

Catoctin Area Turners

<http://catoctinareeturners.org/>



Next meeting: Thursday 11 April, 2013, 6:30 pm
Location: Banshee Reeks Nature Preserve,
Leesburg, VA



Volume 5 Issue 4– April 2013

Earth Day

Warrior Transition

The weekend of 27 /28 April looks like a busy weekend of turning for many of us. We certainly hope that you can support either function on that weekend. Ron Cote could certainly use some help on Saturday, 27 April in turning slim line pens that have been purchased directly by “**Warrior Transition**

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Program”. This is a non-profit organization that supports all military veterans and their families, whether they’re wounded warriors or veterans that are returning to civilian life. The turned pens or any other items turned by Bob Rosand will be given back to this program to either be sold for donations to support Warrior Transition or given directly to our combat veterans.

The **Earth day** festivities will be held at Clyde’s restaurant in Broadlands. Not only can you turn whatever pleases you, but you have the organizer’s permission to sell any of your products. There will obviously be many “green” products and vendors there. The object of Earth day is inform the public of what our area companies and communities are doing in support of “green” initiatives. There will be plenty of kids games there to help them better understand our environment. Turning tops might just go over big with kids.

I would like to bring to your attention a couple of additional pieces in this month’s newsletter. Tom Boley has begun a new series of articles entitled “**Starting Out**”, and one of our newest members, Tom Steinbach, has asked for help in a form of donated items for Loudoun county’s “**Special Olympics**”.



The President's Page

Terry Lund

OK, now we must be getting into some real spring weather, right? Even the cherry blossoms in DC are running late this year. We were in Rochester NY for Easter with our family and left the next morning in snow flurries. Enough already!!

April is going to be an extremely busy month for CAT activities and we are hoping to get a lot of participation from members. Be sure to read the other articles and information in the rest of this newsletter to get all of the details on the various opportunities and activities. In addition to our regular meeting, there will be a chance to do some turning for the non-profit "Warrior Transition Program" with Bob Rosand at Woodcraft. We also have a CAT booth at Earth Day the following day. Hopefully everybody should have received an email regarding the opportunity to donate to the Loudoun Special Olympics auction.

Each month for our CAT meeting, we end up with the same (relatively few) folks helping to set up before the meeting, or for clean up after the meeting. I know that some folks might not be able to get to the meetings early to help set up, or they need to leave right away at the end for one reason or another, but if possible, please try to arrive a few minutes early or stay a few minutes after the meeting to assist with the setup and clean up, to make this easier on everybody. If you are not sure what needs to be done, just ask any of the folks you see doing things how you can help. Also, thanks for the folks who are always helping us get set up and cleaned up. Your assistance is much appreciated.

When we set up the tables along the wall for Show and Tell this month, please leave room at the left end, by the large screen TV. Jeter Benbow will now set up there to take the pictures for our Show and Tell items. Place your Show and tell items to the right of Jeter's set up, and the raffle items will be placed to the right of the Show and Tell items. This way Jeter doesn't need to keep moving back and forth to get the items for pictures. Also, please be sure to fill out the information sheet clearly. If Jeter is set up to do pictures when you arrive, see if you can bring the items directly to her and place them out after she takes the picture. That will also help things flow a bit better before the meeting starts.

Our "Bring Back Raffle" activity sort of stopped late last year due to lack of interest. We are interested in starting that activity back up at the April meeting. Harriet Maloney will be offering an item to the raffle as she was the last winner toward the end of last year. This is a great opportunity to get an item for your own personal collection, at no cost to you. We encourage all CAT members to participate. Please do not be concerned that you are not "at a certain turning level" or something. Each person

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President's Page

(Continued from previous page)

By Terry Lund

does produce great items, no matter what kind of item, large or small.

Please try to remember to bring a flashlight with you to our CAT meetings to help navigate your way back to the parking lot at the end of the meeting. If you don't have one, please try to go out after the meeting with another person with a light. One of our members took a nasty fall last month on his way out, and we are thankful that he didn't get hurt too badly. Thanks to Jeff Greene who was there to be able to lend some assistance. At least we still have some daylight now for coming to the meetings, but it's still pretty dark, with limited outside lights after the meeting, so please be careful and bring a light if possible.

Thank you to Dale Bright for offering to take over our mentoring program for CAT. Dale is one of our more experienced turners. He is a great teacher and he can match you up with somebody in the club, hopefully someone who lives near you.

