

Catoctin Area Turners



Next meeting: Feb 11, 2010, 6:30 pm
Location: Banshee Reeks Nature Preserve,
Leesburg, VA (see page 5)



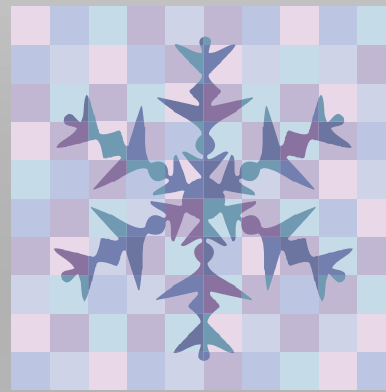
Volume 2 Issue 2 February 2010

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Snowed Out, Twice!

What a bummer! If most of you were preparing to head out to our Anniversary party on Saturday, 30 January as I was, something continued to occur. Snow, snow and more snow! The so-called snow flurries that weren't



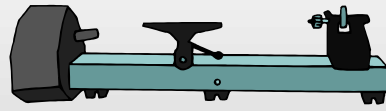
ing our event until Saturday, 20 February was/is the right call. Unfortunately, under the circumstances that decision

had to be made rather late. I hope that everyone did either receive an email, a phone call or got the information of the postponement from our web site.

supposed to amount to any more than 1 – 3 inches ended up to about 6 inches at my place in Sterling by the 4 o'clock hour and kept snowing for the remainder of the day. The climatologist (aka weather folks) got it wrong. Wow! How often can you get something wrong and still keep your job? That is unless you are a politician. Opps, sorry. I digress. I certainly think that postpon-

Hopefully this second postponement will be the last prior to that all important Anniversary Party as long as the snow stays away. Certainly a number of folks may not have braved the trip on the 30th and that would not have been cool, although very cold, considering that they would not have had a chance for the new Mini Lathe drawing. That would probably also have meant less income off the drawing for our organization.

The Call of the Lathe



by Tom Boley

Well, you just never know what the weather is going to do. Actually, this is really ironic in that the Capital Area Woodturners Christmas potluck had to be cancelled because of the 20" snow we had in the middle of December and now the CAT party has been postponed twice because of what may end up as a foot of snow here again! When we decided that the first party was a GO, it was predicted that we would have one to two inches of snow. No problem. Any of us can handle that with our eyes closed. But it kept snowing, and snowing, and snowing, and pretty soon I was measuring 3 1/2" here when two was supposed to have been the max.

Thanks for your understanding about the postponement. And now we have to postpone again for the same reason, but at least this time they are telling us we may get a foot or more! Thanks to everyone for your understanding of the need to change the dates a second time – Feb 20th.

It is always a pleasure to share good news and the good news this month is that we already have someone to take over the newsletter. Ron Cote offered to give it a try and I sure do appreciate his willingness to work on it. It is so important to have an informative newsletter which we can count on from month to month. Debra spent a couple hours with Ron teaching him the fine points of operating the software. Thank you, Debra. Since you were unable to continue as full time editor, we

sure do appreciate your willingness to at least help Ron learn the ropes. Since Ron is now in one of our CAT officer positions, we will vote at our Feb meeting to confirm my appointment of him to that position.

Thanks to our Program Director, Don Maloney, for his very interesting demo on thread chasing last month. I have no idea why it is called "chasing" but that's what they call it so we have to, too. But it was interesting nevertheless. It is something which I have wanted to try for some time but have yet to get around to it. Thanks, Don, for showing us something which is difficult but within reach if we want to practice awhile.



I thought it was Spring here for awhile. I even had the doors to the shop wide open one day while turning and thoroughly enjoyed the warm breeze wafting through the shop. But it sure turned cold in a hurry! I guess when the fire of turning runs in your veins, it shouldn't keep you from turning even in cold weather, but it does. My shop has been down to 34 degrees a couple mornings this winter and it takes a couple hours for the heater to get it up to comfortable. I guess we'll all have to just continue to tough it out until the Real Spring comes and the butterflies start to float through the shop again and we can all leave the doors open while turning.

Tom Boley

The Editor's Bench

by Ron Cote

W elcome to the Editor's Bench. Hello CAT members. My name is Ron Cote. Not only am I new to the newsletter but new to CAT. I live in Sterling. This is my first month's attempt at maintaining our CAT newsletter. It will certainly take a few months to produce the type of newsletters that we had in January considering my lack of software publishing experience, but I am game. For those of you who were not able to attend our last meeting, Debra Breton, who put together the January edition of the newsletter, will not be able to continue as our editor. What a great issue she created. Debra had me over to her place in order to help me get started in trying to understand the free software publishing program called "Scribus". This is not an immediate friendly user product by any means but a very powerful one. Thank you, Debra, for your help.

