

Wood Chips

May your tools be sharp and your chips fly high



LOCAL AAW CHAPTER



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Some Chips



Alex was quite a draw for our January meeting, apparently lots of folks wanted to see how you use a duplicator. The head counter told me he counted 70 heads.

As Dean Thomas announced at the meeting, the Board is attempting to incorporate the chapter into a 501(C)3 not-for-profit corporation by filing an application with the IRS. He asked if we have any attorneys in the club or if any one knows one that would do pro-bono work. If so please call Dean at 816-421-5781.

If you have any suggestions about what you would like to see or read in the newsletter or just compliment Rick Bywater on the fine newsletter he is putting out, give him a call or send him one of those E things.

As I announced at the meeting, all members are welcome to come to the Board of Directors meetings. All we ask is if you have something you want to bring before the Board, please call me so I can put you on the agenda.

If you would like to help on a collaborative project for the 2006 symposium in Louisville, please contact Alex Garcia at 816-697-2982.

Angelo lafrate, AAW President, will be our Learn to Turn program for May. I would like to have a reception for him and his wife, Donna, Friday night the 12th, if their plane schedule will permit. If not, then on Saturday night, the 13th.

See you down the road.

March Learn to Turn

March's learn to turn (second Saturday) will feature Dale Nish. Saturday, March 11, 9 a.m.—4 p.m.—\$10 members, \$20 non-members. Sunday's hand's on class is SOLD OUT.

Featured Turner

Our featured turner for February is David Bartlett. He will be turning Bonnie Klein style whistles. David has worked for the US Dept. of Education's Federal Student Aid Office as a training officer for 11 years. He took an introduction to woodturning class at Woodcraft. He has been woodturning for three years now. David is an avid kite flyer, even competing at the national level in both sport flying and kite sewing. After attending a kite festival in Oklahoma and then in Dayton, Ohio, he was awed by the hand turned wooden kite line spools that were donated to the charity auction. After trading one of his "guppy" wind socks and an inflatable volleyball that he had sewn for a fighter-kiting spool, David thought, "hey, I can do this." Upon returning home, he dusted off his old Craftsman lathe and started teaching himself to turn. David has yet to attempt a spool, but enjoys turning small projects like tops, pens and whistles. In the three years David has been turning, he has had five lathes and he is now starting to turn larger bowls and platters. David hopes to learn how to make kite spools and flutes eventually. David belongs to the Northland Woodturners and the KC Woodturners and is a firm believer in the AAW's mission to promote woodturning education.

Club Events

Events held in basement of McCrary Lumber off I-35 on 67th Street in Merriam Kansas entrance on west side of building
Feb 3-5—Tool Show at International Trade Center
Feb 11—Learn to turn—8:30- 12:00—Bud Schenke will be demonstrating bottle stoppers.
Feb 13—Regular meeting—7:00 p.m.
Feb 25—Learn to turn—8:30—12:00—open lathe

Show and Tell



A Full Show and Tell Table



Bud Schenke
Segmented vessel—bloodwood



John Veerkamp
Tall Cedar Vessels



Anthony Harris
Threaded "Rosary" Box



Russ Blaser with our Fearless
leader
Laser guided hollowing tool



Kevin Neelley
Segmented Urn—300 pieces



Don Grimes
Layered Bowls



Jim Faherty
Nested Bowls

March's Second Saturday Learn to Turn Workshop With Dale Nish Sunday Hands on Class

Dale L. Nish

Born: April 18, 1922
Cardston, Alberta, Canada

Education: BSc, MSc Industrial Education, Brigham Young University, 1957, 1958
EdD, Washington State University, 1967

Dale L. Nish began turning wood while a Junior High student. His woodworking interests continued throughout high school and college. In college he studied woodworking, art and design, crafts, metals, ceramics, and drawing. He worked in all areas of wood, including furniture, cabinet making, woodcrafts and construction. He taught Industrial Arts in Alberta from 1958—1965. At Washington State University, he specialized in instructional development, producing a number of self-instructional teaching systems.

Since 1967 he has been professor of Industrial Education at Brigham Young University, responsible for the woodworking and crafts programs.

Professional development leaves included travel and study in Denmark, Norway, Sweden, England, Scotland and Wales, as well as extensive travel in the USA, visiting and working with most of the leading woodturners. He has also taught at many universities and several of the leading art and craft schools.

In the early 70's, he began to work closely with E.N. Pearson, a self taught turner who was excellent at this craft. Nish photographed and worked with Pearson and in 1975, *Creative Woodturning* was published, becoming the most popular woodturning reference in the world. It was also translated and published in Germany. In 1976, John Kelsey of "**Finewoodworking**" reviewed *Creative Woodturning* and commented "Of the dozen or so books devoted to the lathe L. Nish's *Creative Woodturning* is easily the best." Interest in turning techniques continued and five years of research, project development, and tool expertise produced *Artistic Woodturning*, which was published in 1980.

In 1981, "**Finewoodworking**" suggested that "Artistic Woodturn-

ing is a good source for all sorts of turning ideas, including laminated turnings, segmented forms, mosaic assemblages and turnings from wormy, rotten wood."

