

# Northwest Woodturners

A Chapter of  
The American Association of Woodturners

Volume 10 Issue 2

February 2006

**Northwest Woodturners** meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month at 7:00PM. See website for details and map.

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Next Meeting:  
**February 2<sup>nd</sup>**

Learn-2-Turn:  
**February 4<sup>th</sup>**

Turning  
Challenge:  
**See 2006 schedule  
on page 5**



## President's Corner

Well, here we are, almost to February. We held our first monthly "Learn-2-Turn" session in January, had 12 people show up, and went for about 4 hours on three lathes. Thanks to Owen Lowe and Jerry Harlow for being the lead demonstrators. This was well received and it appears that we will continue the session in February.

There has been a lot of interest in segmented turning, so I will be there at the February "Learn to Turn" to do a show & tell on my methods. We'll design a project using Lloyd Johnson's Woodturner PRO software and I will bring some of my tools. We should be able to cut, glue and show how to assemble some rings.

We have an opportunity in June to have two top-notch professional demonstrators if there is enough interest. We have scheduled Jean François Escoulen for a 2-day hands on demonstration on June 23-24. The class will be for (8) and the cost will be approximately \$160. We need to lock in those interested and may need to take deposits for this event.

We also have an opportunity for a visit from Mike Darlow on June 16-18. Mike is from Australia and will be one of the lead demonstrators at the AAW Symposium in Tennessee this year. The club has some of Mike's books and videos available for checkout if you're interested in seeing his work. Mike loves to teach the basics and this class could be a one-day Saturday seminar or a Saturday / Sunday hands-on for a limited number of students.

I need to know if you are interested in having Mike visit us. Please email me at <tomr@chemwest.com> or talk with me at the February meeting to let me know what you would like to see.

Safe Turning...  
**Tom Reiman**

## February Program

For our March meeting demonstration we will have Mr. Scott Trumbo. Scott is a local bowl turner who is going to demonstrate rapid waste removal and a fine finishing cut while turning a bowl.

In addition to being a talented bowl turner, Scott is co-owner of Serious Toolworks. Previously known as The Serious Lathe Company, Serious Toolworks, now based in Medford, Oregon, is in the process of developing a new lathe and sells a complete line of high quality woodturning tools. Scott will bring along a limited number of his A-2 steel scrapers that he will sell for \$25 each or five for \$100. This is an incredible price on these scrapers that normally sell for \$50-60 each. Plan on coming down, enjoy a great demo and pick up a bargain on a new tool. Hope to see you all there.

Thank You,

**Fred C. Kline**

## All Screwed Up

No, as my first addition to the library, I did not screw-up and order a counted cross-stitch book. And even if I did, this is not the column for confessions. *All Screwed Up* is a 128-page book by John Berkely on the topic of puzzles and boxes featuring hand-chased threads. Twenty projects are described with numerous sequential detailed color photographs (over 400), metric measurements, a paragraph to describe the puzzle, and a paragraph telling the solution. Some of the puzzles originate from a book published in 1893: *Puzzles Old and New*. His introduction tells how he got into hand chasing threads: "I have long believed that if you do not know you cannot do something, then you probably can." He taught himself from a book by Bill Jones and lots and lots of practice.

*Continued on page 6: Puzzles*

# Super Glue

## The Woodturner's Magic Potion

By Jim Manley — *Reprinted with permission*

A number of years ago I was watching New Zealander, Ken Sager, at a seminar and he super-glued a cracked piece of wood, allowing him to recover the piece and finish his demo. I was very impressed with this and all the way home from the seminar I was thinking of all the pieces I could have saved from the firewood pile if I had only known. I believe this subject may have enough mileage to stretch to an article so I will give you the benefit of my last 11 years of using super glue with woodturning.

Before I discuss the pros and cons let's walk through the technical data a little and this may help us understand why things happen or don't happen. The technical name for super glue is cyanoacrylate adhesive. It is pronounced "sigh-ano-akri-late" and it is probably best known for its ability to bond human skin to itself with unbelievable speed.