As always, please be safe with any and all of your turning activities. Let's enjoy the great spring weather we've been waiting for in northern VA. It wasn't the worst winter we've had in our relatively few years living here in the area, but it wasn't the easiest (or shortest) one either.

Terry Lund
CAT President

Mother's Day is Coming

Just a friendly reminder that "Mother's Day" is next month. So, if there was something special that you were going to turn for someone, you better get going.



May 12

Upcoming Demonstrations

By Dave Robinson

Apr 11: **Tom Boley** is going to do his Log Bowl demonstration. This is the same presentation that Tom did at the last VA Symposium. It's an excellent demo and Dave Robinson was glad to get him before he leaves to be with Dorothy in Kansas.

May 9: **Patrick O'Brien** from Capital Area Woodturners (CAW) will demonstrate his Winged Bowls. <http://www.ohbewood.com/index.html>

Jun / Jul: Still to be determined as to our annual picnic date.

Aug 8: TBD: **Tom Zepeda**

Additional Thoughts From Dave

We will be implementing two new events and maybe a third. I'll let you know when something firms up on these:

1. A (monthly?) shop tour of a veterans shop.
2. A (monthly or as announced) Skill Enhancement - Hands on day.
3. A few guys have met a few times at Anthony's in Purcellville. We figure, Ya gotta eat ... and if woodturning comes up ... oh well. My vision is that would be to have a couple of "Lunch Bunches" maybe in the north and south end of our range. It's an easy thing to invite people too. Last week we had 2 non members (soon to be members) come to our lunch group. I'm thinking of bringing a few pieces for critique also ... a mini show and tell in the middle of the restaurant! We're prototyping this & will keep you all posted.

Odds and Ends

Upcoming Events

Membership Renewals: As an additional reminder, please either renew your CAT membership at the next club meeting, or send your membership dues directly to our treasurer, Dennis McCormick. His address information can be found on page 10.

Pen Turners:

There is an upcoming Mid-Atlantic Penturners Gathering, MAPG 2013 - May 17 & 18, 2013 to be held in Richmond. Details about this event can be found on this web site at

<http://www.midatlanticpen.com>

AAW Symposium:

The annual AAW symposium will be held in Tampa, Florida this coming summer. The AAW symposium is an event that all woodturners should strive to attend. Dozens of world renowned turners are always featured. For more information on the symposium go to

<http://www.woodturner.org/sym/sym2013/index.htm#registration>

Warrior Transition & Bob Rosand:

On April 27 Woodcraft of Leesburg will be hosting Bob Rosand and supporting “Warrior Transition Program”. Bob is a well-know woodturning demonstrator and past vice president of the American Association of Woodturners who hails from Bloomsburg, PA. He will be turning mostly fundamental turnings of red/white/blue colorwood.



Upcoming Club Events

And a work from Our Operation's Director
Charlie Wortman

Woodcraft Turning

Our Woodcraft turning held on Saturday, March 9th was a big success!

Thanks again to all of you for your time and effort and a special thanks to Woodcraft of Leesburg!

Earth Day 2013

We are scheduled to have a booth at Earth Day 2013!

The date is Sunday, April 28, 2013 11:00 – 4:00

This will be held in Broadlands area by Clyde's Restaurant.

The address is 42920 Broadlands Blvd. Broadlands, VA 20148

www.earthdayatloudoun.org

Mark your calendars. Please email me to let me know what time you will be able to come. Perhaps we can split this into two time slots. 11:00 -1:30 and 1:30-4:00. We do need a few more folks for this event.

You can chose to either turn or help chat with folks. If you wish to bring items to sell, you will need to be present to handle your own sales.

numberonehubby@verizon.net Please specify Earth Day April 28th.

Woodcraft Turning

We now have another turning day at Woodcraft scheduled! If you couldn't make it last time, here is your chance.

Saturday, May25th 9:00 – 5:00 (5:00 – 6:00 clean-up)

They will have one lathe to use with the second one available if we have enough folks sign up.

Please email and let me know what time during the day you can make it. numberonehubby@verizon.net Please specify Woodcraft May 25th.

Other Upcoming Turning Events

Down The Road:

Joshua's Hands, October 2013

Turning For The Troops, November 2013

The Editor's Bench

Ron Cote

The calendar says that we have entered spring. Hmm, doesn't quite feel that way on most mornings yet. Hopefully by the time that you all read this and by our next meeting it will have warmed up some. I do enjoy having the doors and windows of my garage shop open to let the air come through at this time of the year.



