Between Turns

Michigan Association of Woodturners

Volume 18 Issue 3 | A chapter of the American Association of Woodturners | March 2006

Contact Us

President:
Tom Mogford 810-629-6176

Vice President:
Pete Buccellato 248-634-7622

Treasurer:
Tim Morris 810-229-7156

Secretary, Newsletter Editor:
Bob Roehrig 810-750-9132

Photographer:
Jeff Provost: 248-437-0203

Webmaster:
Bob Roehrig 810-750-9132

Librarian:
Bob Roehrig 810-750-9132

Show & Tell Table from March Meeting.

Meeting Announcements

- Next **MAW** club meeting will be Sunday April 2, 2006 at Dave Gordons Shop.
- **SANDPAPER**: Tom organized the new shipment of sandpaper into kits for members to purchase. This is the new film back sandpaper with Micro hook & loop system. Complete kits contain disc holder, pad, and sandpaper. You can also get just sandpaper packages or buy separate disc holders or pads. See Tim Morris for pricing.
- **Show & Tell:** John Becker assisted in our critique for the Show & Tell table at this months meeting. Some very nice and unusual turnings were submitted. Thanks to all who participated and thanks to John for critiquing. Members: don't be bashful for the April Show & Tell table….bring in that project you have been working on all month.
- **Chris Ramsey Demo:** Will take place March 18th & 19th. If you haven't signed up, time is running short. This will be a great experience for all levels of turners. Breakfast & lunch will be provided. $45 covers both days. Mini hats, full sized hats, thin wall turnings and picture frames will be covered. Plus…..the finished large hat that Chris makes for the demo will be auctioned off to one lucky person attending. Call Tom Mogford for your reservation.

It's Not Going To Get Any Closer Than This !

AAW Convention

If you haven't registered for the upcoming 2006 AAW National Convention, now's a great time to do it. Louisville is only a short 7 1/2 hour drive from our location. Hotel rooms will be filling fast so don't be disappointed.

Many of our members are going, so if you need a roommate check around. It's guaranteed to be a great time you'll never forget. Lot's of top named turners, 150 demonstrations and a great assortment of vendors.

Dues:

$95.00/year, includes A.A.W. Membership. Remit at the December meeting or by mail to:

Tim Morris, Treasurer
1673 Woodlake Circle
Brighton, MI 48116

Meetings:

will now be held from 1 – 3 p.m. on the first Sunday of the month at the workshop of:

Dave Gordon
10621 Milford Rd.
Holly, Michigan 48442

Next Meeting:

April 2, 2006

Natural edge walnut bowl by **Dave Pierce**

Lidded vessel - **Richard Rowland**

We Have Mail

).

Hello Tom,

During our AAW Symposium each year, we have a "return to the community" project. This year in Louisville, we will collect Christmas ornaments. They will be delivered to Kosair Children's Hospital in Louisville. Each year the hospital collects ornaments and decorated trees and auctions them or sells them outright to raise money. Last year they raised almost $400,000 to help the kids in need. Have your chapter turn as many Christmas ornaments as they can and either bring them to the symposium or mail them to Greg Streif, 7308 Abbott Glen Dr., Crestwood, Ky., 40014 gregstreif@insightbb.com .

This is a great opportunity for your chapter members to have some real fun while building their turning skills and at the same time, help sick kids in need. What a deal!

If you have any questions, contact Greg as shown above.

Thanks,

John Hill - Chairman AAW chapters and membership committee

Johnrhill@charter.net

828-645-6633

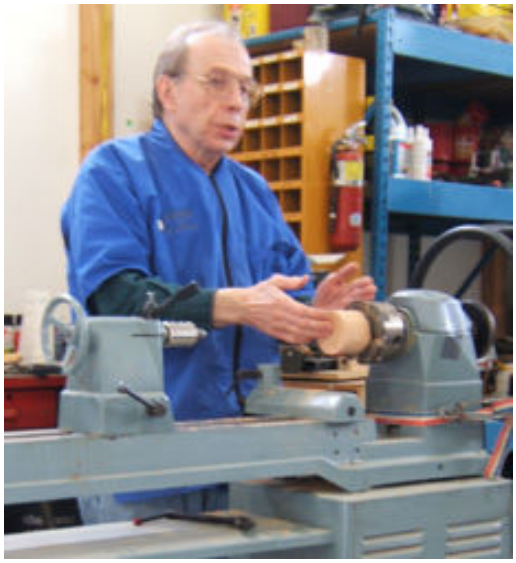
Need Your Articles

Please give or email your articles, tips, etc. to Bob Roehrig for upcoming issues of *Between Turns*.

This months tip is from Keith Postell:

Everyone says not to over use abrasives, but we all do. I found that I can get a little more life out of discs by reversing the spin direction. Works best with a fixed mandrel since the two piece type tends to unscrew.

