

# Shavings

DETROIT AREA  
WOODTURNERS



December 2006

<http://www.DetroitAreaWoodturners.org>

Editor Ruby Cler

## Elections at December Meeting

The election of DAW Club officers will take place at the December Meeting. The candidates are as follows:

President – **Mike Foydel**  
1<sup>st</sup> V.P. – **Bob Daily**  
2<sup>nd</sup> V.P. **Frank Marabate**

Secretary – **Don Kessler**  
Treasurer – **John Fitzpatrick**

Bob, Frank & John currently hold the positions they are running for.

Don Kessler has stepped forward and wishes to become more active in the DAW.

Our current president, Greg Smith, has held this position since the Club was formed in 2000. We should all give Greg a big THANK YOU for the fine job he has done building and leading Detroit Area Woodturners over the past seven years.

If anyone else is interested in running for one of these positions, they should contact Ray Frase or John Fitzpatrick.

## Join the AAW!!



## November Meeting

At the November meeting, Jim Burrowes, from Ohio, demonstrated how to do eccentric turning without the use of expensive chucks. He showed how to make a handle for a corkscrew, and how to create a golf club. His demo was clear and concise. We thank Jim for taking the time and effort to come and share his knowledge with us.



**Next Meeting will be December 17th, 2006** Meeting Highlight will be Sanding and Finishing. The Detroit Area Woodturners meet at the Shelby River Bends Park, Shadbrush Nature Centre, Shelby Township, MI, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. The Park is located on Ryan Road between 21 and 22 Mile Roads opposite the Hamlin Road junction. All visitors are welcome.



# DAW Calendar of Events

The DAW meets the **third** Sunday of each month, unless adjusted for holidays, September through June. General Meetings are scheduled from 2:00 PM to 4:30 PM. Executive meetings are open to all club members:

December 17 - General meeting.  
Sanding and Finishing with Ray Frase  
January 21 - General meeting.  
February 10 - demo by Al Stirt  
February 11-12 th - Hands on workshops with Al Stirt  
February 18 - General meeting

## Upcoming Professional Demos

Taking classes and watching professionals demonstrate is a great way to improve one's level of turning and knowledge. Two great people will be in our area, for you to learn from.

**Al Stirt** will be doing a one day demonstration, on February 10th, 2007. The cost will be \$35, which includes lunch. The demonstration will be followed by two, one day hands-on workshops, February 11 and 12th. The cost is \$150. Registration information will be available at the November DAW meeting.

**Nick Cook** Will be doing a 2 day Demo December 9th and 10th at the Michigan Association of Woodturners. The Location is the shop of Dave Gordon, 10621 Milford Rd, Holly MI 48442. Cost is \$80.00. **Contact Tom Mogford at 810-629-6176 for details and to register.**

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## DAW Officers - Here to Help!

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President	Greg Smith	(248) 649-3565	gregsmith@aol.com
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Frank Marabate	(586) 247-6290	fmarabate@comcast.net
2nd Vice President	Bob Daily	(248) 373-1748	sokkerref@aol.com
Secretaries	Bill Schrodt	(586) 446-9539	wrschrodt@wowway.com
	Mike Foydel	(586)294-8777	mfoyd@comcast.net
Treasurer	John Fitzpatrick	(248) 608-6972	john-elliefitz@sbcglobal.net
Librarians	Dave Earl	(248) 544-8947	djearl@wowway.com
	Glenn Lieving	(586) 726-2856	glieving@comcast.net
Retail Chairman Editor	Dave Wiltse	(248) 625-5347	
Newsletter Editor	Ruby Cler	(519) 945-0647	rubycler@sympatico.ca
Web Master	Matt Harber	(248) 669-0712	mcharber@comcast.net
Asset Manager	Ron Sztumerski	(248) 689-5615	rsztumerski@wideopenwest.com
Mentor Chairman	Chet Bisno	(586) 254-7605	chet.bisno@honeywell.com

## Tips and Tricks

Below are a few tips and tricks to help you out in the shop. If you have any tips or tricks, send them to me and I'll include them in the next issue of our newsletter.

### Ebonizing Wood

When I'm going to ebonize a project, I start with a dark-colored wood, such as walnut. You can ebonize any wood, but a darker wood gets black more quickly.

The process of ebonizing is as easy as applying a stain. I mix up a fairly concentrated black aniline dye. I like to use a water-based dye because it's the easiest to work with and the most lightfast. Because you are putting water on the wood, you need to raise the grain first. To do this, wet the surface of the wood, and then when it's dry, lightly sand off the raised "whiskers".

To dye the wood, I mix three teaspoons of dye in a quart of hot water. Then I brush a heavy coat on the wood and let it set. Since the idea is to get the wood as dark as possible, I don't bother to wipe off the excess. In fact, you may want to apply a couple more coats. When it's dry, simply apply a finish.

Other means of darkening the wood are to use a leather dye or paint it. Experiment and find what works best for you.

### Home-made shop brushes

I use foam brushes to touch up small areas. However, it seems that I never have any when I need them.

So I make "instant" foam brushes by sticking pieces of self-adhesive foam weatherstripping on sticks made from scrap pieces of wood. For larger brushes, wrap the weatherstripping around the end of the wooden stick.

William Scott  
Raleigh, North Carolina



## Wired Wood by Frank Marabate

Here it is! The long-awaited, new, stupendous, and ultra-cool, column that you have been waiting for. No, it doesn't have anything to do with the secret listening devices in your wood pile. If you do, however, find anything that looks like a microphone and mini camera, be afraid, be very afraid. We also will not be talking about the effects of caffeine, on that bowl you just finished, so don't go pouring your morning coffee into it, unless, of course, you are testing a new finishing technique. Actually, in this new monthly column, I will bring you interesting and useful websites, tips and tricks, to help make your web crawling experience more enjoyable and maybe even more useful.