The big news that I have is not so much about turning, but about my future. On Friday 29 March, I presented the government and my company my retirement resignation letter to be effective on 31 May. After all, I needed to do that in order to be able to attend the occasional CAT group luncheons in Purcellville (LOL). I'm certainly looking forward to putting many more hours onto my lathe.

I have been personally pleased to see the number of members at our monthly meetings. We have been averaging about 32 members each month. We reached 40 this past month with our current total membership of 56. That is certainly an excellent percentage each month. I too, would like to encourage the membership to either come early or stay late in either getting things ready for our meeting or getting the room back in order at the meeting's conclusion. The more people especially at the end of the meeting to clean up, the sooner that everyone can go home.

I would also like to put a plug in for the "Warrior Transition Program" that will be held at Woodcraft on Saturday, 27 April. Bob Rosand will be demonstrating most of the day, but Lee Hanson of Woodcraft will be setting up a second lathe in the front of the store for us to turn red/white/blue slim line pens that I have already prepared for us to turn. I will need a number of folks who could help me out on this project. As this is a sponsored Warrior Transition Program sponsored event and at the Woodcraft store, you don't have to be an AAW member to participate. Please either see me about this at the meeting or email me for any additional information.

Ron Cote

CAT Newsletter Editor

Monthly Meeting

Next meeting: **Thursday**, 11 April 2013, 6:30 pm

Location: **Banshee Reeks Nature Preserve,**
Leesburg, VA

The April demonstrator/speaker:

TOM BOLEY



Membership Renewals

Membership dues for 2013 will be accepted at our next meeting. Should you not be able to attend, you are certainly encouraged to make your checks out to Cactoin Area Turners and mail them to our treasurer.

Individuals: \$30

Family: \$45

Dennis McCormick
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Jeter Benbow
Juan Gil
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- Lending Library
- Representative to VWI
- Raffle Tickets
- Equipment listing
- Web site
- Gallery Photos
- Bulk Purchases
- Arborist Extraordinaire
- Newsletter Proofreader
- Mentor Monitor

Show & Tell



Lidded Pots / Sugar Maple / Ren wax
By Don Maloney



Spalted Ambrosia Maple Bowl
GF Arm-R-Seal
By David Roseman



Footed Cherry Salad Bowl
With Cocobolo pedestal
By Tom Boley



Small Ambrosia Maple
Hollow form
By Tom Boley



Candy Bowl / NIP wax
By Jeff Greene

Show & Tell



Magic Wands / Cherry / Red Heart
Renaissance Wax
By Harriet Maloney



Trapezoid Bowl
Redbud
By Harriet Maloney



Lidded Bowl Amboyna burl w/big leaf
maple lid ren wax
By Harriet Maloney



Lidded Bowl /Pink ivory / South
African black wood ren wax
By Harriet Maloney



Salad bowl / Black cherry /
Red and black milk paint /
Walnut oil and wax
By Jeff Greene

Show & Tell



10" Tall Vase
English Walnut / walnut oil
By Dale Bright



Vase / Yew / Lacquer
By George Carrigan



Ice Cream scoop / Coffee mug /
colorwood and mystery
wood / acrylic spray
By Marc Kaplan



Kingwood / Friction Polish /
renaissance wax
By Hud Miller

Starting Out

By Tom Boley

In the basic woodturning classes I teach at Woodcraft, students often ask about what they need to do woodturning. It is both an easy and a complex answer. You need four things -- a lathe, tools, sharpening system, and wood. But how do you know WHICH ones?

If your space is limited, a mini-lathe may be just the ticket. If your funds are limited, that mini-lathe may still be the right way to go. If you want to go a bit bigger, start talking to your fellow club members to see what they have and ask if you may test-drive something in which you may have interest. But whatever you do, whenever you buy a new lathe, whether it is your first or your fifth, don't ever say to your spouse, "Honey, this is the last lathe I'll ever need," because it will be used against you when you want to upgrade!

As for sharpening, I have to advise you to get the slow speed (1725 rpm) grinder with the Wolverine and Vari-grind jigs. There are other sharpening systems around, but the vast majority of turners use these. You can get whatever you like for your shop but when you go to someone else's shop, do a demo, or someone comes to your shop, it would be nice for everyone to use a system with which they are familiar. Once you have the grinder set up for the tool you are using, you can leave the lathe, sharpen the tool, and be back at the lathe in 15 seconds. Don't turn with dull tools.

