

# MINNESOTA WOODTURNERS ASSOCIATION

in association with the American Association of Woodturners

December 2001

## Christmas Ornaments Were the Main Attraction at November's Meeting



Above: Ornaments made by (from left to right): John Magnussen (satinwood & red heart), John Engstrom (reverse turned trees), John Engstrom (candle inside), and John Magnussen (red heart & basswood).

Photo by John Nicholson

Left: Don Wattenhofer demonstrates turning a natural edged bell ornament.

Photo by Chuck Bjorgen

Our November membership meeting was held on the 13<sup>th</sup> in the Roseville Area High School's shop. Forty-four people were in attendance, and three people joined—great turnout! We all enjoyed an instructive evening, which fea-

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### CLASSIFIED ADS

Turning related ads are free to members. Commercial ads are billed at \$4 per month, per column inch. To place an ad, call Cathy Nicholson (763) 785-1587. Ads will run one issue unless you call to extend your ad for each additional issue.

Submission deadline for the next issue:

**January 25th**

## President's Corner



'Twas the month before Christmas and out in the shop each member was turning not wanting to stop. The gifts in the making were placed on the shelves in hopes that there soon would be help from the elves. . . . . (My apologies to Clement Clarke Moore.)

Well, the holiday season is fast approaching, and I'm sure that many of you are busy turning projects to give as gifts. I hope that you will also have enough time to turn toys and blocks for the Toys for Tots program, which will be collected at the Holiday Party. If you are planning to attend the Holiday Party, take a little extra time to make a gift for the gift exchange. I have received some very nice gifts over the past few years, so it is very worthwhile to participate in the gift exchange.

The Woodworking Show, which for the past few years has been in October at the State Fairgrounds, will be January 18-20, 2002 at River Centre in St. Paul. We will have a booth to demonstrate and talk about woodturning.

We will need people at the booth for the entire show. I'm asking volunteers to work at least a 4-hour shift. All volunteers will get a free entrance pass for the day they are working.

Watch your e-mail for announcements of small group hands-on sessions. An e-mail will be sent out with the name of the host and the time and place for the sessions along with the number of people that can be accommodated. This will be on a first come first serve basis, so whoever calls the host first will be able to attend. The club lathes will be available for these sessions.

We have several challenges during the year—eggs, the picnic and the Holiday party. A suggestion was made to me some time ago that I should periodically challenge the members to turn something to fit certain size specifications or be made from the same size piece of wood. I thought it was a great idea, but somehow it got buried in all of the paperwork. I just found it again, so I am going to throw out the first **President's Challenge**. Turn something that will fit inside a 33mm film canister and bring it to the **February** meeting.

## In Memorium

The world of woodturning has lost a great teacher and master of the art. Rude Osolnik passed away on Sunday, November 18, 2001. He had been in ill health for many months. He was long associated with Berea College in Kentucky and Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts in Tennessee. Some of our longtime members will remember him demonstrating at our meeting on the St. Paul Campus of the U of M in March 1988. We have a tape of that demo in our library, plus another tape featuring Rude, called "Dean of American Woodturners".

# Woodworking Hall of Fame

## **Rude Osolnik (1915-2001 )**

### **For design, craftsmanship, and education in woodturning**

In 1937, Rude Osolnik, fresh from college, began teaching industrial arts at Berea College in Berea, Kentucky. Eventually, he founded the furnituremaking program there.

Although an accomplished woodworker, Osolnik's greatest impact has been in woodturning. A composer on the lathe, he first wedded classical form and proportion to modern simplicity. In so doing, he updated a long-practiced craft.

His simple, hourglass candlesticks earned the Award of Good Design from the Furniture Association of American in 1955. The 1960s saw him working with plywood to make bowls, and experimenting with the natural-edge on green-wood turnings.

(from <http://www.woodmagazine.com/hallfame/wsoosolnik.htm>)

In Rude's words:

"My basic philosophy of wood turning has developed during a period of almost fifty years. It comes from a deep and abiding love of wood: its diversity, color, grain and texture are constantly fascinating. Each piece is like human fingerprints in that no two pieces are alike. My wood working is a labor of love. It gives me a feeling of being in church, or in God's presence, when making something out of it. I feel a deep appreciation to be able to use and discover the beauty God has given us in our trees, we must protect and replenish our forests for our future generations. I am at peace with the world when working with wood. It offers me a chance to relax because all my movements must be fluid in order to perform the task."

(from [http://www.beyondwood.com/Beyond\\_Wood\\_640/Osolnik/RO105/ro105.html](http://www.beyondwood.com/Beyond_Wood_640/Osolnik/RO105/ro105.html))

*Editors note:* Some of Rude's work is pictured here and on page 9; all pictures were taken from, [http://www.woodturningplus.com/rude\\_osolnik1.htm](http://www.woodturningplus.com/rude_osolnik1.htm).

**Our New  
Members**

**Our membership now totals 176!**

**Welcome!**

Name	From	Joined
Scott Orme	Menomonie, WI	10/06/01
Lawrence Rozycki	North Oaks, MN	10/09/01
Harvey Koenig	Dayton, MN	10/13/01
Otto Gotzsche	Minneapolis, MN	10/26/01
Wilfried Hein	St. Paul, MN	11/01/01
Gregg Herreid	Elk River, MN	11/13/01
Al Jensen	Belle Plaine, MN	11/13/01
Carl Sundeen	Plymouth, MN	11/13/01





# Presentation By Michael Brolly

Our October membership meeting consisted of a slide presentation by Michael Brolly. It was held at MCAD, and was attended by several students as well as MWA members.

