

Shavings

DETROIT AREA
WOODTURNERS



March 2006

<http://www.DetroitAreaWoodturners.org>

Editor Ruby Cler

President's Message

Wake up and smell the wood chips!

One can sure tell spring is getting close. Members are vacationing in Florida or other warm places. The Alan Lacer demo and workshops must have inspired many folks, the open shop days by Ray, Bill and myself are well attended, which means that folks are chomping at the bit. It is hard to make a visit to woodcraft or Rockler and not run into a club member. Members are starting to head out to attend various classes at the many schools around the country. Soon it will be time for the AAW national symposium and our June picnic.

Don't forget to get started on your croquet balls and mallets, it would be a good idea to get the ball roughed out and give it a little time to dry out before final shaping. Customizing a design on the ball would sure enhance it.

My rehabilitation project has been to work through the Chris Stott book on 50 box designs and try and make all of them. This is a good project, as I can complete one and then take a break to get off my leg. Keep rubbing the bevel.

Greg

Return to the Community

During the 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, give them to DAW Vice Pres. Frank Marabate or mail them to Greg Streif, 7308 Abbott Glen Dr., Crestwood, Ky., 40014 gregstreif@insightbb.com.

This is a great opportunity for our 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.

"Showcase of Custom Woodworking 2006"

The Michigan Woodworker's Guild presents a "Showcase of Custom Woodworking 2006" a display of handcrafted furniture, Turnings, Marquetry, and toys. All pieces made by members of the Guild Sunday March 12, 2006 12 noon until 5 p.m.

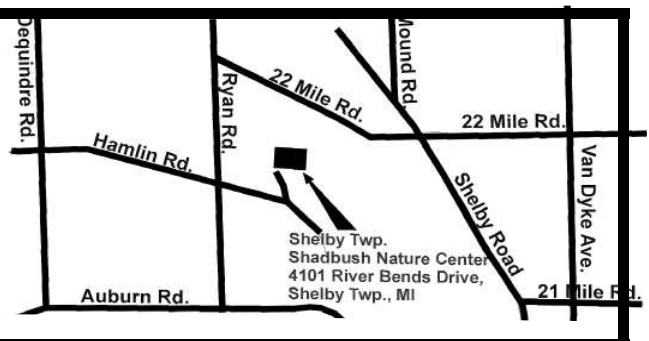
It is located at the Livonia Senior Citizens Centre, 15218 Farmington Rd.

Join the AAW!!



Next Meeting - March 19, 2006

Meeting Highlight will be on Carving. The Detroit Area Woodturners meet at the Shelby River Bends Park, Shadbush Nature Centre, Shelby Township, MI, from 2:00 to 4:30 PM. The Park is located on Ryan Road between 21 and 22 Mile Roads opposite the Hamlin Road junction. All visitors are welcome.



Calendar of Events

The DAW meets the third Sunday monthly, unless adjusted for holidays, September through June. General Meetings are scheduled from 2:00 PM to 4:30 PM. Executive meetings are open to all club members:

- March 8/06 - Executive meeting 7:00 p.m. at Chet Bisno's house.
- March 19/06 - General Meeting. Demonstration on carving by Ray Frase.
- April 5th/06 - Executive meeting 7:00 p.m. at John Fitzpatrick's house.
- April 23 - General Meeting. Demonstration on Stave work by Frand Marabate
- May 10 - Executive meeting 7:00 p.m. at Ruby Cler's house.
- May 21 - General Meeting. Demonstration on making Goblets.
- May 31 - Executive Meeting.
- June 11 - General Meeting and Picnic.
Bring your croquet balls and mallets.
- June 22-24 - AAW Symposium in Louisville KY

Louisville Symposium

If you are planning on going to the symposium and camping, this information, sent in by Dave Fischer may help with your choice of site: The Louisville South KOA. is 20 miles and 30 Minutes from Downtown at:
 2433 Highway 44E
 Shepherdsville, KY 40165
louisvillesouth@alltel.net
 Information and Reservations
 502-543-2041 ~ Fax 502-543-4029 ~
 Toll Free 800-562-1880
 I called and they have plenty of room for the Symposium dates right now. I camped there 25 years ago when I went to a Kentucky Derby. From the web site it looks like it's improved a lot since then. If I do decide to go, it would be for the week and I'd have my wife and two boys (7 & 9). If others went, they could car pool. I have a pop-up. However, it looks like there are hook ups for RV's.