Nish's interest in woodturning continued to grow and his circle of friends and fellow turners continued to expand. During the same period of time, the workshop movement was moving across the USA. Many excellent woodturners were represented at these workshops, and the turning public was enthusiastic about the presentations. However, the presenters were always working outside their studios, and therefore, the circumstances or equipment available did not always allow one to work the same as at home.

At that time, Dale Nish decided to write a book called **Master Woodturners**, which would represent the best of the turners presently involved as full time woodturners. The photos of the craftsmen were taken in their own shops, with their own tools, equipment and materials. Each Master Woodturner turned a finished piece from a rough block of wood and worked through the selection, turning and finishing process. This book is as close as most woodturners could be to actually being in the woodturning shop. **Master Woodturners** was published in 1985.

While lecturing, demonstrating and writing, as well as teaching full time at Brigham Young University, Dale Nish continued to expose the possibilities of distressed wood, particularly wormy ash. The challenge of working with rejected and undesirable material gradually developed to the point that shows and galleries were requested wormy pieces almost exclusively.

Writing about the Turned object show held in Philadelphia in the fall of 1981, John Kelsey, editor of "**Finewoodturning**" states "I recently met an English master craftsman who was just shocked by the notion of turning rotten wood. After he had spent a little time with a finish-less, worm-eaten plate by Dale Nish, he came to agree that this new attitude could indeed uncover remarkable beauty". Kelsey also states "a bowl from such awful wood as this can't be functional. This one was turned, and exists, for its own sake—for what it shows about wood, about worms and about Nish".



Alex Garcia did a fantastic job demonstrating how to use a Vega Duplicator during our January meeting.

The Journey

During the month of January, my journey took me to Florida. Aah.....sandy beaches, warm sunshine, palm trees. Actually, I signed up at the last minute to attend the fifth Florida woodturning symposium in Lake Yale at the Baptist Conference Center. I flew to Florida Friday morning on my corporate jet—Southwest Airlines, rented a car and drove about an hour north to Lake Yale. The two and half day conference featured nationally known turners like Frank Sudol, Cindy Drozda, Phil Brennion and Bob Rosand, as well as local Florida turners. The reason for attending is because I wanted to see a local Florida woodturner, Dixie Biggs. Dixie's work is featured in a magazine called *Put a Lid on It* by the AAW. Her piece "Windswept" is on the cover. Our own Anthony Harris has an untitled piece also featured in the magazine. I arrived just in time for Dixie's presentation Friday afternoon. Dixie started woodturning in 1979 and was influenced greatly by her grandfather making chess set using a little Dremel lathe. She lives in Gainesville, Florida, and has been a professional woodturner for 16 years. She considers Dale Nish a mentor and turners Jac Vessary and John Jordan for influencing her work. Today was Dixie's birthday and she is 18,263 days old, but who's counting? During the presentation, I told Dixie that I had flown down from Kansas City to see her demonstration. This, in fact, was Dixie's first demonstration and I'm glad I went. Dixie turns on a wood fast lathe. Her demonstrations included surface treatments and natural expressions.

That evening at dinner in the cafeteria, I was surprised to

see Dean Thomas. Dean is a member of both the KC Woodturners and Northland Woodturners. He was in Florida for business and pleasure.

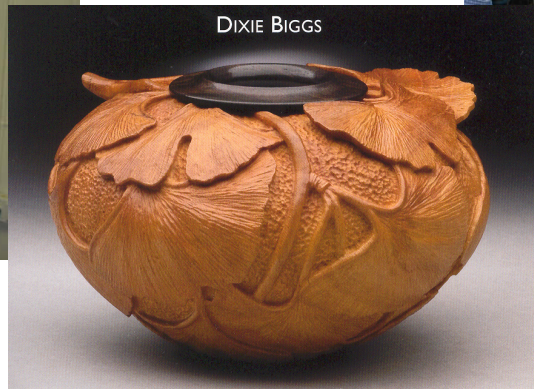
It was enjoyable to attend a Frank Sudol, Phil Brennion and Al Hockenberry demonstration. Frank demonstrated the biggest boring bar for hollowing that I have ever seen. Phil discussed service enhancements and Al demonstrated suspended spherical forms. But pound for pound, Cindy Drozda, a petite lady from Boulder, Colorado, gives a full, power packed presentation. I saw her demonstration on banksia pod Christmas ornaments.

Saturday evening featured teams of three turners each turning a 2" x 8" piece of wood, given 13 minutes a piece followed by each team member. Their goal was to match the same piece and they were judged on creativity and similarity of each piece. Frank Sudol was the judge and being somewhat comical in judging, awarded the victory to the women's team.

Several vendors also attended the symposium, including John Jordan, who was selling his new hollowing tools.

Overall, I thought the symposium was time well spent. The weather could have cooperated better—60 degrees in Florida and 40 degrees at night is very disappointing. When I arrived back on Sunday, 63 degrees in Kansas City on January 15 is heaven.

Rick Bywater



Craft Supplies

1287 E 1120 South
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Calendar of Events

Mar 11-12—Dale Nish
Mar 13—Regular Meeting
Mar 25—Learn to Turn- Open Lathe

Woodcraft Supply

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Store Hours

Monday through Friday 9 am—9pm
Saturday 9 am—6 pm
Sunday 9 am—5 pm