Michael is well known for his unusual designs, and his presentation was no disappointment! His work is striking in it's craftsmanship and engineering; he had slides of numerous pieces, and explained in detail how he works through design problems. Michael incorporates hidden doors and drawers in many of his pieces. He also enjoys bending wood, and often includes bent wood pieces in his work. (A person could understandably get the impression that Michael enjoys anything that presents a challenge!) I'm sure anyone wanting to push the limits of turning could find inspiration in Michael Brolly's work.

Michael's presentation was taped and is available from the club library.



## Thinking of my mother-in-law Marianne and those magnificent mahogany breasts 1996

Mahogany, Maple, Ebony, Cherry,  
& Walnut  
57x22x29

Photo taken from:  
<http://pathwaysgallery.com/artist07.htm>

Michael Brolly displays a small piece from one of his projects.

Photo by Chuck Bjorgen



Above: Michael explains his technique to students and MWA members.

Below: One of Michael's slides showing the detail of a hidden, swing out drawer.

Photos by Chuck Bjorgen



# MWA HOLIDAY PARTY 2001

## for members and spouses or significant others

Tuesday, Dec. 11<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 to 10:00 PM  
@AAW Office

3499 Lexington Ave.  
Shoreview, MN

Located  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile south of I-694 or 2.5 miles north  
of T.H. 36 at Harriet Ave. on the NW corner in  
the lower level of the Catholic Aid Assn. Bldg.

Parking in the rear of the building

Notes:

- 1.) There will **not** be a wood raffle at this meeting.
- 2.) There will be: Glue and Wood Sealer Sales  
Library Activity  
Show and Tell

### **TOY CHALLENGE**

Bring a toy for the Toy Challenge and be eligible to win a great looking certificate. The awards are based on the votes of members and spouses. It will be great to see what everyone can come up with in this challenge. No prize but great recognition. The award certificates will be for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> places. The Toy Challenge is a wonderful opportunity for members to submit their entries to the Toys for Tots program.

### **BLOCK SETS**

We are requesting that each member make as many blocks as they can to be included in the block sets which will be donated to Toys for Tots. The block sets will be assembled at the party. See the September newsletter for the plans.

### **GIFT EXCHANGE**

Bring an unwrapped turned piece for the Gift Exchange. Everyone who brings a turned piece for the Gift Exchange will in turn receive one. There will be an opportunity for "show and tell" about the gifts.

### **PRIZE DRAWING**

All members are eligible to win one of more than \$450 worth of gift certificates donated to the MWA for this event

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Bring pot luck hors d'oeuvres' and deserts to share. Refreshments will be served throughout the evening.

Any questions? Contact the following : Bruce Arones at 651-433-5364, barones@minnmicro.com or Ron Meilahn at 651-633-8902, ronmeilahn@aol.com

# Mark these dates on your Calendar

*Join us for  
these Activities!*

## October 2001

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

## November 2001

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

## December 2001

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

## January 2002

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

## February 2002

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28		

## March 2002

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

### October

♦ **6th - 7th**—A *Fall Color & Apples Open House* was held at Ripple River Gallery.

♦ **13th**—Club members demonstrated at Rockler's in Maplewood. See pictures on page 9.

♦ **19th-22nd**—The 19th annual Northern Woods Exhibition was held at Southdale Center in Edina. \*\*We had a winner from our club—see notice on page 15.

♦ **25th**—The October membership meeting was held Thursday evening at MCAD. Michael Brolly gave a presentation on design. See article on page 4.

♦ **26th-28th**—"Wood Turning in North America Since 1930", Symposium I, was hosted by the Minneapolis Institute of Arts.

### November

♦ **13th**—The November membership meeting was held at Roseville Area High School. See article that begins on the front page.

### December

♦ **11th**—We'll hold our Holiday Party Tuesday evening. We'll be donating sets of blocks to **Toys For Tots** again this year; we'll also be repeating the Toy Challenge, and having our traditional gift exchange. So . . . there are lots of projects to keep you busy as the snow begins to fly! See page 5 for party details.

### January 2002

♦ **8th**—The board of Directors will meet on Tuesday, at 6:30 at the AAW Office (3499 Lexington Ave. N., Suite 103). Any member with something they would like brought before the BOD should contact any board member listed in the newsletter, and it will be put on the agenda.

♦ **15th**—The January meeting will consist of "How to Photograph Your Wood", and a discussion on Finishing, led by a panel of members. See page 8 for details.

♦ **18th-20th**—Woodworking Show will be held at River Centre in St. Paul. We need volunteers to man the MWA booth in 4-hour shifts. Contact Bruce Arones at 651-433-5364 or barones@minnmicro.com if you would like to participate.



(Continued from page 1)  
tured demonstrations  
by Hal Malmlov and  
Don Wattenhofer.

