

Golden Triangle Woodturners Club - Denton Texas

THE WOODTURNER

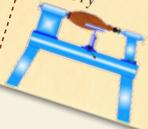
July 2012

Issue No. 7

<http://web.me.com/gtw44/gtw>

MEETING: 7:00 PM
FIRST MONDAY OF THE MONTH
Center for the Visual Arts
Bell and Hickory

TELEPHONE
(940) 383-1248



July 2nd Demonstration

Support Spindles and how to sell on the internet

NEAL BRAND

DEMONSTRATOR



Spinning wheels first appeared around 1000 years ago. Before spinning wheels, all yarn was spun on spindles. Imagine all the thread and yarn in all the clothes, sails, tents and other cloth that was spun on "sticks." Each culture had its own variation of spindles optimized for the type of fiber they would spin. Since the invention of the spinning wheel, spindles have become less important to society, but people still spin yarn on spindles and many different styles of spindles are still made.

There are two general types of spindles, drop and support. Drop spindles are suspended by the yarn being spun while support spindles spin like a top. In either case, the spinning spindle introduces a twist in the fiber which converts it to yarn. For the last year, I have been making support spindles, mainly Tibetan style.

I intend to demonstrate how to make Tibetan spindles. In order to sell a spindle, it has to be attractive. But to sell many, they have to spin smoothly, long and fast. Attractive spindles that don't spin well are not appreciated and spindles that spin well but do not look nice are also not in demand. I will address some of the issues related to making attractive and functional Tibetan style spindles.

I also have a second goal in giving my demonstration. Over the last year, I have sold on average approximately one spindle per day plus many small bowls used to support the spindles and several other items. The only reason I have not sold more is that I don't have time to make more! I will talk about how I got started making spindles and give some tips that I have discovered on how to market turnings on the internet.

I have been turning for about seven years and I have been a member of GTW for most of that time. My day job is teaching mathematics at the University of North Texas. I am married with two grown children and two granddaughters.



President's Report

NEAL BRAND



Have you seen “Turning Logs to Art” yet? Even though I saw most of the turnings individually before, to see them professionally displayed and all together was quite a treat. It was especially fun because I know all the artists who contributed their work. The people at the Visual Arts Center did an excellent job of displaying our work. Be sure to let all your friends, neighbors and relatives know about the exhibition. The gallery is open from 1:00 to 5:00 every afternoon Tuesday through Sunday.

GTW has been a valuable resource for me to learn about woodturning. When I first started coming to the meetings, I barely knew which end of the gouge was which. We have excellent demonstrations from both local wood turners and occasionally from internationally known turners. Furthermore, we have a strong mentoring program, open shops and many informal conversations that help us exchange ideas and develop skills. Although I am still not an expert, I have become more than competent at a number of woodturning skills. This is one of the reasons that I am happy to serve as president of the club.

I suspect that many of you have benefited from our club activities, just like I have. If you are thinking about ways that you can help the club, we have some needs. One need that became apparent at a couple of recent meetings is relief for Mike Nelson. Mike takes on the full responsibility of setting up the AV equipment for each meeting as well as serving as secretary/treasurer. When Mike is out of town or ill, we have an emergency! I would like to set up a committee to take the responsibility of setting up the AV equipment. Mike would chair the committee and each member would be trained to set up and run the equipment. The committee would make sure that at each meeting at least one person from the committee would be present. Talk to Mike or me if you are interested in helping with this critical task.

If AV equipment is not your skill, please consider other ways to help. For example, do you have a special turning related skill or knowledge that you could “turn” into a demonstration for the club? If you want a lower profile activity we can use more help setting up and tearing down for meetings. How about volunteering to be a mentor? Don’t forget about turning cars at the Arts and Jazz Festival and Celebrate Roanoke. If you have leadership skills, think about being an officer. We will form a nominating committee this month and they will be looking for volunteers to serve as officers. If you are interested in helping in any of these ways, let any of the club officers know.

I have been very impressed with the quality and quantity of bowls our club has contributed to the Empty Bowl Project. When we first started making bowls for the project, most of the bowls were nice, but nothing special. Each year the quality of the bowls improve over the previous year. I hope no one is intimidated by some of the excellent Empty Bowls. Even if you are a beginning bowl turner, your contribution of nice bowls will be important and you can be sure that they will get good homes and generate money to help feed the hungry. Furthermore, the way to improve at anything is to practice, practice and practice. So why not turn in your nice practice bowls to the Empty Bowl Project?

The other charity that we as a club support is the Beads of Courage Program. Last month Dick Koch gave an excellent demonstration on how to make a segmented box that works perfectly for a Beads of Courage box. I am looking forward to see if others will pick up on Dick’s design and bring in some segmented boxes for the project.

