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THE CHIP FLYER

ISSUE: 19

SEPTEMBER 1997

NEXT MEETING

Casual Evening - Members only - September 4 - 7:00 pm to 10:30 pm
 Formal Evening - Members and Guests - September 18 - 7:00 pm to 11:00 pm

MESSAGE FROM THE PRES.

How many times have we heard and read about Safety on the Lathe.

Ad infinitum - so many times, we hardly pay any attention.

I for one have so often said to myself "I'll just finish this minor operation - "real quick", usually something of no real consequence.

So having given myself "justification" - I leave off my safety equipment.

Bad move.

Accidents usually occur from the most unexpected and often simple causes - not only from the obvious catch, dig, blank flying off the screw or chuck, etc.

On behalf of the executive members I am very happy to tell you that Kevin Ellis will be OK, - and very sorry to tell you that he suffered the effects of a very bad accident on the lathe.

No doubt, the fruit basket and good wishes delivered on behalf of all our members will hasten his speedy recovery. We told him he could keep the basket if he gets well "real quick".

At about 11:00 PM Saturday night, August 23rd, Kevin was finishing a cherry bowl - about 16" diameter by 5" deep, which had originally been Kiln dried shortly after being cut. The bowl had been completely turned, with a wall

thickness of approximately 7/16" at the rim, down to about 5/16" toward the bottom, and was reversed chucked onto a 2" diameter recess jaws (Oneway - a bit small for the bowl size but nothing to do with the accident).

Kevin had finished sanding at about 1000 rpm or less, and stepped back to reach for a scraper, to put in shallow decorative grooves on the outside diameter. He approached the lathe, increased the speed slightly to about 1200 rpm, and leaned forward toward the workpiece to start the operation. Before he had even introduced the tool, the entire bowl literally exploded in his face, cutting him deeply from the corner of his eye near the nose, through the eyebrow and forehead and right up into his scalp, requiring at least 50 stitches to close. The violent impact threw him to the floor, bleeding profusely, the tool still in his hand.

Fortunately, because of his first aid training he was eventually able to stop the substantial blood loss and was taken to emergency by ambulance, returning home at 5:00 am Sunday morning.

No, I am not over dramatizing the gory scene, I was there on Sunday afternoon and saw the damage to his face, the blood splattered all over his chain saw etc. on the floor, 10 feet away, and the pieces of bowl scattered all over the place, resembling a plane crash.

So - what happened.

Having finished the sanding, he was wearing his normal glasses and a rubber nose/mouth respirator, but not his face shield as it tends to fog up when worn over the respirator. Frankly, I personally would have already removed my Racal air helmet - after all - it was just a "real quick" operation I wanted to do to finish off, right. Obviously wrong.

The bowl pieces were picked up, some less than one square inch in size, and so many, it was impossible to even attempt to reconstruct it. I have closely examined the pieces and while not claiming to be an authority, I am fairly certain that the disintegration occurred while the bowl was revving on the lathe.

Some of the damage to the bowl obviously occurred on impact with the floor etc., however, Kevin distinctly recalls hearing a bang (pressure release) before being struck. From the extent of his injuries, it is quite evident that he was hit by jagged shrapnel, and not by a complete bowl merely flying off the chuck.

The diameter and depth of the recess were not too bad and the ring marks left by the ribs of the Oneway chuck jaws showed good and consistent contact, with no telltale "skid marks" to indicate that it had been bumped or forced off the jaws.

One unknown and possible contributing factor could have been over tightening of the chuck, causing stress fractures to spread. There were a few small cracks and part of the pith near the edge, but these did not indicate undue splitting as the cause.

What I did find was at least one knot within the wall thickness and not easily visible from the finished inside and outside surfaces. Have you ever sawn a plank, through a knot and found the remaining "half" of the knot to be loose or that it had fallen out of it's hole. And so with the bowl, the remaining exposed knots and mating knot holes were a dusty brown colour and were obviously not adhered to the surrounding wood.

In summary, the following were possible contributing factors

(a) kiln dried too fast, and/or too soon after cutting.

(b) Over tightening of the chuck (how tight is enough?).

(c) internal and unseen stress flaws in the wood, particularly the non-adhered knots (#1 suspect).

(d) the presence of small edge cracks and some of the pith.