And that brings us to the tools you may need. You can do nearly everything with a 3/8" bowl gouge and an 1/8" parting tool. I recommend not buying the tool set with six or eight tools. You will get tools you will rarely use. Buy them one at a time and just get what you need as your skills improve. I also advise new turners to buy the Wood River brand tools. That is the Woodcraft store brand and they are just fine. They are inexpensive but there is a downside. That problem is that the flute is short. Being short, a new turner will likely grind off steel pretty rapidly as you learn to sharpen and will soon have that tool ground down to the point at which you can no longer sharpen it. But by then you will have learned to sharpen. Buy a replacement with a much longer flute and it will likely last for many years.

That 1/8" parting tool is the best all-around tool for that purpose. Later on you may want to add a 3/16" diamond-shaped parting tool or other sizes. Sharpening is quick and easy and your parting tools will last for years because you will only use them occasionally and not for hours on end like the bowl gouges.

But what would be the next tool to buy? Three come to mind. If you want to turn spindles, anything from pens to table legs or porch posts, the bowl gouge will work BUT having a spindle roughing gouge will be handy.

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Starting Out

By Tom Boley

A 1" spindle roughing gouge is the best overall size for that tool and is to be used ONLY for spindle work, not faceplate work such as bowls as it can be dangerous when used in that manner. Why dangerous? Two reasons, both relating to the grind on the tool. The cutting edge on this tool is wide so when presented to a piece of wood with the end grain spinning past the tool rest twice each rotation, there is a good chance of getting a bad catch in that end grain. That will be a surprise and could jerk the tool out of your hands and slam the handle into your face or up into your armpit. You will be very out of control. The other "danger" is to the tool itself because of the thin tang which sticks down into the tool handle. If you get a really bad catch, the tang may snap off right at the top end of the tool handle, rendering a very nice and reasonably expensive tool totally worthless. Stick to spindle work with this one.

If you find you are spending more and more time turning bowls, you may want to add a 1/2" bowl gouge. It is fatter so there will be less vibration and you will be able to hang it a bit farther off the tool rest. You can also rough out green wood faster because it takes a bigger bite. The third tool in this second wave of tools to buy is the spindle gouge. Turning spindles is great with a spindle roughing gouge but only if you want to keep them smooth and straight or with a light curve. If you want to turn beads, coves, and other details, get a 3/8" spindle gouge.

So, to recap, you need a lathe, tools, and a sharpening system. Yeah, you need wood, too, but that is a topic for another article. Buy tools in two waves. Get a 3/8" bowl gouge and an 1/8" parting tool first, and then add a 1" spindle roughing gouge, a 3/8" spindle gouge, and, if needed, a 1/2" bowl gouge.

But how about scrapers? You bet! They are great tools in spite of being denigrated by many. Lots of people started out with scrapers and there are many skilled turners who are well known for their products and they primarily use scrapers. Remember, never rub the bevel with a scraper. That is inviting a catch. Always angle a scraper down so the only thing touching the wood will be the edge of the tool. I particularly use scrapers in two cases -- smoothing out any irregularities in the bottom of a bowl which I am having trouble smoothing with the bowl gouge and spindle turning, mainly beads and coves. I think a slicing tool will give a better finish under the cut but scraping with a nicely rolled burr will give a very good finish. A scraper can be a very aggressive tool but I don't use it that way. I like to use it with finesse rather than aggressively, taking off very fine shavings.

That's enough for now. My intention is to produce several articles about woodturning with the hope that newer turners will find this information helpful. Topics will be sharpening, other tools, peripheral equipment, and so forth. If you have a particular question which you would like to see addressed, please let me know.

Special Olympics

By Tom Steinbach

This is a reprint of the email that has been previously sent to the membership.

I'm a brand new member and already I'm seeking your assistance. My wife is the Outreach Chair for Special Olympics in Loudoun County. SOLC is hosting a booth at the 21st Flower and Garden Festival in Leesburg on April 20-21. They will be selling donated items such as flowers and other crafts. She saw some of the work CAT members have displayed on the website/newsletter and she thought maybe some of you might like to donate an item or two.

Since many of the Loudoun wineries will be there, bottle stoppers might make great donations. If you would like to donate more than one, I'll purchase the kits and you can just craft the stopper. Just let me know what kit and how many to purchase.

Other turned items will work as well. If you would like to "advertise" your work, SOLC will agree to display a sign or hand out business cards with your items.

You can bring your donated items to the April meeting and I will pick them up there. If you can't make the April meeting please contact me directly and I'll arrange to pick up your donations. I've attached a flyer with additional information. Thank you for your support.