Basil's Pepper Mill-



Basil Kelsey once again gave a fine demonstration on the making of a pepper mill. If you missed it, please check out the Spring 2004 issue of the *American Woodturner* for procedure. The club also has "pepper mill mechanisms" for sale for anyone interested. See Tim Morris at the next meeting. *Pepper mill instructions are included on page 6 of this newsletter issue.*

- New Club Lathe: This months club raffle for the new lathe was a success. Tom Mogford donated a fine natural edge vase for the raffle and then low and behold won the vase back by having his own ticket drawn. Tom kindly had the club redraw a new ticket. Members are encouraged to bring in a turned item for the raffles.

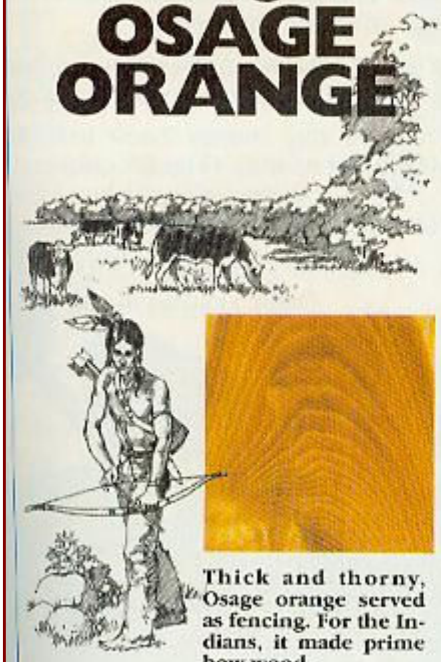
PHOTO'S

If you have digital photo's that you would like to have considered for use in the newsletter next month, please send them to the editor at:

rroehrig@charter.net

WOOD ANECDOTE

The saga of OSAGE ORANGE



Thick and thorny, Osage orange served as fencing. For the Indians, it made prime bow wood.

Before the age of barbed wire, settlers in what is now Arkansas, Oklahoma, and Texas discovered they could *plant* fences rather than build them of rock or rails. To keep livestock in or out, they propagated hedgerows of a thorny, thick-growing native tree. The stands produced an ugly, inedible, orangelike fruit.

After a few seasons, this living fence became impenetrable, and as it matured, it formed a dense windbreak 20′ or more high. As word spread, landowners from the heartland to the Atlantic Coast sought the seed to plant.

The tree was called "bodark," the settlers' pronunciation of the French *bois d'arc*, meaning "wood of the bow." For this species had first furnished the Osage Indians with wood for their bows, famed far and wide among tribes as the truest. Today, we know this tree as Osage orange, and you still can find surviving thickets along hedgerows from Nebraska to Massachusetts and from Wisconsin to the delta country of Mississippi.

Luckily, Osage orange adapted to a variety of climates and soil conditions, for in its original range the tree nearly met with extinction. Settlers exploited Osage orange's bright yellow, hard, resilient, and decay-resistant wood for wagon-wheel hubs and rims, pulleys, tool handles, and even fabric dye. Later, mature thickets were almost depleted to meet additional demand for fenceposts on which to string barbed wire, and ties for the rails of the nation's trains.

If you're lucky enough to find some Osage orange, ask permission to harvest a stout piece. Then, turn a bowl or make a cutting board out of it. You'll enjoy the color, and it will withstand abuse.

Photograph: Jim Kascoutas
Illustration: Jim Stevenson

HAND SAW OR CHAINSAW?

Old Jake had cut firewood by hand with a swede saw for a living going on 50 years. He averaged about four cords a day. His son was home from college and watching him work remarked, "You could probably cut 10 times as much if you bought yourself a chainsaw."

"Not interested in those new fangled things," Jake responded.

His son returned to college and Jake began to think that maybe the young guy was right; his old body seemed to ache more and more at the end of the day. So he went into town and bought a brand new top-of-the-line chainsaw.

The first couple days were not very productive--he only cut one cord each day. By the third day he had cut 3 cords but was dead tired. "This is not working," he thought to himself, "My son said I should be able to cut 10 cords a day. I'm taking this stupid thing back."

The next day he was in the hardware store complaining to the sales clerk about his lack of production. "Blade seems a little dull, but not that bad. Let's start it up," the clerk muttered as he pulled the starting cord.

"What the hell is that noise?" Jake hollered.

Clarence Gordon's Norfolk Island Pine bowl being illuminated to show some beautiful color.

Calendar

The Calendar listings are an attempt to keep you up to date on upcoming MAW events, as well as other events of particular interest to woodturners.

