief board meeting was conducted for the purpose of electing new officers for the coming year. The officers for the coming year are:

Dave Beringer	Chair
Rich Evans	Treasurer
Tim Janeway	Vice Chair
Ted Owen	Secretary

As a result, please note that future dues payments should be directed to Rich Evans. His address is:

1903 Strawbridge  
Library, PA 15129

As in the past, checks can be made to Turners Anonymous.

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### Last Meeting (continued)

Finally, a board meeting was held on February 1. At that time, new chair, Dave Beringer, appointed several committees. The appointees included the following:

Dave Beringer	Membership / appearance
Nick Bodnar	Instant Gallery
Rich Evans	
Bill Hayes	50-50 Manager
Bob Henry	
Tim Janeway	
Terry Morrill	Tape library
Ted Owen	
Joe Rostas	Audio video equipment
Craig Smith	Programs
Ralph Sprang	Lathe Custodian
Bob Zentner	

We are working on several exciting programs this spring and into the next year.

Much has been publicized about our March meeting with Mary Celine Thouin on marbling. We are now pleased to add to our spring line up internationally known artist Betty Scarpino. Betty will be one of the six featured, invited turners at the AAW symposium this summer and is Artist in Residence at the Design Center at Indiana University. She has agreed to do a program for us in April. This will be a one day program with no charge. It will be held at the Society for Contemporary Craft, and she expects it to wrap up around 3:30. **NOTE** Since the normal April meeting date, April 15, falls on both the first day of trout season and on Easter weekend, the date for that meeting will be moved to April 29. You can see Bettys work at [www.bettyscarpino.com](http://www.bettyscarpino.com).

Additional future featured programs in the works include David Ellsworth and Jimmy Clewes. If you have a feature program that interests you, please forward it to the program committee.

### Thoughts from the Outgoing President

Hopefully, most club members feel like the club has progressed and improved over the last three-plus years. Over the past three years:

- Our treasury has grown
- Our membership has grown
- We have developed a relationship with the Society for Contemporary Craft
- We have hosted nationally know turners Andi Wolfe, Alan Lacer, Mark St. Leger, Ray Key, Bob Rosand (twice), Stuart Batty Linda Van Gehuchten, and Chris Weiland
- We met in the South Hills, the North Hills, downtoen, in Ligoneer, in Wampum, in New Castle and in Gibsonia
- We have given away two lathes, tools sets and many other prizes
- We incorporated as a not for profit corporation
- We have given away nearly 2000 tops and other toys
- We have grown our appearance schedule to include 4-5 appearances each year
- And hopefully, we have both enjoyed ourselves and learned something along the way.

While it may sound like I am already mounting a re-election campaign, I assure you that is not my intent. During my term, I have really done surprisingly little. The reason that our club was able to undertake so many tasks was because of the unending support of the board of directors, the officers, and the membership. It is really gratifying to see the number of folks who are willing to roll up their sleeves and pitch in.

While many of the officers remain the same but assume new roles, I hope that they will receive all the support I received and more. This club is about the nicest bunch of folks I have had the chance to be around, but I hope it can continue to grow and do even more. The members have elected a strong, active board and I think the sky is the limit over the next years.

Thanks again to the board and membership for all your support. - Craig

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### Messages

#### From the New Chairman:

As I assume the Chairman's duties of our club, I would like to start by thanking our out-going Chairman, Craig Smith. Craig has done a great job in setting a high bar for his successor . and deserves our thanks for all the work he has done and continues to do. He is still our webmaster, a board member and has agreed to head the program committee. Please offer him your personal thanks for a job well done

Also note the other new officers: Tim Janeway is our new Vice Chairman, Ted Owen is our new Secretary and Rich Evans is our new Treasurer. From this point forward Rich will be handling club dues and special event tickets. I hope with the board's help and your's to continue to deliver to our members the club quality that we have been accustomed to. If you have any ideas or concerns please do not hesitate to either see me, call me at 412-655-8524 or e-mail me at djbber@comcast.net. Thank you for your help, Dave Beringer.

