



TURNINGS

November 2002

WCWA, Pinelands Hobbies Club, Nursery Way, Pinelands
WCWA Homepage: <http://www.angelfire.com/ct/wcwa/index.html>
AWSA Homepage: www.awsa.org.za
Central Ohio Woodturners: <http://www.biosci.ohio-state.edu/~awolfe/COW/cow.html>

NEXT MEETING

Our next formal meeting will be on Wednesday 20th November 2002, Pinelands Hobbies Club, 19:00 sharp, as usual.

This will be one of the highlights of the year, as it will be the Summer Showcase and year-end braai, giving members the chance to bring their spouses to show them why they disappear on Wednesday evenings, as well as opportunity to socialise with other members and appreciate the high standards of turning we have achieved over the past year.

EDITORIAL

Another month of frantic activity has passed, with Reg and Anne Sherwin's visit to Cape Town a highlight, and the exhibition at Bellville coming to a successful close. A couple of members made some sales, which is an encouraging sign that the buying public is beginning to appreciate the art in turning (see the note by Andi Wolfe elsewhere in this newsletter – thank you Andi, for permission to use this insert).

At our last "formal" meeting, Izak kindly stepped into the breach at short notice and demonstrated turning tops and a small, decorated lidded box.



A selection of Izak's tops and lidded boxes

Those who attended Reg's classes and demonstration all came away having picked up at least a useful tip or two, while Reg admitted too, picked up a couple of hints from our members. For the novice turners in the club, Reg Sherwin's sessions were an invaluable tool to learning basics and advancing their skills. It cannot be emphasised enough how valuable it is for turners (particularly the less

experienced) to attend demonstrations, watch videos and to read books and magazines on the subject to develop basic skills and then venture beyond, to the more advanced techniques and push the envelope, ultimately to develop artistic aspects. We are fortunate to have some excellent resource material in the club library. Unfortunately for some it is common to attend a class or a demonstration where basics are covered, and have the belief they know it all and cannot benefit or learn something new. However the trick is to be open to expanding beyond seeing the basics and pick up on different perspectives and ideas, and learning from watching how someone else approaches a problem or a way of doing something.

I would like to thank Ken Turner for another useful contribution to our newsletter – how about some feedback from readers on his suggestions – we can develop a regular monthly feature based on questions, comment and advice with the support of members.

Our final "formal" meeting for the year promises to be a high point to end off a very busy year, and I'm looking forward to seeing the latest masterpieces of our members, and to meeting some of the partners of our members.

Solong, Gigi

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FROM THE CHAIR

Last month was a bumper episode so I will keep this one short.

I will dwell more on our guest's (Reg and Anne Sherwin) visit in the next issue.

They only left at 11:30 on the morning of Wednesday 6th November, being chauffeured to Knysna in Izak Cronje's

tender care. I still have to turn a pen, write this article to meet this month's editorial deadline or suffer the consequences.

ART EXHIBITION.

From all accounts this event seems to have been well received and once again the art of woodturning has been given a lot of exposure. Copies of the comment pages from the library will be forwarded to me shortly and will be at the club for all to see.

To all who participated in any way whatsoever thank you for making this a success.

REGSHERWIN VISIT.

Reg and his wife Anne have come and gone and spent far too short a time with us.

Those of you who were not able to attend the demonstration or join the Saturday night social missed the opportunity to meet a charming and down to earth couple. They both have a very good sense of humour and in addition to that Reg's repartee is as sharp as his well honed chisels.

They slotted into our company without any effort and it felt as if they were members of long standing.

At this point I would like to extend to Anne our Association's most heartfelt condolences on the passing of her mother on the 1st of November after a long illness. (Reg and Anne had decided before they undertook the trip that they would not cut their visit short in the event of this happening.)

When being entertained, their first choice was the locally flavoured fare such as bobotie, tomato bredie, pickled fish and ostrich steak, but they did give the marinated crocodile tail a miss.

Reg's classes and demonstrations were well presented and to the point!

To be continued.....



Reg discussing the finer points of a chisel

Meanwhile here's wishing them a pleasant and entertaining trip through South Africa and a safe journey home.

LOST AND FOUND.

Lost:

One small blue covered notebook clearly marked belonging to Ken Turner containing his notes from the Friday 1st Nov Reg Sherwin class.

Found:

On 30th Oct two turning tools.

Will the owner start queuing at the canteen counter on Wednesday 13th

Till Wednesday the 20th, Happy turning,

Cheers,

Eric



FROM THE MEMBERS

When one begins a new hobby the learning curve is steep. Doing things just a little differently can make a big difference. I've been trying to jot down little things which really helped during the first few months of woodturning, while they're still top of my mind.

Please, let's hear about your "ah-ha's!", better ideas, alternatives and other odds-and-ends you find really useful. My thanks to all whose ideas appear here.