(e) surface stress caused by over aggressive removal of material (cuts too heavy, feed rate and speed to high).

(f) overheating caused by (e), too heavy sanding (no evidence of this) with dull papers or sanding discs.

(g) the catalyst that triggered the disintegration - an elevation of the speed

Who knows? I guess we'll never really know the exact cause. But what we all do are the points mentioned and we all work with known material and/or equipment flaws etc.

What we all DO NOT do is wear a full face shield at all times (except for Doug Newlove who always does).

An ordinary face shield is about \$23.00 with tax and far more effective than safety glasses or plastic goggles.

We have all experienced the problem of face shields fogging up, and most, if not all of us are susceptible to wood dust to some

degree. I believe the answer is a Rascal type forced air helmet, incorporating a high impact resistant face shield. It helps to "save face" and makes breathing easier. These can cost anywhere between \$200 to \$600 depending on the type ----but ----what is the cost of an eye or lung replacement ---go figure!

We are planning to present a combined Rascal and Chester Van Ness demonstration in November, on Air Quality, Dust Collection, (Prevention) and Lung protection. Plan to be there.

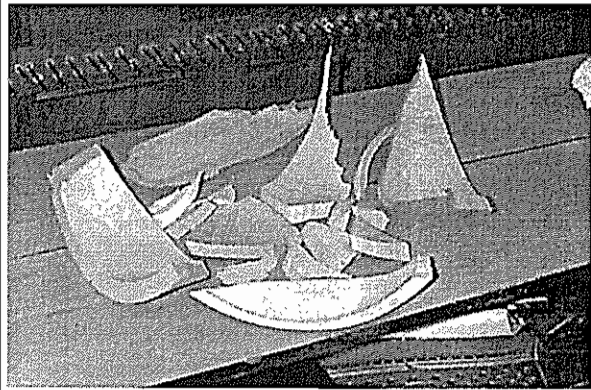
The photos and bowl fragments will be sent to the CWA for their comments and possible use to further promote Safety on the Lathe - what? - again!

In the meantime, a get well soon to Kevin from all of us, and don't feel bad, you were not at fault in any way.

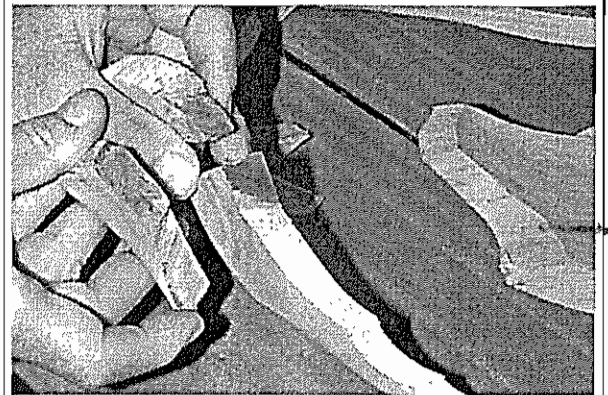
It should be no surprise to anyone that Kevin went to work as usual on the Monday after, the only difference, he wears dark glasses as a cover up.

- Josh

The remnants of Kevin's bowl



Closeup of the knot



DECEMBER MEETING

The December meeting has been changed again since the notice in the last newsletter. There will a Casual night on Thursday December 4th and our annual Christmas meeting will be the next Thursday, December 11. The Christmas meeting will include a Pot-Luck buffet to which all spouses will be invited, simultaneous demo's on about 5 lathes plus some hands on sessions. The regular third Thursday meeting, December 18th will be canceled since it is so close to Christmas. More details will follow closer to Christmas.

DURHAM WOOD SHOW COMPETITION

Congratulations to the winners of the Durham Wood Show woodturning competition, held August 8-10.

First place--- Marilyn Campbell of the Grey-Bruce Woodturners Guild
Second --- George Enns of St. Catherines

Third --- **Sandy Graham** of the Golden Horseshoe Woodturners Guild.

Honourable mention - Don Martindale

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Cliff Rose had accepted the office of Membership Secretary for the GHWG. This position, which was voted in by the membership at July general meeting, has become crucial for growth of the GHWG. Cliff has repeatedly shown a willingness to give his best on behalf of the guild and its members as a teacher at the Casual evenings and organizer of our display at the Ancaster Wood Show. Thanks Cliff.

