

Lloyd's Platters- How to Turn a Thing of Beauty



First you turn the basic shape and remember to plan for the shape of the handles also if you want to make them.



Barb Meyers won the raffle platter turned by Lloyd and made the rest of the club envious. Almost \$500 was raised on this. Thanks to all who helped and bought tickets.

Lloyd Beckman loves to turn platters. And he is obviously very good at it as the platter on the left shows. Lloyd also gave a day long demo of how he does it at our new DeSoto Arts club location last month.



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Feature:

What in the world is **Hillbilly wood-turning???**

2009 Calendar of Events

Feb 17	Monthly Meeting
Mar 17	Monthly Meeting
April 21	Monthly Meeting
May 19	Monthly Meeting
June 16	Monthly Meeting

Vernon Hollatz—Then and Now

This is hopefully, the first in a series of verbal snapshots of members of our woodturners club.



For a couple of reasons, I have chosen **Vernon Hollatz** as our first interviewee. First, he is our oldest member, and second, we live about 5 blocks apart.

Vern is a unique individual. He was born in 1915, the son of a farmer. He graduated from Geneseo High School in 1933 in the depths of the Great Depression. There were no jobs and no money for college so he continued to live and work on the family farm with his dad, who was born in 1863. (This guy is a walking history book.) The going wage in those days was \$1.00 per day.

He was drafted into the Army in 1941 and served until 1946, serving with 1st Bomber Command on the East coast which was providing cover for ships headed for Europe. He had a ground assignment in administrative matters.

He married his wife, Karna in 1949 and they lived and worked with his brother on the farm until 1966 when he retired. They continued to live on the farm until they moved into Geneseo in 2008.

He has always been interested in things mechanical, building his first lathe on the farm in the 1930s. The tail stock was a nut welded to a piece of scrap steel and a bolt ground to form the center. They had a 32 volt electrical system so an electric motor turned to headstock. He made his own lathe tools out of files and other hard steel. He still uses some of those tools. The lathe, however, is a more modern. "It really isn't a lathe", he said with a big smile, but "I made it a lathe". It is a salvaged machine that he got from Farmall several years ago complete with brass bearings and oil cups.

After retiring from farming in 1966 he built a saw mill powered by a tractor PTO and sawed wood for friends and neighbors. Payment of the wood cutting was some of the lumber he cut. The wood that he donated to the club is part of that wood.

His fascination with things mechanical helped him in his farming operation where he built the first automated cattle feeding system in Henry County. He also built all of the building on his farm. To augment his income he worked at John Deere on the night shift in the machine shop for 4 years.

He is a member of St. Johns Lutheran Church in rural Geneseo and taught Sunday School for 60 years. He and his wife enjoy collecting cut glass and shopping for antiques. He has built 17 clocks and several pieces of furniture for others as well as for their own home. He also has built several "toy" cranes with all the components all made by him and powered by small worm drive gear boxes, one of which can be found at the Geneseo Historical Museum.

His favorite wood to work with is cherry and when asked what his favorite woodturning tool was, replied with another big smile, "any scraper". Least favorite, Randy's tool! (a skew) A tool that he claims not to know how to use is a bowl gouge for inside bowl work.

His eye sight is not good because of macular degeneration but he said his sense of touch is still pretty good. He said that some of those "sanding marks" are just too small to feel and you critique guys will just have to get used to them.



There will be no real system of those chosen to appear in our newsletter but we hope to get everyone interviewed in the coming months and years. If anyone feels that they would like to write their own bio, **please** get it to Denny Hurd for publication. Warren Hadley, Author and Woodturner

President's Message



I got through the first meeting in January, and with the help of all it was an enjoyable meeting. **Randy Nagle** gave a great critique; **Teresa Allen's** demo was excellent. You could tell she put a lot of preparation into this demo. I know I really enjoyed it.

Dave Vandebloom got the raffle for Lloyd's platter sold out and Dave was really beaming. He worked hard on this fund raiser. Thank you too, Lloyd, for a beautiful piece of art. A lot of people were disappointed they did not win including myself. I am sure Barb Meyers

was delighted with the win.

There are a lot of thank you's that need to be said, and I started to write them down in this message. But it would take the whole newsletter for that!! You know who you are and the QCWT thanks every one of you. It's not hard to get help in this club.

As I am writing this letter, we are trying to get the dust collector up and going. We hit a little snag with the City of Rock Island. We now have it all worked out and are going forward. And before I finished this, we did get the dust collector fully functioning and also the air compressor. The lines to all eight mini-lathes have been installed. If you, the members, aren't impressed already, you sure will be once you start using them for a demo or practice.

We are always looking for demos. If you would like to do one or have an idea for one, see Art Jackson. Doing demos is always a way of giving back to the club and sharing is what QCWT members are most noted for.

We all worked hard to get the DeSoto building where it is now. The lathe shop completes this facility and makes it a state of the art turning center. So let's get the lathes turning and the chips flying!!

New members, please take advantage of the mentoring sessions before the meetings, and also the "open shops" on Saturdays. We are all there to help you get started. Our motto could be "We're here to help you keep that bevel rubbing and all your tools sharp!"

