



September Program

September 10th, 2009

Our program in September will be a bit different. We normally focus on woodturning or, as we did last month, what can be done with a piece after it is turned and off the lathe. This month, Tom Boley will talk about what to do with all those bowls, bottle stoppers, pens, and the like as they start to pile up around you in the shop. Oh yeah, someone in the family will probably want some of the things you turn, which is great, and as we start to approach the end of the year, we all start thinking about making Christmas gifts for friends and family. However, there may still be things left over and Tom has the solution. He will talk about craft shows.

Tom will cover topics such as getting into craft shows, what kind of craft shows are desirable, how to set up to best effect, pricing your work, business records, and so forth. Tom will bring some of his craft show set-up gear to show up close and personal what is needed for craft show success.

If you have ideas for future programs or demonstrations, please contact our Program Director.



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Summer is already on the wane, it seems, after just last month writing about how hot it was turning in the garage.

Boy, where does the time go?

Have you ever thought about how different time is as you get older? Of course, I guess it was different as a kid, too, depending on the

circumstances. As a kid, I thought summers just flew by.

I couldn't believe they went so fast. But school, well that was different. School time slowed way down.

Sometimes I looked at the clock to see how much longer I had to endure algebra class.

Twenty minutes later, I looked at the clock again but the clock had moved no more than a minute! Woodturning is sort of like that. When I am turning, I just loose myself in the task and when I look at the clock, I am usually surprised at how much time has elapsed since I started. That is especially true when teaching.

I love teaching the craft so much that the time just flies by. But it merely creeps when I am waiting in eager anticipation to get to a particular piece of wood to turn, or waiting for a particular demonstration, or for my next trip to Woodcraft.

There is a lot of joy in what we do and I am mighty thankful that I am able to do it.

You saw my single entry in the piercing sweepstakes at the last meeting. That is something which I did once but have just not gotten into.

But Debra Breton sure has and she did a great job of presenting tools and techniques for both carving and piercing at our last meeting. That is a whole 'nother subset of turning for many – turning a piece on the lathe merely to get to a starting point for the carving and piercing. In woodturning magazines and at instant galleries at woodturning events, you will see some incredible work which has been done to pieces after they have been taken from the lathe. Debra, thanks so much for giving us such a great look at what can be done to a turned piece. And Debbie, thanks to you, too, for your support to Debra's demo.

This meeting will be a bit different as no chips will fly, at least not intentionally. I'll write up something separately to explain the program. I

hope the fact that it will not be woodturning will not keep anyone from coming to the meeting. Now that school has started, many who have missed our meetings this summer may once again be able to attend. I think we have a mighty fine group of woodturners now and want to keep it growing. Only by growing will we have sufficient funds to bring in outside demonstrators to give us new perspectives and to purchase equipment which will support our public education goal. I know The Call of the Lathe can sometimes fade during the summer when it is just too darned hot to work in the garage, but with the cool weather we have had lately and the coming cooler weather in the fall, The Call may start increasing in volume. Remember what Ruth Niles says: "Carpe lignum, Torne lignum."



From the Editor's Desk

Robert Peesel

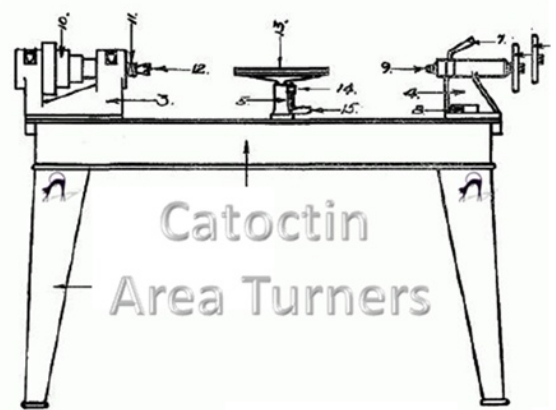
Well, it has been nine months and we still haven't found a logo that everyone can agree on. So we are going to try something a little different this month, so get your creative juices flowing and see if YOU can come up with the winning logo!

Our thought was to seed the Logo search with a base image and see what everyone can come up with using the supplied image. The image below was taken from "A Course In Wood Turning" by Archie S. Milton and Otto K. Wohlers. This book is now in the public domain and can be found at <http://www.gutenberg.org/files/15460/15460-h/15460-h.htm>.

This is not to say that you can't use other images but we wanted to use a simple image like this so that it could be reproduced clearly.

If you can't get the image out of the document online, please let me know and I will send one to you via email.

As your editor, I would love to have a real logo to use on our masthead because we can then use the logo styles to help guide the look of the rest of the newsletter. So get drawing and let's see if we can't have a logo chosen for the new year!