### Getting Technical

I'm now going to use some tech-words for those who want to know, so stay with me and it will pass in a minute. (Otherwise skip this paragraph and move to the next like a tax return). Super-glue is a one-pot rapid cure adhesive that is designed to bond relatively small components in a few seconds. The strength of the bond depends on the adhesive making mechanical and chemical bonds. Cyanoacrylate glues are made of unstable products called monomers. These monomers are stabilised (kept from going hard) in the bottle with small amounts of acid. For the glue to set, the acids have to be neutralised. This is usually done by first spreading the glue quite thin to expose as much as the acid as possible, then the moisture in the air and around the bond area quickly dilutes the acid and

sets the glue off. Once the reaction starts, the monomer sets in a chain reaction. At the edge of the bond the glue attaches itself mechanically to the wall of the bond surface, keying into the rough surfaces to gain a hold, (like a fly grips to the ceiling. The rest of the monomers then link to themselves chemically, to form a solid plastic, anchored to both sides of the bond area in the imperfections of the join surface. If all of this is done under perfect conditions, it is in the blink of an eye. This story is about the simplest explanation I can come up with without stretching the truth too much and its close enough to give a fair view of how super-glue works. Once you know that super-glue needs moisture to set itself off, you realise why it bonds so readily to skin. Another interesting fact here is that the stuff the boys in blue use to lift finger-prints is just a version of super-glue.

### Shelf-Life

Using the above info we can understand why the last 1/4inch of the bottle goes hard when it's left on the bench for 3 weeks since we last used it. Large amounts of glue are usually fairly stable in the bottle. However with repeated openings the moisture from the air will allow the glue to take on enough water to set the reaction going. The time that it takes the glue to go off on its own is called its shelf-life. You can extend the shelf-life, by almost double, by keeping it in the fridge. Frozen super-glue will last almost indefinitely, but you have to thaw it out sometime. So, if you are buying super-glue in bulk, freeze what you don't need and refrigerate your current bottle after use each day. Just before I launch into the ways to best utilise super-glue it is worth noting that those tiny tubes you buy in the

supermarket have quite a long shelf life if they are not opened. However, the long shelf life is at the expense of the bond strength.

They add heaps of extra chemicals to the mix to stop it from going off in the tube and this quite often results in the glue not working in anything other than perfect conditions, or the bond not having any strength once it is bonded. This is not really the best super-glue for woodworkers! Read on and I'll attack types and uses later.

### Safety

Super-glue has the obvious problem of bonding human body tissue in a fraction of a second. This problem will be ever present and something you will have to be wary of. The common sense of eye protection is paramount, especially after crack repair on the lathe, centrifugal force will throw any unbonded adhesive onto the closest available uncovered skin. Let me assure you that as soon as super-glue touches your skin it will go off. If this happens to be an eyelash, make sure it is only one because you won't be seeing out of it for a while because your eyelid will be stapled shut and the doctor will have to scalpel them apart! - ow - bugger!

### Surface Preparation

The most important thing we can do when gluing is preparing the surfaces we are going to glue. One of the most common acts done by gluers is to wipe the bond surfaces with their fingers. This is probably the worst thing you can do. Your skin releases substances called fatty acids. Super-glue loves this stuff more than anything else, (note the reference to fingerprinting earlier). Fatty acids will rob your bond of strength when the bond hardens in this residue rather than keying into the join surfaces. Prepare the area to be joined with a rough grit sand paper of around 100 grit, and if you must wipe it, use a tissue or a bit of rag.

### Problems and Answers

Over the years I have used super

*Continued on page 3: Super Glue*

**Super Glue:** *Continued from page 2*

glue with wood, I have experienced no end of problems and come up with a few solutions. Following are a few problems to ponder: glue soaking away; gap filling; dark glue line; and blooming. These are all deep and meaningful problems and worthy of a few lines each.