Sarge

PS. "Don't be afraid to make a mistake. It's only a piece of wood!"—Rick

Reeves

January Critique Table



Two of the featured items on the Critique table were Carl Smith's hats made from Ginkgo and finished with Deft.

Randy Nagle handled the critique in our January meeting. He quoted Mike Darlow's work saying the purpose of a critique is to give you a new or better way of looking at your items. The result should be a piece of higher quality.



Mike Moseley
Corian



Gene Vincent
Walnut
Poly



Robin Fraser
Hot wax



Kelly Bissel
maple
None



Leo Othmer
Ash (above)
(right) Curly maple, Pink Ivory,
Cocobolo, Kingwood
Hut's Crystal Coat



Jon Myers
Maple/ Ash
Poly



Steve Sinner
Hickory



Critique Table Cont'd



Jerry Sargeant
Cherry/ Walnut
Water Lox



Lance Zook
Curly Maple
Sanding Sealer



Lloyd Beckman
Walnut
Deft



Ron Curtis
Maple and Walnut



Jim Dayton
Walnut (above)
Cherry (below)



Vernon Hollatz
Maple/ Paduck
Poly



Warren Hadley
Choke cherry
Tung Oil



John Meyers
Walnut



Denny Hurd
Ash
Poly



Jim Brooks
Curly Redwood (above)
Black Locust (below)

Making Ornaments with Nut shells and Resin



Teresa Allen demonstrated how to cast resin around half of a nut shell to make unique ornaments and decorations. Black walnut shells seem to work best. After removing the husks, soak in water and clean well.

The next step is to actually cast the resin. Use clear polyester casting resin from Michaels's. You will need a catalyst also. Be sure to use an organic respirator and safety glasses while casting. You can use transparent dyes or acrylics to color the resin. Mix 1 oz of resin and put in a paper cup and add the nut shell. After the casting is dry, mount it on the lathe.





Use a Skew to put a tenon on each end of the casting .Then cut through the resin to the nut with a parting tool so you will have two halves. Finish the cut with a saw. Remount each half and turn to desired shape. Be sure to sand with progressively finer grades to achieve a superior finish. Wet sanding with micromesh from 220 to 600 grit works well. Teresa uses One Step finish from Penn State for the final finish.

Shop tips

Maximum safe lathe speed:

To safely turn items, here is a convenient formula. The diameter in inches of the turning times the revolutions per minute (RPM) should be in the range of 6000-9000. An example is a 10" diameter bowl should be turning no faster than 900 RPM ($10 \times 900 = 9000$). This is the upper limit, but remember that rough turning items out of balance should be a lot slower. If the piece starts to shake or vibrate very much, reduce the speed. Using the tailstock is also a good idea when first turning large or out of balance items.— Randy Nagle

Use of an optional banjo for the tool rest can make turning a platter easier.
This is from John Meyers

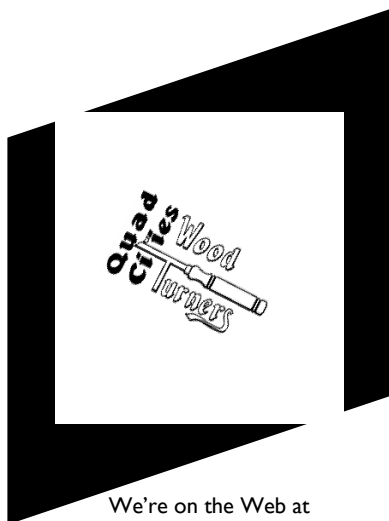
An old pair of panty hose can be used over the canister in your shop vacuum. It makes cleaning it much easier.- Jim Loula.

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Work group leaders

Critiques:	Steve Sinner
Newsletter:	Dennis Hurd Bob Mattison
Presentations:	Jerry Johanson
Library	Kelly Bissell
Fundraising	Dave Vandenboom
Photography	Tom Paulsen
Club Demos	Art Jackson

Remember to pay
your dues at this or
at the next meeting!!

Upcoming Events

February 2009

February club meeting

Tuesday, Feb 17, 6:30-9 pm
DeSoto Building,
Mentoring from 5-6 pm
Raffle, demo, regular meeting

Souper Saturday

Saturday, Feb 21
9am-4pm
DeSoto Building
More details at club meeting

March 2009

March club meeting

Tuesday, March 17, 6:30-9 pm
DeSoto Building,
Mentoring from 5-6 pm
Raffle, demo, regular meeting

April 2009

April club meeting

Tuesday, April 21, 6:30-9 pm
DeSoto Building,
Mentoring from 5-6 pm
Special guest, **David Murray**

Relay for Life, which is sponsored by the **American Cancer Society**, is looking for contributions of woodturnings to offer for sale to help with their fund raiser. The Relay for Life event will be held on **May 29, 2009** at Brady Street Stadium, Davenport. Items will be sold thorough a live auction and a silent auction . Donors should indicate a starting price on items. You may contact Gary or Tracy Kimler at 355-8548, or e-mail at kimler@genesishhealth.com