TURNING WORKSHOP

The following is from a letter sent to Josh by Ken Goldspink.

"Just a few lines to inform you and your club members of the upcoming visit by Australian woodturner Ernie Newman on Sept. 7th. Ernie will be giving a demoworkshop on Saturday Sept. 13th at the Welbeck Sawmill near Durham, Ont. Ernie has requested of me, to ask those interested turners who might attend, to bring along several pieces of their work to form a display which he wishes to photograph. Upon his return to Australia he will be submitting an article about his Canadian trip including photographs of the work of Canadian turners, to the popular publication, "Australian Woodworker". During his demo he will talk about design and form and would also like everyone to bring along a sketchpad for that purpose. He will also talk about the history of the lathe and woodturning through the ages, and illustrate each period of history by turning an item from that historical period. It should make for a most interesting day for all of us, hearing from this Australian woodturner, who has been invited to attend the World Turning Centre Symposium, organized by Albert Lecoff and which takes place in Philadelphia on September 26th, 27th & 28th.

The Fee for attending this one day event at Welbecks will be \$20.00 per person, coffee and refreshments included. You may wish to go for lunch at a nearby restaurant, or you may wish to bring a bagged lunch. Hope to see some of your members on Saturday Sept. 13th. for some woodturning fellowship.

Yours in Turning
Ken Goldspink G.B.W.G."

Editors note

If anyone is attending this workshop and is willing to report on it to the newsletter, please contact me. I will arrange to get the digital camera for the day so we can get some workshop photos into the newsletter.

Frank Ditomaso

CASUAL NIGHTS

Those members who wish to turn on Casual nights should bring their own Safety equipment if possible. While we have some safety equipment on hand, we can't possibly have enough for everyone especially those looking on. In addition, if you have any, bring your own tools. This way you will also be able to learn to sharpen you tools on our grinder as well as freeing up the clubs tools for others who may not have any. We don't have much of a supply of wood blanks, so bring them as well. Any member will be happy to tell you the best places to buy blanks and may even be willing to part with a few pieces themselves.

If any turners have extra scroll chucks, screw chucks, or any other lathe accessories they wish to donate, loan or sell real cheap, please contact Josh. We need additional accessories for the Casual night and with another lathe becoming available soon, we will likely be short. If you are going to loan an accessory to us, make sure your name is engraved on it and let Al McBurny know what you have brought so he can record it correctly on the inventory list.

WOOD RAFFLE

The wood raffle raised \$130. The finished item supplied by Claude Hippolyte was won by Jim Wright.

The wood raffle is one of our most important fund raising activities that helps to keep the membership fees down. It is important that we continue to have a good supply of quality items to raffle and that members purchase the tickets. Remember the purpose of the raffle is to give members a chance to get wood they haven't tried before or normally wouldn't have access to; but also to raise funds for the Guild. Even if you don't win something, or don't see something on the table that you really want, you still win when you buy a ticket because the Guild (and that means you) benefits for the injection of cash. You don't have to bring just wood for the raffle; the items could also be finishing items such as tung oil or wax, sandpaper, old tools and accessories that are

collecting dust, etc. We need your continued support to keep the raffle viable and enjoyable.

BOB HASTINGS and KEN GOLDSPINK

As you know, Bob Hastings is scheduled to give a wood finishing demo at the GHWG general meeting of October 16. We have just found out that Ken Goldspink of the GBWG will also be there on that evening and will give a wood turning demo.

Bob and Ken have agreed to provide critiquing for those members of the GHWG who wish it. A critiquing table will be set up for show and tell, and members will be able to get some constructive comments and criticisms from these experienced turners.

Remember, that's October 16. If you don't want you objects critiqued, don't put them on the critique table.

HAMILTON LIBRARY DISPLAY

The GHWG has been invited to set up a display of turned objects during the Festival of Arts at the Hamilton Central Library on October 25 from 11-3. We are looking for turners to offer their work for display and if possible come and discuss the items with the public. This is a good opportunity to raise the profile of woodturning and GHWG in the Hamilton area. Please contact Josh for more information.