Bruce covered club  
business, then turned  
it over to Hal, who  
demonstrated the hol-  
lowing technique he  
uses for Christmas or-  
naments. Hal uses a  
hollowing tool, made  
from a planer blade,  
that Wally Allshouse  
taught him to make.  
After the Christmas  
ball has been hol-  
lowed, Hal adds top  
and bottom finials from contrasting woods.  
(To make a hollow ornament or tree finial,  
try using Bob Rosand's instructions on page  
10 and 12.) For sanding his ornaments, Hal  
prefers an abrasive used to clean restaurant  
grills, which he claims is the best thing he's  
found. For finishing ornaments Hal sug-  
gested three coats of lacquer—sand in-  
between the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> coats.

Don's natural edge bell demonstration fol-  
lowed. Don used a piece of Cherry that had  
been cut about two months ago. (Don't use  
wood cut in the Spring for natural edge  
pieces or the bark won't stay on!) Don be-  
gins hollowing with a hook tool for a smooth  
interior, then cleans it up with a scraper. To  
finish the inside, Don turns the lathe off and  
lightly sands the "fuzzies" off the bark.  
Next, he wraps a wet paper towel in sandpa-  
per, and uses it to sand the inside with the  
lathe running.

(Continued on page 14)



Above: Hal explains his hollowing process as samples are passed around.

Photo by John Nicholson



Above and below left: Some of our 44 meeting attendees.  
Below: Don Wattenhofer begins his demonstration.

Photos by John Nicholson



# Chris Stott Workshop at Craft Supplies

**Bob Jones**

I have often thought, after sitting through a MWA workshop featuring a nationally known turner, that I would like the chance to work more closely with an instructor. In late September of this year I had that chance, participating in a five-day workshop conducted by internationally known turner and instructor Chris Stott, from England.

The workshop was held at the Craft Supplies facility in Provo, Utah, where 3- and 5-day workshops are held throughout the year in a well-lighted and equipped shop. The workshops are geared to people at the beginner, intermediate, and advanced levels. The class I attended was billed as an intermediate level course. Typically the classes can accommodate up to a dozen participants. There were only four of us in the class, so we had a lot of personalized instruction time. The other men were from Colorado, southern California, and the Olympic Peninsula of Washington.

Although the course was billed as intermediate, one's level of skill is

a matter of self-assessment at the time of registration. While the first day's project was turning a small furniture leg, a weed pot, and an egg and egg cup, at the end of the day all four of us agreed that the real lesson was humility. We all gained improvement in tool handling skills, and Chris worked patiently with each of us, adjusting his planned curriculum to maximize our learning experiences.

Over the course of the five days we also worked on bowls, fitted-lid and stacking boxes, platters, natural-edged bowls, and off-center turning. We all went home with some nice pieces we had made, but more importantly, we came away with improved tool-handling skills, a desire to tackle a wider variety of projects to enhance our skill levels, and a deeper appreciation of woodturning.

Chris Stott is a former electrician who left that trade to become a woodturner a number of years ago. He has designed a set of miniature hollowing tools and a slim parting tool, two videos, and has just re-

leased a book on turned boxes, all available through the Craft Supplies catalog. One of the participants in this class had been in three previous classes, and stated that he learned more in five days from Chris than he had in all three earlier classes.

Craft Supplies is located in Provo, Utah, and is about a half hour drive from the Salt Lake airport. The shop, new in 2000, is well lighted and equipped with new Woodfast and Vicmarc lathes. A variety of gouges, scrapers, skewers and parting tools are available, but in a fairly limited selection. If you decide to take a class, I would suggest taking some of your favorite tools along. (Note – you'll need to package them securely and check them through with luggage on the plane.) You can purchase tools or other supplies while you are there and get a 10% discount, but you will pay the Utah sales tax. I think you generally do as well or better through the club group-purchasing program.

## January Meeting: Learn to Photograph Your Turnings, and Pick Up Some Finishing Tips

Do you have lots of great turnings that you'd love to get photographed? Or do you plan to turn lots of great pieces that you'll want photographed? Then plan to attend our first meeting in 2002! Chuck Bjorgen, who worked as a professional photographer, will be presenting a Photography How To session. Also scheduled is a Finishing Panel; several club members will be facilitating a question and answer session on finishing. Come prepared to ask questions, share your knowledge, and learn about photographing and finishing your work.

**When:** Tuesday, January 15th from 7:00—9:30 PM

**Where:** the AAW office at 3499 Lexington Ave. in Shoreview

Located ¾ mile south of I-694 or 2.5 miles north of T.H. 36 at Harriet Ave. on the NW corner in the lower level of the Catholic Aid Assn. Bldg. Parking in the rear of the building.

There will **not** be a wood raffle, but we will have: glue and wood sealer sales, library activity, and show and tell.