DAW Officers - Here to Help!

President	Greg Smith	(248) 649-3565	gregsmith@aol.com
1 st Vice President	Frank Marabate	(586) 247-6290	fmarabate@comcast.net
2nd Vice President	Bob Daily	(248) 373-1748	sokkerref@aol.com
Secretaries	Bill Schrodt	(586) 446-9539	wrchrodt@aol.com
	Mike Foydel	(586)294-8777	mfoydell@comcast.net
Treasurer	John Fitzpatrick	(248) 608-6972	john-elliefitz@sbcglobal.net
Librarians	Dave Earl	(248) 544-8947	djearl@comcast.net
	Glenn Lieving	(586) 726-2856	glieving@comcast.net
Retail Chairman Editor	Dave Wiltse	(248) 625-5347	
Newsletter Editor	Ruby Cler	(519) 945-0647	rubycler@sympatico.ca
Web Master	Matt Harber	(248) 669-0712	mcharber@comcast.net
Asset Manager	Ron Szetumerski	(248) 689-5615	rsztumerski @ wideopenwest.com
Mentor Chairman	Chet Bisno	(586) 254-7605	chet.bisno@honeywell.

Bleaching Wood

Given that bleach has some chemical properties that can affect skin and eyes, a rule of thumb is to read the manufacturer's instructions and to pay attention to risk or danger labels. Second, wear protective gloves and if possible, goggles. If a bottle of bleach tumbles, some of the liquid could splash at your face and eyes.

Three types of bleaches are used on wood. Just as you use stain to colour wood, you use bleach to remove it. A friendly reminder: not all bleaches will work on a certain kind of wood and a certain kind of stain. You must be familiar with the situation first before you choose the bleach to work with.

1. Two Part Bleach (or Peroxide or A/B Bleaches)

It is called two part bleach because of its two components: sodium hydroxide and strong hydrogen peroxide. They are used to remove the natural colour of wood. They can lighten pigment stains, but don't use it for removing dye stains.

2. Chlorine Bleach

This type of bleach is good for removing dye stains, although it may take several repeats to completely remove the stains, especially when using a commercial product like Clorox. Tip: it's great for removing food stains such as grape.

3. Oxalic Acid

This is a more specialised bleach in the sense that it will remove a certain type of stain that is formed when moisture and iron come into contact with tannic acid in the wood. It will also work on the greying effects of the outdoor elements. When used in furniture that has been stripped for refinishing, oxalic acid can also be used to lighten the wood. Most deck work uses oxalic acid, to counteract the weathering of wood. It is sold in most hardware stores in crystal form.

Each bleach has its specific purpose. For two-part bleach, the goal is to lighten the wood, and almost always requires the use of a neutraliser such as water. Also, ensure that when you apply the bleach, apply it only on the stain, and not on the surrounding areas of the wood.

A caveat on most references to bleach is that it may or may not work. The kind of wood you have, the type of stain you want to remove, how the stain got there in the first place and how long the stain has been there will all affect the effectiveness of the bleach. Some woodworkers have encountered frustrations in bleaching wood, yet others have been creative enough to ignore the failures of bleaching agents. You either re-paint the entire work piece or create the same stain in strategic points of your work piece.

Library Notes from Glenn

The following material has been added to the library:

WOODWORKING DESIGN magazine - main feature is make your own sharpening system.

WOODTURNING with Ray Key - well illustrated covering turning from beginning to finishing and how to process a number of projects.

THE ART OF SEGMENTED WOOD TURNING by Malcolm Tibbetts - a step by step guide with beautiful illustrations.

Don't Forget the Meeting Door Prizes!!

Door prizes are an important part of each meeting. Members enjoy getting the prizes. The monies, from the raffle, pay for things like operating expenses. Please bring along any extra wood, tools or other items you feel you can afford to donate to our prize table.