TAUNTON PRESS BOOKS

Guild members are now eligible to buy books and videos published by The Taunton Press (Fine Woodworking, Fine Home building, etc.) at a 20% discount off their published Canadian list. This offer has been made by Fitzhenry and Whiteside, Canadian distributors for Taunton. The only requirement is that we order a minimum of 5 at a time and there may be some shipping charges from Markham. Kevin Ellis will have 2 copies of the Taunton Press catalog available for viewing at the meetings. The orders must be prepaid and made through Kevin only please.

Doug Newlove and Brian Mc Intosh pooled their turning talents and provided an excellent turning demonstration/lecture for the August general meeting.

Doug gave a general overview of bowl turning covering all aspects from roughing the blank, mounting the blank for turning, turning the outside and inside, reverse chucking to finish the bottom and finishing. Throughout all the various stages, Doug had written notes and diagrams to emphasize his points. His most important point was that the experienced turner should not ASSUME that the novice knows all the various techniques available, how to sharpen and use the tools or the safest way to do each task; and that the novice should not ASSUME that the experienced turner is promoting the best technique for him. Turning is a very personal process and what may work for one may not for another. The best technique is the one that works best for you.

Doug began by rough turning a blank between centers. He showed how to balance a blank by moving the center points and measuring the eccentricity by turning the blank by hand until he had the best balance. He also showed how one can intentionally off balance the blank to avoid turning away an interesting area which is especially useful for natural edge bowls.

Doug then reviewed the various chuck mounting options as follows -

Pin Chuck - The turner would drill a hole in the blank large enough for the pin and, with a headless nail placed on the flat portion of the pin chuck shank, the shank is slid into the hole. The nail would lock the blank against the shank as long as back pressure was applied by the rotation of the blank. While a simple system, it can be difficult to get the exact hole size, may be hard to remove and may loosen while turning. Doug's recommendation was to not use it.

Screw Chuck - The screw chuck was outlined in the July newsletter, Volume 17, by Josh Pichanick. A hole is first drilled in the blank that matches the root diameter of the screw and the blank threaded onto the screw. This is a good method for smaller blanks and allows the blanks to be remounted on the same center.

Glue Block - The glue block consists of a block of scrap wood mounted on a faceplate and turned round. A flat is turned on the blank bottom while it is still between centers. The blank is glued to the scrap with woodworking glue such as Titebond, allowed to cure overnight, and the faceplate then remounted back on the lathe. This method provides a very secure hold on the blank, gives more access to the bowl bottom and is the most economical of all the methods since you don't have to buy a costly accessory. However, it also ties up the faceplate until the bowl is finished and won't work on wet wood.

Chucks - 3 and 4 jaw chucks are the type most usually found in the woodturners collection. A tennon or recess is turned on the blank while it is between centers. A recess will usually be cut with a dovetail shape to provide more secure holding, the blank placed on the chuck and jaws expanded to firmly grip the blank. The whole bowl can then be turned and finished on the chuck, and if necessary the blank can be remounted. Alternatively a

dovetail shaped tennon can be turned on the blank while between centers and the chuck will compress around the tennon. This method is a little more secure than the recess method but the bottom is not accessible and must be finished by reverse chucking. Either method allows the blank to be removed (for drying for example) and remounted easily. Some chucks allow the jaws to be reversed for use on a recess or tennon and most are self centering, although some are better than others at this.

Vacuum chucks - The vacuum chuck is still experimental but may become available in the future. A flat is turned on the bottom of the blank which is then mounted on a vacuum plate on the lathe headstock. The vacuum exerts about 15psi which should be enough to resist even heavy turning, but is only as good as the flatness and seal of the foot, and the rotating seals connecting the vacuum plate to the vacuum supply hose.

Doug then went through the whole process using a scroll chuck to turn a bowl in the following steps

- balance bowl between centers
- check clearance
- start a low speed
- true up sides to balance, initially cutting from the tailstock end to get easier end grain cutting
- monitor and adjust pressure from tailstock during this process
- turn tennon on bottom for scroll chuck
- remove blank and remove nub from bottom with chisel
- remount on scroll chuck and engage tailstock at first for safety
- shape outside and bottom to define shape
- disengage tailstock and begin hollowing
- remove sharp edge on rim
- use different angle gouges at different parts of the bowl to ensure the bevel remains in contact during cutting
- starting at the rim, get the wall thickness right and work down to bottom
- finish with scraper

Doug then removed the blank from the scroll chuck and went through the various methods of reverse mounting the bowl to finish the bottom.