I first meet Tom Boley when he was the Capital Area Woodturners (CAW) president and as he was preparing to move into Loudoun. He helped me by mentoring me a bit as I was just getting starting in woodturning. I sent Tom an email after our last meeting asking him if I could help in setting up our meeting room as I really cannot stay to help the cleanup after the meeting. You see my morning alarm clock goes off at 3:50 am. Tom said I certainly could but if I would like to volunteer in taking over the newsletter that he would be really appreciative. Tom is very



resolute in his belief that our organization must have a newsletter for its members. I have belonged to many organizations and I fully agree with him. But, if there happens to be any other member out there who hasn't had a chance to raise their hand

for this position, please, the CA glue around my ankles has yet to cure. So before Tom and others apply any accelerator, don't be afraid to speak up if you would really like the job.

I would encourage everyone to contact me who would like to submit or may have an idea for a newsletter article. Help make this your newsletter and not just a couple of folks. I would ask that in order to get any submissions into an upcoming newsletter I would probably need your submission two weeks prior to our CAT meetings. If it doesn't make it for that current month, no worries, it will be published the following month. The reason for the submission deadlines are to ensure that I have enough time to put the newsletter together and to forward the newsletter for review to our president and/or others that may need to do so. The newsletter will probably look an awful like the one that Bob Peesel has been putting together over the last year as I may use his template and format until I get comfortable with the Scribus or some other software.

So some of you may be asking who is this knot head that volunteered for the editorial position. Well maybe this is a good time to let you all know a little about myself or maybe

it's more than you care to know. I'm quite often asked where do you come from as I apparently seem to speak in some sort of peculiar accent not normally heard south of the Mason Dixon line. I was born and raised in Rhode Island, but have lived in England and in the outback of Australia. I am a 25 year Air Force veteran which explains those wonderful locations. I have been married to the same woman for the last 40 years and we have three grown daughters. We moved up here from Texas and into the area in 1996 without our daughters. I think we may have actually been running away from them. No, not really, but they were insisting that they were going to stay in Texas. Well, I made three trips back to Texas within our first 10 months and do you know for what? You probably guessed it, "Dad, can you come and get me." The girls, their husbands, and now 4 grandkids all live in Loudoun.

I currently work as a government contractor as a Senior Information Assurance Analyst for the Army. For my Air Force colleagues out there, I know that Army is a four letter word but we are all on the same team and besides I need the money.

Woodworking/Woodturning

I started doing a fair amount of wood-working back in Texas as I retired from the Air Force but had to put it aside for a number of years until we bought our current home here in 1998. I have attended a number of classes at Marc Adams School of Woodworking outside of Indianapolis. My interest had only been flatwork until Marc had offered to sell off his "Jet 1236" lathes at the end of his school

season as he had just purchased 16 – 1224 Oneway lathes. I had not even tried to turn anything up to that point, but the opportunity and price were right. Attending one of the "Woodworking Shows" in Chantilly one spring, I saw a pen turning demonstration. That appeared to be easy enough so I decided to buy some pen kits and tuning tools from the "Craft Supply" booth. Brought them into work (show & tell) and was asked if I could do a couple pens out of some Honduras Mahogany flooring. I gave it a shot and provided the pens as a going away gift. Since then I have probably sold a couple hundred pens since 2004 without advertising or going to any craft shows. I had to put the turning aside over the last 2 years because of job commitments and the fact that two of my daughters used my garage/workshop as a storage area as they were moving from one home to another. Well, now that I have my workshop back and it appears that this will be my last full year of work I have been able to begin turning again. I have started to make other things besides pens and between my wife and daughters I don't seem to have problem of making too many things. I'm looking forward in getting to know as many of you as possible and to increase my knowledge and skills as a woodturner.

I hope to eventually meet you all at one of our meetings and until next month, be safe, and keep turning.

Ron Cote

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What I've Learned — Month Six

Jeff Greene

This was a vacation month for me which means everything breaks the week before which means you're crazy busy, then you're out for a week which means double work the week you return! However, the vacation was still worth it, eight days in Steamboat Colorado ahhhh :-). The lift watch-powder fall couldn't help "What's it like With the one left in January I made up for lost time. I finished a black walnut bowl I roughed in about 4 months ago, turned another bowl out of Brazilian cherry, and roughed in two other bowls out of half a log of cherry. I also broke down and bought Cole jaws after my walnut bowl slipped out of the jam chuck during the last step and I had to spend an hour refinishing the outside. Stupid jam chuck (more like rookie mistake).



