



# May Newsletter

## Inland Woodturners



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### A Report on the Meeting held on the 17th of April 2005

Pall Bohne, notekeeper

### First Meeting at the Riverside Senior Center

We held our first meeting at the **Janet Goeske Senior Center** and found it more than good. There was plenty of parking, a large room with table and chairs, an electric outlet to plug in our coffee urn, good lighting, built-in counters for our show and tell pieces, and a place to put the wood for the raffle. BUT, we still need to find out if they have a place to store our club's rolling cabinet containing our refreshment supplies, library, and a lathe of some sort. It will take someone to go to the management and ask some questions during the week when the officials are there. While there was a lot going on that first Sunday throughout the many rooms, there was no representative of management to ask about a storage closet or such. It was apparent that the room we used is mainly used for the creation of ceramics. It would be fine if we could use a bit of the space to hold our stuff too, so that we didn't have to carry it back and forth. Can one or two of our members go to the powers that be and beg some storage room? It would have to be done during a working day, I imagine. Any volunteers?

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### Other Business

The meeting had a lot of new people there for the first time, due mainly from the activities at **Rockler Woodworking** in Ontario. They held a demo and sale at their store the day before and some of our members were there to extol the many pleasures of woodturning. As a result seven or eight new faces appeared among

us. Welcome Mark, Mike, Jim, George and Lina, Brad, and Dan. (I hope I didn't forget someone)

#### Next Months Challenge:

No challenge was made for the Month of May so be creative and bring your best work!

#### Next Month's Meeting Janet Goeske Senior & Disabled Citizens Center

5257 Sierra St.  
Riverside, CA 92504  
951-351-8801

See below for turn by turn directions and a map

#### Table of Contents

Coming Events .....	6
Demonstration .....	4
Monthly Meeting.....	7
Officers .....	6
Other Business.....	1

Inasmuch as our president Margot Brick couldn't be at the meeting due to a family emergency, Matt Heffron took over running the meeting. He mentioned that the commorative platter for our former host **Tim Marx** was delivered and that we had a note from Tim acknowledging receipt of the gift.

The subject of **Club Shirts** with the club logo was brought up and discussed. It was pointed out that we have had shirts before. One of the objections to them is that they may not have enough pockets which some of us like to have. Someone else suggested **vests** as an alternative to shirts, which may have some advantages. However, I think the shirt/vest subject is going to be looked into further. Stand by for further developments.

Our newsletter editor Ken Allen had said that we need a catchy name for our newsletter. Did a name get chosen? I didn't see one on the March newsletter yet. Maybe it is still under consideration.

The **Woodworking Show** in Pomona on Apr. 29th through May 1 st at the Pomona Fair Grounds was a resounding success for many of our members. A large group of our members went on opening day and used a lot of shoe leather walking up and down the isles looking and buying stuff. The largest item bought that I know of was a 14" Powermatic Band Saw, complete with all the bells and whistles. **Pete Preschern** is the happy new owner. I got a reciprocal carving accessory for my Foredom rotary cutting tool and gave it a try the next day, I'm sure it will come in handy adding texture on one of my turnings.



The **AAW** is holding their annual get-together in Kansas City this year. You can read all about at [www.woodturner.org](http://www.woodturner.org), or in their latest magazine.

**Kurt Baruch** passed on more information about the Show and Demonstration which the club will take part in starting in March of 2006 at the **Edward Dean Museum** in Cherry Valley. They would like about 200 turnings to show, and sell on a 30/70% basis. Also there will be an opportunity to demonstrate our skills to the public on the weekends during the show. So be thinking about it and preparing something special, because it's a classy place.

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## Show and Tell

Starting off the session was **Harold Hardy** with a nice shallow bowl turned from koa wood.

And **Bob Beckel** showed

two square platters in what he called *California street wood* (wood from the street on trash day, I guess)

**Jim**, one the newcomers, brought in a 3 axis box he had turned from what he said was pallet wood. He also brought in a mortar and pestle which he had bought down in



Laguna Beach in a shop. Or was it at one of the art fairs they hold there in the summer? A mortar/pestle is a very useful item in the kitchen for the cook in the family. I use it if I'm going to crush anise seeds to add to the store-bought spaghetti sauce.



