



Crosscut

Newsletter of the Witwatersrand Woodworkers' Association

PO Box 411346, Craighall, 2024

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Next Main Club Meeting on Wednesday, the 9th July 2008 from 18h00 at the WWA clubhouse at REEA. Etienne Nagel from Wood and Timber Times will talk about developments on wood curing and production. Bring old tools to sell.

Next Turner's monthly meeting is on Monday, the 7th July 2008 at 18h00 at the WWA clubhouse at REEA. View a DVD by Richard Raffan on making turned boxes. Bring some example turned boxes to show off.

News

June Main Club Meeting. Norman Cheerin spoke on how to build up crown mouldings from simple shapes into a more elaborate composite. Ivor Appleton spoke on pipe making - what makes a good pipe and a "really good smoke".

June Turner's Meeting. Chris van Heeswijk prepared a presentation on Wild Olive (*Olea Europaea* sub species *Africana*), but was sent to Peru at short notice, so John Somersvine talked using Chris' slides. Next month's wood will be Liquidambar *Styraciflua*.

Roy Gibbs demonstrated the making of a hollow form, showing various techniques and tools for hollowing out, as well as various measuring devices for controlling the wall thickness. He showed how to start out by drilling out the centre, and then how to work in stages, refining the wall thickness progressively.

The Turner's project for July is a Gavel, to be made in stages. First, make the handle, incorporating the classical design elements of coves, rounds and beads, keeping sanding to a minimum. The project for the following month will be the head and the anvil.

From the committee:

Nick Arnall will give a demo on Thursday 10th July at the clubhouse, starting at 18h00. Nick is the guest turner at the AWSA conference that is taking place in Pietermaritzburg on the prior weekend from the 4th to the 6th July. The cost is R150-, to be paid to George Simpson on or before the event. Contact gfsimpson@sentechsa.co.za (072 783 3702)

Spring Challenge for Saturday, the 27th Sept 2008 (the 24th is the Heritage Day public holiday) The turners will stage an exhibition of hollow forms with a prize for the best one judged on the day. There will also be a turning challenge and a bring-and-braai, starting from 11h00 onwards. The challenge on the day will be to turn a mushroom in an allocated time so you must bring the tools you would use to turn a mushroom.

Clubhouse Lease. The committee intends to renew the lease for the clubhouse, and will be proposing this at the next main club meeting for approval by the members.

AWSA Congress. Late registrations are still being accepted for the congress in Pietermaritzburg from the 4th to 6th July. More details can be found on the AWSA web site at <http://www.awsa.org.za/Symposium.htm>. There is a draft program as well, if you are still undecided. The visiting turner is Nick Arnall – see his web site at <http://www.nickarnallwoodturner.co.uk>. There is also a picture of him on the front of the May 2008 Woodturner magazine.

Small Stool Design Competition

Several members submitted designs and prototypes, which were shown off and discussed. Please can you bring any additional ideas, designs and prototypes to the next meeting?

The designs will need to be practical, economical and easy to manufacture, robust, safe and stable. Due to cost reasons, the material will probably be SA Pine. Height of the seat from the floor for a 7-to-10-year-old should be 200 to 250mm. An adult could well use a stool as a step, so they should be safe for loads of up to 100kg. Moisture resistance is also a factor and block board (glue-laminated pine) may come apart if wet, so we may have to make the stools out of solid wood. Making them stackable is also a possible design feature. Suggestions on sources for solid pine are welcome.

Mentors. Experienced members may wish to make themselves available as mentors to provide the benefit of their experience to other members, such as by home visits or being available on the telephone to solve problems and give advice. This will be discussed at the next main club meeting.

Sharpening Service at Austro. Austro proposed giving the club preferential rates for sharpening when a batch of tools are submitted. This was accepted in principle, however, the logistics may prove to be a problem, as demand for this is limited and highly variable, and turn-around times between collections and deliveries may be the time between meetings. Suggestions are welcome.

John Somersvine compiled this list of turning related courses available through the club for those interested.

Wits Wood turners Training						
Trainer	Contact details	Class size	Own tools	Venue and timing	Cost per person	Syllabus
Rick Florence flocat AT mweb.co.za	011 788 9922(H) 011 782 3581 (W)	Group Individual	Yes	Club house. Saturday PM 13h00 to 15h00	R50/hr R75/hr	Covers most aspects of turning including Spindle, Bowl, Hollow-forms and sharpening.
Peter Middleton petercm AT vodamail co.za	082 807 0920	Group Individual	Yes	Club house. Pre-meeting - 16:30-17:30 At home by agreement	R75/hr	May be tailored to focus on specific interests by agreement
John Speedy jospeedy AT iafrica.com	011 678 4772 (H)	Group Individual	Yes	Hardware Centre 2 day 08:30-15:30	R 1,200	
Trevor Pope tpope AT iafrica.com	083 388 2214	Group of 3 on club lathes	Bring if you have, otherwise use club tool set.	Club house. Saturday AM - about 3 hours	R80- including notes and materials, bring a tool such as a file to make a handle for.	Introductory turning, from scratch, for those who have not turned before. Rough out a blank between centers, and then make a tool handle. Basics of lathe use, safety and sharpening.
Lionel Soekoe	011 802 3046(H) 072 989 6310	Individual	Yes	At home by agreement	R115/hr	Specifically SHARPENING +- 3 hrs based to OWN system equipment

Hardware Centre **Demo week.** Hardware Centre Johannesburg will be hosting a week-long program with demos and tutorials. The program starts on Monday the 23rd June and ends on Sunday the 29th June 2008.

