

Northwest Woodturners



A Chapter of The American Association of Woodturners

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MARCH, 2009
THE WOODTURNERS' LOCAL RESOURCE

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The year is flying by, as usual. It's March already. For those of you that couldn't make it to the Learn to Turn at Jerry Keller's place, it was a great success. The room was just right for several lathes and turners. The turnout was very good and I hope a benefit to everyone that came. The cinnamon rolls alone were worth the trip. Now that we have a good spot to hold them, I hope the Learn to Turns will again become a regular event on the NWWT calendar.



Jim Hall



Box turning master, Nick Stagg

It seems that the New Year always brings new members and unfamiliar faces. I would encourage all members, new and old to post a picture on the member's page on the My Family site. More than once the pictures there have saved me from embarrassing moments. Of course, I'm the one that had to monogram my kid's clothes to remember their names.

I received an email from Rachel Freeburg with the CASA of Marion County that I have posted on the website. Last year, NWWT brought together a very good donation of turned pieces for the Art with Heart auction in a very short time. Our pieces sold well and it was good to help out a very deserving organization. Rachel will visit us again at the March meeting to get the ball rolling again. Those of you not familiar with CASA will find it to be a great cause and well worth our support. With a bit more lead time this year I'm sure we can once again mount a significant contribution.

Our demonstrator this month is Binh Pho, an artist of international reputation. He will be doing a hands on class and a demonstration on Saturday at ChemWest. The class is full but you will regret it later if you miss a chance to attend the Saturday demo. His work is amazingly beautiful and this is one of the few club appearances he will make this year. The demo seminar is on Saturday March 7th, 9 AM, so put it on your calendar.

Mike



Nested bowls - Phil Lapp

QUICK UPDATES

Northwest Woodturners meetings are held on the 1st Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM. See www.northwestwoodturners.com for details and map.

Next Meeting:

March 5th

Turning Challenge:

Thin Walled Turnings

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Newsletter & Web

Scott Blackman

HIGH DESERT AIMS TO TAME INVASIVE JUNIPER

JOHN DAY - One man's trash could be another man's treasure in the case of the Western juniper.

Landowners, Oregon State University researchers, contractors, business owners and members from Oregon Natural Resource Conservation Services gathered Sept. 24 in Eastern Oregon to brainstorm ways to change juniper trees from a nuisance to a business opportunity. The "Adding Value to Juniper" conference was held at the U.S. Forest Service Center in John Day.



This juniper dresser is a signature product made by owner Mark Cobb at the Stone Wood Gallery. Pictures courtesy of West Coast Juniper Distributing.



Sphere - Dale Larson

Juniper has spread across Oregon and much of the West in the past 100 years. In Oregon, this opportunistic tree has spread from 1.5 million acres in the 1930s to 6.5 million acres in 2005, said Tim Deboodt, staff chairman of OSU's Crook County Extension.

Crook County leads the state in juniper infestation, with 785,000 acres of juniper woodland and 1.1 million acres of juniper in mixed stands.

Although juniper has been a native plant in Eastern Oregon, wildfire for many years kept its numbers low and confined it to rocky outcrops that were less affected by fire. That has changed with the emphasis on fire suppression in the past century or more.

"We've been pretty good about controlling fire since Europeans migrated here, and that has helped the juniper spread to new areas," Deboodt said.



Kent Hays

The encroaching juniper is causing several problems for native Eastern Oregon habitats. Juniper takes in much of the rainfall and other moisture that reaches the ground, causing a die-off of understory vegetation such as sagebrush. That creates more dry, bare soil, and the overall effect is less water captured, stored and released from the watershed.

The juniper canopy also traps up to 50 percent of snow and other moisture during the winter, preventing it from reaching the ground.

Native wildlife, such as sage grouse, are hurt when they lose forage, habitat and cover that is killed off by juniper.

The problems presented by the increase in juniper have prompted landowners and agencies to try various methods- chainsawing, mechanical removal by machines, fire -

to remove the trees.

"Throughout several years, the cost has proven to remain pretty constant regardless of the treatment method that is used," Deboodt said. "However, fire has been shown to be very useful in early stages of juniper growth when they are small and before they grow through the understory vegetation."