As I was riding up ing the champaign softly on the trees I but wonder to turn aspen?" remaining week to call my own, I

I also had the pleasure of spending some time with our leader, Tom, in his shop this month. If he ever extends the invitation, I strongly encourage you to make the time. The tips you pick up are invaluable, the tools are perfectly tuned and Stubby is one sexy

momma (she may weight 900lbs but I still love her!). Tom helped me make a large salad bowl out of a piece of boxelder I picked up at one of the our club meetings. Of course I got caught up in the moment and turned it a little thin (I can never remember the rules (10% of the diameter I believe)), but I think it will still be fine. We'll see when I finish it this summer. It's in our heat pump room now or as I like to call it, the kiln.

My must-turn wood of the month is boxelder. It's a white, semi-soft wood with a soapy feel to it. What makes it cool is the vibrant red vein running through it. The red color is, so I'm told, caused by a fungus, "*Fusarium reticulatum*" to be precise although this has never been confirmed according to the following link: <http://www.plantmanagementnetwork.org/pub/php/research/redstain/>

Also a word of caution. The wonderful red color will fade very rapidly if exposed to sunlight even with a UV protector!

See you at the meeting. Happy turning....

Jeff G..



Dulles Expo Center
Chantilly, VA

EXTRA - February Meeting - EXTRA

Please check our web site or expect an email notice from Tom Boley for a possible meeting cancellation. Our concern? Will the road and parking lot to the meeting facility be plowed.

Upcoming Demonstrations

February: On February 11 we will have John Noffsinger how to turn finials and he is a real pro, with works in various galleries. To see some of John's work, you can visit his website at <http://johnnoffsinger.com>

March: Stay tuned - as Don Maloney our Program Director is getting some great demonstrations lined up.

April: TBD

May: TBD

June: TBD



The John C Campbell Folk School

In the January newsletter ,Tom Boley had an article about this folk school. He even took a case of the folk school catalogs to the meeting. However, he forgot to pass them out. He will take 'em again in February so be sure to ask about them at the meeting. Don't take a second one if you took one as the January meeting ended as you can easily get another one by providing your mailing info to www.folkschool.org. However once everyone has gotten one, the rest are available to everyone.



CAT Officers

President

Tom Boley
540-338-1718
tboley@erols.com

Vice President

Dale Bright
540-571-9121
frog21@comcast.net rparson@gmail.com

Secretary

Bob Parson
703-724-1879

Operations Director

Jeff Greene
703-787-1858
jeff_greene@bmc.com

Treasure

Mark Kaplan
703-608-6914
markap6@comcast.net

Program Director

Don Maloney
540-554-8223
caffeyh@aol.com

January Meeting Minutes

by Bob Parson

The January 14, 2010 CAT meeting was called to order by our president, Tom Boley at 6:35 pm. For this first meeting of our second year as a club we had a presentation by Don Maloney on thread chasing. We have seen several of Don's projects prior to Show & Tell sessions this year, and he has been threading lids and screw on tops for boxes and urns for some time. He started this evening off by demonstrating thread chasing by hand; quite a feat that requires much practice to avoid cross-threading. After hand threading he demonstrated threading using his Baxter Thread Master jig, designed by Willard Baxter, modified by Don Maloney.



Logo Selected

If you haven't already noticed our club logo was finally selected at the last CAT meeting. There were three logos to choose from and the following logo was selected.



Mentoring Program

by Terry Lund

We are establishing a mentoring program for CAT members, so Terry Lund 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. Terry 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 February 11. If you are interested in either opportunity but will not be at the meeting, please contact him via email at terry.lund@gmail.com or call him on his cell phone 585-455-2517. Please include your name, address, phone number, email address, and indicate your level of experience as a Beginner, Intermediate, or Experienced when requesting a mentor.

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

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.

Breaking News **Dues Deadline Looming** **Breaking News**

We have worked hard to include anyone we could find who is interested in woodturning in the e-mail list for woodturning information as well as for the Catoctin Area Turners newsletter. If you have not joined CAT by the 15th of March, we will delete your e-address from the e-mailing list. But we want you to join and

participate in our meetings and other activities. If you have not yet joined the club, please come to our February or March meeting and sign up. We'd love to have you as a member of the finest woodturning club in all of Loudoun County! If you are unable go do so, you can keep abreast of club activities through the web site at www.catoctinareeturners.org.