

GOLDEN HORSESHOE WOODTURNERS GUILD

150th Chapter of the AAW

THE CHIP FLYER

Golden Horseshoe Woodturners
Guild Newsletter

No. 98

May 2005

Page: 1

Program Night

19 May "Out of the Woods" by Jim Cars of
A&M Woods, Cambridge.
Annual Competition

16 Jun "Machine Cut Threads" Jim Fretz
"Thread Chasing" Peggy Wharrick

Mike Brazeau

Jimmy Clewes Demonstration

Our first Friday night demonstration goes into the books as an unqualified success. We had about forty members out and about 15 guests including around ten from Thames Valley in London. Jimmy Clewes treated us to an outstanding evening of fine turning, delightful British humour and the odd flash of fire. He turned a small walnut goblet about 8" high with a stem tapering from about one eighth inch at the top to no more than a quarter inch at the base. After roughing the blank to a cylinder between centres, it was done completely unsupported by the tailstock and held only in the Stronghold Chuck.

Jimmy's second piece was an artistic work in curly soft maple, shaped somewhat like a fat discus, with a small centre depression about 1 ¼" in diameter. The top of the piece was dyed with a series of aniline dyes, blue over all the top followed by green and yellow applied in areas of the wood to highlight the figure and grain. In the centre depression he

Hands On

12 May (Think Tank) How many music instruments can you make using a lathe and a little bit of wood? Stick, maracas, musical bowl, flute, drum, Crum Horn? Bring your creation and we can try it out.

09 Jun (Demonstration) To inspire you for the summer, and the Think Tank in September, Kevin Gillespie will show us his technique for making lidded boxes.

8 Sep (Think Tank) Bring your lidded boxes, big, small or round.

13 Oct (Demonstration) Dave Page will show us how to make one of his best crowd pleasers; a top and launcher. Another great idea for Christmas.

10 Nov (Think Tank) This is turning into some kind of a tradition, bring your latest Christmas ornaments ideas to inspire your compatriot.

Robin Le Sage

Jimmy Clewes Continued

applied a silver leaf. Due to time constraints, he wasn't able to take it to a final finish, but Malcolm Cumming will finish it off with more coats of lacquer and I am sure the final result will be spectacular.

Continued on page 5

April Demonstration

“Therming”



April Demonstration of Therming

Andrew has adapted the technique to produce three and four sided pens using rare and exotic woods. He has created special jigs to hold the pen blank off axis for turning and then after the basic shaping for drilling on the lathe. Turning the blank is somewhat like turning a natural edge bowl. You are only hitting wood for a brief period of time during each lathe rotation. His current design is the result of endless hours of trial and error, with what sounds like lots of tribulations along the way. Andrew has identified what he feels is an opportunity in unique and high-end pens. It is obvious that he has set a lofty goal for himself and has put endless hours into achieving that goal.

Andrew Turnbull treated us to a very entertaining and informative demonstration of therming, as applied to pens. Therming is an old woodturning technique of which there is little information available. A Google check on the internet leads you to Mike Darlow's book *Woodturning Methods*, which we have in our guild library. It is a technique, whereby the work piece is held in an off axis position in a specialized holder, the side facing the turner is “turned” and then rotated sequentially to obtain a “square” spindle of four sides which each have some degree of curvature on the surface. Different numbers of sides can be created. The technique was used at one time to create square spindles for railings etc and produced a number of pieces at the same time. See the illustration from Darlow's book.

Continued on page 6

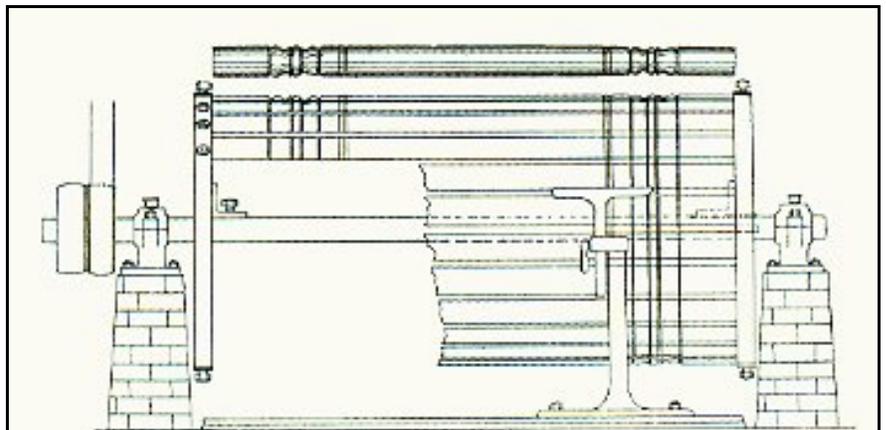


Figure 5.9 A 19th-century therming lathe.⁵

The square-cross-section workpieces were mounted between and around the peripheries of two circular end plates. These two end plates were rigidly connected by a central spindle. They were also large, often about 6 feet (1.8 m) in diameter, to reduce the convexity of the turned faces.

