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Northeast Florida Woodturners Association

An Affiliate of the American Association of Woodturners – Club Number 130 - jaxturners.org

President's Message



Each of us has different skill levels and woodturning goals but no matter the personal skill level we all have problems. Today, I want to talk about one of my problems.

It seems from time to time while

I am working on a project I get what I term “bowl fatigue”. This is when I get frustrated or just tired of working on a particular problem and I want to move on to the next step and I say to my self, **“that is good enough”**. This can occur at any time in the bowl making process from shaping, trying to eliminate that small ridge or flat spot in the body, dealing with torn grain in the bottom, or discovering I have some scratches from my 180 grit sandpaper after I have sanded the entire bowl with 600 grit. Now I am not trying to meet a production deadline nor do I expect any of my work to end up in a museum so I ask, what is so wrong with leaving a few scratches or some torn grain that only I will ever see? Well the problem is whenever I do this, after the bowl is complete, I always regret having left the mistake in my bowl that I could have corrected. Now don't confuse this thought with the idea that I think I can or should achieve perfection. As I previously stated, none of my work will ever end up in a museum. However, that shouldn't excuse me from trying to achieve the best final product that I am capable of.

The best solution I have found to my “bowl fatigue” syndrome is; whenever I get to the point that I want to say “that is good enough” I take a break. My break may be an hour or

several days but when I do return to my project I am fresh and the area that was giving me so much trouble seems to go away with just a little more effort. To remind me that I will not be happy with a correctable flaw in my work I added a sign in my shop that says, **“Is it your Best”**. After all, all any of us can do is, the best we can. If I can say yes to this question, I am satisfied.

Remember, one of the topics in our monthly meeting is, “Do you have any questions, issues, or problems that you want help with”. Please bring your questions to the next meeting and any suggestions you have for my issue of “bowl fatigue”.

A big thank you to Keith for last month's demonstration on “Those other tools, everything but the bowl gouge”. I know everyone learned something and some of us learned a lot. Now join us this month for Daniel's demonstration on adding feet and collars to your bowl.

Committee Reports

Library – Liz Jensen – Forbell

No new information to report

Website – Keith Larrett

No new information to report

Safe Harbor – Kay Seivert

No new information to report

New Members - Paul Rushton

We still have room for more members. Current members have been our best resource for recruiting. Hint hint ! Help spread the word.

Demonstrations - Tina Minahan

No new information to report

Wood Raffle – Barbara Hahn

We Need Wood!

Treasury - Kathy McCall

Dues are still due!

National Demonstrators – Ed Malesky

November Demo and Hands-On - We will have Steven Marlow from Tampa here on November 4-5 to do a demo and Hands-On on making a Bowl from a Board. A demo on this has had high ratings over the last couple of years on our demo surveys. Steven is a master and did this as a demo at the Florida Symposium a couple of years ago. Since he's a regional demonstrator, the Hands-On class will be a bargain at \$60.

Spring 2018 - We are working on getting Michael Mocho here for our spring 2018 demo and Hands-On. We need to work out a date. I propose April 7-8, just after Easter. As most of you know Michael is my mentor of sorts and has great skills and is also an excellent teacher. You will really like this one.
ED

Secretary - Don Penny

If you run across an article or tip you think would be of interest, please forward it to me!

Turning Tips

Overcome Chatter on the Lathe

You can turn just about anything that is round on a lathe, within the length and diameter constraints of your machine. But when you turn a spindle to a long, thin shape, you will invariably encounter the work piece beginning to vibrate under pressure from your lathe chisel. The next thing that you'll notice is that the surface is no longer very smooth. This effect is referred to as lathe chatter. Lathe chatter can be the bane of existence for a spindle turner! Everything is going smoothly, you're getting a silky smooth shiny surface on the project, and then you reach a certain point

of diameter and bam! Lathe chatter starts to happen, and you try to sharpen your tool, apply more pressure, try a different chisel, and nothing seems to help. Lathe chatter is having its way with your project. The good news is that it doesn't have to be this way.