#### From the New Treasurer.

Hello everyone, As some of you may be aware, the board of Directors has elected me your New Treasurer. "I finally get my hands on some real money", (just joking). However I would like you to know that I am collecting dues for the 2006 Calendar year. So if you are in need of paying your dues, please see me at the February meeting. My next topic is our guest demonstrator for the March meeting, Mary Celine' Thouin. As you are aware the Saturday morning meeting is open to all members.

However, If you would like to participate in the hands-on course on Saturday afternoon and Sunday the fee is \$ 75. I need to know who will be there because supplies must be purchased for this . This course is all inclusive, the \$75 includes all supplies . Once again see me at the February meeting. Thanks and a good turn to you all!

### The Collaborative Challenge 2006

By the end of the January meeting about one third of our members had signed up to produce components for our project. Whilst this is indeed a good beginning it does fall far short of our target of 100% participation. Our sign up sheet will be available at the next meeting and there is still time.

We realise that you may feel hesitant if you are a relatively new comer to wood turning and to help and give you confidence we are planning a mid week evening meeting at the **Center for Contemporary Arts on Tuesday, March 7th** starting at 7 pm. 6 lathes will be up and running waiting for you with an experienced turner stationed at each to instruct, guide or other wise help you to participate.

In another effort to get all members participating in this project, the following members have volunteered to help you either in your shop or theirs:-

Dave Beringer (South Hills)	412 655 8524
Craig Smith (South Hills)	412 996 5666
Ted Owen (Gibsonia)	724 625 1038
Tim Janeway (Bellevue)	412 761 3518
John Bridges (Gibsonia)	724 625 9348
Bill Hayes (Sewickly)	412 741 5150

Please call them regarding a suitable time and place. If you don't they will be calling you.

Remember we want to see every member's name on the placard showing who has contributed a component for this project. We hope to have the project completed by 1<sup>st</sup> May, in plenty of time for the June Symposium

Two of our members have worked hard to produce jigs and methods to produce the more complex shapes required and will be holding meetings at their shops.

**Bill Groll** will be opening his shop at 7 pm on **Tuesday 14th February** to all of you who have volunteered to produce the 2" cylinders needed for our project. He will need help to mitre cut these, drill holes and turn them to shape in the special jigs that he has manufactured and perfected.

Space is limited, so please call him first if you are planning to attend. (724) 941 6657

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Directions to his house:-  
Route 19 South passing Mt Lebanon and Upper  
St Clair  
At Mc Murray you will see an EatnPark on the  
right  
After another 500 Feet there will be a Sonoco  
Service Station  
Turn Right on to Old Oak Road  
Go up Hill about 400 Feet  
Right on Oakhurst.....  
his house will be second drive on Left  
**With his name GROLL on the Mail  
Box**

**Jack Brown** is the other energetic and inventive member who has worked on jigs to produce more of the more complex components. He will open his shop at 7 pm on Thursday march 9<sup>th</sup> and will appreciate help to drill, cut and turn these items.

## New England Woodturners Symposium

The 5<sup>th</sup> annual New England Woodturners Symposium will be held May 13, 2006 with a Youth Turning Symposium on May 12. These two events will be held at the Pinkerton Academy in Derry, NH. On May 12 the presenters for the Youth group will be Bob Rosand, Beth Ireland and Dustin Coates. On May 13 there will be 28 demonstrations in 4 rotations, which makes a very full day. This year 3 demonstrators have been chosen from PA - Bob Rosand, Linda Van Gehuchten and Jack Brown. For more information about this symposium go to [www.cnew.org](http://www.cnew.org) then click on Site Map and scroll down to Fifth NE Symposium.

*(Contributed by Jack Brown)*

### Have you ever thought about..... How a Chisel Cuts wood?

It can be used like a knife to cut across the wood fibres. Also hit with a mallet to cut across the fibres, but since we are unlikely to use a mallet with lathe tools let's forget that use for the moment.

The chisel can be held upright and moved horizontally across the wood surface as a scraper. But if you do this you will soon find that the thin razor sharp edge gets turned over and becomes blunt very quickly.

Several years ago sawmillers in Tanganyika were faced with the problem of cutting very hard wood hardwood trees (Mvule) that had been killed in a bush fire. They found that a solution was to remove alternate teeth from their inserted tooth circular saws so that each tooth cut and did not merely rub on the wood surface. The purpose of this story being to point out that cutting tools that cut remain sharper than cutting tools that rub or scrape.

