



OFFICERS:

- President – Jeff Mee
- Vice President – Wayne Collins
- Secretary – George Nazareth
- Treasurer – Bob Hopkins

<http://oceanwoodturners.com/>: Ocean Woodturners Website

Webmaster: Member, Dick Larowe

A chapter of the American Association of Woodturners: www.woodturner.org

February, 2007 “Turnings”

Jeff Mee called to order his first meeting as our new president. Jeff read a letter sent to our secretary, from Patricia Aull, the Principal of the Tiverton Middle School. She wanted to thank the Ocean Woodturners for selecting the woodturning group at the Tiverton Middle School as the recipient of a very large Craftsman scroll saw. The scroll saw was donated to the Ocean Woodturners by Stephen Welch of South Kingstown in memory of Peter Olsen, a member of our organization who died about 4 years ago. All parties concerned were happy to see this scroll saw donated to a school program. Patricia Aull also wrote that this woodturning program gets no financial assistance from the school department, so it is totally dependent on donations.

Just before our last meeting, I sent out an e-mail to our members, an ad I had received from Abrasives, Sanding and Polishing of Loveland, Ohio. Larry Dunklee got on their website, www.abrasivesASAP.com, and found that he liked what he saw. He called the owner, Jerry Horn, and talked him into shipping him 125 pieces of different sandpapers so he could show them to the members at the January meeting. Many of us took a few samples from the package to try at home.

Our group was so noisy at this meeting that Jeff Mee appointed Bob O'Connor to be his Sergeant-At-Arms to keep order in the ranks.

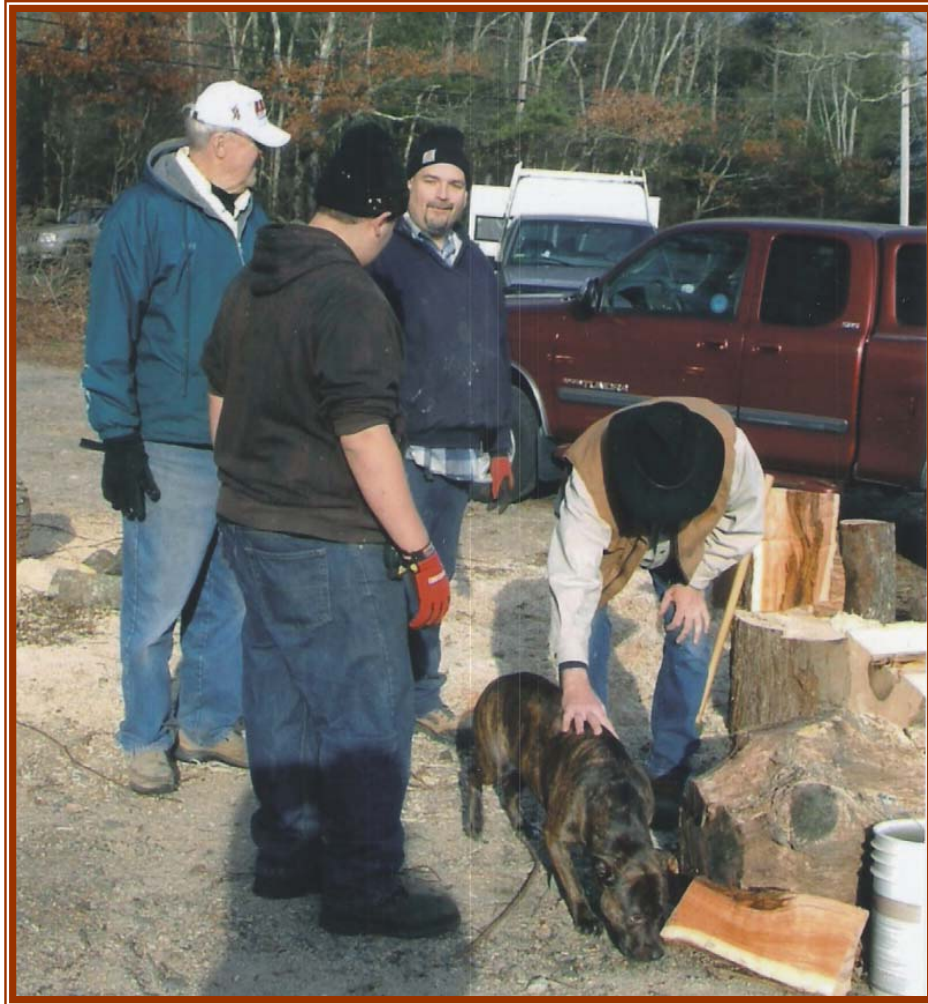
Two guests were present at the meeting, Ronald Bachand, and Gene Amaral. Both guests joined the Ocean Woodturners before the meeting was finished. Welcome!