* Glue garnet paper to thin leather with contact glue. Cut into narrow (+/- 5mm strips) it makes a great sanding backing for getting into small boxes, egg cups etc. Good insulator against heat too. Used as a loose backing pad, leather works better for me than any foam or card. Scrap leather readily available from Woodheads (Tel 461-7185) in town. (What a confusing name!)

* Before dividing up a new sheet of abrasive, take a couple of moments to scribble the grit number on the back in many more places than the manufacturer did. Prevents those little scraps of anonymous grits from accumulating in the mangle bakkie...

* Cutting downhill? – It took me more than a couple of books to realize why "downhill" with respect to the grain on spindle turning goes from large to small diameter but the opposite way for faceplate turning. If you're puzzled, probably overlooking the difference in grain direction for spindle vs faceplate.

* Hot-melt gluing a relatively large area can be frustrating if the glue has already started to congeal before the whole

area is covered. Pre-heating both surfaces with a hot air gun (or possibly even a hair dryer) extends the working time considerably. Just leave it a bit longer to cool once together.

* Bowls can easily be temporarily held on backing plates using hot melt. Quicker than turning a jam chuck, not a problem if the rim is not perfectly round. (Thanks Gert)

* Separating hot -melt glue joints can be done in the microwave. A quick experiment will show you that the glue itself is not heated by microwave energy but the wood invariably contains enough moisture to get hot enough to melt the glue that's holding it... (Just remember that all hot melt joints will soften equally!)

* Having only one face plate, I soon looked for an efficient method for screwing the workpiece in place. Allen head self tapping screws in conjunction with the appropriate size hex driver in an electric screwdriver work like a charm. A good range of sizes in stainless steel available from Topfast in Paarden Eiland (Tel 511 -4477), (but take check your credit -worthiness first and buy four not a dozen!)



* SBB Machine Tools (Paardeneiland Tel 511 0246 and Bellville Tel 939 -9170) stock a good range of High Speed Steel toolbit steel made by SOMTA in South Africa. Excellent for making your own small tools. Sizes I've found particularly useful are 5 - 8mm square section and 5 - 8mm round. Lengths vary according to size, but go for the longest available and try jamming it into a handle loosely enough to make grinding both ends practical... One point, SOMTA uses two grades of HSS - the "normal" one and a high cobalt version. If you find the normal one quite good enough and it's quite a lot cheaper. Both are quite tough to grind but take your time.

* The handles on Toolmate lathes are pathetic. When they give up the ghost, take the useless sample tool of Flexoline products (again in Paardeneiland, Tel 511 -7578) and you'll walk out with simple plastic -headed M10 setting screws, longer than you need for under R6.00 each. (Thanks for this one Daryl!) Otherwise go the whole hog and pay R60 -R70 each for the real thing from WD Hearn (Tel 534 -5351 in Epping) or Toolquip & Allied (Tel 593 -9700, Maitland).

* Learn to sharpen your own tools and invest in whatever necessary to do it easily and efficiently. (Dennis still has a jig available - Ed.) There is no substitute to being able to sharpen your tools where you work. Invest in a diamond dresser to keep your grindstone sharp and in good shape.

* Search the Internet for wood turning articles. Learn how to use the search engines like Alta Vista, Google and Copernic. Incredibly powerful search methods which will net a vast amount of specialized information from all over the world.

* Don't overlook local libraries. Much easier to find books you're after now that the whole Municipal Library system on a single database.

* Enjoy turning at the club. You'll never learn more in a shorter time. Thanks to all who contribute both their time and their experiences so generously.

Ken Turner



Instant Gallery at the AAW Symposium

COMMENT ON THE ART IN TURNING AFTER THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS SEMINAR:

On the AAW Website Andi Wolfe has posted photos she took at the annual Seminar in June 2002. At the end of her gallery she posted the following note which I gratefully acknowledge, to be found at the website:
<http://www.biosci.ohio-state.edu/~awolfe/COW/AAW2002/notefromandi.html>

A NOTE FROM ANDI

One of the newsgroup topics of discussion raised following the symposium is the attention "artistic" renderings receive as opposed to "plains in old bowls" in coverage of the symposium. Many turners who prefer to let the beauty of the wood speak for itself have negative things to say about turnings that incorporate carving, texturing, and color. Other woodturners feel that contemporary woodturning has grown beyond the functional bowl, and that the woodturning community should celebrate the success of those artists who have gone beyond "craft" and moved into the realm of "art."

I happen to believe there is room for both aesthetics in contemporary woodturning. Although my own work incorporates the manipulation of wood surfaces, I still appreciate the beauty of wood and the functional utility of a well-made bowl or platter. I also think that the elevation of contemporary woodturning into the realm of the art world benefits those makers who prefer to craft functional objects, or those who choose to let the beauty of the wood speak for itself.

