Woodturners Guild of Ontario

Interactive Online Newsletter

LOCAL AAW CHAPTER

INTERNATIONAL EDITION

Woodturner **n. A person who enjoys the art and process of shaping wood into various forms**

"ask not what your guild can do for you; ask what you can do for your guild— you get back what you put in"

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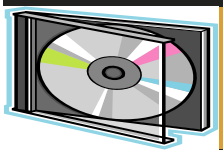

Bill Grumbine Woodturning Instruction Series

Video Review by Joe Houpt

Turned Bowls Made Easy – DVD – November 2004 2hrs, 15min $US 29.95

Bill Grumbine (www.wonderfulwood.com) is a great no nonsense teacher, but you must contend with his dry humor and selection of background music (hillbilly). This DVD is recommended for beginners and intermediate turners. It is most useful *before and after* any personal or group instruction by other teachers.
In eight sections Bill goes through the basics of safety, chain and band sawing, roughing out, his unique "where is the bottom" device, sealing, finish turning a dry bowl, finishing and buffing. The sections on sharpening and form/shape are too superficial and could have been omitted. The photography is excellent. Where this DVD really excels is his elegant description of the 4 cuts on the outside of bowls for his swept-back gouge, (shaping cuts, tangent cuts to handle tear-out, shear scraping and vertical shear scraping).

Beyond Basic Bowls – DVD – March 2006,1hr, 40min $US 29.95

Bill Grumbine's web site (www.wonderfulwood.com)is a useful compliment to his teaching DVDs expanding with his pictorial essays subjects which can not be dealt with in great detail in the DVD. With the music of Wagner in the background we are now introduced to advanced bowl techniques as he approaches the lay out for a natural edge bowl, a winged bowl, and a square bowl. He discusses the merits of the Vega Lathe (which he does not sell and the VacuuMaster Vacuum chuck which he does) and demonstrates his other unique "where is the bottom of this natural edge bowl" device. Bowl coring with the Kel McNaughton system is described, but still confusing to me as a non-user. However, his use of a groove to form a small tenon on the face of the large piece to be cored is simple and elegant. This allows the core the be grasped on the face, reversed to turn a proper tenon, reversed again for the second core. I will use this system with my 'other' coring system, as I am not yet adept at coring using only the vacuum chuck. (like Lancaster). Disappointing is the absence of 'rechucking when dry' methods for natural edge and winged bowls. Although not primarily for the beginner, this DVD is recommended for turners with skills at all levels because of Grumbine's easy-going teaching style and technique sharing.

Joe Houpt can be reached at; ***jbhoupt@sympatico.ca***

DUST COLLECTOR SYSTEM FOR WOODTURNERS

by Michael Finkelstein

DELTA 50-850A with 5 Micron Canister Filter

Up until now, I have not seen any dust collectors that can catch wood dust when turning a piece larger than 6". In most cases, the dust spread radius is too large for the standard 4" diameter intake hose, so most of the dust is not caught. I was using an old furnace blower to reduce the dust—but it still left dust-haze in front of my lathe.

So, I started looking for a proper dust collector for my woodturning shop. I searched online for background information to help me with my buying decision. A lot of helpful technical info' came from the WOWS forum (**http://thewows.com**). I also spoke with the several engineers to discuss the problem of how to best capture dust spread, and I contacted the technical design people at Delta Machinery.

I decided on the following basic criteria;

- 1½ HP Motor with impellor blade to separate wood chips
- 6" intake port
- 2 Micron Canister Filter
- A custom-designed dust hood or bellows to capture the dust spread
- Maximum height of 72" (low ceiling in my shop)
- OEM 6" diameter rubber hose (10')
- Wired for 120 Volts
- Mobile System—to move around the shop
- 2-year warranty and good service reputation

Delta 50-85A with Canister

Hood-Deflector Set-Up

My main problem was that spinning a bowl of 12" diameter or more blows dust around a full 360° and spreads outward along its diameter, so how can I catch the dust spread with a small hose? The solution is to have (1) sufficient suction power at the receiving end or hose-intake and (2) a hood-deflection device to attract and capture the dust into the hose. Basically, you let air turbulence work in your favor !

To get the maximum CFM airflow intake, I connected a 6" x 10'***** smooth rubber spiral pipe (DELTA#50-188) directly to the blower. While the machine is rated at 1200CFM, you will lose some CFM with a longer hose. I kept mine to 10' in length and estimate the CFM at 1000. The suction is almost the same at the motor as at the hood-deflector which I built (Please see page 3).