Tom Steinbach

<http://www.loudounspecialolympics.org/>



Group Buy Report

(by Juan Gil)

We just finished gathering demand for another Ice Cream Scoop Kit group buy from Woodcraft. Demand for the scoops exceeded 250 units. We also added a bottle opener to the list of group buy items from Woodcraft. Big thanks to Woodcraft for providing us with a hefty discount. Current plans call for delivering the items during the May CAT meeting.

We will be organizing peppermill kits from Chef Specialties and a Craft Supply group buy over the next month or two. Please write an email to me with your list of items in your excel spreadsheet including the product name, item number, quantity and retail price.

*Happy Turning
Juan Gil*



Thanks Juan!

Lathe & Equipment Listings

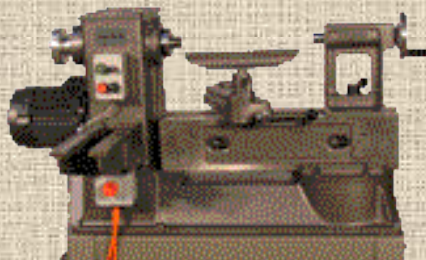
Terry Lund

Juan Gil is now maintaining a listing of what lathes members own which can be used by other members who might be considering a purchase of a new (or additional) lathe. Juan is interested in adding some additional information to this listing to also include some specialized tooling or other items that might be of interest to other members, such as the following items:

1. Hollowing system(s)
2. Coring system(s)
3. Favorite turning tool
4. Favorite homemade tool
5. What model bandsaw
6. What model(s) chainsaw
7. Favorite web site related to woodturning

There will be a copy of the current listing of member lathes at the April 11 meeting, and Juan will have some sign-up sheets to submit this additional information, or you can now contact Juan Gil via email at juanggil@att.net (his information is also listed on the contact page on CAT web site to get a copy of the form if you are not able to attend the meeting).

NOTICE * Equipment Manager
Juan Gil



Mentoring Program

Dale Bright

We have established a mentoring program for CAT members, so Dale Bright is looking for volunteers to be mentors as well as requests from any of our members who would like to be paired up with a mentor in one of the following areas of interest for turning skills, or for general mentoring activity. Dale will have sign-up forms for those who want to be a mentor as well as for those who would like to be matched up with an assigned mentor at the next meeting on **April 11**. If you are interested in either opportunity but will not be at the meeting, please contact him via email at frog21@comcast.net or call him on his cell phone 540-751-9121. Please include your name, address, phone number, email address, and indicate your level of experience as Beginner, Intermediate, or Experienced when requesting a mentor.

We will try to match interested individuals with a mentor who lives “reasonably close” whenever possible, and if we get enough mentors to sign up, we will also try to match based on one of the following areas of interest, or feel free to mention another area of interest.

Areas of interest for mentoring

Functional turning	Ornaments and small items
Artistic turning	Pens and Pencils
Bowls	Lidded Boxes
Natural Edge Bowls	Segmented turning
Square Bowls	Spindle turning
Hollow forms	Turning/Chasing Threads

And the New Mentor coordinator is
Dale Bright

Member Discounts

Woodcraft of Leesburg



Leesburg Plaza

512 E. Market

Leesburg, VA 20176

Phone: 703-737-7880

Fax: 703-737-6166

Leesburg@woodcraft.com

Store Hours: Sun: 9 AM— 5 PM Thr: 9 AM— 9 PM
Mon: 9 AM—9 PM Fri: 9 AM— 9 PM
Tue: 9 AM— 9 PM Sat: 9 AM-- 6 PM
Wed: 9 AM— 9 PM

Show your CAT membership card and get a 10% DISCOUNT! Valid Thursday thru Sunday of each monthly meeting week.

Dunlap Woodcrafts

Located near the Dulles Expo Center at
14600F Flint Lee Road, Chantilly, VA 20151
Tel (703) 631-5147 Fax. (703) 631-7103

Discounts are available to CAT members

Purchase \$100 and receive a 10% discount
Purchase \$250 and receive a 15% discount
Purchase \$500 and receive a 20% discount

I would suggest that you give them a call prior to making the trip to ensure that they are open.

Turning Classes

Leesburg Woodcraft Woodturning Workshops 2013 Schedule

Apr 26	Beginning Pen Turning
May 5	Intro to the Lathe
May 17	Beginning Pen Turning
May 18	Turning a Three-Legged Stool
Jun 2	Intro to the Lathe
Jun 7/8	Basic Segmented Turning
Jun 14	Beginning Pen Turning
Jun 15	Basic Bowl Turning
Jun 17	Segmented and Inlay Pen Blanks
Jun 21	Turning a Ball