It is the case that there are different markets catering to different types of woodturning. For example, makers who spend a lot of time manipulating turnings into objects of art are unlikely to sell them on the craft market circuit. Makers of functional objects are unlikely to market through fine art galleries, although their work may be considered art in its own right. Collectors of wood art are attracted to both aesthetics. So, I'm not sure what all the fuss is about regarding the development of contemporary woodturning away from the "plain old bowl" syndrome. What I do know is that there was a mixture of these aesthetics presented in the Instant Gallery of the AAW symposium in Providence. I, for one, am grateful to have seen so many fine examples of today's trends in woodturning. For those of you who are reading this final note and missed the 2002 symposium, I hope you'll be able to attend the 2003 symposium.

Andi Wolfe

WESTERN CAPE DOCTORS ART GROUP EXHIBITION OF ART

Peter Nicolle has passed on an invitation to an exhibition of Art which takes place at the Kingsbury Hospital, Claremont on Sunday 17th November. Please contact Peter Nicolle for more detail on (021) 6744864.



Some of our members' work on display at Hobby -X

FROM THE COMMITTEE SUMMER SHOWCASE

Every member is welcome to submit pieces for assessment at the Showcase. Pieces for assessment must be delivered to the Club on Wednesday 13th November, when judging will take place. As all these pieces will have the scores and judges' comments on the display, this offers an excellent opportunity for members to learn from each other.

If you do not wish to have your work assessed, there will be an exhibition section of the showcase, for members to have pieces only on display.

The list of member standings is included below. Novices who have never entered the Showcase before, enter as

Beginners, and promotion to the next level happens when you have achieved a total of four Gold Medals in a particular category.

<u>Category</u>	Total Awards to date:		
	Standing Oct 2002		
	<u>Gold</u>	<u>Silver</u>	<u>Bronze</u>
<u>Beginner</u>			
David Anderton	2	6	-
Nico Bantjies	-	-	1
Colin Chambers	-	-	-
Darryl Bailey	-	3	1
Jon Hide	3	3	2
Jones Ken	1	3	4
Heinrich Muller	-	2	-
Estelle Labuschagne	2	-	-
Dave Nathan	-	1	-
Kenneth Pilkington	2	1	-
Eric Thornton	2	3	6
Ken Turner	-	1	-
Brian Winn	-	-	-
Derek Westley	-	1	4
Whitson Trevor	-	7	7
<u>Intermediate</u>			
Jim Douglas	-	-	-
Wearne Draper	-	5	3
Lenette George	2	2	-
Graeme Hill	3	6	1
Howard Lund	1	-	1
Harold Mills	1	-	-
Ron Steel	2	1	5
Ossie White	-	-	1
<u>Advanced</u>			
Tom Allan	1	5	-
Mike Bester	1	-	1
Steve Bull	15	13	1
Thys Carstens	27	8	3
Beyers Cronje	1	-	-
Izak Cronje	13	8	1
John deGruchy	-	-	-
Ruben duPlessis	-	-	-
Francois duToit	-	-	-
Gert Ferreira	6	6	-
Alan Jackson	-	-	-
Johan Labuschagne	7	7	3
Dennis Laidler	20	5	1
Peter Nicolle	17	-	1
Bert Parker	3	-	-
Tony van Niekerk	3	1	-

REMINDERS

Contributions to this newsletter are always welcome. Please forward any comment, article or digital image to meatmynewemailaddress: gigi.laidler@lando.co.za, or snailmailmeatPOBox308,Plumstead7801.

FORTHCOMINGPROGRAMME

Please let the committee have input about what you, the members, wish to have demonstrated or learn more about at our regular "formal" meetings. Ideas for the "other" Wednesdays are also welcome.

20th November 2002

November Showcase and Year -end Braai. (bring your own meat and utensils, etc)

NB Remember to bring your showcase pieces to the Club for assessment on 13th November.

14th December 2002

Hobbies Club Open Day in association with SA Woodworker

15th January 2003

Demonstration on workshop safety and chainsaw techniques, coordinated by Bert Parker.

19th February 2003

Bert Parker will show us how to do off-centre turning.

19th March 2003

Peter Nicolle will demonstrate gilding techniques (this demonstration was given at the recent AWSA Seminar in Durban)

Exact date to be confirmed – could be earlier or later

18th April 2003

Annual General Meeting

21st May 2003

Johan Labuschagne will demonstrate "small holes in big bowls".

Exact date to be confirmed – could be earlier or later



Monthly programme for meetings:

1st Wednesday is an informal affair where members are welcome to use the Association's equipment, receive guidance from experienced members and generally discuss matters turning. (Also the committee meeting)

2nd Wednesday is specifically targeted at assisting beginners.