A lot of fine dust is generated when you are working through the finer grits; most of these dust particles would pass right through a standard 30 micron bag. I settled on a 2 Micron Canister filter. However, once the filter builds an initial layer of dust, it will begin to catch the smaller 1 Micron particles. (Note: this will also slowly reduce airflow, so remember to regularly clean and empty the canister.

***** *I connected 2 Delta 6" x 5' hoses together, using a 6" long strip of aluminum ducting and a 6" wire clamp.*

Woodturners Guild of Ontario Newsletter is published bi-monthly by Michael Finkelstein.

DUST COLLECTOR SYSTEM FOR WOODTURNERS

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I built a light-weight flat hood-deflector. It's a 2' x 2' sheet of 1/8" hardboard cut to a 24" circle, with a 6" square opening in the center. *The hardboard's smooth surface deflects the fine dust particles towards the turbulence created near the center opening.*

I attached it to a 6" aluminum Side Take-Off Collar (HD# 4ST06HD) and caulked around its aluminum frame. The collar is then attached to a 6" Elbow (HD# EL069026HD). The Elbow rotates, so you can easily re-position the hood assembly/hose when moving it around your lathe. All this is attached to the 6" x 10' flexible rubber hose. (see photo below) There are 6" wire clamps (HD#20637 251262) on both the collar and the 6" rubber hose.

Hood Assembly—Rear

I've been using the Delta 50-580A with Canister for 2 months and have found the only problem aside from the 95dB noise level—was my having to turn the machine on and off , at the motor. I made a remote On/Off DPST (double pole, single throw) switch using 14 gauge wire, and grounded the wall outlets. The switch and outlets are 20Amp rating. The On/Off switch is installed in the ceiling over my lathe.

(Note: always make sure that electrical work is properly wired and grounded. Test your connections for polarity and consult an electrician to check the wiring).

Hearing and respiratory protection is required when working close to the machine.

Hood Assembly , Hose & Stand

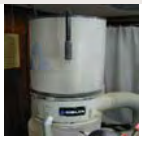
Front View

Side View

I made a mobile stand (from an old speaker stand) for the hood and hose assembly which I can move around any position near my lathe. I can keep it anywhere between 6" and 12" away from the workpiece—and it draws most of fine dust and some of the wood chips (depending on the direction of your bowl gouge).

The stand is further enough away from the lathe, that it does not interfere with the swing on my largest bowl gouge. I estimate that my set-up draws-in about 90% of the fine dust spread.

Clean the Canister



This unit is easily maintained; all that's required is to regularly clean the Canister and Motor. Blow off the motor with low pressure air to remove dust or dirt. Air pressure above 50 P.S.I. should not be used. Wear eye protection when cleaning with air pressure. To clean the canister rotate the canister-handle (its attached to internal flaps) - this will knock the dust free out of the paper pleats and into the dust bag below. Please consult the manufacturer's instruction manual.

This dust collection system has exceeded my expectations and I am satisfied with this purchase. I demonstrated the dust- suction power of this system to several turners; they were all impressed by the amount of dust spread that this machine collected, using my set-up.

Delta 50-850A in my shop
Side View

6" Intake Port

Set-up was relatively easy; follow the step-by-step assembly instructions but do not install the intake port splitter because you will be attaching a 6" rubber hose directly to the 6" wide opening on the blower.

The Delta 50-850A with Canister is available through Atlas Machinery Ltd.
Approx. price is CDN$699.00 Contact; Mike Ederman at 416.598.3553
Web; **http://atlas-machinery.com.**
Product specifications and instruction manual are online at;
http://www.deltamachinery.com/index.asp?e=136&p=4954

If you have any questions, please contact me at;
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A Homemade Vacuum Chuck — by Mike Brazeau

A Homemade Vacuum Chuck to fit in your Four Jaw Chuck

A few years back as I entered my born again phase of woodturning, with untold hours of internet browsing, I discovered the wonders of vacuum chucking. At the time I had a third hand custom-built bowl lathe with a 1 ¼" x 7 TPI headstock and only one faceplate to go with it. I had been researching making a vacuum adapter and found numerous references to home made adapters based on lamp tubing, a sealed bearing etc. similar to the E-Z adapter sold by Packard Woodworks. In the end I bought the Oneway Rotary Vacuum adapter and have not regretted it, but went ahead with making a couple of chucks. I didn't want to tie up my single faceplate, so I came up with as design to fit into my existing Oneway Stronghold chuck as well as a Oneway chuck I had. I borrowed some ideas from the lamp tube adapter to make the vacuum chuck.