Angelo Iafrate brought up an idea that he had taken from another New England woodturning club. He proposed that we target our April 19th meeting as a meeting broken up into 3 groups to meet at the workshops of three of our members. Angelo will be one of the members. Larry Dunklee also volunteered. There will be more about the specifics about this, at our next two meetings, and in our next two newsletters.

Wayne Collins gave a pitch about his Tiverton Middle School's Craft Fair on Saturday, March, 24th from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Each table will cost \$30. The goal is for the program to make \$1000 for the day, with all the proceeds going to the school's woodturning program. Wayne also stated that he has a few lathes that can be set up, if any of our members want to demonstrate at the Craft Fair.

Emilio Iannuccillo made a motion that the Ocean Woodturners take one of the tables. The motion was passed.

Bob O'Connor told about the group that went out on Saturday, January 13th to cut up a pile of logs for use at the Tiverton Middle School. Since the school program receives no school funding, the Ocean Woodturners does what it can to help supply the students with wood for turning. Bob O'Connor plans to go out again to the same area at the junction of Rt 2 and Rt 112 on a future Saturday for the benefit of the Ocean Tides School group, headed by member, Rich Lemieux.



Larry Dunklee, Greg Marshall, Tom Marshall, and Bob O'Connor on rest break

Demonstration- Preparing a “green” log for turning



Angelo Iafrate sawing a log in half lengthwise

Rick Sousa turning a “green” bowl

Show and Tell



L to R Greg Marshall-a Maple dish and a Mulberry platter. Bill Smith- a Maple nat. edge bowl. Peter Sylvestre, a Maple bowl with Zebra wood segments. Bill Smith, a Maple Bowl

Next Meeting
Thursday, February 15, 2007-- 7:00 PM
At: **Woodcraft**
1000 Division St.
East Greenwich, RI
Demonstration Still to be determined.

Yankee Woodturning Symposium

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



June 1-3, 2007

**Wesleyan University, Exley Science Center,
Middletown, CT**

Demonstrators

Mark St.Leger, Jean-Francois Escoulen, Jimmy Clewes, Bob Rosand, Mark Sifiri, Johannes Michaelson, Beth Ireland, Angelo Iafrate, and Michael Hosaluk. Also local turners Al Czelec, Norm Mancuso, and Ken Dubay. Graham Oaks of NH will demonstrate for the youth group.

Ocean Woodturners,

Here is a long statement written by a new member of the American Association of Woodturners (AAW) Board of Directors. Our member, Angelo Iafrate, sent it to me. I hope that everyone in our club realizes that Angelo is the President of the AAW. Angelo is so helpful to everyone and down-to-earth, that some people do not realize that he is a "big wheel".

I think that this statement by new AAW board member, Larry Genender, illustrates just how important membership in the AAW really is. As he says, the chapter insurance and the magazine alone are worth much more than the \$45.00 annual membership fee. So any of you who are not members, can join the AAW by getting on their website for signup info or writing a check and mailing it to them.

www.woodturner.org

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I was recently elected to the Board of the AAW, and while the election is national in scope and I represent all woodturners in the US and abroad, I know that my main base of support is Texas and the Southwest, and I feel that I am that region's unofficial voice at the AAW. The AAW has almost 13,000 members and over 250 local chapters.