Next up was **Dave Holzberger** with a box turned from camphor wood. The smell of wood as it is being turned was commented by

many in the audience. Dave also showed two hollow vessels turned from alder. One of them had a greenish tint, the result of his recent experiments in dyeing wood. The other hollow vessel was turned on two axes, and then textured and dyed. Really fine work.



Our friend **Bill Haskell** came to look over our new meeting place and brought in a couple of his famous hollow vessels, both of them in big leaf maple.

One had piercing and was turned from the burl variety of the wood. The other was turned from the plainer maple as I remember. Fuming of woods was discussed as a way to color wood. And in passing, mention was made that two colored varieties of CA glue are available from the Star-Bond brand of glue. They come in black and brown, and should come in handy for those special pieces of wood which need filling or repair.

**Jim Thompson** brought a couple of his handmade spokeshaves and

several unusual items in the form of *fish stunners*. On these small clubs, which you use to put fish out of their misery, were



bands of a silvery metal inlaid into the colorful hard woods. Everyone was curious as to how Jim had inlaid the metal into the wood. In fact, they were cast into grooves and then smoothed off after the metal cooled. We hope that Jim will give us a demonstration of this technique at some future meeting.

**Allen Dardenelle** brought in a nicely finished bowl made from Tasmanian Eucalyptus. The finish he used was several coats of tung oil and rubbed in. This type of finish needs time to dry between coats. One coat a day is the way to go.

#### Ken

**Fulayter** brought in a couple of his turnings which he was willing to show to the club. Ken is somewhat a beginner at turning, but is eager to learn



and enjoys the club meetings very much, but has, so far, been unwilling to show anything he's made. The wine stoppers he brought in to show demonstrate that he is making progress. Way to go Ken.

Our vice-president **Matt Heffron** brought in an avocado bowl with a natural edge. I must try making a natural edged bowl someday too.



But, so far, I don't have the necessary heavyscrapers, or the nerve, to do the job like Matt does.

Next up was our master

turner/carver, **Nikolai Ossipov**, with one of



his turned and carved bowls. He used black walnut this time, but different from those we've seen recently. This bowl had three evenly spaced slots jigsawed at an angle and sloping down from the rim after the basic bowl shape was turned. Then the piercing and carving commenced. Great job, Nick.

**Darrell Harris** made an egg shaped lidded box in camphor, similar to the one made by Dave Holzberger in his demonstration last month. Darrell also continued to develop his skill in making square sushi plates. The one he brought in this time was made from curly cherry. Nice job on both counts.

**Lane Thomsen** brought in four bowls to show. Two of them were turned from olive, and another from carob wood. He also brought in a green tinted bowl with a lid, turned from ash. All of them nicely shaped and finished. Lane recently bought a new book on segmented turning at the woodworking show so we can expect turnings using this interesting technique in the future.

Finally, your notekeeper showed a lidded egg shaped box in walnut, complete with three plastic eggs inside.



## An Unusual Demonstration by Pall Bohne

Inasmuch as we didn't know much about our new meeting place it was decided last month that I would show the folks how a person goes about cutting letters in stone and wood. I had planned to bring the necessary special knife to cut small letters in wood, but I forgot to bring the tool and some wood. I had spent a lot of time rounding up my stone cutting tools and sample slates that the wood cut letters slipped my mind. I'll bring the tools for this technique another time.

The demo started out by showing the chisels for cutting soft stones like slate and the softer marbles. These chisels are carbide tipped, with a very shallow cutting angle. There are other chisels for the hard stones like granite. I have these tools too but didn't bring them. I was going to show how to carve a single letter in a 3 x 5 inch piece of slate, which could be used as the base of a desk pen holder or a paper weight. I used a home-made jig to hold the slate, which was about 3/4 of an inch thick, while I was cutting the letter Z. This jig allows me to turn and lock down the slate in any position while certain parts of the letter are being carved.