Jumbo Jaws - Jumbo are usually added to chucks but can also be homemade to attach to a faceplate. They grip the bowl from the outside with a series of concentric dovetail shaped rubber bumpers. The spacing of the bumpers can be adjusted to match the bowl diameter. They are useful for holding finish edge bowls (not natural edge) and allow complete access to the bottom for turning and sanding.

Jam Chuck (natural edge) - A jam chuck is used to hold the bowl with the top against the headstock and the bottom pressed in by the tailstock. With a natural edge bowl, a stub of scrap (that is longer than the bowl is high) is mounted to a faceplate or chuck. This allows the stub to press against the inside bottom surface of the bowl without damaging the delicate edge. A pad is placed between the stub and bowl to protect the surface and pressure applied with the tailstock. This method allows the bottom to be finished except for the small area contacted by the tailstock.

diameter. The rim slips into the recess which allows the bowl to be centered and held from slipping while pressure is applied from the tailstock. The bottom is finished except for the area held by the tailstock.

This completed Doug's presentation of basic bowl turning. Doug provided a great overview of all the various methods that can be used and I know that novice turners especially got a lot out of it.

The floor was then turned over to Brian Mc Intosh to describe his recent experimentation at painting and decorating finished bowls. While there wasn't much time left after Doug's extensive presentation, Brian covered as much as he could in the time available.

Brian first showed painting of a maple bowl that had already been finish-turned and sanded. He first applied 3 coats of lacquer based sanding sealer. He then painted the outside of the bowl with "folk paint" diluted with drying extender to allow the brush marks to flatten out before drying. The quality of the finish is affected by the quality of the brush, the paint and the surface smoothness.

The second bowl was already partially decorated. Brian mounted the bowl on a chuck and with the lathe turning, cut two thin lines around the perimeter of the bowl. The spacing of the lines is a matter of judgment, but he found that spacing them about the same distance down as the thickness of the rim, adds some symmetry and balance. After turning the lines, the bowl is removed from the lathe and the space between the two lines decorated using a Dremel Tool with a ball shaped cutter. He simply scatters dots randomly on the area until he gets the pattern he likes. Different cutters are going to give different effects. The grooves are cleaned up by turning the bowl on the lathe and the dremel held on the tool rest.

Doug then went through his display of painted and decorated bowls. Each one had a slightly different technique and Brian described his discoveries and results as he progress through his experimentation.

Thanks Brian for sharing the secrets and giving a leg up on our own decorating experiments.

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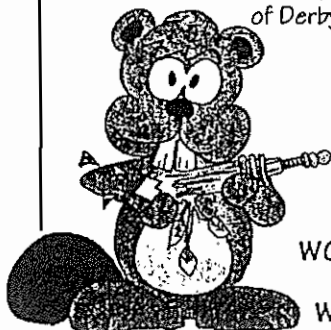
John Marriage

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MEMBER'S DISPLAY FROM THE AUGUST MEETING

