

Sawdust and Shavings

Volume 22, Issue 8

AUGUST 2005

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IT'S TIME NOW TO MOVE ON

by Doug Nowlin

By the time you read this, the Orange County Fair of 2005 will be a thing of the past. Many of you entered items. Some were accepted and some were not. Some won prizes and some did not. A few won some of the coveted industry awards and some did not. Now I ask you, what is the difference between this and any other competition?

Sam Maloof once judged the AWFS show in Anaheim a few years ago and ran into the same problem, i.e., people wanting to have their items put back in the show. Sam simply said, "Then take my name off the show."

The problem we face is certainly not unique, nor is it insurmountable. We are going to take a positive position and come up with some solutions. To that end, everyone who is willing to come to the next board meeting and brainstorm with us is certainly welcome. If all you want to do is complain some more about your

piece not being selected, please don't waste your time and ours.

Dan Stephens has taken a lot of flak over the years, some of it from me, but Dan has a vision of a much larger show than the one we have now. He would like to see us fill that entire building with our work, and he can do that, but we will have to do our part. We will need to do lots more projects and do a lot better quality of



work. Frankly I didn't think this year's show was up to the standard of last year's show.

With all that in mind, now would be a great time to start working on those drop dead pieces you've been wanting to do for next year's show.

JULY PRESENTATION

by Ed Smet

Thanks to Janet **Gonzales** for her presentation on how she harvests local woods. There's a lot of free wood out there if you know where to get it. Of course, you might need a big chain saw and truck to get it.

Thanks, also to all the members who brought in a tremendous selection of jigs. There are a lot of very clever members when it comes to saving time with jigs. I'm sure everyone enjoyed it and hopefully some members will now go back to their shops and adapt some of the ideas and jigs. Congratulations to the three winners of the contest.



AUGUST PRESENTATION

by Ed Smet

David Wade will be featured in August. Everyone knows that David is a talented woodworker and he will show us how he made a pie-crust table. There is a lot of router work.

KUDOS TO ED STRAUB

by Jim Koukl

Why kudos? Because of his utterly fantastic job and tireless dedication to the Orange county Woodworkers Association at the OC Fair.

Why kudos? Ed took responsibility for:

- Booth set up.

- For having two lathes this year, one for bowls and larger turnings, the other for making pens. Lathes always attract viewer attention.

- Providing wood for turning.

- Two work benches from Laguna Tool.

- Up front display of toys.

- Each morning, make sure the TV and speaker system is working.

- Ed made the table in front of the booth on which sat the magazine case, basketball games, etc.

- Ed made the very large tray table behind the big lathe.

- Ed cleaned up the wood shavings from turning, kept the

booth immaculate.

Ed manned our booth every day...arriving an hour before opening and remaining until closing.

I'm sure some things have been overlooked, since I was not there every day as Ed was.



WOODTURNERS SHAVINGS

by Craig Chambers

For the July meeting, we started a new series on segmented turning. **Dick Foreman**, who won last year's Fred Adam Memorial Award for polychromatic turning, was the featured demonstrator. Dick had a lot to do and not a lot of time to do it. He discussed design, prepping the wood, gluing, clamping, mounting and turning staved segmented forms. He brought along examples of each step



of the process as well as several beautiful examples of completed work. It was a complex subject and Dick did a masterful job of covering it all.

The challenge for this meeting was lidded forms part deux. We had a good response this time. The proud winner was **Ralph Alder** with his turned and carved acorn. Next month's challenge will be staved vessels. Let's see if we can put some of Dick's teaching into practice.

We will continue our segmented turning series next month with myself as the demonstrator. Due to an unexpected opportunity to assist **Malcolm Tibbetts** next month, we've rescheduled **Bruce Lewellyn** for September. I don't pretend to have

anywhere near the skill and talent as either Dick or Bruce. Instead, I will take simpler approach to making and turning stack laminated bowls. You can consider it "Segmented Turning for the Simple Minded", if you wish.

