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

August, 2005 "Turnings"

July, 2005 Meeting: The **Jean Francois Escoulen Demonstration** served as our July meeting.

President Mike Murray wishes to sincerely thank the many members who helped make the **Escoulen Demonstration** a great success.

Mike also reported that the auction after the demonstration of the Escoulen turned pieces and the burls that were brought by **Larry Dunklee** netted \$453.00 for our treasury.

Your editor's views of the Jean Francois Escoulen Demonstration. As most of you know, I like things that are very symmetrical, so I was really not expecting to be impressed by this demonstration. I really came because I felt that I should take the pictures for this newsletter.

From the very start, I realized that we were watching a real "master turner". I have never observed a turner who worked as fast and as effortlessly at the lathe. He exhibited such easy confidence as he quickly finished one piece and then moved to another. When he put a 4 inch X 4 inch block on the lathe between centers, he deftly used his roughing gouge going back and forth so quickly that I swear he roughed it out to round in 20 seconds, with the shavings pouring out between a hole he created by his loosely-closed hand closest to the block. It was something that you just had to witness to believe.

Mr. Escoulen was a very delightful man who, with limited English, kept us laughing throughout his demonstration. When he started, he asked if everyone could understand him, because he said that if we couldn't, he would switch over to French.

Those of you who missed seeing Mr. Escoulen missed seeing a great master at work.

The Jean Francois Escoulen Demonstration

Multiple axis and off-center turning, and standard turning





Jamie Osborn holding a delicate turning



An off-center turning

A long turning with a stringed steady rest



Above turning completed

Escoulen recently made a delicate turning similar to the one on page 2 with the stringed steady rest that was over 6 feet long. It required 27 similar steady rests. This was sold to a collector in the US and was shipped in a glass tube from France. He will not try another.



Off-center "mating Quahogs" Actually attached



Escoulen holding his last turning- a multiple axis lidded box



Three off-center turned objects

Next Meeting

Thursday, August 18, 2005 7:00 PM at Woodcraft 1000 Division St. East Greenwich, RI

We will be discussing the Escoulen demonstration His methods and his techniques We will also share our photos taken at this demo

Please bring your photos. If digital, put them on a CD Mike will burn them all on a CD using his laptop Anyone wanting a copy of the CD should bring a blank CD

Master Woodturner, Ken Dubay, offers One-on-One Lessons (860-228-2695)

One, Two or three day courses are available. Lunch and all materials are included. Take it from those of us who have taken courses with Ken The lunch alone is worth it!

Ken specializes in natural edge turnings and his address is:

Kenneth Dubay Overhill Turnings 154 Route #6 Columbia CT 06237