## Demonstration at Rockler's

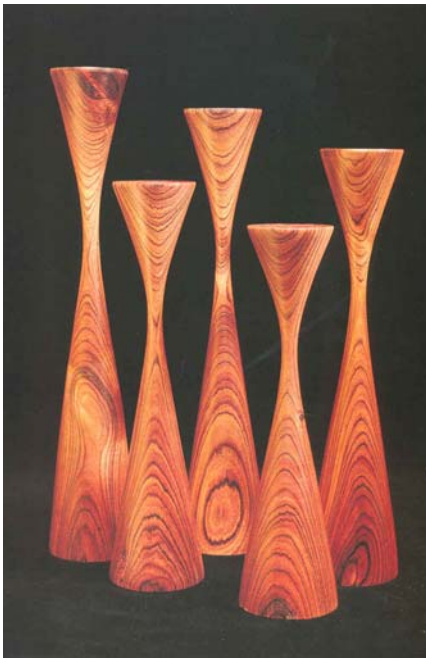
Several members participated in a demonstration at Rockler's Maplewood on October 13th. Demonstrators were: Wayne Keifer (*bottom left photo*), Hal Malmlov (*top & bottom right photos*), Duane Gemelke, and John Nicholson. Chief assistant, and all around great guy, was Ron Meilhan (don't get a big head Ron!).

Photos by John Nicholson



## Work by the late Rude Osolnik

(from [http://www.beyondwood.com/Beyond\\_Wood\\_640/Osolnik/RO105/ro105.html](http://www.beyondwood.com/Beyond_Wood_640/Osolnik/RO105/ro105.html))



# Christmas Tree Ornament

**Robert Rosand**

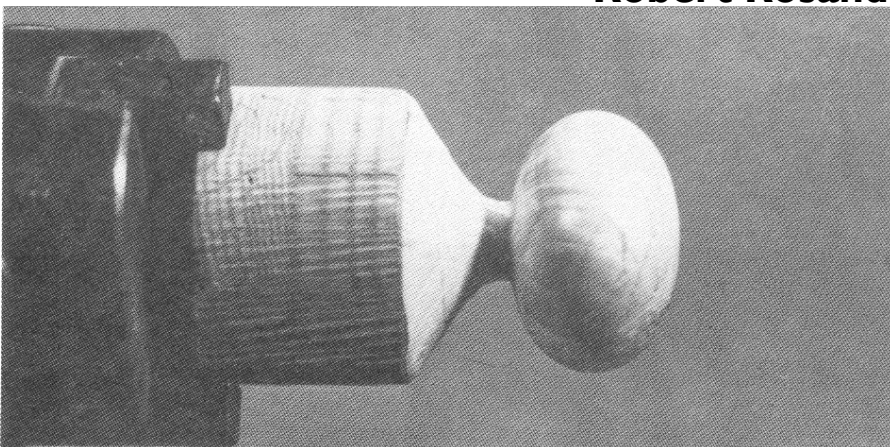
Reprinted with permission of the AAW from *American Woodturner*, *The Journal of The American Association of Woodturners*, 1991, September issue, pg. 50

Last year at a local craft show, Jay Weber showed me a tree ornament that he had turned. It seemed to be a good seller for him, so I was bound and determined to come up with an ornament variation of my own. What follows is probably not an original design, but it is the first object I have ever made that I cannot produce enough of, especially around Christmas time.

The only special tool that you will need is a “bent angle” tool like the ones originated by David Ellsworth. The one I use for hollowing the ornaments is simply a piece of ¼-inch mild steel with a short piece of 3/16-inch high-speed steel silver soldered at about a 40-degree angle. Other than that, I use a ¼-inch round-nosed scraper, a spindle gouge, a small skew, and a small roughing-out gouge.

The finished ornament measures about 2 ½ inches in diameter and about 6 inches long, but could easily be larger or smaller depending on personal taste or woods available.

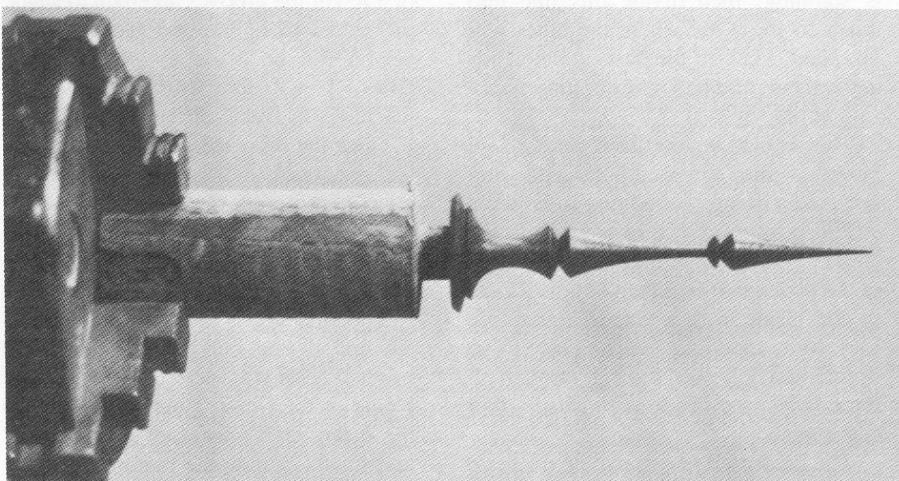
Begin by gluing the “globe” stock to a piece of waste wood. This, in turn, is held by a three-jaw chuck. (Fastening it to a faceplate works just as well.) I turn the square down to a cylinder or a globe, making sure that enough material is left on the waste-block side to allow the interior to be excavated (photo 1). Drill a ½-inch hole all the way through the globe into the waste block, and then hollow the interior, using the ¼-inch round-nose scraper and the bent angle tool (photo 2). There is no need to be particular about the