### **Glue Soaking Away**

A big problem with wood is that it's porous, i.e. it is full of tiny holes that allow the sap to flow when it's a living tree. Once you pour super-glue onto wood it has a tendency to flow into the holes and disappear before it does any good. There are a number of solutions: 1) You can use an activator to set the glue before it disappears. 2) You can do a double dose of glue, one to soak in and set and next to fix the crack. You need to leave the crack sometimes up to 1/2 hour between applications to ensure the 1st dose has set. 3) You can treat the area with sanding sealer to fill the pores before you glue. Best of the three is the activator - but try the others if you don't have it.

### **Gap filling**

This is no real biggie, fill the gap with fine sawdust, drip on a dose of glue, zap with activator and sand off. If no activator, try another dose of sawdust on top of the glue drop. I get my fine sawdust from the top of my dust extractor. You can collect 2 or 3 jars of different colours after power sanding large bowls; walnut for dark, sycamore light and rimu for brown, for example.

### **Dark Glue Line**

The dark glue line down the side of woods like OB Rimu and sap Walnut are a real problem and one that I have had mixed results from. If you know the wood to be glued has the problem of leaving the dark line, paint on a dose of sanding sealer first to slow the glue soaking into the wood where it's not wanted, then apply glue to the crack. (This one doesn't come with a guarantee – sometimes the sanding sealer will fill the hole and not let you glue it). I have had some suc-

cess also in beating the dark glue line by using gel super-glue, (see types later in article).

### **Blooming**

This is the white scummy scale that forms on top of the glue when you zap it with activator. Blooming is the result of the glue monomers linking too quickly and it is caused by excessive activator or too much moisture being present. To prevent blooming, squirt the activator onto the glue-job from no closer than 250mm and do it with very short bursts on the button. This will result in a clear bond. As for too much moisture - a dab with a tissue sometimes works.

### **Crack repair**

This is probably what I use super-glue for the most. I work a lot of natural edge and driftwood that always has a crack or two. The secret with crack repair is to get the glue into the crack before you put it on the lathe and let it soak well in. I like to do this 24 hours before I work the piece, especially driftwood. The advantage of this method is that when you turn through to the crack it is quite often very difficult to detect. This also means that all the glue is hard and you don't get a face full of liquid glue.

### **Gap filling**

I use two methods for gap filling: 1) The method described above using the sawdust trick is my most common method and for filling bug-holes I glue a twig of similar size and colour into the hole. In both cases super-glue helps to hide the defects.

2) Dozy Wood Fixing. (ed.: dozy means punky, soft and spongy) This is quite a common trick and described in full by Richard Raffan in one of his books. It entails soaking the dozy wood with super-glue and zapping it with activator leaving solid woodlike plastic in the place of the dozy wood. You must be careful with the distance away from the bond that you zap as it is most likely to bloom in a big way. As a note when fixing doze, don't be too hasty with the activator as in a lot of cases the dozy wood is high in moisture and quite often it goes off on

its own.

### **Attaching Waste-blocks**

You may well remember Bonnie Kline attaching her blanks to a waste-block using super-glue. It's a fine trick when you have an expensive piece of wood and you don't want to waste 25mm of it in the chuck.

### **Which glue?**

This is another deep and meaningful question. As long as it's not the super-market stuff it really doesn't what brand you use. My current brand is Permabond but that is based purely on cost and not ability. Super-glue is super-glue and all industrial strength types do the same job and use basically the same recipe in production. So be guided by cost, not ability of the sales rep.

### **Consistency**

It is worth noting that you can get super-glue in many different viscosities, (that's thickness or pourability to those of us who are achievement challenged). I work with 3 viscosities, one about the thickness of water, one about the thickness of engine oil and one about the thickness of golden syrup (sometimes called gel). Each one has its uses. I use the thin most of the time and for crack repair and dozy wood. The other two I use for gap filling. The thicker the glue the bigger the gap you can fill up. The gel is also good for use with wood that absorbs the glue very quickly and leaves a dark line, as it wont soak into the wood but it's harder to get it to set. Gel is also brilliant for clock numbers because it gives you a bit more time.