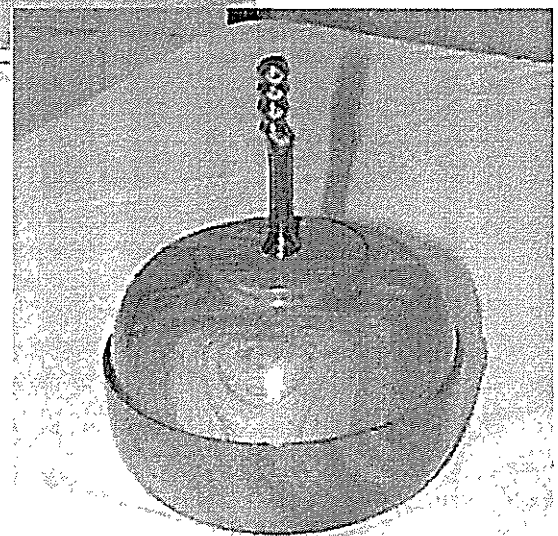
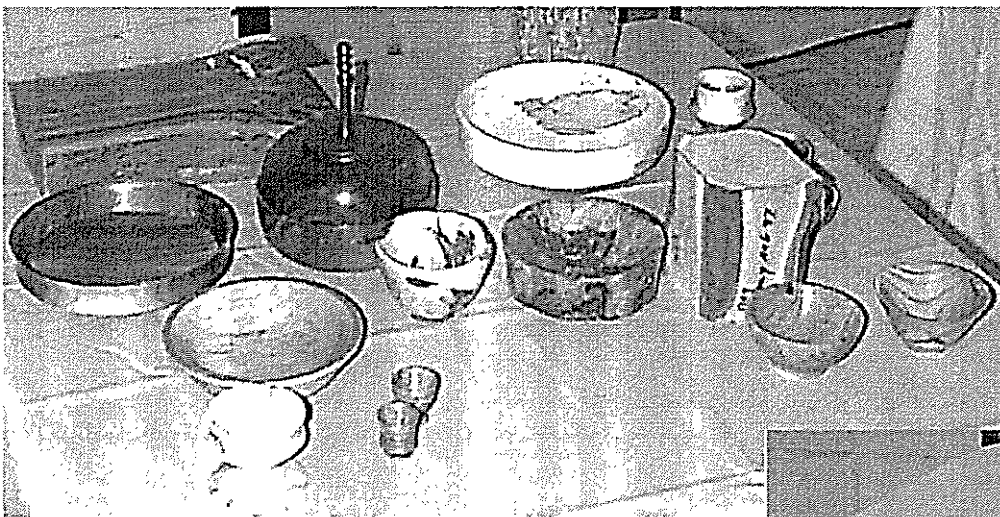
Yellow Cedar Burl by Steve Villeneuve