[GHWG Market Place](#)

FOR SALE—Frank Luet 905-847-7339

Muskoka and Adirondack style chairs. Solid 5/4 cedar
\$100.00 each

E-mail: frank.luet@sympatico.ca 2005-07

FOR SALE—Malcom Cumming 905-662-5594

¼ HP Gast vacuum pump, 26"HG(mercury) maximum
vacuum, 4.5 CFM open flow, 220 volt, double pole
switch, vacuum gauge and valve, Filtered air intake,
spare filter. High quality carbon vane pump.

Ready to go, just add hose chuck and vacuum adapter.
\$225.00

E-mail: malcolmmc@cogeco.ca 2005-07

Wanted—Malcom Cumming 905-662-5594

Pen turning equipment. Mandrels, bushings, blanks,
kits etc

Cash or trade

E-mail: malcolmmc@cogeco.ca [2005-07](#)

The Marketplace Column is a free service for all Guild members. Woodturning, woodworking or related items are welcome for the Sale and Wanted Sections. Contact: Frank Luet at frank.luet@sympatico.ca or phone (905) 847-7339. Items appear in this column for two consecutive months, or extended by request. If you sell your item, please let us know

[Call for Volunteers](#) [Lincoln County Fair](#)

The Lincoln Agricultural Society has invited the GHWG to participate in the Lincoln County Fair to demonstrate woodturning skills and to showcase the turnings we produce.

Date: 9-11 September 2005

Time: 10AM – 9PM Friday, Saturday
11AM – 6PM Sunday

We are looking for help to man the booth during those hours. You can demonstrate some turning and/or sell some of your work.

Admission to the fair and a meal is included for demonstrators.

There is a camping area available for anyone who might want to make a weekend of it!

Please see Geraldine Kelter at the library table to indicate your interest.

E-Mail: gkelter@becon.org

Telephone: 905 563-4166

Geraldine Kelter

[Editor's](#) [Note](#)

I'm afraid that once again I am late getting the Chip Flyer out. This is in spite of the excellent support from all of the authors of articles in this issue. They have provided good copy in a timely manner.

In particular I would like to thank our president Mike Brazeau whose byline appears on several of the articles that you see and one that you don't. It was pulled since it had become out of date due to the delay in getting the issue ready. It is extremely frustrating for an author to have good work not be published simply because someone else didn't get their work done as quickly as they should.

I will continue to work on improving the timeliness of my efforts in getting the Chip Flyer out and I apologize for my ongoing tardiness.

Frank Luet

Rules and Prizes

GHWG Spring 2005 Competition

All entrants must submit an entry form together with \$5 for each entry to the competition chairman, at least 1 week before the competition is to be judged.

1. A piece which has been entered in another guild competition or any Provincial, National, or International competition is not eligible for entry in a G.H.W.G. competition.
2. An entry must have been completed no more than 1 year prior to the date of entry of the current G.H.W.G. competition.
3. A competitor may enter 1 or more pieces in any one class.
4. In any one competition a theme or terms of reference will be established and all entries must meet the requirements of the theme and terms of reference.
5. If desired, entries may be accompanied by an approx. 1" x 3" place card which indicates the title of the piece. Such a card showing "Untitled" would be accepted as the title. There should be no identification or name of the participant either on the place card or on the actual piece. If the name of competitor is signed on the piece, the name must be covered or the piece will be disqualified.
6. Each entry will be assigned a competition number and be exhibited in the appropriate class.
7. A competitor who is unsure of which class to compete in, should consult with the competition chairman, before completing the entry form.
8. All entries must have been substantially turned on a lathe. Finishing should be of high quality and may include dye, stain, paint, lacquer, oil, wax or any other suitable finishing product.

Awards

Novice	1st	\$ 50
	2nd	\$ 30
	3rd	\$ 20
Intermediate	1st	\$ 50
	2nd	\$ 30
	3rd	\$ 20
Open	1st	\$ 50
	2nd	\$ 30
	3rd	\$ 20

Turner's Choice - \$ 50 Open to competitors from all classes **as selected by GHWG members in attendance using a ballot.** (Only one Turner's Choice would be awarded)

Creativity Award - \$ 50 Open to competitors from all classes. To be selected by the judges for the piece showing the highest degree of creative use of the wood characteristics and other materials if used, finishing techniques and overall design.