### **Activator**

As a final note I would like to talk about the activator. It is very difficult to work with super-glue on wood without an activator. There are a number of activators made by different companies. They are once again basically the same stuff but some work better than others and some last longer than others and some cause really bad blooming. I like the activators that come in an aerosol can.

*Continued on page 6: Super Glue*



*Left: Paul Turner discussing differences and characteristics of minerals, grits and backings of sanding materials.*

*Below: Paul speaks with Liz White before his January meeting. The table was full of complimentary supplies.*



**Thank you 3M Corporation and local rep Paul Turner**

Our January topic of discussion was about sand paper and the new finishing materials from 3M Corp. Advances in abrasives have been underway the last few years – resulting in more uniformity of grit size and better materials to achieve the desired wood surface for finishing. Unfortunately, the availability of these new materials is the bottleneck in getting these products into our shops. Hopefully 3M will address this in the very near future.

**Demo & Classes with Eli Avisera - Hosted by Cascade Woodturning Association**

Eli Avisera from Israel will be here in March. He has been featured in many books and magazine articles and is well-known for making turnings from beautiful, laminated spindle blocks.

Avisera will give the evening demonstration for the Cascade club on March 16<sup>th</sup> at Franklin High School. Then on Friday and Sunday (the 17<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>) he will do all-day demonstrations at Dale Larson's shop in Gresham. Demos will start about 9:30AM and go to about 4:00PM. The cost for each day will be \$30. Eli is a teacher by trade and does wonderful demonstrations. You will learn some nice tool usage. For further information call Dale Larson at 503-661-7793.

**A Class with Allan Batty - Hosted by Willamette Valley Woodturners**

After teaching at Craft Supplies in Provo, Allan Batty will be at Nick Stagg's, shop in Independence, Oregon, on June 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, and 13<sup>th</sup> to conduct a three day class. Many of you know Allan, but for those who don't, he's a world renowned, time-served turner. Allan ran a very successful woodturning business for many years, between teaching and demonstrating across the globe. He has many talents: box turning; bowls; spindles; master skew handler; and more. He's also one of the few turners who has kept the craft of thread chasing by hand alive.

If you are interested in learning hands-on with a Master, this is an opportunity not to be missed. He's had a lifetime of experience and is glad to share it along with leg-pulling and humor.

The tuition is \$300 and the class size is limited to six people. We will require a \$150 deposit to secure your space. This will be nonrefundable unless you can find someone to replace you. The class will fill quickly so don't delay.

For further information, you can reach Nick Stagg at either of the following: <ukstagg@teleport.com> or 503 838 4817.



*Screw-lid boxes in January Show 'n' Tell*



*Pens & Pencils presented for the January Challenge.*



## Challenge Schedule for 2006

**February** - Turnings using non-traditional materials or elements. Use anything not usually part of a turning, like CD/DVD disks, hardware, textiles, keys, wire, plumbing parts, gears, toys, etc.

**March** - Homemade tools and handles

**April** - Turnings that make music or sound

**May** - Turnings from outer space: something "out of this world"

**June** - Segmented turnings

**July** - Hollow forms

**August** - No challenge due to wood auction

**September** - Lidded boxes; slip fit or threaded

**October** - Jewelry & personal accessories: jewelry, perfume containers, key fobs, etc.

**November** - Christmas ornaments

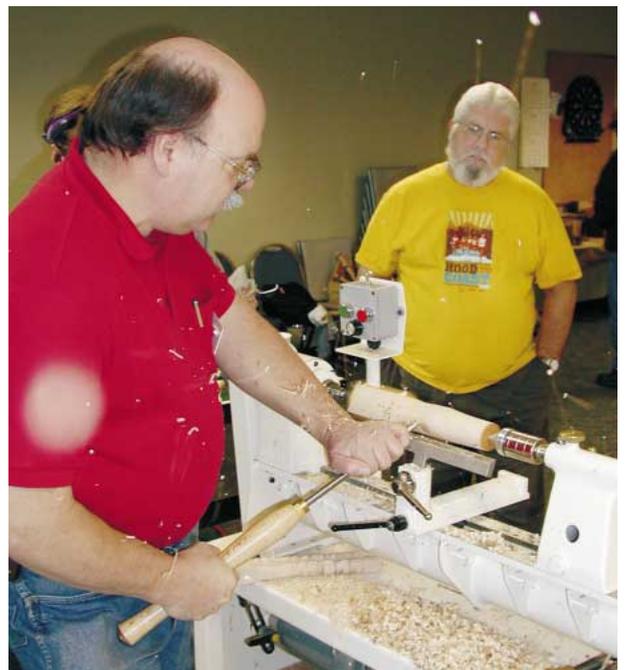
**December** - No challenge – Christmas party & gift exchange

