



August 2019

Meeting Info

Our next meeting is on September 11th.

Alan Johnson will be demonstrating Offset
Bowl Turning.

See you there!

Displays

We just finished a two month long display at the Marshall Public Library. The library staff indicated it was the most popular display they have had. They scheduled us to do it again next year.

Thanks to all those who participated.

Club Challenge

Last month's challenge was to turn an Idaho themed piece. See the photos later in this newsletter.

The challenge for the September meeting is a set of candlesticks. Dick would like us to focus on the design of the candlesticks as a set and their relationship to each other. See some example sets by Rude Osolnik on the next page and a set by Dick Anderson later in the newsletter.

Bring your challenge pieces each month for the monthly drawing and a chance at the annual drawing at the end of the year.

September Club Challenge

Examples of candlestick sets by Rude Osolnik



President's Message

Dick Anderson

THE UNIVERSAL TRUTHS OF WOODTURNING

(According to Russ Fairfield)

Russ Fairfield was a very good and well known woodturner who lived in Post Falls, Idaho. He was a member of the American Association of Woodturners and the Inland Empire Chapter. He added much to the knowledge on many aspects of woodturning with writings on sanding, finishing, form & design, sharpening, projects, and others. Unfortunately, he passed away in 2011, and we all lost a wealth of his experience and knowledge. However, many of his written articles are still available to us through Wood Central and The World of Woodturners (WOW). The following are excerpts from his "The Universal Truths of Woodturning (As I Know Them).

1. There are only three ways to become an accomplished woodturner, and they are practice, practice and more practice.
2. It takes years to become an expert woodturner. Standing in front of the lathe, all day, every day, for 20 years would be a good start. Others may be faster than that, but most real experts have a lot of gray hair.
3. Woodturning is both an "art" and a "craft". The "craft" is how the wood is cut, the tools we use, and how we use them. The shape of the finished piece is the "art". Learning about other art forms (pottery, glass, sculptures, etc.) will improve the "art" of our woodturning.
4. Continue being challenged to learn new things. One year's experience repeated ten (10) times is not the same as having ten (10) years of experience.
5. Never lose sight of the customer/user. Anything that is intended to be used must be useable.
6. You can't cut wood with dull tools. The corollary is that the sharper the tool is, the better it cuts.
7. Consistence is more important than the actual profile of the cutting tool. Otherwise we are using a different tool after every trip to the grinder.

It doesn't matter what the grinding wheel is made of, how fast it spins, whether the tool is held in a jig or freehand, or if we use a belt sander or rock, so long as the same edge profile is repeated every time we use it.

8. The speed of the grinding wheel doesn't matter. They all remove metal. The faster wheel removes it faster. There is some justification for the new woodturner to use a slower wheel.
9. It doesn't matter what color grinding wheel is used. It can be pink, gray, white, violet, blue, green, or whatever color. It can be made of aluminum Oxide, Silicone Carbide, sandpaper, or a rock. They all remove metal.

Some may be softer and require dressing more often to make them flat again. Others, like the hard gray wheels that come with grinder, will require dressing more often to remove the glaze of embedded metal and sharpen the wheel.

10. The color of the grinding wheel has no meaning. While all white wheels may be Aluminum Oxide, not all Aluminum Oxide wheels are white. They also come in pale green, violet, pink, blue and yellow, depending on the manufacturer and the dyes they may use in the binders that hold the particles together.
11. There is no truth to the myth that gray wheels will damage the steel.

12. A cheap grinding wheel is a cheap grinding wheel, whatever color it is. Good quality is more expensive. Lacking any other knowledge and specifications, the price is a good indicator of quality.
13. A 46-grit is a coarse wheel, and a 120-grit is a fine wheel. Take your pick for those in between. There isn't enough difference between 60, 80, and 100-grit to worry about it.
14. Getting HSS to turn blue or even red-hot while grinding is not a problem. But, if you do, let it cool in the air. Don't shock it by submerging it in cold water, because that can start micro-cracks in the thin cutting edge.
15. Getting carbon steel hot enough to turn blue can be a problem. That temperature allows the Carbon to move around in the steel and it loses its temper. All is not lost when this happens, just get it hot again, immediately dip it in cold water, and then grind away the blue steel, keeping it cool this time with frequent dipping in cold water.
16. Real woodturners do use scrapers.
17. You can turn an entire bowl or anything else, inside and out, with a scraper. It just takes longer and there is no reason for the tooled finish to be any different from that of a gouge.
18. Any wood can be turned. Some is just easier than others. On a scale of 1 to 10, I have yet to find a "Zero", but I have had some that came close.
19. Don't turn bad wood. There is good wood and there is bad wood. Experience will teach us the difference. And, a high purchase price is not a measure of wood quality.

I would like to add some of my thoughts to some of Russ's "Truths". They will be referenced consistent with his numbers.

1. There are many good books, videos and AAW visual material on turning specific projects. Find a good book showing the processes and set-ups on how to turn several projects and then learn to turn those projects.
4. "Continue being challenged to learn new things." This has been a key part of our club educational effort this past year. The challenge has been for you to come-up with your own ideas, to try something you haven't done before and to go beyond the traditional woodturnings.
7. We use different bevel angles on gouges to get us into the bottom of a deep bowl with a tight radius transition into the bottom. It's the side grind that is important – concave can increase chances of a catch.
14. I try to treat HSS like carbon steel and quench it before it becomes blue.

Demo on Multi-Axis Turning

By Jason Geiser

Jason presented a great demo on Multi-axis spindle turning.

Watch the video on the PVWA web page (www.pvwa.club)



August Meeting Photos




NAME DICK ANDERSON
WOOD RED MALLEE (TREE)
CANDLE HOLDERS







NAME KELLY CROMPTON

WOOD ALDER







NAME Jasper Geiser
WOOD Siberian Elm oil paint



NAME Alan Johnson

WOOD ASL





NAME Alan Johnson

WOOD Baxelder / Birch / Poplar



Jim Curlee