I explained that only one width of chisel is needed to cut any part of a letter of a certain height. You choose the width of chisel depending on the width of the greatest stroke of that particular sized letter. My chisels come in sets of 10, from about 1/8 inch wide to 1 inch wide. The same flat chisel can cut any part of the letter, curved or straight, wide or narrow. This is in contrast with the great number of wood chisels needed to cut letters in wood. In wood, many

curved chisels are needed to follow the curves of a letter as you cut down into the wood. In wood you have to be very conscience of the grain of the wood. But in stone there is no grain as such, you cut along the side of the vee shaped strokes and not down from the surface of the stone. You start from the center of the stroke and chip little pieces of the stone as you go toward the edge of the letter's shape, going over and over until you reach the edge, always maintaining the vee shape. There are other ways to cut letters in stone, but the vee shape is traditional and has been used for thousands of years. It is the shape I've used in most of my work. All of the samples I brought to show had a vee shaped letterform.

While the chisels I use today are carbide tipped, the tools of earlier times were of carbon steel, This required a lettercutter to have on hand many chisels to choose from in case the tool he was using got dull. So, he would have maybe a half dozen chisels of the same width if he had to cut a large number of letters on a job. When the tool got dull he would pick up a sharp one and continue. Later, when all the chisels of a certain size were dull, he would take time to sharpen the whole batch. Generally, I can rough out all the letters or numbers on a job before I have to hone the edge of the carbide to

do the final finishing of the letters. That is the difference between carbon steel and carbide.

Naturally, because of the necessary explanation of the steps of an unfamiliar business like lettercutting in stone, I didn't get very far on the letter I was carving. But, we got to talk about the painting or gilding of the letters and all of the preliminary steps to getting the stone shaped to what is wanted before the actual cutting begins. I was only cutting one letter and it took only a minute to lay the letter out. Just think of the time it would take to layout several lines of letters in a neat way. It may take a couple of hours to work out a pleasing arrangement at the size needed for a particular job. Maybe you have to center each line of letters over the next line below and each line centered on the stone. This takes time to do.

Also mentioned was the fact that a reasonable stone chisel can be made from a star drill. You only have to grind off the two opposite flutes of the four fluted drill to have a rather thin chisel suitable to carve in a soft stone like slate or one of the softer marbles. I had on hand one of these homemade chisels to show the folks. I hope the demo was of use to you even if it isn't too relevant to woodturning.

## Coming Events

### What

#### Utah Woodturning Symposium

### When

June 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> 2005

### Where

Brigham Young University

### About the Event

The **Utah Woodturning Symposium** is the longest running woodturning symposium in the world. The year 2005 marks the 26th anniversary of the event. Participants can select from over 100 demonstrations given by some of the best woodturners in the world. The presentations will have something for everyone, from the beginner to the professional. The symposium is open to anyone with an interest in woodturning. More information can be found at <http://utahwoodturning.com/site/page/pg1205.html>

## Club Officers

<b>President</b>		
	Margot Brick	president@inlandwoodturners.org
<b>Vice-President &amp; Membership</b>		
	Matt Heffron	vice-president@inlandwoodturners.org
<b>Treasurer</b>		
	Bob Nay	treasurer@inlandwoodturners.org
<b>Raffle Chairman</b>		
	Glenn Honeycutt	raffle@inlandwoodturners.org
<b>Librarian</b>		
	John Stoner	librarian@inlandwoodturners.org
<b>Webmaster</b>		
	Ken Allen	Webmaster@inlandwoodturners.org

## Our Monthly Meeting

We are located in the "Inland Empire" region of Southern California, roughly 50 miles east of Los Angeles. Meetings are normally held on the 3rd Sunday of the month at 2:00 p.m.

### **Janet Goeske Senior & Disabled Citizens Center**

5257 Sierra St.  
Riverside, CA 92504  
951-351-8801

#### **Turn by Turn directions:**

Take the 91 Freeway into the City of Riverside  
Turn North on Madison  
Turn West (Left) on Arlington  
Turn North (Right) on Slater  
Turn East (Right) on Sierra

The Senior Center is on the North Side of the street.