3rd Wednesday is the regular formal meeting, comprising discussion of Association matters, as well as demonstrations, videos and in June and November, the biannual showcases.

4th/5th Wednesday same as 1st Wednesday.

NB Remember to bring your own chisels and other accessories for the "working" Wednesdays.

COMMITTEE

The committee members for 2002/2003 are:

Eric Thornton	Chairman	531 1559(h)
Bert Parker	Treasurer	9140927 (h)
Alan Jackson	Library	702 3698 (h)
Gert Ferreira	PR	5591409(h)
Wearnedraper	Workshop	7973247(h)
Gigi Laidler	Newsletter	7977755 (h)
Ken Turner	Co-opted as Secretary	6899251(h)

Email contacts for committee members are:

Eric Thornton	notnorth@mweb.co.za
Bert Parker	nimbus@yebo.co.za
Gert Ferreira	gskc@mweb.co.za
Alan Jackson	alanj@global.co.za
Wearnedraper	bwdraper@lantic.net
Gigi Laidler	gigi.laidler@lando.co.za
Ken Turner	ktturner@iafrica.com

*Please do not renew email address.

Please could all members who have access to email (and MS Office) let us know, in order for us to send you the electronic version of the newsletter, which allows you to see it and print it out (if you have a colour printer) in glorious Technicolor.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Annual Subs for 2002/2003 are:

Ordinary member:

WCWA	R90.00
Hobbies Club	40.00
Total	R130.00

Family member:

(Same surname – living under same roof)

WCWA	R50.00
Hobbies Club	R35.00
Total	R85.00

Country member:

(No Hobbies Club fee)

WCWA	R90.00
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Guest Fee:

A guest fee of R10 per visit will apply to members who have failed to renew their membership, and guests attending more than two club meetings.

Note: AWSA membership (R 45) should be paid together with WCWA subs. The National Body prefers to have clubs pay for their members as a group payment, rather than individuals paying directly to the AWSA. Bert Parker will remit all AWSA memberships to the National Body.

THE MARKET PLACE

We have been running a couple of commercial adverts in our newsletter. If you wish to advertise, or know of a company or person who wishes to advertise, please contact Bert Parker. Rates for an advert placed in the newsletter monthly, are R350 per annum.

Items for "the Market Place" are a free service, however the editor would appreciate feedback when items have been sold.



SECOND-HAND TABLE

Please remember to bring along old tools to the "formal" meeting". This offers the newer members an opportunity of acquiring affordable tools, while you have some extra cash for that next bowl gouge you are hankering after, that somehow did not appear in your Christmas stocking.

AEG PORTABLE HAND PLANER TO SELL

Width 182mm, with 2 sets of blades. R50 x 2 = R100
 Plus spare belt. Total selling price R400
 Contact Ken Jones, Tel: (021) 788 5458.

TWIN FLEX

Peter Nicol le has provided the club with 2 1/2m -lengths of twin flex, ideal for table lamps. Minimum R2 donation per piece to the Club.

WANTED:

A 3/8" (10mm) bowl gouge.
 1/4" or 5/16" hand drill.
 Contact Derek Westley. Ph: (021) 762 4574.

RYOBIRA 2500 RADIAL ARMSAW

With two blades: one original 254mm blade, and one tungsten blade.
 Good Condition R3 500.
 Contact Dennis Laidler: (021) 797 7755 weekends and after 19:30 weekdays.

HYDROWAX

R35 per 5 l, for members providing their own containers. A R5 deposit will be levied for members who do not supply their own container.

THE SAWOODWORKER

A special price of R140 for a one -year subscription to SA Woodworker has been negotiated for club members. Copies of the magazine purchased at this concession price

can **only be collected** at the club, and will **not be posted**. Please contact Eric for your subscription form and for further details. From January this year, the subscription rate will be calculated for the annual rate from January to December, and adjusted *pro rata* if paid for any other period.

WCWA CLUB T-SHIRTS

Smart royal blue golf shirts, bearing the club name are available to members.

R45 for sizes small to large, and R50 for XXL.

Contact Graeme Hill

SUPERGLUE

Glue available from Bert Parker.

MASKS

The committee has a supply of masks available from Bert Parker.

TURNING JACKETS

Nico Bantjies is producing workshop jackets, blue with the club logo.

R35 for an apron and R55 for the full jacket.

Tel: (021) 9130296

TAILPIECE

Thank you to Eric for providing a "tailpiece":

Astold to Eric....

A very well known turner encountered a hidden nail in the piece he was turning. He decided to use the offending intruder as a feature and called it:

A nail dish by Dale Nish



Eric being awarded the Ancient and Honourable Order of the Wooden Dangler by Reg Sherwin

Cheers, and safe turning still we meet again,

Gigi