**Photo 1.** Globe ready for hollowing.

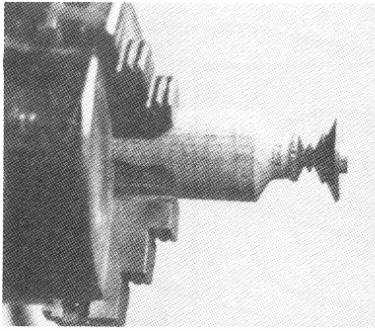


**Photo 2.** Hollowing out the globe portion of the ornament.

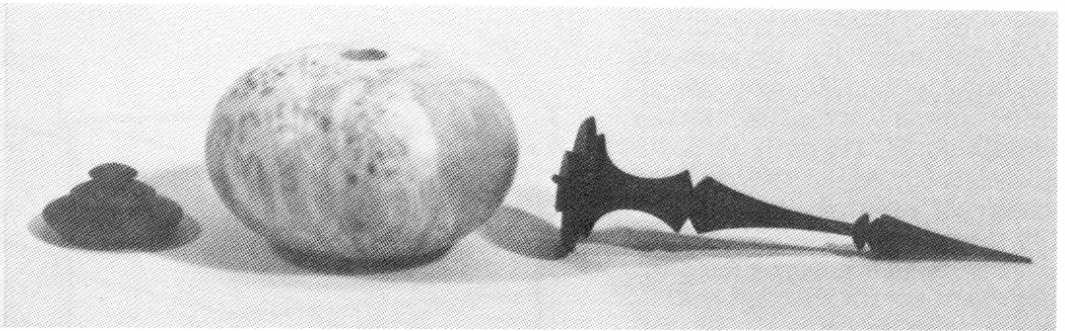


**Photo 3.** Icicle is turned from the tip working toward the lathe. Finish one section before moving on to the next section.





**Photo 4.** The top of the ornament is made from the remainder of the icicle stock.



**Photo 5.** Ornament parts just before gluing together.

interior; the idea is to remove mass so that the ornament is light and does not weigh down the tree. Once the piece is hollowed, refine the shape and sand, apply a coat of sanding

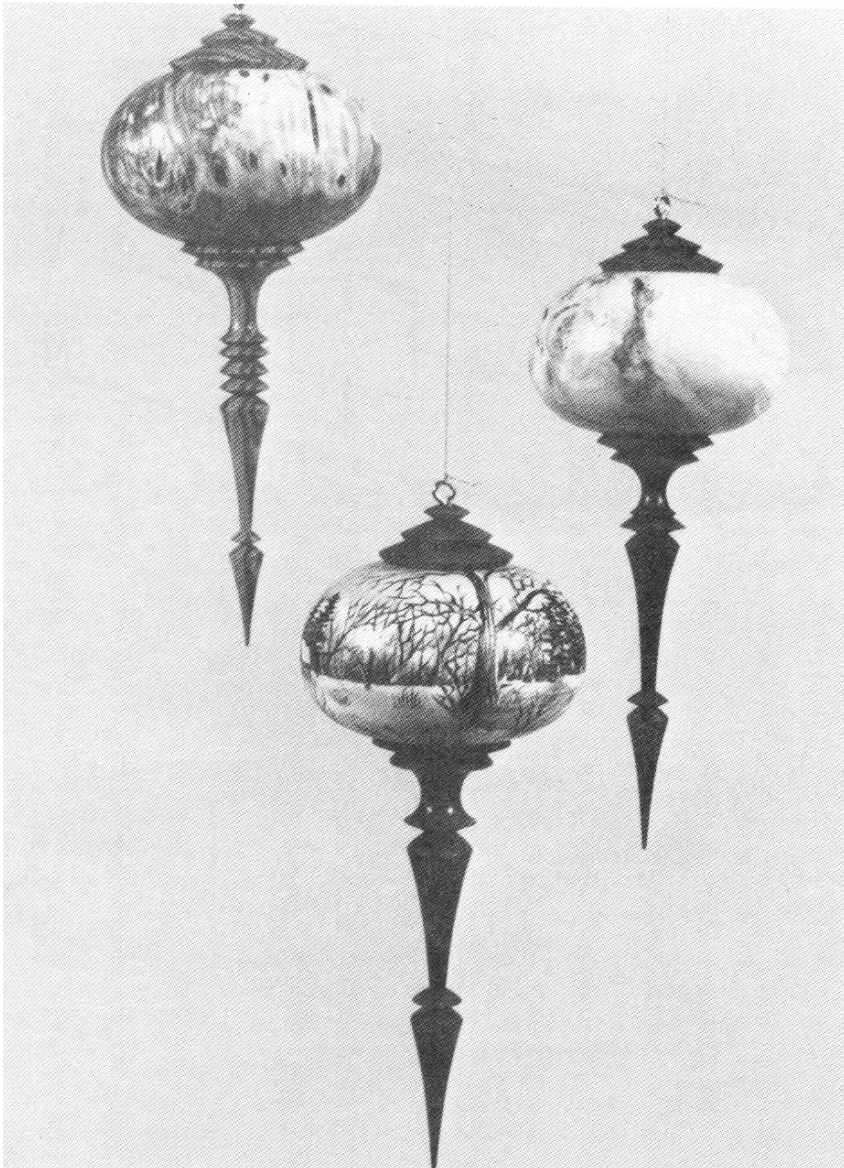
sealer, and part the globe from the waste block. Keep in mind that you have drilled a hole through the ornament when parting it from the waste block.