The photo gives a rear view of the chuck. For a 4 ¾" diameter chuck I used an ABS Union fitting for 4" ABS drain pipe. ABS Fittings are somewhat more round than pipe and also give a true 90 degree end to work with when inserting into the backing plate. The gasket material is some white self-adhesive weather stripping, again from the hardware store. I have also used a 3" fitting for smaller bowls and vessels.

Step one is to make a tennon. I accurately band sawed a 2 3/8" diameter disk from some 5/8" plywood I had on hand. A hardwood like maple could also be used and it could actually be thinner so that it does not bottom in the jaws of the four-jaw chuck. A hole saw would also work well to cut out if you mount carefully centered on the plate. A plywood disk for the chuck was band sawed slightly oversize to allow a ½" margin (6" dia. for the larger and 4 ½" for the smaller). The tennon was centered and glued with PVA glue to the disk. I used MDF for the smaller chuck and in addition to gluing, used three recessed tapered head machine screws and nuts to fasten the tennon securely to the backing plate.

After curing overnight, I mounted the assembly in the Stronghold and trued up the outside edge of the backing plate. If you have a Jacobs chuck for your tailstock, mount a ¼" drill and drill a hole through the centre of the disk and tennon to mount the copper tubing. If not, mark the centre using

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A Homemade Vacuum Chuck—by Mike Brazeau

Continued from page 4

the tailstock center and drill carefully by hand. It is not too critical because the tubing is not turning relative to the chuck, but you do want a good seal. Next step is to cut a groove to accept the ABS fitting in the face of the disk, using a parting tool. I made it about 3/8" deep and just wide enough to accept the fitting. When completed, I cemented in the ABS fitting in the groove with lots of Silicone caulk and clamped. Next day after curing, you can mount in your four jaw chuck and reduce the length of the fitting if desired and true up the edge. Make that decision after you run it up to speed and see if there is much wobble. I used a parting tool to cut the larger fitting at the centre junction, retaining the ridge inside for strength. Use a scraper and a relatively slow speed to true up the edge. The ABS melts easily from friction and grabs easily so use light cuts frequently pulling back.

Mount a short length (approximately 2 ¼ - 2 ½ ") of ¼" copper tubing into the hole and epoxy in place. I let the tubing project about 1/8" into the chuck interior so I can put my finger over the end and check the vacuum quickly after mounting in the four jaw. A One-hole Number 2 Rubber stopper is fitted over the copper tubing and projects back through the four jaw chuck. The stopper fits into your #2 Morse tapered headstock. Obviously the tubing must be long enough for this to happen and you can adjust length according to your chuck. Make it longer and then cut to length with a tubing cutter after epoxying if you wish. Better too long than too short! In the case of the Oneway Talon chuck, the stopper will seat in the hole in the chuck body and not the lathe headstock taper. Make sure the set screws are in the body of the chuck to reduce leakage. The stopper can be positioned anywhere along the tubing as long as it inserts into the Morse taper.

At the time I had some extra stoppers I had picked up from Efston Science on Dufferin Street North in Toronto, for use on wooden Cole Jaws I had made.
Url: http://www.escience.ca/genSci/RENDER/6/1046/1107/10595.html Once you have vacuum setup, the Cole Jaws can go on the raffle table at your next guild meeting! You might also be able to beg a stopper from your kid's science teacher. Anything that provides a cushioned vacuum seal and slides over the copper tubing will work. Apply the weather stripping to the front edge as a gasket and you are ready to use. Contact cement and another other suitable cushion material such as a mouse pad or something similar will also work as a gasket.

One additional benefit is that because of the four jaw chuck's position relative to the headstock, there is lots of room for the bowl to fit over the vacuum chuck and not contact the headstock body. I have held a 14" salad bowl as well as numerous natural edge bowls on the larger chuck with no problems.

Mike Brazeau is a member of the Golden Horseshoe Club.
To see some of Mike's creations, please visit ;
The "Joy of Wood" Gallery, online at;
http://www.picturetrail.com/mikebrazeau

Mike Brazeau e-mail: mikebrazeau@canada.com

Message from
Richard Pikul, President

President's comments: September, 2006

Fall has arrived – in our part of the world it means a broad spectrum of colour for a few brief weeks in the forests of the countryside. I live in the city of Toronto and the fall colours are also abundant where I live. The city parks and streetscapes in my neighbourhood have many trees. Walking the dog during this time of year, especially through a nearby park and along the lakeshore includes a lot of colourful environmental eye candy. The leaves are changing to different hues of yellow, orange, red and rusty brown, contrasting with the green conifers. There are still some blue, white and yellow wildflowers in bloom while the earlier summer flowers (and weeds) try to propagate widely by attaching their seeds to my dog's magnetic fur coat as she dashes through the shrubbery. This year the Monarch butterflies gathered in large numbers, preparing to cross Lake Ontario on their way to Mexico for the winter. Yes, this is my favourite time of year, lawn mowing is just about over, don't have to weed the garden until next spring and the flies and mosquitoes have disappeared.

