

Newsletter

Volume 8 Issue 8

August 2008

The meeting topic for the month of July was

“Greg Pont’s Saw Mill Tour”



Greg Pont with his red oak vase.



Greg's Wood Mizer Bandsaw.

Club member Gary Mrozek started things off by presenting Greg Pont with a gift of a turned Red Oak vase to show his appreciation for Greg's generous offer to host a tour of his sawmill for our July club meeting. Tom Homan followed immediately followed Gary's presentation with a gift from the club to show our appreciation as well.

Greg Pont says he's been sawing lumber for well over 13 years now. His parents were sure he'd become a Sawyer when at a young age he chopped down a tree in their front yard and ever since then Greg can't get seem to get enough of it. Over the years Greg has migrated from his little axe to a Wood Mizer Bandsaw rig now 1 year old, capable of handling logs 36" in diameter and over 20 feet long and is powered by a 25 horsepower motor. It takes a 13'-2" long blade. Greg says he has a skilled Amish fellow sharpen each blade up to three times, after which they are discarded. He has found many odd things in the logs over the years, and recalls finding a lot of lead from bullets as well as a brass shell casing once from a large piece of ammunition and even a large lead bullet, probably from a 50 caliber bullet once. He says finding nails is commonplace and can easily ruin a good blade in seconds. He says green wood is always the easiest to cut, the greener the better. Several members took advantage of Greg's live demonstration by having him do some custom sawing right then and there for them. Some wanted exotic Cherry logs cut in half lengthwise for turning blanks on their lathes while others wanted beams or dimension lumber cut, it all varied. Greg has quite a selection of cut lumber for sale including most quality furniture grade hardwoods at very reasonable prices, as well as softwoods such as Basswood, Poplar and Pine, He'll custom cut just about anything you want in any size you need for \$50 an hour. He buys most of his logs from regular suppliers, but says he'll also cut trees from time to time as well as cut for others. His shop shows his strong interest in sawing, with it's rough-sawn lumber clad walls covered with numerous logging and lumbering artifacts used by the many generations of people before him dedicated to the trade. Greg has quite a collection of unusual chain saws too. He showed off his ever-expanding collection at the onset of his presentation and says he's rescued most of them at Auctions for a few bucks here and there.



Central Minnesota Woodworker's Association

The CMWA is a group of men and women from around the St. Cloud Minnesota area who share a common interest in the art and business of woodworking. We meet monthly and share information, techniques and topics of interest in the area of woodworking.

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August 2008

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

Next Meeting: August 20th at 7:00 PM at Ferche Millworks in Rice.

Board Meeting: August 20th at 5:45 PM at Coborn's in Sauk Rapids.

August General Meeting

Our August meeting will be held at Ferche Millwork (Main Office) in Rice at 7:00 PM. There will be a presentation with a video showcasing their 50th anniversary. Afterwards there will be a tour of the plant and a showing of products.

August Board Meeting

This month's board meeting will be held at Coborn's café. Note that the meeting is at 5:45 rather than the normal 6:00. We will be adjourning 15 minutes early to allow for the drive to Rice.

Items for Sale

Gary Mrozek has a Delta 46-755X Lathe for sale. It has a 16" swing and 42" between centers plus a custom 26" bed extension to turn 68" on centers. It has a 2hp variable speed w/reverse 220 volt motor and mobility wheel kit. New to woodturning? I'll provide hands-on training to get you started. Call Gary at (320) 252-2764 \$1,800

Greg Pont always has a deal on many species of wood. Give Greg a call at (320)584-5573.

- Alder \$1.50/bd ft
- Red Oak \$1.35/bd ft
- Cherry \$1.35/bd ft
- Black Ash \$1.35/bd ft
- Walnut \$3-\$4/bd ft

MORE TIPS AND TRICKS:

Turners often leave a short log inside the bag on their dust collection system. The combination of flowing air, sawdust and chips tends to dry out the stock in an even, controlled fashion.

To measure a museum piece, take a 35mm slide of it and measure one part (say, a 30" long leg). At home, you can adjust your projector and screen until the image of that leg is 30". Then all the other parts will be full scale.

The Wood Turners Group

Our monthly wood turners meeting took place at Dick Beumer's shop Saturday, July 12th. The meeting opened with a show and tell segment, where wood turners presented different projects that they have completed. A couple of presenters were Dick Beumer, JoAnn Johnson, John Caye and Jake Schneider. Dick presented his natural edge bowls cut of pieces of maple. JoAnn displayed some beautiful pens turned out of some mahogany and rosewood. John showed off an attractive box made out of cedar. Finally, Jake presented his unique baseball bat wind chime that was made out of maple.

There were a couple of different demonstrations that began with Dick showing the group his pyramid scraping tool. He also showed how the jam chuck is used on his Oneway lathe. Along with Dick's demonstration, Gary did some sanding and used the Oneway Jumbo Jaws to hold his bowl. The demonstrations concluded the wood turner's series on bowls.

One other demonstration took place. Gary Mrozek demonstrated a ball turning device he's been building. It will shape a perfect sphere from 1" to 5" in diameter. His goal is to make the device available to other club members to make balls for item like Croquet and Bocce Ball games.

(Continued on the next page)

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Wood Turners Group (cont)

Our next meeting will be Saturday, September 13th at Gary Mrozek's shop. The meeting will begin at 9:00AM. The group will be beginning a series on turning Lidded Boxes. Members are encouraged to bring items that they may have made as examples! The group will have a hands-on activity, where you will be encouraged to share with the group what has worked and not worked for you as far as different sanding techniques. Let the dust fly!!! Finally, there will be many drawings for door prizes. Hope to see you there!!!

Gary Mrozek demonstrated a ball turning device he's been building. It will shape a perfect sphere from 1" to 5" in diameter. His goal is to make the device available to other club members for make balls for item like Croquet and Bocce Ball games.



Begin with a piece of wood slightly wider than the desired diameter of the finish ball and 2½" longer. With the wood between centers, use conventional turning techniques to rough out a ball with a tapered base and a tenon (or spigot) to fit your chuck.

With the centers removed, mount the roughed out ball securely in your chuck. Mount the base plate and pivot arm of the device directly centered under the ball. The high speed steel cutter bit is on horizon dead center of the ball. Turning the knob feeds the cutter bit into the ball. The pivot arm is slowly swung left to right to shape the ball.





Use a parting tool to separate the ball from the base, catching the ball as its cut free.

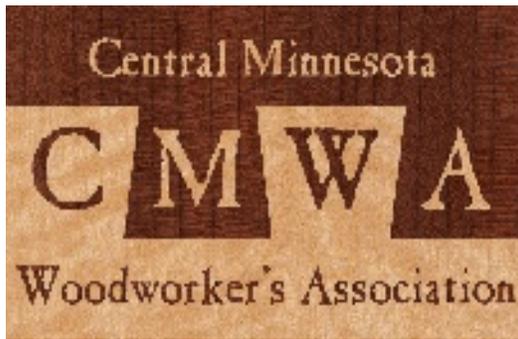
With a short piece of 2" pipe mounted in your chuck and the use of a cup that comes with the Oneway Live Center kit, the remaining nib can be trimmed with a gouge.

With the ball spinning, sand the ball to the desired finish. Stop and rotate it on several different axis's between the pipe and the cup during the sanding process to maintain its shape.



Save the base you parted off to be used as a stand while applying several coats of urethane and other details.

Photos and articles for the Wood Turners Group were put together by Gary and Jake.



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AUGUST MEETING

The August meeting will be held on August 20th at 7:00 PM
at the main office of Ferche Millworks in Rice.

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