

# TURNERS ANONYMOUS

An Association of Wood Turners in Western Pennsylvania

## NEWSLETTER

No 67

May 2003

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### NEXT MEETING:

**Saturday, May 17th**

**Location:** Max Peterson's Workshop

**Time:** 10.00 am. Coffee & Donuts from 9.30

**Demonstrator: Linda VanGehuchten**

I'm sure that many of you don't realise just how busy a person is Linda who dashes all over the States demonstrating and attending National Association meetings. We have tried very hard to snare her for the coming meeting so that we can see for ourselves how she produces her famous angels and learn some of her other techniques. Who knows when she will be in Pittsburgh or Sarver again?

**SHOW AND NO TELL.** The objects you have turned from different woods will be displayed during the coffee break. The complete list of species appears later in this newsletter and you will be able to compare colour, grain, finish etc. but to make full use of Linda's presence there will not be an opportunity for each one of you who have turned an object for display to describe just how you made it to the whole group. I'll have cards available for each piece to show oodunwot

**The Swap Box** will be full and overflowing again and Osage Orange bowl blanks and sawn sections will be available at a very modest cost due to the efforts of the volunteers the other Saturday in Perryopolis. (Note! This sells for about \$10/Bd Ft on the open market)

In spite of time constraints we will however again hold our **50/50 Raffle**

### Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May.

There will be a meeting at **Jack Brown's Shop** starting around 7 pm to finish the 6 Blank tools left over from Bob Rosand's demo that we want to present to the Center for Contemporary Arts (There are still a few more welded up blanks left over if you want to add to your collection of lathe tools.). If you missed the last meeting this could be your chance to see how the tools are made. We will have to turn the handles and Jack will have other lathes available for one on one "Learn to Turn" sessions .

**Saturday June 21<sup>st</sup>.** **Tony Valvano** has invited us back to see his shop at Wampum. Some of his turnings are so humongous that a child can sit in them, others are delicately carved. This is an all day event so bring food for a picnic/barbeque. Going North on the Turnpike and taking the Beaver Falls exit is simple, after that there are a few small roads and turnings to take, but I'll give you a map and complete directions next month.

In July or August I will host an open day again to show how my Mobile Band Mill operates and give you a chance to bring along your own logs to be cut to your specifications. Watch for details!

The **October meeting** will be held on the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month since several members want to attend the Ohio symposium on the weekend of the 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Chris Weiland** will be our demonstrator and giving us advance ideas for Christmas gifts that can be turned.

**SHOW AND NO TELL.**

The following members promised faithfully that they would produce a turned object from the following species, some well known and local, others hardly known even in their distant homeland.

- HAWTHORN                    F. RICE
- HONEY LOCUST            BILL GROLL
- HUESITO                    LINDA VANGHEUCHTEN
- JUNIPER                    TIM JANEWAY
- MARAPOLAN                BILL KOECHER
- MUSCLEWOOD              BILL HENRY
- OAK
- OLIVIER                    TERRY MERRILL
- OSAGE ORANGE            TIM JANEWAY
- PEAR                        ROBERT HENRY
- PURPLEHEART              BILL ALEXANDERS
- QUILTED MAKORE JACK BROWN
- REDONDO
- ROSITA
- SASSAFRAS                PAUL GALLICK
- SILKY OAK                 LINDA VANGHEUCHTEN
- SUMAC                      LAURIE SESKEY
- TEAK                        BOB RICE
- WALNUT
- LOURO PRETO              JACK BROWN
- PADAUK                    DAVE BERRINGER
- CRAB APPLE               CRAIG SMITH

If you are not on this list and have access to yet another specie of wood please turn something from it and bring it along

**TOPS AND CARS**

For the past two years members have been turning tops and making turned cars as Christmas Gifts. Last year 25 were given to each of the following:-

- Children’s Hospital
- Indiana Hospital
- West Penn Hospital

These gave much pleasure to children who had to spend Christmas away from their homes. Let’s see what we can do this year. Any time between now and Christmas when you find yourself with 5 minutes to spare.....turn a top.

Or do you have any other ideas to share regarding a simple turning that could give pleasure to kids. I have been turning round wooden

“TUILTS” when I have a moment and they give pleasure to more adult friends but would hardly be appreciated by kids

**Future meetings (cont)**

**Saturday, November 15<sup>th</sup>** we will have a demonstration of using **Waterlox** finishes

**Saturday December 20<sup>th</sup>** a special program is being planned to celebrate the festive season.

**March 20/21<sup>st</sup>** **Alan Lacer** will be coming to town for an all day demonstration to the club members on the Saturday. On the Sunday he will be giving almost individual tuition to a group not exceeding 5 persons. If you are interested call Craig Smith NOW because the five places are already filling up.

**CHAIN SAWS.**

Are used by almost all club members, even those who turn pens have been known to cut logs for the wood stove. Most of us fell trees from time to time, acquire logs that need to be cross cut and halved to produce bowl blanks which then have the corners cut off with the same chain saw.

Do we use them in a safe manner? Do we really know how to sharpen the teeth? Are the bowl blanks liable to fly off the cutting block when we take a deep cut?

Our first meeting this fall will feature Chain Saws for wood turners, with professional help from manufacturers and users. If someone shouts “Timber” and the tree starts to fall towards you, how many know that they should run towards the tree and not away from it. Like so many safety rules it is simple but often forgotten when danger threatens. This September session will be important to all Chain Saw wielding members of Turners anonymous .

**OSAGE ORANGE**

Members who went to Perryopolis the other week have got bowl blanks coming out of their ears. I went back a week later and collected the balance of the logs. Since then I have run them through the Band Mill and have boards and squares from ½” up to 4” available to club members. Some were sold to Woodworkers last week to help swell our club funds, but more are still available and I will have them at the next meeting. Members report that it is certainly hard, but, with sharp tools can be cut fairly easily and produces a fine finish.



## TOOL ANGLES

Wood Turning Beginners are often puzzled about the angle at which to hold a scraper. The short and obvious answer is "the right one" but that isn't much help nor is the comment that there is not one correct angle. Rather there is a good one for each specie of wood or class of wood which can be found by experience, trial and error.

It may be comforting to realise that there are different angles used by metal turners for different metals as shown in the illustration below, taken from a book originally published by The Sheldon Machine Co and now reprinted by Lindsay publications Inc PO Box 538, Bradley Il 60935-5353 [www.lindsaybks.com](http://www.lindsaybks.com) It is # 21052 and priced at \$ 7.50. We woodturners can learn a lot from the metal turners.