Douglas Fir Burl by Steve Villeneuve

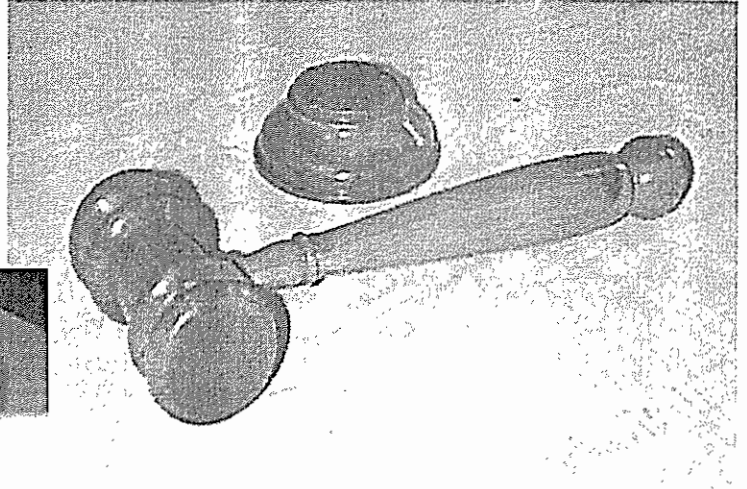


Cliff's Collection

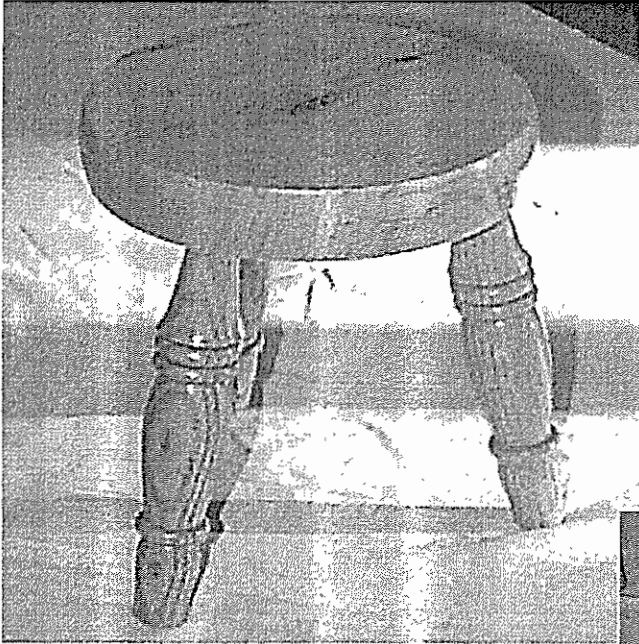


**A little offset turning
by Cliff Rose**

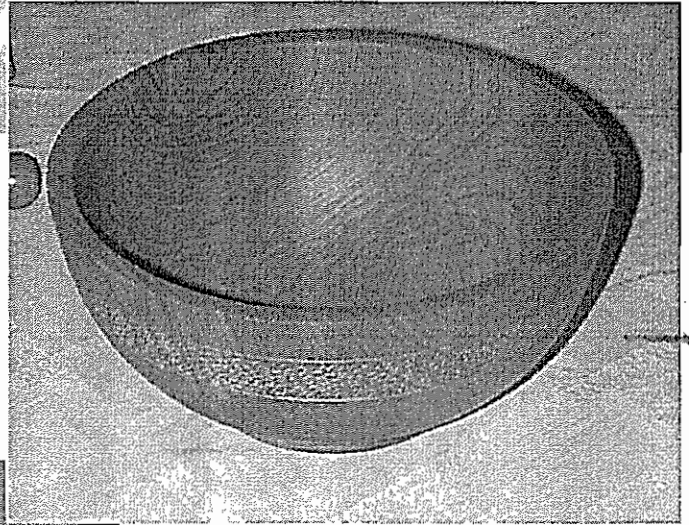
**"Imperfect Justice" in Apple
by Vince Redmayne**



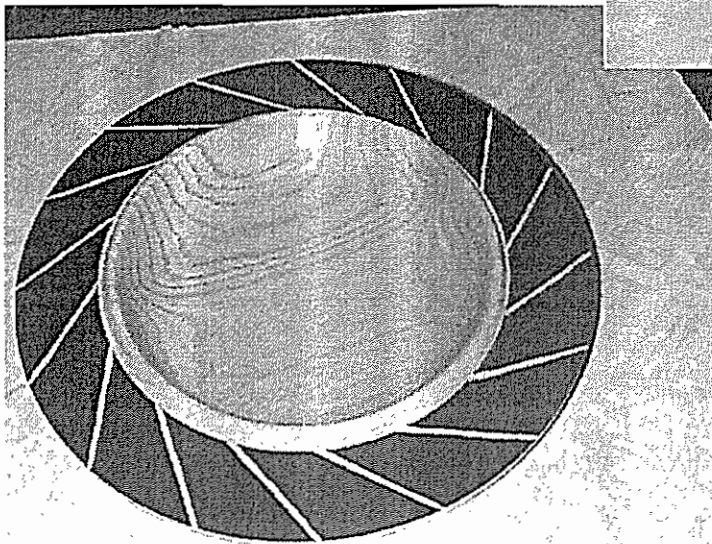
Oak Stool by Vince Redmayne



Cherry Bowl by Frank Ciccarelli



**Oak Platter with painted edge by Brian
McIntosh**



UPCOMING EVENTS

WOODSTOCK WOOD SHOW Fri. Oct. 2 10 am -9 pm
 Sat. Oct.3 10 am -6 pm
 Sun. Oct 4 10 am -6 pm
 Woodstock Fair Grounds (519) 539-7772
 Admission: \$ 10.00

ONE OF A KIND CRAFT FAIR Nov. 27 to Dec. 7
 National Trade Center, Exhibition Place, Toronto
 Note: Brian Mc Intosh will have a booth at this craft fair

TURNING DEMONSTRATIONS AND SEMINARS AT THE GHWG THIS YEAR

SEPTEMBER 18	DON MARTINDALE	LARGE BOWLS
OCTOBER 16	BOB HASTINGS KEN GOLDSPINK	WOOD FINISHING TURNING
NOVEMBER 20	CHESTER VAN NESS RACAL INDUSTRIES	DUST COLLECTION LUNG PROTECTION SPECIALISTS
DECEMBER 11	PARTY TIME!	

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

If you have any articles, ideas, articles (wood, tools, etc.) for sale, articles wanted, etc., please contact me and I will add it to the next newsletter.

Frank Ditomaso, Editor
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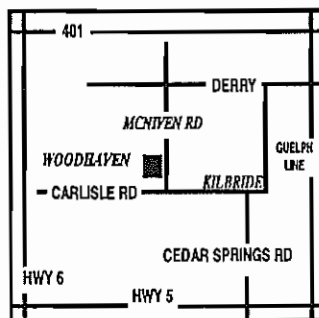
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