Day	Daytime – 8h30 to 16h00	Evening 18h00 – RSVP for catering to 011 791 0844
Monday 23 rd June	Tormek – Piere Grobelaar Triton – John Young Vermont (Tork Craft) - Milti Festool – Reynold van de Bank	
Tuesday 24 th June	Milescraft – Robert Cox Triton – John Young Vermont (Tork Craft) - Milti	

	Dewalt – Robert	
Wednesday 25 th June	Festool – Reynold van de Bank Woodturning – John Speedy	Woodturning by At Smit, Bowl and Pepper Mill finishes by Dries Blignaut
Thursday 26 th June	Bosch – Marco Tarantino Dremel – Audrey Miles Milescraft – Robert Cox Triton – John Young	
Friday 27 th June	Jet Woodworking Machinery – Franz Blaickner (Austria) Trend – Andre Esterhuysen Frameco – Brian Jolly	Jet Woodworking Machinery – Franz Blaickner (Austria) Trend – Andre Esterhuysen Frameco – Brian Jolly
Saturday 28 th June	Festool, Makita, Tormek, Triton, Vermont, Milescraft, Scroll saws – Anita Speedy, Bosch, Dremel, Country Woods, De Walt, Fein	
Sunday 29 th June till 14h00 only	Festool, Tormek, Triton, Vermont, Milescraft,	

Please Note:

Toymakers. The toymakers meet on the first and third Mondays of every month, at 09h00 till 12h00 at the clubhouse. Contact Eddie Marchio on (011) 678-8062 or renato@pixie.co.za for more information.

Wednesday Workshop. The Wednesday evening workshops are on the first and third Wednesdays of every month, from 18h00 till 20h00. Contact Winston Klein on (011) 674-1513 for more information.



Clock Competition
The judging for the Clock Competition coordinated by Home Handyman took place at Hobby-X. Roger Matthews won 4th prize. His entry is shown on the far left. Ken Mutch entered a turned clock which you can see on the right.
(Thanks to Roger and Ken for the pictures.)



Solvents for the Wood Workshop [Continued from last month]

Trevor Pope

Citrus Oil

Citrus oil is extracted from the skin of citrus fruit by pressing or steam distillation. It is composed of 95% d-limonene. D-limonene is the substance that gives citrus fruit its characteristic fragrance. It has the chemical formula C₁₀H₁₆, freezes at -95°C and boils at 176°C. It is flammable. Limonenes

have a variety of isomers that have different properties, such as different scents. One isomer (d-limonene) has an orange-like scent, and another (l-limonene) a piney scent.

It is a relatively stable non-polar solvent. As a solvent it can be used for cleaning, and can be used on some delicate surfaces, such as removing sticky labels. However, it will dissolve some plastics, such as polystyrene, ABS and urethane. It is also reputed to remove CA glue which may be useful where damage to the underlying surface (skin?) is to be avoided. Citrus oil finds application in paint strippers, so it should be used with caution, particularly when working with antiques - always test it on a patch of finish that is not visible before taking the plunge and using it on the whole piece. Citrus oil is a mild irritant and some people may become sensitized to it, albeit over time, probably at levels of occupational exposure. It is widely used in cosmetic products, so it is relatively safe for humans. It is used as an insecticide and a mosquito repellent which is probably why it is present in the skins of citrus fruit. Like most solvents, it will remove the protective oils from the skin, so the appropriate gloves should be worn.



Acetone

Acetone (CH_3COCH_3) is a colourless, mobile, flammable liquid. It is the simplest example of a ketone. Acetone is miscible with water, ethanol, ether, etc. because it is a medium polar solvent. It can dissolve most plastics including CA glue, so it should be used with caution, as it will attack nearly all finishes and synthetic fibres. It is usually stored in glass bottles. It is the active ingredient in some nail polish removers. Acetone is also used to make plastic, fibres, drugs, and other chemicals. It is also found naturally in the environment, including in small amounts in the human body. It freezes at -95°C and boils at 53°C . It evaporates very rapidly, is highly flammable, and burns with an almost invisible flame. Acetone is not highly poisonous, but can cause liver damage in large quantities. Eye contact can lead to permanent eye damage.

Carbon Tetrachloride

Carbon tetrachloride (formula CCl_4) was once used for dry cleaning, as a weak solvent with well known properties. Fast evaporation and no residues make it a good choice for cleaning clothes. It may affect some plastics and fabrics and dyes. It freezes at -23°C and boils at 77°C . It is a non-polar solvent, well suited to dissolving fats and oils, which is why it was used in dry cleaning and stain removal. It was also used as a refrigerant and in fire-extinguishers, but due to high toxicity levels, it has been banned in consumer products since the 1970's. It is a dangerous liver and kidney toxin and a known carcinogen. It is not flammable at low temperatures, but at high temperatures, it can react to form phosgene which was used as a poisonous gas in World War 1. It is ozone depleting and a greenhouse gas, so its use is discouraged for these reasons as well.

Toluene

Widely used as a solvent, such as in Lacquer Thinners. The chemical formula is C_7H_8 . It freezes at -93°C and boils at 110°C . It is related to benzene and has a similar characteristic paint thinners smell. It occurs naturally in crude oil and some gums and resins, but is usually synthesized in the oil refining process from a variety of feed-stocks. It has been used as an octane booster in petrol and was the main constituent of fuel for Formula 1 cars during the turbo era in the 80's due to its high energy density and good anti-knock properties. Its low freezing point meant that it was cooled close to its freezing point before being poured into Formula 1 car fuel tanks, taking up less space, allowing more fuel to be carried and further improving the anti-knock properties. It is volatile and highly inflammable. It is moderately toxic, however because it is not soluble in water it must be metabolized to be eliminated from the body and some the products of metabolism are also toxic.

[Continued next month]