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Organizations such as the Catoctin Area Turners would not exist if it weren't for the kindness of their sponsors. We are blessed to have the Leesburg, Virginia Woodcraft store supporting us and our activities. If it wasn't for their initial kindness, the Catoctin Area Turners might still only be an idea. Please remember this and support them at every opportunity!

What I've Learned

Jeff Greene

As a new turner I've found the long list of terms, tools and vendors confusing and at times overwhelming. Here is a quick summary of what I've learned during my three months of turning, right, wrong or indifferent.

I've always enjoyed wood working. In the past I've built furniture, hand carved swords, you name it. However, until I discovered turning the projects were driven by need more than desire. Turning is different for me because there isn't a right or wrong. I don't need to plan out every detail ahead of time and if I make a mistake, guess what, the design just changed. In fact, at this stage I hardly ever start turning with more than a basic idea of what I want the final item to look like. Let's face it, in what other form of woodworking can you make things this cool with so little effort? I'm completely addicted!

So what have I discovered during my turning journey? First off it's an expensive hobby; expect to spend at least a thousand dollars just for the bare necessities, assuming you already have the traditional woodworking equipment (drill press, band saw, etc.). Sure you can do it for less, but a good friend of mine once said cry once when you buy it or cry every time you use it. In woodturning, as with most things, you get what you pay for. Secondly, you absolutely need a

mentor to teach you the basic concepts and to keep you from doing really stupid things like using a roughing gouge on a bowl (DON'T EVER do that).

Finally, as good meals start with quality ingredients, so too do beautiful wood turning projects start with good wood. Unfortunately, I still haven't learned how to identify good wood. I'd certainly like to have a list of woods to avoid or maybe a heat chart that lists the different woods by level of difficulty. Personally, I like Cherry, Walnut, Bocote, African Blackwood, Lace Wood, Pink Ivory, Curly Maple, Maple Burl and all the Heart woods. I don't like Cedar (too soft) and I picked up a green colored wood (can't remember the name) at woodcraft that I didn't like (it looks good when you're done but the smell while turning is awful).

What lessons have I learned from mistakes that I'd like to help others avoid?

A fully expanded Grizzly chuck turning at 9000RPM does bad things to your knuckles, ouch!

A Cherry bowl not properly placed in the chuck will travel an incredibly far distance. Shut the garage door.

Acrylic is MUCH easier to finish with wet sandpaper. Who knew..

Snake wood is gorgeous but it

WILL crack, it's only a matter of time.

Use a saw to rough round your bowls. Your body and equipment will thank you.

Bottle stopper chucks are easily bent. Be careful when turning the tops of your bottle stoppers. Although the bent chucks do make really cool mushrooms.

When you mess up your bowl gouge on your new grinder, it's REALLY NICE to have a friend that knows how to fix it, thanks, Tom.

In short, don't try to be perfect. We learn more from our failures than we do our successes. Don't be intimidated by the lingo. It may be a carbide tipped hollowing tool but it's also that crooked thing with the sharp wheel on the end. Above all be safe and have fun!

CAT Lending Library

We need your help to start a lending library that allows members to check out tapes, books, or DVD's for a low monthly fee. The library would be available at each club meeting and a member would be expected to pay for one month at the time of pickup and return the item at the next meeting (or pay an additional month). We'll be working with AAW to see if we can get some grant money to help but please consider donating any item you have that you no longer use to benefit the club. Mark Kaplan has agreed to act as the librarian to get us started but we're also looking for a volunteer to take on this role as well. If you're interested, please talk with Mark at our September meeting. If you have items to donate, feel free to bring them to our September meeting as well.

Sheltie Rescue Silent Auction

The Northern Virginia Sheltie Rescue group will be holding a picnic and silent auction in late September. This active group finds home for unwanted or misplaced Shetland Sheep Dogs and the auction is one of the major fund raisers for the group each year. Don't let being a member of a group called CAT keep you from helping these dogs! If any CAT member has an item they would like to donate to the auction, please contact Dave Martin (703 727 7917) to arrange pickup or bring it to the September meeting. Items would need to be to Dave by September 24th at the latest.

Don and Harriet Maloney have been asked to place some of their turnings in the gift shop of the Bluemont Vineyard in Bluemont, VA. Not only is this a lovely place perched on the side of the Blue Ridge with a breathtaking view but their wine is some of the best we have tried in this area. You can eat on the veranda while enjoying the view and shop in a well-supplied gift shop. Wonderful trip to enjoy the country. Their website is www.bluemontvineyard.com. Don and Harriet also have items on display at the Purcellville Library. Stop by and take a look!