At this point, you have a hollowed globe with a ½-inch hole in the top and bottom. The next step is to make the “icicle” that hangs down (photo 3). I start with a 1 ½-inch cylinder about 6 inches long held in my three-jaw chuck. (Again, you can also glue the cylinder into a piece of scrap wood on a faceplate.) Turn the icicle, starting from its tip and working back toward what will be the bottom of the globe. I sand and apply sanding sealer as I go, as the finished product can be very delicate and otherwise may break. When the lower icicle is completed, leave a ½-inch tenon, which is glued into the base of the ornament. While a nice fit is a joy to behold, I would rather err on the side of a slightly loose fit, since you can destroy the ornament at this point by forcing the parts together. I use five-minute epoxy for assembly, which allows for a little play.

Make the top of the ornament from the remainder of the icicle stock (photo 4). Turn and fit the tenon first, and then part off the remainder of the cap. At this point, assemble the ornament. Insert a very small brass screw eye into the top of the assembled ornament and spray the finished piece with one or two coats of Deft semi-gloss spray lacquer.

The finished product can be pretty impressive. The uninitiated are always amazed to discover that the ornament is hollow, and most can not figure out how it was hollowed in the first place.

*Robert Rosand is a self-taught, professional woodturner. He lives in Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania.*



**Photo 6.** Finished ornaments, one hand-painted by Susan Rosand.



# Christmas-Tree Finial

Reprinted with permission of the AAW from *American Woodturner*, *The Journal of The American Association of Woodturners*, 1992, December issue, pg. 56

I had been making Christmas-tree ornaments for awhile when a friend requested a tree finial. After a bit of trial and error, I simply reversed my hollow ornament, making the "icicle" the top and enlarging the base to allow fitting on the tree. (See *American Woodturner*, Vol. 6, No. 3.)

The globe is made exactly the same way as for the ornaments except that it is a bit larger—about 3 1/4 inches in diameter. The entry hole in the base of the globe is enlarged to about 7/8 or 1 inch. This allows easier access for hol-

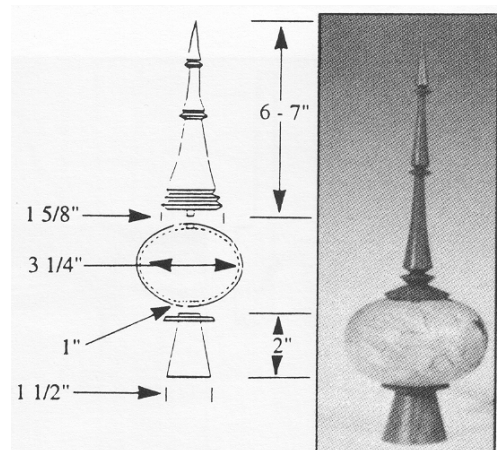
lowing as well as for a base that will fit on a tree.

After parting off the lathe, you should have a globe with a small hole in the top, approximately 1/2 inch in diameter and a larger hole in the bottom. Make the finial from stock about 7 1/2 inches long and about 1 5/8 inches in diameter. Most of this wood is removed, but it allows for a wider base, which I feel is more esthetically pleasing. Before cutting the finial off the lathe, be sure to undercut the base to create a snug fit to the globe.

The flared bottom allows the finial to sit on the top of the tree. Use stock about 1 5/8 inch in diameter and about 3 or 4 inches long. True up the bottom and drill

a 5/8 inch hole through the piece. Turn the flare and fit to the opening in the bottom of the globe. Again, be sure to undercut to allow for a tight fit.

Assemble using five-minute epoxy, and finish with spray lacquer.



## Get To Know Your Grinder

By Trevor Cole of Auckland

(Taken from the NZ Woodturner, the official magazine of the national association of woodturners new zealand inc. <http://www.woodturning.co.nz/archives/grinding.html>)

I wonder how many people are aware that grinding wheels are manufactured in two main types of abrasive - aluminium oxide and silicon carbide. When you purchase a grinder it comes complete with its abrasive wheels which usually are silicon carbide. These wheels are normally used to grind materials of a low tensile strength, e.g. cast iron, non-ferrous metals.

The woodworker and woodturner need a wheel that is designed to function efficiently on high carbon and high speed steels which is what the aluminium oxide wheel is intended for. If you decide to change your grinding wheel here is some basic information to enable you to make your purchase:

**Shape:** For tool grinding purposes a straight wheel is used. It is possible to buy a wide range of shaped wheels for special purposes.

Diameter refers to the outside diameter of the wheel and this will vary from 150mm (6in) upwards, depending on your particular machine's capacity.

Width is the measure of thickness of the wheel and this also will vary, depending on your machine.

Arbour Hole Size is the diameter hole through the centre of the wheel. On older style wheels this hole was lead bushed, but modern materials have taken over and now the hole is bushed with nylon to fit the diameter of your grinder's shaft.

**Material:** Aluminium oxide will vary in colour from pure white to a reddish

colour. You should specify "White Aluminium Oxide".