Lay your chisel, bevel side down on the edge of a board, raise the handle and push forward, you will quickly discover that if the handle is too low the tool will slide across the wood and not cut. Conversely if the handle is too high it will dig in and try to take off too thick a shaving. Hold the chisel at an angle to the direction of travel and you will find the resulting *Shear* cut easier and smoother

Remember all this next time you are using a lathe tool. You can adjust the height of the tool rest and you can alter the height of the tool handle when turning spindles in order to get the required thickness of shaving peeling off the rotating wood.

Similarly, but a little more difficult to visualise is the angle at which the bowl gouge is held. If in doubt, stop the lathe, hold the gouge as you think it should be held and think back to the example of a chisel cutting wood.

If you watch a professional wood turner you will see mountains of *Spaghetti* flying in all directions.

Whereas a novice will let the tool rub more than cut and surprise, surprise, he will have to sharpen his tools more often than the professional

### **A message to all members.**

You have 55 BIG reasons to register to come to the Louisville AAW Symposium. For door prizes, how about FIVE Oneway 2436 lathes free, thanks to special pricing from Oneway Manufacturing or FIFTY \$100 gift certificates donated by Packard Woodworks?

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The AAW Symposium in Louisville is fast upon us. It will be Thursday, June 22, 2006 through Saturday the 24th. There are always many great reasons to attend:

There will be 30 world class demonstrators putting on 150 rotations in eleven demonstration rooms,

There will be a room where Bonnie Klein and Nick Cook will teach hands on classes to young people ages 10 through 17. The youths can register FREE when accompanied by a fully registered adult. As we did last year, we will give away 25 JET Midi lathes with stands, 25 sets of Crown tools, 25 Nova Midi-chucks and 25 face shields to 25 of the lucky youths. (Bring your kids or grandkids)

See the world's largest instant gallery of over a thousand spectacular pieces.

Visit the Trade Show filled with the world's largest assortment of woodturning tools, equipment, wood, etc.

There will be three panel discussions featuring world famous artists J. Paul Fennell, Binh Pho, David Ellsworth, Graeme Priddle, Curt Theobald, Clay Foster, Albert LeCoff, Kevin Wallace and Giles Gilson.

We will have a great banquet and live auction. There are three great woodturning exhibitions within blocks of the symposium.

Louisville has more to do than we can list here. I visited this last weekend and loved it.

For more information, go to <http://www.woodturner.org/sym/sym2006/>.

### **The Time Warp.**

Those of you into Science Fiction may be thinking that I'm going to talk about living in another century. But, they would be wrong. I just want to remind you that if, after this month's meeting you turn a bowl from green wood, it will change shape with time and never be round again. This distortion can prove attractive, is normal and not a cause for despair. Many

turners rough turn a bowl, leaving thick walls, then, when it is dry mount it back on the lathe and finish turn to the desired shape and weight. The amount of warping will depend on both the species and the orientation of the grain.

### **The Warp and Weft Department**

(Alias woven materials made into shirts)

Our members help in many ways and this time we are thinking about **Bill Hayes** who is organising Shirts carrying the T.A. Emblem. An order form is included with this News Letter.

### **DidUno?**

Larch is a Deciduous Softwood and Holly is an evergreen Hardwood. Balsa is a "Hardwood" and Yew is a "Softwood"

Crabwood is so called because the bark resembles the skin of a Toad?

It is called Tangare in Colombia and has Carapa guianensis as its Botanical name.

Answer. It was first exported from French Guiana and called "Crapaud" which is the French word for Toad, this was mispronounced in the translation to English

### ***For Sale:***

**Kiln Dried Hard and Soft woods** from **Steve Morovich** before or after the meeting or call him at **724 341 1980**.

**Cherry, Oak, Sassafras and Walnut** Boards or Turning blanks. Logs sawn to your dimensions. I have several 3" thick Walnut crotches left; air dried for three years also Cherry and Walnut up to 22" wide. **John Bridges 724 625 9348**

*Editor:*

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