Celebrate Banshee Reeks! Open House

How are birds banded? How can you help protect our water supply? What is a Virginia Master Naturalist? Learn the answer to these questions and more. Take a guided walk. Watch hawk and owl demonstrations. Come out for a day of fun and learning for the whole family and enjoy Loudoun County's own beautiful Banshee Reeks Nature Preserve.

On Sunday, September 20, 2009, from 11am to 3pm the Friends of Banshee Reeks and Loudoun County Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Services will be co-sponsoring an Open House at Banshee Reeks

Nature Preserve. As we celebrate the environmental, cultural and historical stewardship of Banshee Reeks Nature Preserve at the Open House, there will be exhibits, activities and family oriented interactive demos focusing on stream monitoring, bird banding and monitoring, amphibians and reptiles, native and invasive plants, rain gardens and many more areas of citizen science that will provide an opportunity for visitors to "GET UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL" with the Nature Preserve.

There will be guided nature and archeological walks, hayrides, and we are even planning bluegrass musicians on the back porch of the Visitor Center!

About Banshee Reeks Nature Preserve

Banshee Reeks Nature Preserve exemplifies the beauty of Virginia's rolling countryside and the wildlife that calls it home. The preserve consists of 725-acres of forests, successional fields, ponds and streams and over two miles of frontage on Goose Creek, one of Loudoun County's two designated State Scenic Rivers. The County-owned preserve contains unique wildlife habitats and offers recreational and nature study opportunities to Loudoun County residents and visitors from all over the Mid-Atlantic region.



Friends of Banshee Reeks Nature Preserve

Banshee Reeks is a 725 acre nature preserve operated by the Loudoun County Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Services and supported by the Friends of Banshee Reeks, a volunteer, nonprofit organization. To receive emails from the Friends of Banshee Reeks about events at the Preserve send an email to: friendsofbansheereeks@yahoo.com

Celebrate Banshee Reeks! Open House Sunday, September 20, 2009 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Come out and celebrate the environmental, cultural and historical stewardship of Banshee Reeks Nature Preserve. There will be exhibits, activities and family oriented interactive demos focusing on stream monitoring, bird banding and monitoring, amphibians and reptiles, native and invasive plants, rain gardens and many more areas of citizen science that will provide an opportunity for visitors to "*GET UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL*" with the Nature Preserve. There will be guided nature and archeological walks, hayrides, and we are planning bluegrass musicians on the back porch of the Visitor Center!

Banshee Reeks Nature Reserve
Open Saturdays and Sundays, 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM
21085 The Woods Road
Leesburg, VA 20175
703-669-0316
<http://www.bansheereeks.org/>

About The Friends of Banshee Reeks Nature Preserve, Inc.

The Friends of Banshee Reeks Nature Preserve, Inc. (FOBR) is a nonprofit organization of volunteers who support the preservation and conservation of Banshee Reeks. The group's goals are protecting, enhancing, and preserving the natural, physical, and cultural heritage of the preserve.

Program Information

Our meeting program for September will be given by Tom Boley and will focus on how to prepare and participate in a craft show. Tom will talk about preparing items for display and sale along with many other tips to make your experience at a show more profitable and enjoyable!

Here's the schedule for the following months:

October- Simple/Production ornaments- Harriett Maloney
November- Guest presenter- Mark St. Leger
December- Pen turning- Joe

Flanagan or Jeff Greene
January- CAT 1st Anniversary celebration, volunteer to coordinate is needed
February- Don Maloney- Tool selection and crafting your own tools

As always, if you have an idea for a meeting program, please get with Dave Martin. Even better, if you have an idea and are willing to do a presentation, let Dave know right away so he can get you on the schedule.

Finally, thanks again to Deb Breton for her presentation last meeting regarding texturing and piercing/carving.

The following information is repeated from last month's newsletter because it is so important! Mark St. Leger is a fantastic teacher and I recommend everyone put this on their schedule. (editor)

Presenter Information

I am delighted to tell you that Mark St. Leger will be holding a one-day workshop for us in Nov in conjunction with doing our demo at the meeting that month and a workshop and demo for Capital Area Woodturners. The workshop will be Thursday, 12 Nov, at Woodcraft. Times will be worked out and announced. Then Mark will come to the CAT meeting that evening and do a demo for the membership. You can find out more about Mark at his web site, <http://markstleger.com/>.

The workshop will be limited to

seven for now. I haven't asked Mark how many he would take, but we'll make it seven. If he wants to limit the workshop to fewer than seven, then we will do it on a first come, first served basis and the cost may be a bit higher. If he can take more and we can get the lathes to support it, then we'll consider going to eight and the cost will be a bit lower.

Our Program Director, Dave Martin, will keep the list of those who are interested. However, to reserve a spot in the class, you must mail a check made out to Catoctin Area Turners to Dave, telling him it is for Mark St. Leger's class. We will have to be able to cover his fee in order to hold the workshop. If we don't get enough by a month before, the 12th of Oct, we'll have to cancel. The fee is \$75. Mail your check to Dave Martin at 20596 Woodcock Ct., Leesburg, VA

20175.