**Grain or Grit Size:** The size of the abrasive grains determines the coarseness or fineness of the grinding wheel. The grain is graded by means of screens or sieves and the grain size is denoted by a number, which is equal to the number of holes per 25mm of sieve. E.g. 10 = very coarse and 150 = very fine; 60 to 80 grit is about right for our purpose. Grade denotes the strength with which the bond holds the grit in place. The grade is indicated by letters of the alphabet, hard wheels having letters at the beginning of the alphabet and very soft wheels letters at the end of the alphabet. My own wheels are either J or K grade.

(Continued on page 13)

# Birdhouse Ornaments

Robert Rosand

Reprinted with permission of the AAW from *American Woodturner*, *The Journal of The American Association of Woodturners*, 1992, December issue, pg. 56

Birdhouse ornaments have been an extremely popular seller for me. I make most of them by the same method described in *American Woodturner*, Vol. 7, No. 1. The only difference is that the scale is smaller, and I do not generally use stack laminations for the roofs and bases.

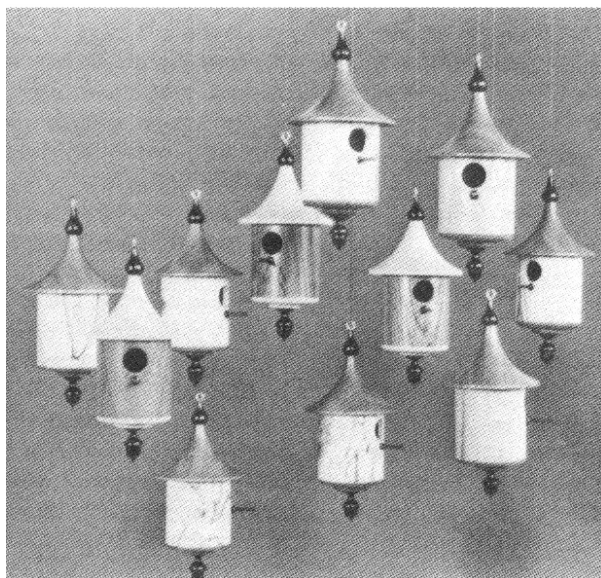
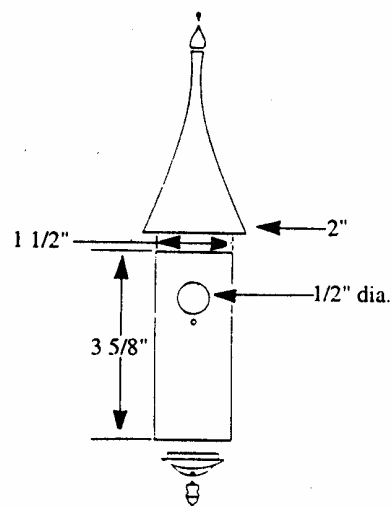
Make the birdhouse body first. I hold my stock in a three-jaw chuck so that I can remove it and do multiples. Cut stock about 4 inches long and 1 3/4 inches in diameter. Turn to a finished diameter of 1 1/2 inch and about 3 5/8 inches long. Remove from the lathe, and drill the 1/2-inch diameter entrance hole and the hole for the perch. Return the birdhouse body to the lathe. Use a 1 1/4-inch Forstner bit to hollow the body or drill a hole through the interior and hollow with a scraper. Sand and part the body from the lathe.

Use stock about 2 1/4 by 4 inches

long for the birdhouse roof and bottom. If you want to be creative, glue up all those odds and ends that are too beautiful to be thrown away. Turn the roof, allowing at least a 1/4 inch overhang. Part the roof from the lathe, reverse chuck it, and drill a hole to accept the finial. Use the remaining wood to turn the bottom of the birdhouse. Be sure to drill a hole to accept the acorn prior to parting the bottom from the lathe. The roof and bottom can then be glued to the birdhouse body.

At this point, all that remains is to turn the finial, perch, and acorn and to attach a small screw eye, for hanging the ornament on a tree. Spray the finished house with a couple coats of lacquer.

My only caution is that you keep proportion in mind. It is very easy to make the finial or perch out of proportion to the roof and body.



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**Bond:** While there is a number of types of bond for different types of wheel and purpose, you should not need to tell your retailer, as something like 70 per cent of all wheels use a vitrified bond and this is the one commonly employed on wheels used in tool sharpening.

The combination of bond and grit should be such that the grit breaks away when blunted under the pressure of cutting, thus exposing a fresh layer of sharp grit. If a stone is used for grinding the wrong material it will

either become blunt, i.e. the grit loses its sharpness, or become glazed, i.e. particles of the ground metal lodge within the grit of the wheel. If either of these things happens or if the wheel becomes worn out of shape, then dressing of the wheel is necessary.

## Dressing

For efficient cutting, the wheel must be free from any glazing, must run true and be flat across its face. To maintain this condition frequent dressing may be necessary. There are three types of wheel dresser:

1. The Huntington or star-wheel

dresser consists of a set of star shaped wheels and washers, made of hardened steel, which rotate in a heavy holder. The wheels and washers are replaceable when worn. This style of dresser is relatively cheap.

2. The diamond dresser consists of an industrial diamond held in a steel body. This tool is comparatively expensive but long lasting. It is usually used for truing the wheels on precision grinders.