Lathe chatter is caused by the flexing of the work piece, and is more prevalent toward the center of the project where the piece does not have as much support for the headstock and tailstock, and is more prone to flexing under pressure. The best way to minimize lathe chatter is to supply an extra measure of support near the middle of the project, and there are two main approaches for doing that:

USE a steady rest. There are commercially available products called "steady rests" for this that apply even pressure at increments around the circumference of the work piece.

BE a steady rest. **BE a steady rest** actual steady rest, you can use your hand to support the project as you turn.

Make Your Own. Follow this link for an easy solution
www.novawoodturnersguild.com/docs/steadyrest.pdf

Practice Wood Turning Safety

Statistically, woodturning probably ranks among the safer tasks performed with power tools. Still, there are basic safety practices you should learn and follow to ensure woodworking safety.

- Inspect your lathe regularly to make sure fittings are secure and tight.
- Keep your work area clean.
- Make sure lighting is sufficient. Being able to see what you're doing will help ensure safe work.
- Make sure tools are kept clean and sharp. Dull tools can catch on the spinning workpiece, while razor sharp tools will cut smoothly and easily.

- Use quality wood stock. Workpieces with cracks or thick knots can break apart or grab cutting tools.
- Always wear a face shield and eye protection when turning wood. Should a workpiece splinter or break apart, injury to your eyes is a distinct possibility.
- Avoid loose fitting or baggy clothing. They can easily get ensnared in the spinning axle of the tool.



Instant Gallery





Demonstration

I have heard through the grapevine that we are going to be dazzled and wowed by the infamous woodturner Daniel Callahan. Fresh into a new shop he is going to share the mystic art of adding feet and collars to bowls! Free admission to all attendees - bring your own popcorn, drinks and snacks!

Jacksonville Fair

Can you believe it is time to get ready for the Fair already? It is only 5 months away so here are the 2017 guidelines, categories and prizes

The 2017 theme will be “**Turned Objects**” with entries accepted in two (2) categories:

1. **Conventional Turned Objects Category:** This category is for unembellished, turned objects. The piece must be turned with no additional elements other than clear finish if desired.
2. **Embellished Object:** This category is for those who wish to show their turning as an artistic expression. The primary portion of the piece must be turned, but may incorporate additional elements, finishes to express the theme.

Entries will be accepted on Sunday October 29th, in Exhibit Hall "A" from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm. Exhibits will remain on display through the end of the fair, Sunday, November 12th. **Please complete a separate entry form for each entry you submit.**

- Each entry must be the sole work of the entrant.
- It is preferred that the entry be created in response to the challenge of this contest but pieces completed within the 12 months prior to entry are eligible.

- Wood must be the primary medium and the use of the lathe must be obvious.
- Contest promoters and/or sponsors are not responsible for late, incomplete or misdirected entries.
- An entrant may submit a total of up to three (3) entries but may only receive a **maximum of one prize in each category**. Please complete a separate entry form for each entry you submit.
- The judges' decision will be final. Judging will be done by an 2 independent panels who will judge both categories
 - **Traditional** – Made up of artists in the wood craftsmanship community who will judge:
 - Quality of work, overall craftsmanship and degree of difficulty
 - Design, form, originality and overall execution of the piece
 - Quality of finish and is the finish appropriate for the piece
 - Wood selection and the use of the element of the selected wood
 - **Embellished** – Made up of artists not normally associated with wood craftsmanship who will judge:
 - Pieces will be judged on the best use of additional elements to express the title or theme of the piece as well as presentation and form of the object.

Prizes In Each Category Will Be:

First Prize - \$150.

Second Prize - \$100.

Third Place - \$50

And new this year

One Honorable Mention Prize for a piece by a new turner - \$50 Pieces may be submitted in either category but must be a turner who began turning after October 2016

Pick-up: Entries may be picked up beginning at 8:00 pm on Sunday, November 12th or through noon, Monday, November 13th. Awards will be mailed after the conclusion of the fair.

Calendar of Events

- Northeast Florida Woodturners Association Meeting – July 10th at 6:00PM at Woodcraft located at 11160 Beach Blvd.