

FEBRUARY 2004



A Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners

**Next Meeting: FEB 26<sup>th</sup>**

Pre-meeting Activity : 5pm – 6:30pm

Regular Meeting: 7:00pm

200-Suite B North Vacek

Meeting will feature: Stuart Batty – Winged Bowls

**\*\* Bring something to the Instant Gallery \*\***

**February Demonstrator: Stuart Batty**

Stuart Batty will present a program on turning winged bowls. Most woodturners know of Stu's reputation as an outstanding teacher and technician of turning technique. His approach to turning for beginners and experienced turners teach the safest way to get the job done. Stuart started turning at the age of 11 for his father, Allen Batty, he is not shy on sharing his talent. When you are at a gathering of woodturners and Stuart is there, it seems almost every person in the crowd has taken a class from him. His quick, brisk presentation will make for an interesting evening.

**Thoughts of Christmas Past...**

Now that the toys have been put away and our WNT club is back in full swing and we have counted our finances, here is one *financial* highlight that deserves credit:

The following members donated the many items for our Holiday auction:

**Joe Aguirre   Devore Burch   Mary Burch   Wayne Clowers   Bob Davis**  
**Fred Denke   Circe Joines   Phil Joines   Steve Ott   Paul Tiefel**

The auction of these items brought a whopping **\$2422.00** to our club's piggy bank !

**...one more financial note:**

After the regular February meeting, there will be a short business meeting to discuss and approve the proposed 2004 budget. All members are invited to attend. Come see where the money comes from and where it goes.

## **Making Good Shavings**

I hope you got to attend the January meeting because it was a great start to the New Year. What an amazing gallery of work we had. We are really fortunate to have so many excellent woodturners.

Some of our turners applied their skills the day after the January meeting at the North Ridge Elementary School Art Day. About 30 students got their first exposure to woodturning and they had a ball making candlesticks. Several teachers came by and commented on how excited the kids were about making them. We have two more of these events scheduled at elementary schools in the coming months. John Horn is coordinating these activities so contact him if you would like to participate.

Several of the students drew candlestick shapes of the chalkboard before they started turning and this brings to mind something that we can all do to improve our skills – visualization. One of the great things about woodturning is that you can just start cutting on a piece of wood and end up with a good result. But sometimes we want to make a specific piece and this is where practicing visualization can really help improve your skill.

What really helps is to make a drawing. It can be as simple as a rough sketch on a paper towel or as detailed as a CAD image. The more detail you project in advance the more direction you add to your work. Another good practice idea is to try making something to an exact size and shape and see how close you get. These are simple things but by doing them over time you will build your skills. Then you will be ready when someone asks; “Can you make me one exactly like this?”

*Paul Tiefel*

## **What is the Woodturners of North Texas?**

I gave one answer to this question in the January newsletter but I think it bears repeating. WNT is the sum of the collective efforts of its members. Would you like to be more involved in WNT activities? Please let us know.

We have several opportunities for you to participate. We need volunteers to assist in the photographing of the instant gallery at the monthly meetings. Also, we need additional help with the school work sessions and other demos in the coming months. We need to know if you would like to be more active in any of the WNT activities. Lastly, we need your ideas on how to make WNT better.

Please contact any of the WNT officers with your response. Thank you, *Paul Tiefel*.

## **Arlington Visual Arts Assoc (AVAA) Exhibition**

Congratulations to WNT members Kenny Diehl and Larry Roberts for their award winning work now showing in the AVAA 28th annual art exhibition. Kenny's "Mahogany Platter" was judged best work in the 3-Dimensional category and Larry's "Heart" bowl made from Bradford Pear won second. Larry also won recognition for having submitted four works all of which were accepted in the exhibition. Larry Denning and Paul Tiefel also had work accepted. The exhibition is on display at the Bob Duncan Community Center, 2600 South Center Street, Arlington (817-465-6661) through March 26, 2004. After the exhibition closes, all award winning work, including Larry and Kenny's, will be on display at the Arlington Museum of Art until May.

## Safety Catch

Usually I find that the subject of dust control is in the back of most woodworking books. Often that's how we treat this issue, by putting it at the back of our safety concerns. But we need to rethink this approach because dust control is critical to good health.

Dust control is such a big subject that we can only scratch the surface here. However, this will present you with a progression of some of the products/techniques that are readily available.