Welcome to New Members

A special welcome goes out to the following people, who have recently joined our club:

Bill Wollet of Lennon, MI
Roger LaRose of Harper Woods, MI
Martin Nichols of Oxford, MI

Detroit Metro-Carvers Woodcarving Show

The Detroit Metro-Carvers annual woodcarving show will be held on March 18th and 19th 2006. This show is a great place to observe many of our DAW members who are also carvers in action and enjoy their carving displays. There are also representatives of many carving supply retailers selling carving and wood burning tools as well as books and other items. Be sure and visit the show on Saturday the 18th or early on Sunday the 19th (don't be late for our meeting :)

The show hours are:

Saturday, March 18th 10 a.m. until 5 p.m.

Sunday, March 19th 11 a.m. until 4 p.m.

The show is located at the Food Workers Union Hall which is just east of I75 on 13 mile road on the South side. Barrington is one of the entrance roads and there are many signs showing the exact location.



3232 Essex
Troy, MI 48084

Stamp

The art of being wise is the art of knowing what to overlook.

The Bloody Alan Lacer Workshop

By

Dave Earl

I was privileged to attend the Lacer Workshop on Sunday the 19th. Our host Ray Frase provided the perfect setting in his wonderful workshop (Studio) in Waterford. We started the morning about 8:30 a.m. with coffee and donuts. Alan started the workshop about 9:00 a.m. with a demonstration on sharpening the Straight Edge Skew vs. the Radius Skew. He then asked if anyone wanted help sharpening their skew chisels. I of course volunteered seeing how my skews had so many facets on them, that they looked like diamond shaped hills. Alan took great pains (and a lot of patience), to show me the correct way and finally had my skews as sharp as they had ever been. He also showed us how he hones his skews to their final sharpness.

I was very excited to take my freshly sharpened skews and hone them to perfection. I tried to hold my newly purchased slip stone just like Alan showed me and I started to make a few passes. On about the third pass, I felt a little picking sensation in my thumb that was on the honing side of the slip stone. Low and behold, it started bleeding profusely. I had just cut myself with the sharpest skew I had ever held in my hand. Ray and a couple of the guys helped me stop the bleeding and bandaged me up, so I could get on with the rest of the day.

Alan then showed us how to make “V” cuts, finally turning them in to beads. He then had us doing beads and showed us how to make small raised beads, that a lot of people use on lidded boxes. We went on to learn pommel cuts and he showed both the square cut and the rounded cut. We then had a nice lunch, prepared by our host and sat around talking to Alan while we had him captive. After lunch ,Alan showed us how he makes his hooked tools and demonstrated the heating process, the hardening and the tempering of the steel. Greg Smith had brought us the raw steel rods, so each of us could make a hook tool. We all took turns heating and cooling the steel and bending it while it was red-hot and finally tempering it. Alan volunteered to sharpen everyone’s new tool. Ray and Greg provided handles that the tool could be mounted in and we all gave it a try on a box mounted on Ray’s Oneway lathe, to make sure they cut well. This is an experience I will never forget and would do again in a heartbeat. I am looking forward to more seminars in the future.



Alan Lacer Demonstration

Photos showing Alan Lacer making a hook tool (on the left) and separating a lid from the base (on the right).



Finishing for Woodturners

At the February meeting, Greg Smith gave a presentation on finishing for woodturners. Decisions must be made regarding the primary use of a finish such as "Application, Protection, and how it is applied". Finishes may be grouped into manageable categories they are:

1. Direct Apply - waxes and oils
 2. Evaporative - repairable such as shellac and lacquer
 3. Evaporative - Reactive (air based conversion) Varnishes, Oil Varnish blends, and water based.
 4. Reactive - Conversion 2 part finishes such as epoxy and catalysed lacquer
- Criteria on how to select which finish to use was discussed as well as factors that contribute to applying a finish.

Secrets to a good finish:

1. Quick and durable ARE NOT mutually inclusive properties of a finish on a piece of wood.
2. The surface finish can be no better than that of the wood under it.
3. There is no one product that we can put on the wood, which will do everything we want from a finish.
4. The less amount of finish, the more it will have the look and feel of wood.

Sanding tips were also discussed covering:

1. Health and Safety, Surface preparation
2. Sanding outside Surfaces, with and without the lathe running
3. Sanding inside surfaces
4. Hand sanding
5. Final surface preparation.

Below are several pieces made by Alan Lacer.