Looking toward the end of the year, here's what's in store. In October, we will have our first ever Mini-Lathe Rodeo. We need several mini lathes and chucks for this event, so please let me know if you can bring yours to the meeting. There



are more details of the Rodeo in another article in this issue of the Newsletter. In November and December, we will feature gift items that you can make for family and friends. We will be doing a couple of short demonstrations at each meeting. Also in November will be our annual woodturning contest. Look for the details elsewhere in the newsletter. November is also the time for the election of President of the Orange County Woodturners. If you have any interest in leading this fine group, please let me know.



I've started taking reservations to an all day demo by international turner, **Chris Stott**. The date is October 29th and the location is the Tustin Senior Center. The cost is \$20 for members and \$30 for non-members.

MINI LATHE RODEO

by Craig Chambers

The Orange County Woodturners would like to invite one and all for the first ever Mini Lathe Rodeo. The rodeo will be held during our regular meeting on October 20th. Prizes will be awarded to the winners of each event. We will need six mini lathes and chucks to be divided into three stations for the Rodeo. I also need safety observers/judges for each event. If you can help out, please let me know.

Overall Rodeo Guidelines:

Contestants must have eye protection and provide their own tools.

The Safety Observer will stop any event that appears unsafe until the situation is corrected.

Wood for all events will be provided by the club.

The decision of the judge in each event is final.

Most importantly...HAVE FUN!!

Event 1 – Tops

Rules: Contestants will be given five minutes to turn a top from wood that is provided. Prizes will be awarded for the top that spins the longest when spun by hand. The contest will be ended twenty minutes before the end of the meeting in order to have the spin-off.

Event 2 – Egg Cup Race

Rules: This is a single elimination challenge to turn an egg cup from wood that is provided. The first contestant to complete an egg cup that will actually hold an egg wins the round and advances to the next round. Round 1 will consist of four races. The winners of Round 1 will meet in Round 2 and the winners of Round 2 will meet in the Finals. A prize will be awarded to the winner.

Event 3 – Free Design

Rules: Contestant will be given a 4”X4”X4” block of wood and challenged to turn a well-designed object in 15 minutes. A prize will be awarded to the turned object with the best design. The item does not have to be complete, but the overall form and design must be evident to the judge. Sanding and finishing will not be allowed.

WOODTURNING CONTEST

The Orange County Woodturners will hold their annual woodturning contest during the monthly meeting on November 17th. The rules of the contest are listed below. If you haven't started on that masterpiece, it's time to get hopping.

Wood Turning Contest Rules

1. Entries will be accepted in 2 classes:

Master Class – experienced turners who have demonstrated "for sale" quality work, have sold work, or won prizes in turning contests.

Novice Class – beginning and intermediate turners who do not meet the Master Class definition.

2. All entries must be lathe-turned objects; they may be embellished with carving, inlay, or other decoration.

3. Entries shall not have been entered in to any other contest in any venue.

4. Judging will be done by an independent panel, which will evaluate:

Quality of work

Design and originality

Use of the material

Other factors the judges see fit to consider.

5. The judges' decisions will be final.

6. Prizes in each class are a combination of cash and gift certificates in the amount of:

First prize – \$75

Second prize – \$50

Third prize – \$25

The judges may award additional honorable mention certificates

7. Winning entries should be made available to be displayed at club displays and activities for the following 12 months.

8. Entrants must be members of OCWA.

9. A member may submit up to 3 entries but may only receive 1 prize.

I HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY

by James Santhon

Many years ago I was the proprietor of a small furniture finishing business in Los Angeles, California. The first job I did was to finish a very expensive table. When the customer came to pick it up the first thing he did was to get down on his hands and knees to look at the bottom of the table. He exclaimed to me that the bottom of the table wasn't finished to which I replied, well, no one is going to see it. That was my first big learning experience in woodworking, because he told me that if I was going to do work for him that the bottom better be finished as well as the top, or he would find another finisher who took pride in their work. Ouch!

My second big learning experience involved rejection. It came when we landed a great job finishing 100 glass display cases that had a grass cloth covering. All I had to do was paint a base color on the grass cloth, wipe with a dark glaze, and then rub off the glaze and seal them with lacquer. When I finished the project I noted that the finish wasn't exactly like the sample, but I said "that's close enough." Wrong! The job was rejected. I had to rent a truck, hire a helper, and drive all the way out to the west end of the valley to pick up all 100 cases, take them back, refinish them, rent another truck, hire another helper, and redeliver them. The only one I could blame was I. Double ouch!