Up Coming Activities at GTW

Future Demonstrations

- July: **Support Spindles and how to market on the internet.**
- August: **Joel Ruben:** Bowls from a board and **Don Hawkins:** Pens from branches and how to sell your product?
- September: **Gadgets, Gizmos and Gimmicks** - Got one? Tell us about it.
- October: **Finishing.** Club members present - Do you have a favorite finish. Willing to share it with the rest of the club?
- November: **Doug Fisher**
- December: **Christmas Party**

It's not too early to register for SWAT 2012



This year SWAT will be in Waco, TX from August 24th - 26th. You can register thru July 26th for \$130 or after for \$150. SWAT is the second largest symposium in the US. We will have more than 800 attendees and more than 35 vendors with approximately 75 booths. You can register on line at: www.swaturners.org. Once at the web site, you can get all the symposium information you need. Vendors attending, rotation schedule, lodging, and dining information are all available.

Lead demonstrators this year are: Cindy Dorzda, Michael Hosaluk, Todd Hoyer, JoHannes Michelson, Joe Ruminski, Haley Smith, Steve Sinner, and Barbara Dill. Please check out their web sites for more information. In addition there will be a number of excellent regional demonstrators. This will be an outstanding learning experience that you don't want to miss.

If you have any questions, please give me a call. My cell is: 214-662-2200 or my email is: perttkacs@gmail.com.

Peter Tkacs - SWAT Representative

Miscellaneous Club Information

Bring Back Winners from June

No record of them: If you were a winner be sure to remember to bring back something to share with the group!

GTW Calendar 2012

- July 2: Monthly Club Meeting
- July 12: GTW Board Meeting
- July 21: Pen Turn-a-thon - Wood World
- August 6: Monthly Club Meeting
- August 24 - 26 SWAT - Waco TX



September 22-23, 2012: Turn a Bowl and Platter with Gene Colley

We will focus on turning a bowl and platter with a pleasing shape and design. We will work on consistent wall thickness, rim profiles, and much more. This class is for the beginner and the intermediate turner.

Cost is \$195.00 plus lab and material fees -- Contact Canyon Studios



Photos of members from our June meeting



Congratulations Teddy -
Quarterly Raffle Winner

Mark your calendar Now!!!



The Greater Denton Arts Council presents:

Turning Logs to Art

At the Meadows Gallery - June 15 to August 10
Galleries are open 1-5 Tuesday - Sunday

Come out and see what your fellow club members have on display.
It's a great exhibit.

WOODWORLD



Freedom Pen
Turn-a-thon
Saturday July 21, 2012
9AM - 4PM

the freedom pens project
www.freedompens.org

The banner features a soldier in the background, a yellow pen in the foreground, and an illustration of a man turning a pen on a lathe with the Statue of Liberty in the background.

WoodWorld's annual event.

GTW will have a lathe or two set up so come on out
and turn a pen or two to support our troops!

Bowl of the Month Club

Consider joining the Club - Bowls are fun and easy

So far this year we have 20 turners signed up for the Bowl of the Month Club. We could use a few more. Why not consider joining. This year bowl blanks will be provided if you want to use them. To date we have 269 bowls turned with a minimum goal of 300. Four months to go. (DAW did 400 Bowls this year) The following is Bowl of the Month Club members and the number they turned:

Gary Armitage	7	John Lauderbough	8
Greg Ammon	11	Dale Lloyd	36
Sharon Ayres	5	Jeff Short	3
Bob Beaubouef	4	Sam Slovak	8
John Beasley	40	John Solberg	32
Neal Brand	9	Peter Tkacs	3
Lewis Brown	10	Teddy Twombly	12
Bill George	4	Robert Voth	4
Don Hawkins	7	Oren Zehner	16
David Hoenig	6	Others	32
Jim Johnson	12		
		Total	269



*Bowls for the Empty Bowls
Program May
meeting*

Empty Bowls and Beads of Courage will continue to be our outreach programs for 2012.

We will also participate in Denton Arts and Jazz and Celebrate Roanoke

Don't Forget to Renew Your Memberships

Don't forget to renew your GTW Membership. There are still many that need to renew. You can download a membership form from the web site or pick one up at the next meeting.

If you haven't renewed or joined the AAW I would encourage you to do so. It is a very worthwhile organization and publishes a first class woodturning magazine. AAW has also started a bi-monthly e-mail newsletter, *AAW - Woodturning Fundamentals*. Just another reason to join.

Making Custom Colors

Mixing your own dyes and stains - By Robert Triplett and Bob Duncan

It can be difficult to find the perfect dye or stain color for your project. Instead of searching the stores or settling for something other than what you envisioned, you can create the exact color you want.



The Differences Between Dyes and Stains

For most woodcarving projects, the goal is to add color to a piece without obscuring the wood grain. Transparent coloring agents are collectively referred to as stains. There are two types of stains: pigmented stains and dye stains.

To create a pigmented stain, natural or synthetic earth compounds (clay, soil, or other mineral-based colorants) are suspended in mineral spirits, lacquer thinner, water, or a type of glycol. A binder, such as oil, varnish, lacquer, or even a water-based compound, holds the pigments to the wood surface. According to Bob Flexner in *Understanding Wood Finishes*, pigments tend to collect in scratches or defects in the wood, which can accentuate any flaws, but they don't soak into the wood. Because they don't soak in, pigments can obscure the wood unless you wipe off the excess. But, because the pigments are tiny solid particles, pigmented stains don't fade quickly when exposed to sunlight.