- Chris Ramsey Demo: March 18th & 19th.
- Chris Ramsy Hand On: March 20th & 21st.
- MAW monthly meeting: April 2nd.
- Bill Magee pen turning demo: April 2nd meeting
- Cheryl Dow Class: May 6th & 7th
- AAW National Convention: June 22nd, 23rd, 24th.

SHOP SENSE

HOW WOOD-WISE ARE YOU?

Test your wood lore with these true or false tales. You'll find the answers on page 96. Don't peek!

1. Philippine mahogany is the same as Honduras mahogany, except that it grows in the Philippines.
☐True. ☐False.

2. Everyone knows that ironwood ranks as the world's hardest wood.
☐True. ☐False.

3. Trees actually produce the raw material for chewing gum.
☐True. ☐False.

4. Ash was so named because so much of it remains after it burns.
☐True. ☐False.

5. Heartwood sustains the life of a tree by circulating nutrients.
☐True. ☐False.

6. Spaniards in Columbus' time called lignum-vitae the "wood of life" because they thought it would never decay.
☐True. ☐False.

7. Teak, although a large tree, has comparatively small leaves.
☐True. ☐False.

8. Balsa is the lightest weight wood you can buy.
☐True. ☐False.

9. Peavy and Spud were famous New England furniture makers.
☐True. ☐False.

10. Tree bark is porous.
☐True. ☐False.

Answers on page 96

Answers on page 5

Pete Buccellato and former member **Jim Madsen** discussing some turning trivia at the Novi Wood Show in December.

Herman Spaeth doing a demo at the Novi Wood Show in December.

Jeff Provost's bowl at the March meeting.

SHOP SENSE

Questions on page 94

1 *False.* Central and South American mahoganies, such as Honduras, belong to the swietenia genus, while Philippine "mahogany" is a shorea.

2 *False.* Botanically, there just isn't any specific wood named "ironwood." The term refers to the heaviest or hardest wood found growing in a region.

3 *True.* The chicle tree of Mexico, South America, and the West Indies yields a latex used in making chewing gum.

4 *False.* Just the opposite. Little ash remains after burning.

5 *False.* Heartwood supports and strengthens the tree, but the sapwood has the vascular system to circulate nutrients.

6 *False.* When Columbus lived, resin from lignum-vitae was thought to be a cure-all.

7 *False.* Teak leaves are among the largest in the world, often measuring 2 x 3'.

8 *True.* But balsa is not the world's lightest wood. Although never sold commercially, *Aeschynomene hispida*, from Cuba, claims that title. It weighs about five pounds per cubic foot to balsa's 10 lbs.

9 *False.* A peavy and a spud are two logging tools used to remove bark from a felled tree.

10 *True.* Air flows through tree bark to the sapwood. That's why corks, made from the bark of the Mediterranean cork oak, must be cut in the direction of the grain. If corks were cut from the bark radially (crossgrain, from the outside of the bark to the center), they would leak.

How do you rate?

0-2 correct - Mere seedling
3-5 correct - Sapling
6-8 correct - Saw timber
9-10 correct - Veneer log

96 WOOD MAGAZINE FEBRUARY 1988

Serious, Bowl-BustingCatches - Wally Dickerman

The occasional small catch when turning bowls is inevitable, and usually causes no real problem. It's those big bowl-busting catches that are the bane of many turners. They may damage or even break a piece, and they can cause possible injuries.

Why do the serious catches happen? There are many ways that a catch can happen, but nearly always it's because of the way the tool was being handled. A large catch is frequently a result of losing control of the tool when a small catch occurs. Any scraping tool, including hand-held hollowing tools, should be held with the handle under the forearm for support. Whenever possible, when using a scraper or a hollowing tool or a bowl gouge, the tool should be tucked in against your side. Move your body to move the tool. The larger muscles in your body do a much better job of controlling the tool than the smaller muscles.

A few things that you should know to prevent serious catches:

When using scrapers the handle should be tipped up a little, so that the butt end is a bit higher than the blade. Shear scraping is an exception

When scraping on the outside of a bowl, cut below the centerline....

When scraping on the inside of a bowl, cut a little above the center-

line....

Catches can occur when a tool is deep inside a hollow vessel, and the cutting edge crosses over the center at the bottom. In effect, the rotating wood is then coming up on the tool instead of down. This lifts the tool, then slams it back down on the tool rest. The result is often a broken rim, and sometimes a sore arm....

Using a scraper near the rim of a thin walled bowl almost guarantees a catch....

Catches, when using a bowl gouge, usually occur when the bevel gets away from the wood. An unsupported cutting edge will dig in....

Allowing the hollowing tool to rub on the rim of a hollow vessel is a sure way to break the rim if a catch occurs....

Many of today's newer lathes are designed with the bowl turner in mind. Shortbed bowl lathes and rotating and sliding headstocks allow the turner to stand facing the piece when hollowing. This makes it easier to maintain control of the tools, especially when turning hollow vessels.