Life's lessons learned can sometimes be a painful experience, but something positive can usually be derived from them if we are honest with ourselves, and see our part in them. When we make things for ourselves sometimes we'll let things like the finishing of the back, or the inside slide, but when we are making a project for someone else we are judged on a much stricter scale, so we have to be more exacting if we want our pieces to be successful.

I am sharing these embarrassing anecdotes partly, because of the controversy swirling around the judging of the "Fine Art Woodworking Show", and because one of the missions of the Orange County Woodworkers Association is to promote education, safety, and craftsmanship in woodworking.

To the issue of the judging; we had three very successful people with very respectable resumes in the field of woodworking and art, who, traveled a great distance, by the way, to judge our show for a fabulous stipend of one hundred dollars. Obviously, they weren't here for the dough, so they must've been here to help us promote fine woodworking, and to pick the best examples of what they thought would do just that. They

were very exacting, because they have reputations to uphold, and because that's what their purpose here was. They accomplished their mission much to the dismay of many entrants whose pieces didn't qualify to be in the show. Some of these entrants weren't very dignified in their response to the judges' decisions, and in indignation, they pulled their pieces that were accepted out of the show in protest. I guess they had a point they wanted to make. Just what that point might be is a mystery to me.

To the issue of "Craftsmanship": This had to be our poorest outing in the five years that we have been putting on this show, and as the amount of entries has remained basically the same, we didn't have a lot to choose from, which made the results very hard to swallow. It also left us with a very small show. When I first heard the reports of what was happening at the show I was very upset, but when I actually went to the show, and saw the work I was even more dismayed at the drop of quality in a show that I have often bragged about being second to none. There were pieces in the show that had ugly knots, missing wood, and not for any artistic purposes other than being too complacent to replace it with another piece of wood to make the piece presentable, and besides no one was going to see it, because it was on the back. Sound familiar?

Some of the finishes had air bubbles, and debris in them. We even had a couple of pieces that looked like they had been used, and the entrant didn't have the time to sand the finish, and put a fresh coating on it. One entrant used putty to fill bad joinery. I shudder to think what the pieces that were rejected looked like.

This leads me to the "Education" part of our mission. First, I hope that we have all learned that we shouldn't assume that our pieces will be in the show just because they get entered. Secondly, that we have learned that the back has to be finished as good as the front, the bottom as good as the top, and the inside as good as the outside. We have to keep the colors of our woods consistent, and free of knots. The joints should be tight and clean, and parquet patterns should join correctly at the corners where they line up with other parts of the top, and this should go without saying, but there should be no glue spots visible. If you follow these simple common sense suggestions I think you'll have a much better chance at making a successful piece. It wouldn't hurt to have a good design for your project also.

The important thing here is to stay in the solution. The whole purpose of our association is to help one another to achieve our goals in making quality woodwork, and to have an enjoyable fellowship as well.

TOY PROJECT FUND RAISING NEWS

by Ruthe Ingram

This month Austin Hardwood have donated most of the exciting items for our drawing prizes! Thanks so much to **Joe Lomax**, Woodcraft and Rockler for continually helping to make our raffle fun plus support our toy program. The items will be announced at the meeting so bring your allowances and support this worthy cause.

Here are the winners of the July 7, 2005 meeting:
 THREE PIECE TURNING TOOLS- Ralph Crowthers
 MASKING TAPE (3 ROLLS) – Ted Young
 ZINSSER BULL'S EYE FRENCH POLISH – Rip Sanders
 SHARPENING GUIDE – James Beach
 PORTABLE GROUND FAULT CIRCUIT INTERRUPTER – James Beach
 WHITE KNIT SHIRT (LARGE) – Jared Williams
 BOOK-CREATIVE SCROLL SAW SEGMENTATION – Jared Williams

BOOK-COUNTRY MOSAICS – Jerry Poole
 TWO BOARDS – WALNUT & OAK – Will Grove

I have been busy playing at the OCWA booth the past three weeks as many of you have. For anyone who didn't have the opportunity to play this year be sure to put it on your calendar for next year. It has been exciting meeting and talking with so many people from all areas of our planet. I was blessed with a couple of nice visits from marines who had just come home from Iraq. One young man watched me turn a pen and it was my pleasure to give the pen to him as a token of our appreciation for serving two tours in Iraq.