Josh Pichanick award for Most Promising Novice - \$50 Selected by members of the GHWG in attendance by ballot. (Only one Josh Pichanick award will be awarded)

Judges appointed for the competition would determine the winners of the awards for all classes. If there are not enough entries in each class, the number of prizes may be reduced at the discretion of the competition chairman.

SPRING 2005 COMPETITION ENTRY FORM

Date of competition: May 19, 2005

Theme of competition:

This will be an open competition in that any wood, domestic or exotic, or a combination of them may be used. Laminated or Segmented wood may be used. The entries submitted may be any form or shape, functional or artistic, or any combination there of.

Name: _____

GHWG Membership # _____

Date: _____

There are 3 classes for entry. Please check the class you are entering.

NOVICE (Turning 2 years or less) _____

INTERMEDIATE (Turning more than 2 and less than 7 years) _____

OPEN (All are free to submit an entry) _____

Note: Any member that has won a competition class, automatically moves up into the next competition level.

Entry fee: The entry fee for each piece entered is \$5.00

This completed entry form and the fee must be submitted and in the hands of the competition chairman by May 12, 2005

Competition Chairman and Adjudicator:

Kevin Gillespie Tel. 416-238-5418 kagillesp@yahoo.ca

Lacquer Update

A few months back we had some short discussions on water based lacquers and I had commented on how they were really not lacquers, but acrylic resins as was water based polyurethane. I was wrong. Most of the time it seems, lacquer to a woodturner or furniture maker means nitrocellulose based lacquers in a highly volatile solvent.

I checked our 70's vintage Random House dictionary and it refers to "a protective coating consisting of a resin, cellulose ester, or both, dissolved in a highly volatile solvent".

There is a new web based encyclopedia at <http://en.wikipedia.org> where you can actually add descriptions to words not included in the something over 1,300,000 English entries already there. You can also correct or add to existing entries. The link for lacquers is at

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lacquer>

One word not in there is Therming. Andrew - do you want to have a wik at it?

Mike Brazeau

[Upcoming Major Woodturning Events](#)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1. June 16-18, 2005
26th Utah Woodturning Symposium, Provo, Utah.
URL: www.utahwoodturning.com
Telephone: 801-422-2021</p> <p>2. July 4-8, 2005
Richard Raffan in Calgary, 5 day work shop
URL: www.blackforestwood.com
Under "Guest Instructors"
Telephone: 877-686-6061</p> <p>3. July 9, 2005
Richard Raffan in Calgary, 1 day demonstration
URL: www.blackforestwood.com
Under "Guest Instructors"
Telephone: 877-686-6061</p> <p>4. July 10-12, 2005
Richard Raffan in Calgary, 3 day work shop
URL: www.blackforestwood.com
Under "Guest Instructors"
Telephone: 877-686-6061</p> | <p>5. July 22-24, 2005
19th Annual National AAW Symposium, Kansas City.
URL: www.woodturner.org/sym/sym2005/
Telephone: 651 484-9094</p> <p>6. September 24, 2005
Fall Workshop at GHWG., Jack deVos
URL: www.jackdevos.com</p> <p>7. October 15-16, 2005
Totally Turning 2005, Albany, NY.
URL: www.totallyturning.com
Telephone: 518 753-7759</p> <p>8. October 21-23, 2005.
Ohio Valley WG Turning 2005, near Cincinnati Ohio,
URL: www.ovwg.org
Telephone: 513-233-0493</p> |
|--|--|

If anyone who does not have internet access would like more information please contact Mike Brazeau

Mike Brazeau

[Therming](#)

Continued from page 2

As Andrew said in his talk, if you have an idea that might enhance what he has already accomplished, pass it on to him. Thinking about it afterwards, it appears that Therming is in reality not dead, but is accomplished by many today using alternative means. In a factory mode today, a computer controlled milling machine could easily achieve the same result. Recently in a couple of forum postings I have seen home built off-centre chuck designs that accomplish the same thing for things like Wine Stoppers and even boxes. They lack the tailstock support as is required for Andrew's pens.

Pretty ingenious Andrew!