Instructions for Assembly

Pepper Mill

For easier assembly, bore holes as close as possible to the recommended sizes in diagram #1.

Assemble (part #2) with two screws (part #3) onto the tenon located on the underside of the pepper mill top, making sure it centered over hole.

Turn the pepper mill base upside down, and secure it firmly into a stationary holder so it cannot move. If using a vice, put padding on the vise grips so the mill body is not scratched or gouged.

Insert (part#5) spring bar into the inner bore. Push down inside the body until ends of spring bar with holes are firmly against the body. Use a hole punch and punch two pilot holes (for screws) in the wood body through the two smaller holes on either end of the spring bar.

Insert (part#7) female gear into the spring bar (part#5), making sure the angle-cut on the inner circle of the gear is facing out. The two slots in the side of the female grinder will fit into the spring bar, lining up with the screw pilot holes.

Slide the male grinder (part #8) onto the threaded end of the shaft (part #4), making sure the smaller end of the male grinder with four flutes is up.

Slide the spring (part #6) onto the threaded end of the shaft (part #4), making sure the smaller diameter end of the spring goes first. Spring should slide down shaft until it is against male gear (part #8).

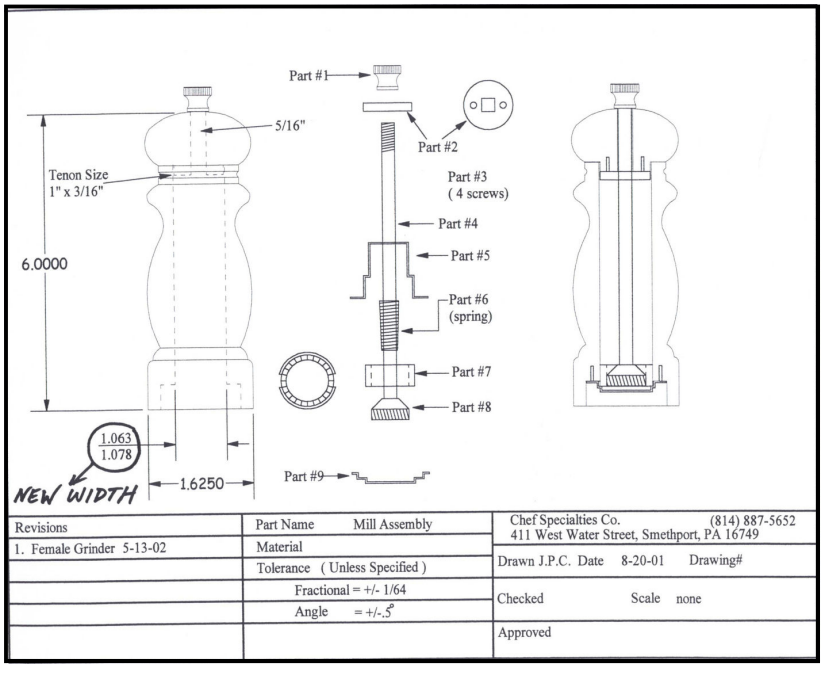
Insert the threaded end of shaft (with spring & male grinder attached) down through the female gear and through the larger center hole of the spring bar. Large diameter end of the spring fits over the lip of the large center hole in the spring bar. The spring will prevent the male gear (part #8) from meshing with the female gear (part #7).

Assemble retainer bar (part #9) to spring bar-female gear assembly. Place retainer bar on male gear, push and hold down with finger while lining up screw holes in retainer bar with pilot holes made in step 4. Continue holding down gear assembly with one finger while inserting screws in pilot holes and driving them in. Tighten both screws, being careful not to over tighten and strip out holes.

Remove pepper mill from vise or holder. Place wood pepper mill top (assembled with part #2, step #2 of instructions) on top of threaded shaft. Line up square hole with square shaft and push down. Place finial nut (part #1) on threaded shaft and turn a few turns until finial nut make contact with wood top. Pepper mill is now completely assembled, and at its most coarse adjustment setting for pepper.

<u>To fill with pepper:</u> Unscrew to top finial and remove the top. Fill the lower base of the mill with pepper. Replace the top and finial nut.

<u>To adjust grind:</u> The top finial nut has a convenient grind indicator that shows which way to turn for adjustment. Use thumb and forefinger, turn clockwise for a finer grind, and counter clockwise for a coarser grind.



Revisions	Part Name Mill Assembly	Chef Specialties Co. (814) 887-5652 411 West Water Street, Smethport, PA 16749
1. Female Grinder 5-13-02	Material	
	Tolerance (Unless Specified)	Drawn J.P.C. Date 8-20-01 Drawing#
	Fractional = +/- 1/64	Checked Scale none
	Angle = +/-.5°	
		Approved