Rick (my grandson) and his company of Marines are deploying this Sunday. Their tour is for 7 or 8 Months and although we will miss him we know he will be fine and gain so much from this experience. Thank you all for your prayers and support!

THE FREEDOM PEN PROJECT STATISTICS

As of today, the 30th of July there were 202 pens turned at the Fair. Thank you all for making the pens. I probably had the most fun making them and was even brave enough to wear the microphone, as I was turning and explaining the process to our gracious audiences.

To date we have sent 2050 pens to the project and have more ready to go. The nationwide total is 42,522 and without a doubt we are NUMBER ONE in the nation. I am really proud of all of you that support this project either by making the pens or financially. **Jim** and **Ann Steinmetz** helped to raise a large sum of money, which I sent directly to the project to help them with their backlog of request for pens. They also sent me a nice supply which is now depleted and hopefully they will send me more soon.

I mentioned before that the pen kits cost \$150 per 100 kits. Based on that I am proud to say that this past year we have raised the money to pay for the 2000 plus pens which comes to over \$3,000.00. This only proves to me that when we have a good cause, loving and generous people anything is possible. Thank you so much and God bless you all!

TOY WORKSHOP



by Bill Rogers

July 7th was another great workshop at **Tom Polhamus'** and **Bill Rogers'** place, twenty-nine workers showed up to help us complete over one hundred heart boxes. **Les Rogers** took home another two dozen to put the finishing touches on them, also **George Plummer** in addition to overseeing the spraying of the hearts and basketball games, took another 25 basketball games home to spray the DEFT on them. We have developed a great group of sanders over the past months. The toys that we are making are "better than ever".

A SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL THE PEOPLE WHO ARE MAKING TOYS OUTSIDE THE REGULAR WORKSHOPS, **Ross Gilroy** and **Lou Fabregue** have made a lot of baby rattles for our program. **Paul McGhehey** just gave us another 265 toys which he made. He has now made 608 toys so far this year. Thank you Paul for a great effort! **Al Whitcomb** (when he's not making prize winning items for the Fair) has made hundreds of toys. Thanks to everyone's efforts we have now surpassed 2,000 finished toys so far this year. **George Beach** has been cutting out a lot of hearts to get them ready for our workshops.

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A MONTH OF THE FAIR*by Ed Straub*

The Orange County Fair has ended for 2005. I now have a chance to thank all of the people and organizations which have made it possible to present the Orange County Woodworkers Association to residents of the county, surrounding counties, states and countries. Think I'm exaggerating? Kent and Norma Wilson from Warragul, Victoria, Australia spent a half hour or more learning what our club is about and what we do. They are dairy farmers and woodworkers.

We want to thank the Orange County Fair Organization for providing the venue for our booth, Dan Stephens and his crew of 40 people for hosting, helping and securing the booth. Without their help we would have had no way to talk to many people about the OCWA. The people below, listed in no particular order deserve special thanks for their help in organizing, setting up, populating, cleaning up, putting away, communicating, demonstrating, preparing, disassembling, storing, sanding, waxing, wiping, laughing, and at least 47 other verbs relative to the OCWA message via the booth:

Al Missbrenner, Al Whitcomb, Art Fitzpatrick, Barry Rosenberg, Bill Bruins, Bill Rogers, Bob Buchanan, Bob Whiton, Bruce Lewellyn, Carson Davis, Charlie Strichen, Cheri Durthaler, Drew Shellenbager, Earl Hortsman, Ed Smet, Chester Maharaj, Chet Brisco, Craig Chambers, Dan Guzman, Dan Merrill, David Richter, David Wade, Don Wolf, Doug Nowlin, Eljay Overholt, Fred Willmott, George Plummer, Gerald Goran, Gil Gamo, Ginger Carl, James Santhon, Jeff Davison, Jim Anderson, Jim Ballestreri, Jim Koukl, Jim Steinmetz, John Callos, John Halbur, Larry Garrett, Larry Gerber, Larry Martin, Len Mussgrove, Les Rogers, Mike Taylor, Neal Davis, Noel Keller, Paul Roseneau, Ralph Alder, Ralph Crowther, Rip Sanders, Roger Lang, Ross Gilroy, Ruthe Ingram, Steve Lui, Tom Anderson, Tom Crowther, Tom Polhamus

We would also like to thank the following benefactors and sponsors:

Anderson International Trading, Austin Hardwoods and Hardware, Laguna Tools, Popular Woodworking Magazine, Woodcraft, Woodworker West Magazine

Remember that a lot of the things produced in the booth during the fair will be up for auction during our October meeting. See you there!

Continued from page 6

As we move into the final four months of production, we still have a long way to go to reach our goal of 4,5000 toys. We need more of you to step up and help us by making toys in your home workshops. Even if you don't have all the tools you could help with part of the production. Please contact me if you are willing to help.

I've received new contacts from organizations requesting toys this year, our list has now grown to 47 agencies. **Our next workshop will be August 6th at Tom & Bill's place. 8:00AM - 12:00 noon.**

Thank you for your on going support, lots of people are depending on us, keep up the good work.

Your Toy Committee:

Tom Polhamus, Les Rogers, Jim Balestreri, Don Wolf, Jerry Goran, Greg Madrigal and Bill Rogers.

2005 OCWA CALENDER

August 4	David Wade Pie Crust Table
August 18	Craig Chambers Stack Laminated Bowls
September 1	Jim Watts Trinity Bat Company
September 15	Bruce Lewellyn Segmented objects cont.
October 20	Woodturning Rodeo See page 4

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Our Friends are generous in supporting OCWA. Supporting them too, is the right thing to do!

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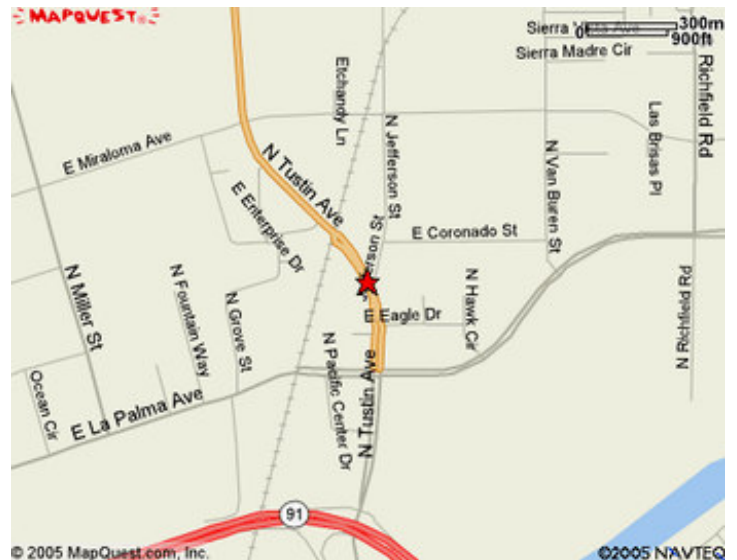
NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 22 ISSUE 8 AUGUST 2005

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

**OUR MEETING PLACE
THIS MONTH ONLY IS:
ANDERSON INTERNATIONAL
TRADING, INC**
**1171 N Tustin Ave .
ANAHEIM**

SEE US ON THE INTERNET
<http://ocwa.freesevers.com/>



BOARD MEETING
Thursday, August 4, 6:00 PM

GENERAL MEETING
Thursday, August 4, 7:00 PM

WOODTURNERS MEETING
Thursday, August 18, 7:00 PM

TOY WORKSHOP



Next workshop:
Saturday, August 6, 8:00 AM

Call: **Tom Polhamus** — 714-637-5787
or
Bill Rogers — 714-637-2912