## Learn-2-Turn Get-Togethers

In January, NWWT started a new program to assist turners with developing their skills while offering an opportunity for new members to get acquainted in a small group setting.

The January session was attended by about 12 members with a 60/40 mix of new members and regulars. Since we're not skilled instructors, the start might have been a little rough but smoothed out as we took tools to hand and began making shavings. Folks could try their hand on one of three lathes, seek input on technique, and just "jaw" about turning.

The next get-together will be February 7<sup>th</sup> at Chemwest, 9:30AM. *Everyone* is invited to attend no matter how long you've been a Northwest member, so bring your turning tools, coffee, perhaps a couple chunks of wood, and a few bucks for lunch. I'll bring the donuts. Next time we'll look at segmenting and bowl turning.



Basic turning techniques and tool control skills are the subjects of the day, but the group will decide the direction of the sessions. The atmosphere will be a very relaxed, social, hands-on-the-lathe couple of hours to share, learn and get to know fellow members a bit better.

### Owen

*Above: Tom Reiman illustrates spindle turning during the January Learn-2-Turn.*

*Left: For instruction with the skew, Jerry Harlow's the guy.*



*Bowls in January's  
Show 'n' Tell*



**Puzzles:** *Continued from page 1*

Berkely recommends chasing threads daily for a month or two and after making 50 or so threaded boxes one begins to get the idea (just look at all this threaded firewood I have made). He includes a very good chapter on "Choice of Woods" that lists, amongst other things, the specific gravity (density) of the various woods in the dried and stable state. For all you screwed up wood turners in our club (me) who think wood should have threads – please enjoy this new addition to the shelves.

Happy turning,  
**Chris Dix**

**NWWT Membership Benefits**

All members are encouraged to participate in the private, web-based forum hosted by NWWT and generously provided by Lloyd Johnson. Share photos and electronic files, discuss turning and related issues, items for sale, etc. Contact the newsletter editor/website guy (Owen) for further information.

A 10% discount is offered to members by Woodcraft Supply, Rockler and Crosscut Hardwoods. Discounts do not apply to power tool or workbench purchases – other restrictions may apply.

Member, Lee Parks, offers a 20% discount to fellow NWWT members on all sharpening services through his Lee's Cutting Edge Sharpening Service and Sales. Contact Lee at 503-537-9131.

Members may also purchase "CA" glues, sanding supplies, Anchorseal end-grain sealer and various specialty woods through Northwest's supply sales. Prices are discounted substantially from what the regular retailers charge.

**Super Glue:** *Continued from page 3*

Mainly because there's more control over the zap being delivered and it doesn't evaporate out of the bottle. OK, cans cost much more but if you check out how long the aerosol lasts it is by far the best deal. I use Perma-bond activator as it's the only aerosol activator I can get my hands on that works OK. It's as good as any and it's head and shoulders over the pump-pot bottles that have very little control over the zap.

**Using Activator**

There are two application methods for using activator. The best way with wood, especially with crack repair, is to apply the super-glue then zap the join with activator with a very short burst from at least 250 - 300mm away. When you are joining two flat surfaces, i.e. a waste block attachment or a decorative ring, apply the adhesive to one face, squirt a dose of activator on the other face and then bring the two together. The reaction is pretty close to instant so make sure you put the two pieces in the right place the first time – there's no second chance.

Well that's about all I have to offer on super-glue. There are many and varied uses for super-glue and they probably exceed this list two fold, however it is the most common uses that I have attacked.

