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

Webmaster: Member, Dick Larowe

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

July, 2008 “Turnings”

Jeff Mee’s report on the Raffan Demo

The Richard Raffan demonstration held on Saturday, June 28 had 62 attendees. Richard entertained us with demonstrations of skill and humor and by educating us. George Nazareth has received email from members of our neighboring clubs complimenting us.

The Cold Spring Community Center was the perfect venue for this demonstration. There was plenty of space, the air conditioners worked well, it was quiet without any distractions (in spite of the airshow going on just across the bay) and it was easy to clean up.

We had several volunteers to help with the setup and clean up along with collecting monies at the door. I would like to take this opportunity to specifically thank three of our members without whom this event would never have taken place. Angelo lafrate who contacted Richard, hosted him and made all of the arrangements for him to be here. George Nazareth, who did not attend the demo due to family obligations, devoted quite a bit of time being the point of contact for people to sign up and for getting directions out to all. Larry Dunklee, who was not sure he would be able to attend (but did make it in the end), made the reservation for the community center, picked up the keys ahead of time and returned them afterwards, ordered and picked up the food, helped setup and clean up, arranged for the microphone and speaker system and picked up the lathe for the demo. When you see these gentlemen be sure to extend your thanks for their hard work.

Richard donated one of the pieces he made for a raffle at the end of the demo. We netted \$47.00 from the raffle and Larry Dunklee made the arrangements to get it to the Hersey, PA Make-A-Wish foundation.

After all the dust settled and the expenses were paid we lost about \$125.00.

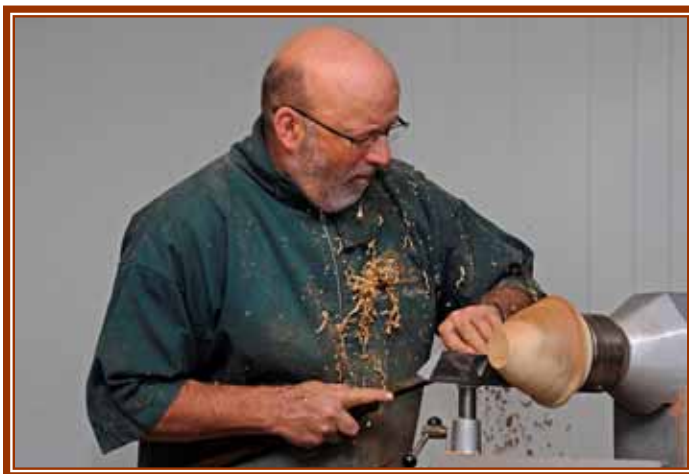
The following photos were taken by Mark Nadeau. These are great photos. Thanks Mark.



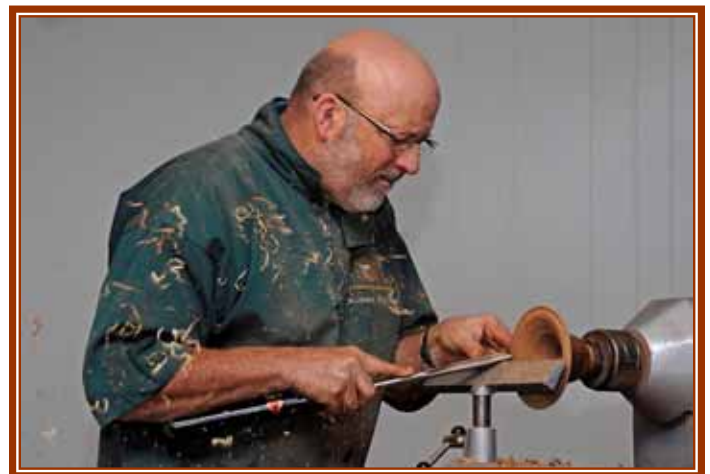
Raffan discussing box-making



Back-hollowing box lid



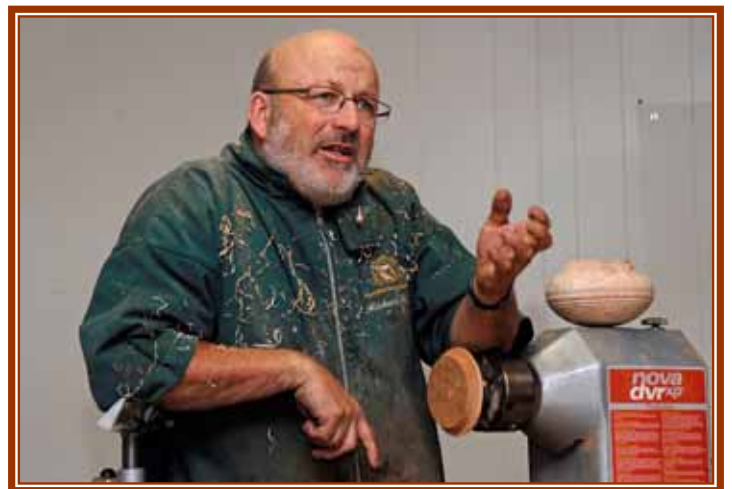
Shaping outside of bowl



Hollowing bowl



Microwaved Madrone Burl vessel



Raffan's wrap-up with Q & A

Raffan's work



More of Raffan's work



Jeff Mee's report on the AAW Symposium

2008 AAW Symposium

I was fortunate enough to be able to attend this years AAW symposium in Richmond, Virginia.

One of the most notable sessions I attended while at the symposium was titled **Right Brain/Left Brain - Creating Signature Work**, put on by Cindy Drozda and David Nittmann. This session was not about the actual techniques for using gouges but about the whole process your brain goes through when deciding to turn something. Cindy and David did an excellent job of illustrating the thought processes that many of us are not even aware takes place.

Another session to note was again not about tool techniques, **Reading the Tree** by Dale Larson. Dale explained how to look at a tree or log and figure out what might come out of it. He had quite a few examples to show what he was explaining, including how a burl might be shaped on the inside of the log.

Jim Hilburger presented a session titled **Gadgets & Jigs**. Jim has a machinists background and his session outlined how he made Jigs to make repetitive work go much smoother, quicker and have greater repeatability. Plus Jim is quite a character. He also is an avid supporter of Phil Brennon, a past president of the AAW who has some medical issues affecting his mobility and rather large medical expenses as a result. The AAW community has gathered together raising funds to help offset his medical expenses and Jim included numerous pleas for our generosity during his sessions. It was announced Saturday evening that \$50,000 has been raised for the Phil Brennon Benefit.

After the Saturday evening banquet the auction was held for items donated during the symposium. All of the funds raised during the auction go to the Educational Opportunity Grant program. I can honestly say there were some very generous bidders at the auction. It was pure entertainment to watch and listen to the auctioneer, John Hill, who worked very hard to keep the bidding high. Approximately \$63,000 was raised from the auction.



Angelo at the Saturday Banquet (photo from AAW website)

(Copyrighted picture borrowed from the AAW website)

On another matter, Larry Dunklee is looking for members to place some of their turnings in the cases at the North Kingstown Free Library for a month. Only 3 members have agreed to put turnings there. Please contact Larry at Lun.ka.dunk@hotmail.com or call him at 401-295-1151. We would like to have a good showing.

Next Meeting
Thursday, July 17, 2008 – 7:00 PM
Woodcraft, 1000 Division St.
East Greenwich, RI