Mike Brazeau

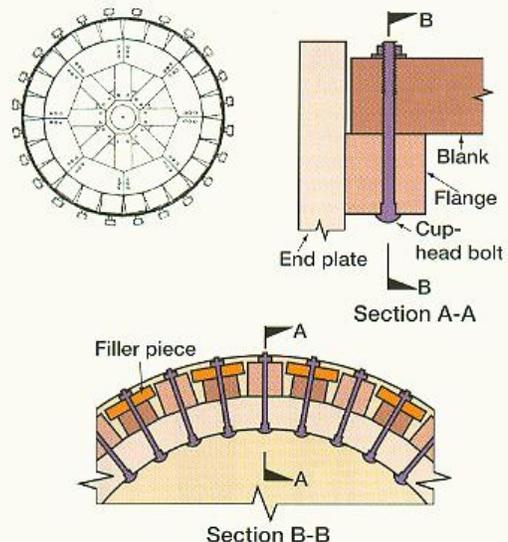


Figure 5.10 Fixing blanks for therming.⁶ An end plate of the lathe in the previous figure is shown top left. A thick steel hoop is drilled and tapped so that blanks can be screwed down against the end plate's periphery. *Top right and bottom*, the blanks are bolted to a wooden flange screwed and glued within each plate. The orange temporary filler pieces are fixed to more-permanent supports.



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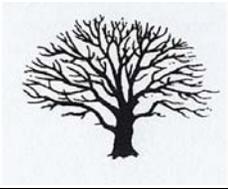


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Jimmy Clewes Continued

Continued from page 1

Jimmy has an extremely good touch and between John's overhead camera and Peggy's excellent work with the new roam-around camera, we had all the bases covered well with an excellent view of his tool work. I had very positive comments and emails from members that were in attendance. As Ken Bauman said in an email to me on Saturday morning "Last night's demonstration by Jimmy Clewes was outstanding. As a past member of the WGO (and only a year with the Golden Horseshoe) I've attended many workshops and demos over the years. This demo rates as one of the best. Jimmy Clewes presented a lot of technical information in an easy-going but effective manner. His two projects contained valuable information for both the novice and experienced turner."



Jimmy Clewes

Makes you want to go out to the lathe and try his goblet!

Mike Brazeau

Lee Valley Turner's Smock

We designed this three-quarter length smock primarily for turners. The 65/35 poly-cotton blend sheds chips well but is light and cool. It features a wrap-around neck with hook-and-loop closure, roomy full-length sleeves with elastic cuffs, waist-cinch side tabs to keep the smock away from work, and a two-way zip front closure that lets you unzip the bottom for comfort when crouched or sitting. Highly practical for all power woodworking operations, it has reinforced pencil pockets on each arm and large patch pockets on the back for calipers and a rule.

Machine washable.

Turner Smocks
67K20.00Z \$64.50



*Large back pockets
keep tools handy.*

Waist-cinch side tabs.

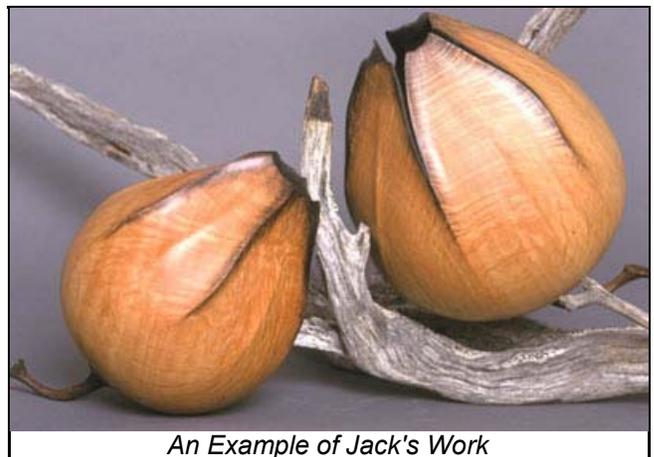
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Jack de Vos Workshop

Designing and Turning a Hollow Form and Embellishment of Turned Work



An Example of Jack's Work

Location: Knights of Columbus Hall
Date: Saturday September 24, 2005
Time: 9 AM to 3 PM
URL: www.jackdevos.com
Cost: \$40.00

Lunch provided. Tickets available from Executive starting at May meeting.

Pens for Canadian Peacekeepers



This project offers gratitude and support to the many Canadian Armed Forces Men and Women around the world who wear the Maple Leaf, not only on their shoulder, but also in their hearts. As a country, we are often pulled together by events that bring us pride in accomplishment. We are a country that respects human freedoms and dignity. One of our country's distinctions is that we are known as Peacekeepers.