I recently made a 5 day trip with the AAW Board. We first went to St. Paul MN, where the AAW headquarters is located. We saw the offices, saw the AAW museum, toured the convention center (probable site of the 2011 Symposium), and had an all-day Board training session. We then went on to Portland OR, the site of the 2007 Symposium. We met with the local club liaison people, toured the convention center, toured the several museum locales where AAW exhibitions will be held as part of the 2007 Symposium, and had our first Board meeting. I came away from all this very invigorated with a greatly enhanced view of what the AAW represents, and it is this that I want to share with my fellow Texas and Oklahoma turners. The thoughts and opinions that follow are strictly my own, and do not represent the AAW, its Board or its staff.

The most significant event of the trip was the all-day Board training session. The AAW is just beginning a major overhaul of the way it operates administratively. We have a new Executive Director, Larry Sommer, who will join with Mary Lacer, assistant Executive Director, to effectively double the administrative leadership of the AAW. Our session was led by Emil Angelica, a consultant with expertise in non-profit organizations, and his sessions were outstanding, both for new Board members like me and for others who had already served one or two years. The committee structure of the AAW will be divided between 1) policy and financial matters, which remain the responsibility of the elected Board and 2) administrative matters, which will now be run by the Executive Director and his staff. In addition, The Board has contracted with a new Conference Coordinator. They are a professional conference coordinating company which will do many of the tasks previously done by Board members. These changes are important, because up to now the Board members did everything themselves, and the work load on them has become enormous as the AAW has grown in recent years. This represents a major culture shift for the Board, which will now be able to focus on the “big picture”, i.e., policy issues and serving the membership which it represents. Look for significant changes in the way things get done – all for the benefit of the membership of the AAW and for woodturning in general

I was impressed by how “pure” the AAW is. There are no politics – everyone is dedicated to the AAW mission of fostering the art and craft of lathe turning. Decisions are reached by consensus, with virtually no dissent. The meeting agendas are long (will be shorter soon with the reorganization), but not difficult.

The financial health of the AAW is sound. Preliminary thinking has already begun about the AAW purchasing its own building to house its offices, merchandise, permanent collection, and museum . I would like the AAW to have its own woodturning school in that building. There are a lot of big things on the horizon!!

I was appointed to the Educational Opportunity Grants (EOG) committee, chaired by Malcolm Tibbetts. We are reading 118 applications for EOG’s, and financially we will award money to all worthy applications – there is no cutoff, we have enough money to fund all worthy causes. I encourage more of you to apply next year – I know there are many worthy projects that would receive an EOG in response to a well written application.

We have a new webmaster, Ed Davidson. Look for a bigger and better website. We are retraining the membership to renew memberships and to vote for Board members online. However, we will provide paper Ballots and registration for those luddites (Google that word!) who have resisted the digital age.

Membership growth is important. After my first Board weekend where I really saw the benefits of AAW membership (the American Woodturner magazine together with the insurance coverage is more than worth the annual dues!) I have changed from a so-so member to a very enthusiastic AAW member. Many of the attendees at club meetings are what I call wannabe turners – they sit and watch, but don’t really get into it. We want those members to take a class, meet up with an experienced turner, and then get “hooked” onto woodturning like all the more involved members have become. Then you’ll want to join the AAW and enjoy all it can do for you. Without the AAW you would all be in little groups with nothing to unite and advance the progress of woodturning. Look at how woodturning as an art form has progressed in the last decade!

One last thing – I bought one of the new design AAW woodturning smocks while I was in the office. This is the best one I have ever tried – it is light as a feather, zips completely up the front, has vented armpits, and a comfortably snug fit at the collar. Buy a biggish size, as they are longer. I got an XXL, and have turned in it – really comfortable. All for 45 bucks!

I hope this article will stimulate more interest in the AAW and will encourage more of you to become AAW members. I plan to travel about our region describing what the AAW does for you, and I welcome any questions you might have. If you’d like me to visit your club and talk about the AAW, please invite me – I’d love to come.

Larry Genender

AAW Board Member