Once we have your checks, they will be deposited in the CAT account rather than holding them until Nov. This is a commitment to take the class. If you are later unable to attend and we are able to get someone to replace you in the class, you will get a refund. If no one replaces you, then you will forfeit the fee as we still must pay Mark.

Mark is a great guy and a very good teacher. In fact, he IS a teacher. He teaches high school shop, I think. You will really like him and enjoy both his workshop and his demo at the meeting. Of course, you must be a member of CAT in order to take Mark's workshop. I think he will take all levels of skill, too, as I don't think he limits this to just advanced woodturners.

Plan Ahead for the Virginia Woodturning Symposium

Put 23-24 October 2010 on your calendar. That will be the weekend for the Virginia Woodturning Symposium in Fishersville, VA, near Waynesboro.

The format will be much as last year since it worked so well. Each half day will start out with an hour and a half demo. We'll have a large room and there will be demonstration stations set up around the perimeter of the room, maybe a dozen or so. After the beginning demo, attendees will be able to wander among the stations, watching a whole demo or just

drifting from one to the other. In the center of the room will be the vendors with wood, sanding supplies, and equipment for sale.

The symposium committee has already invited two turners to demo for the symposium. Alan Lacer is well known among turners worldwide as he has been a turner for 30 years, has demonstrated widely, and is a past president of the AAW. Alan's wife, Mary, is the Executive Director of AAW. You can learn more about Alan at his web site, <http://www.alanlacer.com>.

Alan will do the Saturday and Sunday morning demos. The other turner invited to demonstrate on Saturday afternoon is our own president, Tom Boley. Tom was

quite surprised and, of course, pleased at being invited to demonstrate at the state symposium. Being second-billed with Alan Lacer is a great honor! It may seem too early to be thinking about something NEXT October, but this is an event worth attending.

The symposium committee will be publishing more information about this event as we get closer.

Meeting Information

Remember, all Catoctin Area Turner meetings will be at the Banshee Reeks Nature Preserve.

Meetings are on the second Thursday of the month and start at 6:30 at the Education Annex across from the visitor center within the Preserve.

From Leesburg, BRNP can be reached by going south on US15 towards Warrenton *only about a quarter mile from the Leesburg Bypass and then *make a left on Evergreen Mills Rd. (Route 621) and travel south *about 5.3 miles*. After passing the entrance to the Loudoun County Landfill on the right, take the next right, Woods Road and travel about a mile to the

entrance to the park on the left. Woods Road is gravel but passable for all types of vehicles. *Once in the Preserve,* stay on the paved road until reaching the parking for the visitor center and annex on the left. The Education Annex is the white building to the right of the large stone Visitor Center. The Annex entrance is on the back side of the building. Look forward to seeing you there.

Directions from other locations are found at the link below.

From Gilbert's Corner, drive north on Rt 15 for 4.3 miles and turn right on Oatlands Mill Road. Go straight across Gleedsville Road and watch for the park entrance on the right.

From the southeast, take Rt 50 west to Evergreen Mill Road and turn right. Follow Evergreen Mill Road about 8 miles to The Woods Road and turn left. The park entrance will be about a mile along on the left.

Banshee Reeks Nature Reserve is located at:
21085 The Woods Road
Leesburg, VA 20175
703-737-7843

You can find out more information about the Preserve at the following links:
<http://www.loudoun.gov/Default.aspx?tabid=884>
<http://www.bansheereeks.org/>

Don't forget your RAFFLE money!

Show and Tell!

Tom Boley



With the Holidays coming Tom Boley presented a pierced ornament that would look good any time of the year!

Don and Harriet Maloney

Don and Harriet Maloney brought these two pieces made from the same African Mahogany Crotch. Harriet's, below, is inlaid with Brass powder.



Below left are two vessels also from Don. These are Box Elder and Ambrosia Maple. Bottom right is a Box Elder square bowl from Harriet.



Doug Stratton



Doug Stratton's cups and saucers are a pleasure to look at and hold. They are turned nice and thin and even. Way to go Doug!

Walt Bennett



Walt Bennett brought these two platters for us to look at. The platter on the left is Yellowheart while the one on the right is Blue Mahoe. You will have to ask Walt on how to pronounce Mahoe!

George Carrigan



George Carrigan brought three items to the last meeting. The first is Honey Locust in the style of David Ellsworth while the second two are in the style of George Carrigan. The second vessel is Rosewood, while the third is Maple. You wouldn't know it was Maple from looking at it, but George decided to paint the wood with paint that replicates the look of stone.