The Natural Resource Conservation Service can provide grants to help landowners remove juniper from their land. However, the money generally

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Do you have this bowl? If so, contact Scott Blackman @ (503) 807-8100 or scott-blackman@comcast.net

WAX, OIL, VARNISH...OH MY! - JIM HALL

There is a lot of mystic, misinformation, and just plain wrong information about wood finishing so I told Scott that I would write a monthly article on wood finishes. I will discuss one type of finish each month, except for this month, and I will not go into a detailed discussion of each, but just a general statement and then try to hit the good and bad points of each. We do not need a long dissertation each, so I will try to keep them short. I have several books on finishes and will be relying on most of them. If you disagree with any of my comments, let me know. However, this month I will limit my comments to a table that I got out of "Wood Finishing Fixes - Quick Answers to over 175 Most Frequently asked Questions" by Michael Dresdner.

Material	Water	Heat	Solvents	Acid/Stains	Bases	Abrasion
Wax	Poor	Poor	Poor	Poor	Poor	Poor
Linseed Oil/Tung Oil	Poor	Good	Good	Poor	Good	Poor
Danish Oil	Fair	Good	Good	Poor	Good	Poor
Shellac	Good	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc-Poor	Good
Lacquer	Good	Poor	Fair	Good	Good	Good
Water Based	Good	Poor	Fair	Good	Good	Good
Varnish	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good
Oil Poly	Good	Exc.	Exc.	Good	Good	Exc.

FEBRUARY SHOWING



Jim Hall



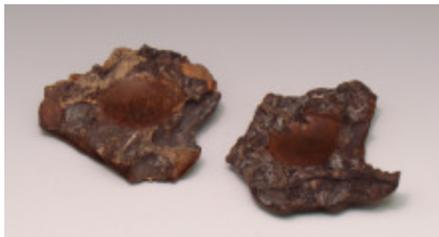
Stephen Bigelow



Bob Mach



Chris Nilluka



Mini bark wing bowls - Kent Hays



Mike Meredith



Desk Pen - Ed Drabik



Winged Bowl - Don Woodward



Space ship? - Don Woodward

2009 NWWT SCHEDULE - PLAN YOUR YEAR

Here is this years planned schedule of events. Please note the change for June.

- March 5-7 Binh Pho
- April 2 Don Nelsen: Mirka Abrasives' Salute to Sandpaper
- May 7 Don Woodward Goblet Bases
- June 4 Alan and Stuart Batty**
- July 2-3 Lyle Jamieson
- Aug Annual Auction
- Sept 3-5 Michael Hosaluk
- October 1-3 Cindy Drozda
- November 5 Reed Gray wet turning with scrapers and drying techniques
- December Christmas Party

- Joseph Jedrychowski



Tom Willing



Wonderful Pens - Unknown Turner



Bob Mach

2009 AAW Symposium
 Albuquerque, New Mexico
 Friday June 26th - Sunday June 28th.
 Get more details at
<http://www.woodturner.org/sym/sym2009/>



Mr. Wood



Gene Shaw

Art With Heart Event
CASA of Marion County
 Coming soon and they can use your help.
 Look for more info at the meeting.

(Continued from page 2)

covers only about 50 percent of the cost and is limited to a maximum of \$30,000. The Grant County NRCS annual budget for such projects ranges from \$250,000 to \$300,000.



Wings - Phil Lapp

"The funding doesn't just cover the removal of the juniper," Lorraine Vogt, of the Grant County NRCS, said. "The money helps pay for reseeding, cross fencing, water and other things. It's not just to cut the juniper down and walk away."

With juniper continuing to spread and limited funds for its removal,

some entrepreneurs are looking for ways to create products from juniper. Several have set up successful businesses.

Mark Cobb created Chiloquin-based West Coast Juniper Distributing, which distributes such products as juniper flooring, decking and furniture. Cobb said one of the biggest problems he has faced is getting people to see juniper as a viable product.

"When we started, it took time for us to go out and convince people that juniper could be used for lumber or furniture," Cobb said. "We've finally built up a base."