For a more uniform finish using pigmented stains, shake or stir the liquid to ensure the pigments stay suspended, and apply a pre-stain conditioner to prepare the wood for the stain.

Dyes are chemical colorants that totally dissolve in a solvent—usually water but sometimes alcohol, naphtha, toluene, xylene, or lacquer thinner. Because the chemical colorants are totally dissolved, dyes soak into the wood and remain transparent even if you don't wipe off the excess. Dyes usually absorb into the wood evenly without accentuating flaws.

Dyes are available in more vibrant colors than pigments, but they tend to fade when exposed to sun. The fact that dyes absorb into the wood evenly can reduce the contrast between areas of differing density in the wood.

Most commercial finishes, such as Minwax, combine dyes and pigments in varying proportions.

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Making Custom Colors

Continued

Mixing Custom Stains

Many woodcarvers thin acrylic paint with water, clear paint mediums, or water-based stains to create pigmented stains. You can also create custom stains using oil paints. Acrylic paints dry quickly; the longer working time oil paints provide can be beneficial.

To make custom oil stains, squeeze a 3/4" (19mm)-long ribbon of artist oil paint into a small glass jar and add about 3/4 oz (4 1/2 teaspoons or 22ml) of mineral spirits. Put a lid on the jar and shake until the paint thoroughly mixes with the mineral spirits. You can apply these pigmented stains right out of the jar or mix the stains together to create custom colors. Control the concentration and the intensity of the colors by adding more or less mineral spirits. Some artists use natural-colored oil-based stain, such as Minwax, to thin oil paints. The natural-colored oil-based stain adds a warmer tone to the wood. Experiment with tinted and clear bases to produce a variety of custom stains.

Mixing Custom Dyes

Custom dyes are equally easy to make. Dyes come in a variety of colors. Many of these easy-to-use colorants are sold as powders that dissolve in water or alcohol. Dyes made using alcohol dry faster than dyes made using water. Modern aniline dyes, originally developed for the textile industry, resist fading more than natural dyes. After dissolving the powders or diluting the liquid, you can mix the dyes to create custom colors.

Adding Colors to Film Finishes

Some people suggest adding color to a film finish, such as lacquer or varnish. Most film finishes require an exact chemical composition. If you interfere with this delicate chemistry, it can produce unexpected results, such as a finish that flakes off easily or never dries fully. Color the wood before you apply a film finish.

Testing Colors

Make a practice board to test colors. Take a flat piece of wood the same species as your project and use masking tape to divide the board into a grid of squares. Create and mix different stains or dyes in various small containers and apply them to the squares. Mark the squares and corresponding jars and allow the colorant to dry. If you plan to apply a finish on top of the color, apply it to the sample board as well so you can see how the completed project will look. This trial and error process using a practice board teaches you how to work with custom stains and dyes, and can prevent a costly mistake on a piece you spent hours carving.

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Pictures from the June Demonstration

SEGMENTED TURNING BY DICK KOCH



Additional Pictures from last months meeting:



GTW Mentoring Program

DO YOU NEED HELP WITH A TURNING PROJECT? JUST ASK!

The members listed below have offered their time and expertise and are willing to be a mentor to other members. Please contact the mentor directly. For More information check the GTW web site.

Sharon Ayres	Dallas	469-737-5305	ladywithlathe@aol.com
John Beasley	Denton	940-387-7062	rbeasley15@verizon.net
Neal Brand	Denton	940-383-1248	neal@unt.edu
Glynn Cox	Roanoke	817-337-0210	Thumbs9@verizon.net
Don Hawkins	Gainesville	940-665-3033	ddhawkins@sbcglobal.net
John Horn	N. Richland Hills	817-485-7397	johnhorn@flash.net
John Solberg	Denton	940-387-3089	betweencenters@gmail.com
Peter Tkacs	Denton	940-271-4728	petertkacs@gmail.com

Thank You For Volunteering your Time and Expertise!!

If you are interested in becoming a mentor please let one of the board members know.

Golden Triangle Woodturners

CLUB INFORMATION AND CONTACTS

2012 Club Officers

President	Neal Brand	940-383-1248	nealbrand70@gmail.com
Vice President	John Beasley	940-387-7062	rbeasley15@verizon.net
Secretary	Mike Nelson	214-387-9077	nelson6753@sbcglobal.net
Treasurer	Chris Morgan	940-321-1151	chris.morgan@centurytel.net
Activities	Tom Lohr	940-464-7723	tomlohr@verizon.net
Membership	Mike Nelson	214-387-9077	nelson6753@sbcglobal.net
Librarian	Peter Tkacs	214-662-2200	petertkacs@gmail.com
Newsletter	John Solberg	940-387-3089	betweencenters@gmail.com
Past President	John Solberg	940-387-3089	Betweencenters@gmail.com



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