3. The dressing stone - or devil stone - is a coarse silicon carbide stone and is the cheapest method.

In use, dressers are held firmly on the

(Continued on page 14)

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tool rest and in light contact with the wheel while it is spinning. Safety goggles MUST be worn and preferably some nose and mouth protection as well. Cuts are taken over the full width of the wheel until the original shape has been restored or a fresh layer of sharp grit is exposed.

### Mounting a Wheel

Several precautions are necessary before mounting a wheel:

1. Check to see that the wheel is designed to revolve at the speed shown on your grinder.
2. Carefully examine the wheel for any obvious surface defects.
3. Test the wheel for cracks by suspending from the centre and tapping the stone lightly. A clear ring indicates a flawless wheel, while a dull sound indicates a flaw. The wheel will have been factory tested but damage is always possible in transit between the factory and your workshop.
4. The bush should be an easy sliding fit on the shaft of the grinder. Do not force it onto the machine if it is too tight. Return to your retailer and purchase the correct size. Similarly do not use a bush with too large a hole

as it would be quite easy for the wheel to move and become out of balance, and therefore dangerous.

5. After mounting the wheel stand to one side, switch on and run the grinder for several minutes without load. If the wheel has an undetected flaw it will disintegrate during the early stages of running.

### Parts of a Wheel and Shaft

1. Wheel thickness, diameter, grit and bond vary according to the type of work and possibly the specifications of your grinder.
2. Collars or flanges should be of equal diameter, machined true and have an outside diameter equal to half the diameter of the wheel. The inside surfaces are slightly recessed to reduce the bearing surfaces. The inner flange is keyed to the spindle.
3. Washers of thin card or paper, usually attached to the wheel, reduce the harshness of grip between flanges and the wheel. This is where you will find printed information on maximum speed, diameter, width, arbour hole size, abrasive material, grit size, grade and bond. This information is in various letter and number codes. Ask your retailer to explain them to

you.

4. Bush. A lead bush is an integral part of the wheel whereas a nylon bush is available in different spindle sizes.
5. Spindle. Screwed with a right hand thread on the right of the machine and left hand thread on the left of the machine in order to prevent the tendency to unscrew during rotation.

### General Points on Safety

1. Wear eye protection at all times.
2. Adjust the rest so that it is 1-2mm away from the wheel and is secure.
3. Never make adjustments while the wheel is moving.
4. Keep guards in place.
5. Use the whole face of the wheel to maintain its flatness and prevent uneven wear.
6. Use only the face of the wheel and NEVER the side. This type of wheel was not designed to accept the stresses of use on the side and could result in the wheel exploding.
7. Dipping the tool being sharpened into water to cool it should be avoided. The alternate heating and cooling causes fine hair cracks to develop.

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Now . . . to the inside: Don shines a light into the bell as he turns the outside shape; the light allows him to gauge the thickness he's

turning. He uses a spindle gouge to shape the outside, and finishes with a scraper. Don turns, and finishes, only small sections at a time because he turns it so thin that if each section weren't

cleaned up immediately, it would go out of round.

Following the demonstrations, we had a great Show and Tell—as you can see from the picture on the facing page!



*Back row, left to right:* Walnut vessel by Bruce Arones; Segmented bowl by Herman Fessler, who got his inspiration at the Symposium; Yellow Birch natural edge bowl by Wayne Keifer; Two Poplar hollow vessels, each with a quarter inside, by John Engstrom; Walnut, Butternut, Maple, and Mesquite lidded vessel by Erwin Nistler. *Front row, left to right:* Reverse turned trees, Christmas ornament by John Engstrom; Satinwood and Red Heart birdhouse ornament by John Magnussen; Red Heart and Basswood birdhouse ornament by John Magnussen; Christmas ornament with a (turned) candle inside by John Engstrom.





**Tools  
for Sale**

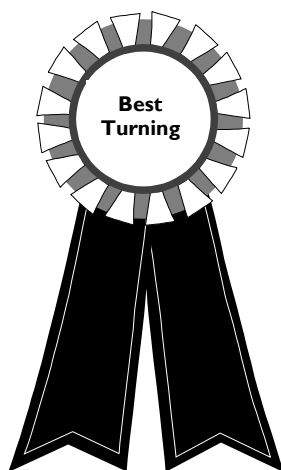
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**CONGRATULATIONS  
TO  
DAVE HILL!**

MWA member **Dave Hill** won the **Best Turning** award at the recent Northern Woods Exhibition. The **Best Turning** award is a cash award of \$150, sponsored by our club, and is only awarded if there are at least five turning entries. Great job Dave!

# Check this OUT!

We have ordered over \$300.00 of new video tapes. As they arrive I will list them for the newsletter. The first four ordered tapes were from AAW's offerings.

➤ **2001 AAW Symposium Video Set (3 videos)**

- ◆ Instant Gallery of the 2001 AAW Symposium (90 minute video)
- ◆ Techniques from 2001 AAW Symposium Vol. 1 (90 minute video)
- ◆ Techniques from 2001 AAW Symposium Vol. 2 (90 minute video)

➤ **Palmer Sharpless**

- ◆ "Johnny Appleseed of Woodturning" (55 minute video)

We now have close to 100 videos available. Please stop and check one out.

*Thank you all for your support.*

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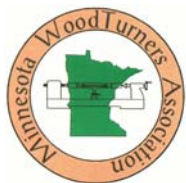


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