Grant County has some local businesses operating with juniper. Kendall Derby of Dayville operates In the Sticks, a juniper lumber facility. Storm Carpenter of John Day runs Storm Carpenter Log Homes. Carpenter has built portions of homes from juniper and even has experience building a home nearly entirely from juniper.



Bob Mach

Carpenter said although he makes a living working with juniper, it presents its own problems because of the irregular shape of the trees and other features.

"I had a guy ask if I could build him a juniper home, and I just said yes," Carpenter said. "He just liked the charac-

ter of the wood, the knotty rustic look. I've done a few more, but even if I charged double the price of a normal log home, I don't think it'd be worth it. You make money, but it's just so much more labor-intensive. You can't get into a rhythm like you can with other woods."



TP holder - Ed Drabik

All three businessmen agreed that one of the biggest problems with juniper is simply gaining access to the trees and getting them to a mill.

"Transportation and market issues involving distance are problems," Derby said. "Most of the time when you're cutting trees, there's logging roads. With juniper, you're out in remote places most of the time."

Cobb agreed: "Sometimes we'll only be a little more than 10 miles out of town, but it's 40 miles of road and path to get where we need to be, and 30 miles of it you can only drive 2 to 5 miles an hour."



Wings - S.N.

If transportation weren't enough of a problem, most mills in Oregon are not configured to handle juniper. They are set up for fir or pine trees and have had difficulty when they attempted to work with juniper. The Malheur Lumber Co. did a test run with juniper several years ago, but ran into too many problems and decided not to continue.

Scott Leavengood, director of the Oregon Wood Innovation Center at OSU, said many problems such as transportation, marketing and available mills could be solved by the creation of a juniper association.

"Nearly every other form of tree has an association," Leavengood said. "The associations help connect the supply and demand parts of the market. They help connect people with trees to people who need them. It's the type of thing we need to create to help build a juniper market."

By David Heldreth

Blue Mountain Eagle

Story provided by <http://www.capitalpress.com>

LOCAL EVENTS, CLASSES, AND DEMO'S

Date	Class/Demo	Location	Instructor
03/14	Pens, Pencils, & Letter Openers	Woodcrafters	Jerry Keller
03/15	Pen Turning	Woodcraft	George Hays
03/21	Beginning Lathe Turning	Woodcraft	Bob Tuck
03/22	Turning Spinning Tops	Woodcraft	Bob Tuck
03/28	Bowl Turning	Woodcrafters	Fred Kline
For more information and many other fine classes available from these stores contact:		Woodcraft Store at (503) 684-1428 Email portlandretail@woodcraft.com	
		Rockler Store at (503) 672-7266 Email store17@rockler.com	
		Woodcrafters Store at (503) 231-0226 Web page: http://woodcrafters.us/	

EDITOR'S NOTE

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

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All other business should be directed to:

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CLASSIFIED ADS

For Sale: Legacy Ornamental Milling Machine. This machine was purchased by my father-in-law about 15 years ago when he was some 90 years old and he only used it for three short spells. The machine has been in storage ever since. As a result, it is in an almost new condition and my father-in-laws eldest son is now wanting to sell it. The machine is a "Legacy 1200" which now markets for \$3,095. You can see the machine and its details on line at: www.legacywoodworking.com/products.cfm?product=5. They are asking \$1,000 for it and along with the machine there is a Hitachi router to operate on the machine along with about a dozen 1/2" drive router bits. If you are interested or have questions regarding the machine, please call Jim Hall at 503-655-1716.

For Sale: Maple & Walnut Burl turning stock. Volume discount. Good Shipping rates from Sweethome area. (541) 367-3495. Tim Shipp

Guidelines for Classified Ads: Ads will run for 3 (three) consecutive months. Please submit your ad by the 20th of the month. The Editor takes no responsibility for spelling or grammatical errors. All woodworking items, for sale or wanted, are welcome.

Show your NWWT Membership Card to receive a discount of your purchase at Gilmer's, AllSharp Sharpening Service & Sales, Rockler, Woodcraft, Woodcrafters, and Crosscut Hardwoods. Membership has benefits.



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