*This article is reprinted by kind permission of Jim Manley and the National Association of Woodworkers New Zealand Inc.*

*This article originally appeared in the National Association of Woodturners New Zealand Inc's magazine, **Faceplate**; the organization is now called the National Association of Woodworkers New Zealand Inc and its magazine is now published as **Creative Wood**.*

*Mr. Manley is the current Vice-President of the NAW. Further information about the NAW, its activities and member clubs may be found at <[www.woodskills.org.nz](http://www.woodskills.org.nz)>.*



## Classified Ads

**Guidelines for Classified Ads:** If you sell or find your item, please notify the editor. Ads will only run for 3 (three) consecutive months. Please submit your ad to the editor by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month. Editor makes no apologies or guarantees for spelling or grammatical errors. Items not pertaining specifically to wood turning are welcome.

**Jet 14" bandsaw**; closed base with riser block: 1 hp motor after market table top. New black cabinet. Asking \$500. **Contact Owen Rasmussen, 503-246-3067** (2/06)

**Glaser V-15 gouge**, 5/8" size, sharpened only 2 or 3 times, still looks like new. Paid 159.00 last summer –would think 100.00 should interest someone. **Contact Russ Coker, 503-675-6680** (2/06)

**Crown bowl gouges**, Hi-speed steel, new in-package. (2) - 3/8" @ \$35 ea.

**Hout Bowl Skew**, deep flute, \$50.

**P&N 10mm (3/8") spindle gouge**, unhandled, new in-package. \$20.

**Contact Owen Lowe, <onlnlowe@easystreet.com>** (2/06)



*Russ Coker hollowing with a spindle gouge during the January Learn-2-Turn*

## Notable Trees of Oregon

The National Champion Black Cottonwood stands between Portland and Salem near the site of the Willamette Mission, established by Reverend Jason Lee in 1834. At that time, the Mission and tree were located on the banks of the Willamette River. The great flood of 1861 changed the river course to its present channel, leaving what is now Mission Lake.

The Willamette Mission Cottonwood is the largest of its kind in the nation and is located in Willamette Mission State Park on Wheatland Ferry Road near Woodburn.

Height: 158'

Circumference: 26' 8"

Crown Spread: 110'

Approximate Age: 265 years

Dedicated: April 13, 2001

From: <http://www.odf.state.or.us/>



*Left: Lidded box in January's Show 'n' Tell*

## It's Dues Time

The good news is that we've held the line and kept the annual dues at \$30. It will be greatly appreciated if you would bring a check to the next meeting or send it to the following address:

Northwest Woodturners  
13500 SW Pacific Hwy, #185  
Tigard, OR 97223

Membership cards will be given to you at the meeting following receipt of your dues.

## Editor's Note:

Submissions to the newsletter are due by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month. Articles, tips, web links, classified ads, or other items pertaining to woodturning are welcome.

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## Turning Tips

Power cords on electric hand-tools are a nuisance: they need to be wrapped for storage; get tangled with other tool cords; and are usually either too long or too short. Consider cutting the cords to 12" in length and reattaching the plug. With an appropriate gauge and length extension cord, which you likely used before anyway, you can reach your work with no problem and fewer hassles.

Pour your end-grain sealer into a clean, wide-mouth clothes detergent bottle. The lid makes a handy dipping container for your brush and the leftovers will drain back into the bottle when you recap the jug.

Place a sign, easily seen as you switch on your lathe, warning you to remove all rings from your fingers. Called "degloving", extended, rotating hardware or wood protrusions can grab your ring and rip it off your finger along with all the skin, muscles and tendons. A picture for the strong of stomach: <[www.itim.nsw.gov.au/go/objectid/2A3AC703-1321-1C29-70B067DC88E16BFC/index.cfm](http://www.itim.nsw.gov.au/go/objectid/2A3AC703-1321-1C29-70B067DC88E16BFC/index.cfm)>

And if that's not enough to convince you, rings can easily mar the surface of a turning as you check for finishing smoothness while sanding.



**Northwest**  
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