Fall in Southern Ontario is also the time of year that trees damaged by insects, disease or rot must be taken down before winter snow and ice do the job. Most of us try to keep such trees for one last summer of enjoyment before committing to their felling, even though we knew last spring that the job had to be done. Most woodturners in my area keep good mental records of trees nearby that must be felled in the near future. I am certainly in this group and obtain most of my wood for turning and fireplace within a kilometre of my home in the city, as each lot has an average of four trees more than fifty years old and the park across the street is a dense forest.

Another good source is the city of Toronto's 'log dumps' where the parks department temporarily piles the logs from trees they felled during the year. This year, the city has decided that anyone who wishes to 'harvest' portions of logs in the dumps must have a chain saw safety certificate and the appropriate safety equipment before being allowed entry. Our newsletter's editor (a log dump regular) volunteered to organize a chain saw safety course by a certified instructor so that our members who use the city's storage of logs as a source of 'free' wood could earn a certificate of competence allowing them entry to the city's yards.

One of our members, Peter Steenwyk, is an old hand at converting unwanted trees into good woodturning blanks. He has become one of our guild's most reliable sources of wood at reasonable prices. Most don't know how hard Peter works to bring us those nice blanks, ready for turning.

Here are a few pictures of Peter, hard at work.

Peter, I know it was hot that day, but even so, put your gloves on! Your skin does not count as "leather".

Nice straight cuts – he does know how to use a chainsaw.

Now for the easy part ☺, all Peter has to do is slice up the logs into turning blanks – after he goes back to get the rest of the tree. . .

CHAINSAW OPERATOR SAFETY COURSE

OCT .11th and OCT 14th, 2006

WGO has coordinated a chainsaw operator's safety course for WGO Members

Chainsaw safety is important to all of us that use or work near chainsaws. Being aware of all the safety aspects will not only help you live longer—it may save you money on insurance ! The City of Toronto recently restricted access by the public to Municipal tree recycling sites; one of the requirements for admission is for individuals to be "chainsaw operator safety approved". With our members in-mind, we arranged for a safety training course to take place on Oct.11th and Oct.14th, 2006 at; Battlefield Equipment 27 Finley Road, Brampton, ON. Details were e-mailed to members who indicated their interest to participate in the training sessions. (quote from Battlefield Equipment' course)

This course is designed to provide written, oral and practical instruction on the safe use of all types of Chainsaws. As outlined in the Occupational Health and Safety Act of Ontario, Regulations 213/91 (construction).

- **Review of Occupational Health and Safety Act and particular regulations that pertain to reg. 112**
- **Review of legislative requirements**
- **Saw inspections, including manual identification**
- **Safe operating techniques**
- **Hazard Awareness including specific worksite hazard awareness**
- **Operators responsibilities**
- **Practical section on cutting techniques**
- **Review of controls and all the safety features**
- **How to sharpen a chain and identify proper tension**
- **Written test and a practical evaluation <u>earning a certificate of training</u>**

BE PREPARED FOR THE TRAINING SESSION

I have recently two books on chainsaw safety. Whether you are new or have many years of chainsaw use experience, it's a good idea to learn all that you can about safety:

"Chain Saw and Cross Cut Saw Training Course by USDA Forest Service" designed as a course manual, the book's complete coverage of the subject makes it useful to any saw owner. It includes limbing techniques, saw maintenance, tree felling, how to avoid saw binding, etc. 68 pages— Available from Lee Valley Tools (product# 49L81.10).

"The Good Woodcutters Guide" by Dave Johnson (A Bailey's Book) is great manual for anyone who owns a chainsaw and wants to use it to its full potential. Sections include; how to choose the right chainsaw, chain and saw maintenance, safe techniques for felling, limbing and bucking, etc. 200 pages—ISBN 1-890132-15-2. Available at Amazon.ca

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IT's YOUR GUILD - BE INVOLVED !

Share your talent and learn from others at the same time.

Do you have ideas for us ?

Please tell us how you can help - e-mail me at:

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