We are very proud of the contribution and sacrifice our men and women make on Peacekeeping Missions, they give a gold medal performance everyday for us. These missions define a part of all of us and what Canada stands for, but we seldom know how to say Thank You to the Canadians out there doing this amazing work. My project focuses on just that, finding a simple way to say Thank You at a very personal level with every man and women on a Peacekeeping mission. My way

to say thanks involves my hobby as a woodworker, I make pens. I have been making and sending home made pens from my lathe to Peacekeepers, each with a letter wrapped around the pen saying Thanks and telling the person how proud we are of the work they do.

The responses I have received from men and women in the Forces has been uplifting and truly inspiring. These men and women are so grateful to receive an unexpected gift of gratitude, they are also filled with pride in the work they do and honour in the service of our great country.

You too, can get involved. If you are a woodworker and would like to make pens or contribute materials contact Jim Shaver.

Web: <http://www.pensforcanadianpeacekeepers.com>

E-Mail: jim@pensforcanadianpeacekeepers.com

Lacquer

This is an extract from "Understanding Wood Finishing" by Bob Flexner. It is the introduction to the chapter on Lacquers.

"Lacquer in Brief"

Pros Very fast curing

With the addition of slower or faster evaporating thinners, can be applied in all types of weather

Excellent clarity and depth

Excellent rubbing characteristics

Cons High solvent content

(solvent is toxic, flammable and air polluting)

Only moderate heat, wear, solvent, acid and alkali resistance.

Only moderate water and water vapour resistance.

When lacquer became available in the 1920s it was widely believed to be the ultimate finish. It had all the superior

application and repair qualities of shellac, but it was more resistant to water, heat, alcohol, acids and alkalis. In addition, it was a synthetic, so supply didn't depend on exotic natural materials, and it was easily manufactured. Indeed the belief in lacquer's superiority has proven prophetic. Lacquer is still the most widely used furniture finish.

There are two types of lacquer produced for wood – nitrocellulose and cellulose acetate butyrate (also called "CAB", "water-white" or simply "butyrate"). Nitrocellulose is by far the more widely used of the two. CAB is much less amber in color than nitrocellulose lacquer, and it yellows less over time. This has always been the primary reason for using CAB even though it is more expensive. With the introduction of water-based finishes, which don't yellow at all, CAB is losing its principle rationale."

Frank Luet

Understanding Wood Finishing Book Review

Author: Bob Flexner 1994
Publisher: Reader's Digest Association Inc.
ISBN: 0-7621-019101
Price: \$15.00 CDN

Bob Flexner has been a professional wood finisher for over 20 years. He spent 6 of those years learning the chemistry of finishing. His book "Understanding Wood Finishing – How to Select and Apply the Right Finish" is the best that I have read so far.

Bob had worked in the finishing business for a number of years but had never found a good explanation of why things worked the way they did. One day he talked with a friend who had a background in chemistry. He asked why hide glue joints released when cleaned with alcohol. His friend had never heard of hide glue. As soon as he knew that it was made from animal parts ("Oh protein"), he was able to describe both the characteristics of the glue and why it worked the way it did. Bob spent years learning the chemistry behind finishing. He even joined a national association of paint and finish chemists, the people who create and test the various finishes that are on the market. The book is the result of this odyssey.

Here is a list of the chapter titles:

1. Why Finish Wood, Anyway?
2. Preparing the Wood Surface
3. Tools for Applying Finishes
4. Oil Finishes
5. Staining Woodcraft
6. Filling the Pores
7. Introduction to Film Finishes
8. Shellac
9. Lacquer
10. Varnish
11. Water-Based finishes
12. Conversion Finishes
13. Choosing a Finish
14. Finishing the Finish

15. Caring for the Finish
16. Repairing Finishes
17. Finishing Different Woods
18. Strippers

We get explanations on how things work and clear descriptions that relates to his own experience. This makes the book easy to read while packing a large amount of information into a relatively small volume. One feature that I particularly like is the "Myth ... Fact" boxes that are scattered throughout the book. For example

Myth

Rubbing an oil finish into the wood increases penetration

Fact

Rubbing warms the finish. The warmer the finish the faster it cures. The faster the finish cures the quicker the pores are capped off (sealed), which prevents further penetration. Rubbing a finish actually decreases penetration.

Bob not only describes why things work the way they do he also describes how to use the various products and what the trade offs are. One thing that becomes abundantly clear is that there is no "ideal" finish. Each type of finish has characteristics that are either good or bad depending on what your aims are. Sometimes its simply a matter of what you are used to. Other times the particular usage of the article determines what will be used.

I found the book very worth while. It was easy to read but had a lot of useful information on why things work and how to use them efficiently to get good, quick, results. The trade offs between the various products were also nicely explained.

Frank Luet

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