Let me begin by saying that WOOD DUST IS TOXIC! Your nose and lungs get full of junk and you cough for a few days after a big dose of wood dust. Also, some tuners have allergic reactions to certain woods. There is a book titled "A GUIDE TO USEFUL WOODS OF THE WORLD" in which over 184 species of wood are listed as "producing some health problems". This book is worth buying if you don't have it. (ISBN # is I-892529-15-7)

Starting out, a simple way to keep the dust from your lungs is to work with a fan blowing from behind you towards an open door or window. Next is the array of paper and fabric masks that are available. I personally like the 3-M (3M # 8271) which cost about \$30 for a box of 10. It has an exhalation valve, is non-crushable and has a built in nose band that makes for a tight fit. There are cheaper masks available but this one will last longer and doesn't fog up your safety glasses and face shield as bad.

The next step in masks is the reusable DUST BEE GONE available at local and online woodworking supply stores. It's made of woven polyester with 2 straps to hold it firmly in place. It can be washed and reused, plus it come in sizes to better fit the individual. The cost is under \$40. My personal experience with this product has been fairly good but even with all the recommended adjustments I still have a bit of a fogging problem.

Then we move onto the hood-type products. For all of these products out there (Dustfoe 88, Aircap2, Resp-O-Rator, 3-M Power Visor, etc.) there are only 2 worth the investment. The Airmaster (20 & 30) and the Triton powered respirator. The Airmaster products are around \$500.00 and the Triton Powered Respirator is about \$280.00. These are a big step up in cost but you get a big step up in protection and they offer a lot of great features. These products blow air across your face so there is no fogging problem. They have replaceable filters and the Triton has a neck cuff that will keep dust out of your collar.

Do some investigating by asking your fellow woodturners what they use and reading OSHA literature. Then judge your own needs and budget.

I have expressed my own personal opinions in this article and any rebuttals are more than welcome. One final thought, WOOD DUST IS TOXIC! Buy the best dust protection you can afford!

Good Turning, *Lynn Blanchard*

(P.S. I own a Triton Respirator and think it's the best value on the market. I have seen them discounted to around \$250.00 and if there are enough of you interested we could place a bulk order and get a great price. Anyone interested can call me at 214-500-8701 and we'll get something going.)

## Empty Bowls Luncheon

The Tarrant Area Food Bank will hold their annual Empty Bowls luncheon on Friday, February 20th from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM at Bass Hall. Use the West Portal entrance at Commerce and 4th Streets. The charge is \$25 and you get to choose one bowl from the selection donated by local artisans. Also, you will be treated to soups, breads, dessert and drinks all donated by local restaurants and food vendors. Best of all, you will be helping a very worthwhile charity.

### Calendar of Events

- Feb 26 Pre-meeting activity 5:00 –6:30pm,  
Thursday WNT Monthly Meeting: 7:00pm  
200-B N. Vacek  
Demo: Stuart Batty  
“Turning Winged Bowls”
- Mar 2 WNT Directors Meeting  
Tuesday 6:30pm: Meet at 200-B N. Vacek
- Mar 25 Pre-Meeting Activity 5 - 6:30pm,  
Thursday WNT Monthly Meeting: 7:00pm  
200-B N. Vacek  
Demo: Howard Hale  
on Finishing Techniques.

### FOR SALE

Delta Lathe: Model 46-745  
Excellent condition  
42 inch between centers, 16 inch  
swing. Heavy-duty, variable speed  
Baldor motor, 1 1/4”x 8 tpi spindle.  
Live center, drive center, 4” face  
plate, 12” and 4” tool rest, knockout bar,  
wrenches and manual.

Two years old. \$1375.00  
Walter Barrett: 817-737-8480

#### Close-quarter drills:

One of our members, John Herber, has  
purchased several “import copies” of the  
Milwaukee 0375-6 drills. The drills are  
VSR, 0 –1400 RPM, 3.8 amps. The  
Milwaukee brand sells for \$150. John will  
bring some to the next meeting and will  
sell them for \$40.

Contact John Herber at 817-280-0081

## Board of Directors

### President – Paul Tiefel

Home phone 817-379-9533

### Vice President – Mike Jones

Home Phone 817-279-0920

### Treasurer - James Haynes

Home Phone 972-223-3171

### Secretary - Arnold Jansen

Home Phone 817-472-0600

### Librarian - Ken Diehl

Home Phone 817-581-6595

### Activities – Lynn Blanchard

Home Phone 214-544-1972

### Newsletter - Walter Barrett

Home Phone 817-737-8480

### Past President – Mike Wallace

Home Phone 817-882-9922

### WNT WEB SITE:

[www.woodturnersofnorthtexas.org](http://www.woodturnersofnorthtexas.org)