This month's recommendation is Oneway Manufacturing. Their website can be found at

[www.oneway.on.ca](http://www.oneway.on.ca)

This site, like many, is mainly designed to sell the products that Oneway Manufacturing produces, but that is not all it has to offer. By clicking on the multimedia link, which is located in the menu list across the top of the screen, a new page will appear giving you access to videos on the Easy-Core Coring System and the Wolverine Grinding Jig. There are also screen savers and wallpapers that you can download. These videos come in two versions, depending on what type of connection you use to connect to the Internet.

This makes it more convenient for those that do not have a fast connection to the Internet, a very nice touch by Oneway. Even if you do not have these products the videos are informative and interesting.

Oneway Manufacturing is also competitively priced. When I bought my Wolverine Grinding Jig I saved \$20 from what Woodcraft was selling it for and that included shipping and handling.

Well, that is all for now, let me know what you think of the videos. If you have any suggestions or ideas for my column, or if any of the above information seems to have been written in a foreign language, I can be reached at

[fmarabate@comcast.net](mailto:fmarabate@comcast.net)

Frank W. Marabate

Another great idea destroyed by the cruel hand of facts!

## Don't Forget the Meeting Door Prizes!!

Door prizes are an important part of each meeting. Members enjoy getting the prizes. The monies, from the raffle, pay for things like operating expenses. Please bring along any extra wood, tools or other items you feel you can afford to donate to our prize table.



3232 Essex  
Troy, MI 48084

Stamp



*Appreciate every single thing you have, especially your friends!.*

*Life is too short and friends are too few.*

## Member's Gallery

The photos on this page show examples of the work done by Jim Burrowes. The photo in the top right shows the size of the pieces. Jim's demonstration was highly motivating to the members. All enjoyed seeing his superb craftsmanship and hearing about how he created his works of art.

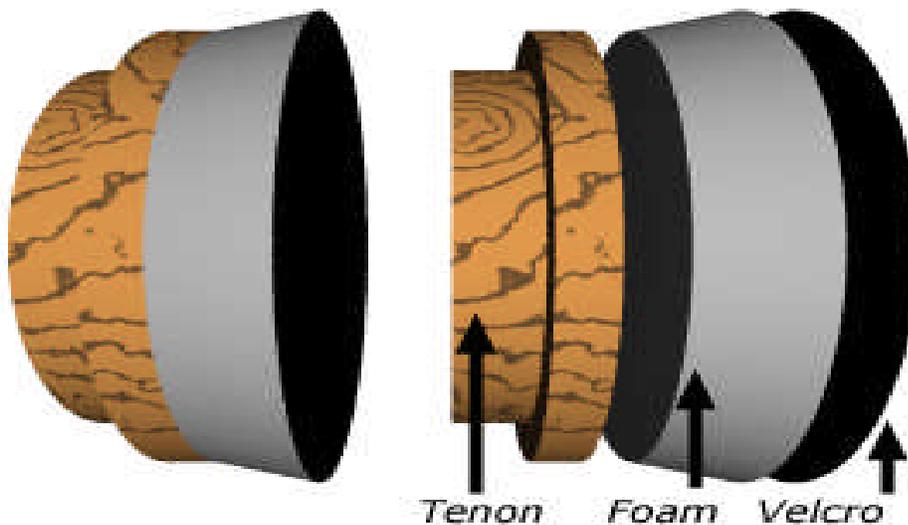


## Making A Lathe Sanding Block

Used for quickly sanding the bottoms of finished pieces

By Matt Harber

I use a sanding block to sand the simple bottom of my pieces. The block fits my scroll chuck and is constructed out of leftover scrap wood, foam, and Velcro. The foam allows the block and sandpaper to conform to the slight concavity of the work piece (vase, bowl, candlestick, goblet, etc.) bottom.



- “Simple bottom” means that the bottom is simple, slightly concave, and without adornment (grooves, feet, etc).
- The foam was purchased in a three-foot square sheet, one inch thick, from “Foam ‘N More”, at 1925 Maple Road (15 Mile) in Troy, Michigan (guess: \$18).
- The Velcro (industrial strength) was purchased as a roll from my local hardware store.
- The wood base with its tenon is turned from waste stock, usually left over from turning a vase or bowl.
- I have a block for several of my jaw sizes – so that I don’t have to change jaws to use the block.
- The foam piece is cut out from the foam sheet with a utility knife, glued to the wood block with E6000 craft glue. I also use the E6000 to glue the Velcro to the foam - I’ve had the Velcro come off.
- The Velcro is shaped (after being glued) by using 80-grit (or 100-grit) sandpaper. I’ve tried my turning tools and they tend to shred/tear the foam unsatisfactorily. Also, before gluing, rough up the foam surface a bit with sandpaper, to give the glue better purchase.
- Glues that I have tried and been unhappy/unsuccessful with: CA (superglue), 2-part epoxy (standard hardware store, Systems 3), Gorilla glue, Elmer’s glue. Rubber cement might work, too. The glue appears to need to be slightly flexible and able to take the stress. I found E6000 worked best.
- Make sure to use the hook part of the Velcro. The goal is to be able to use circular cutouts of sandpaper on the block.

How it works: Cut out circular sections of graduating grits of sheet cloth-backed sandpaper. I use 100, 150, 220, 320, and 400. I cut them out by using the sanding block as a template, drawing a circle on the sandpaper, then using shop scissors to cut the sandpaper. To sand, put the block in your scroll chuck, put the circular piece of sandpaper on it, turn on your lathe, hold your work piece firmly, and gently advance it into the sandpaper. If you push too hard you may burn your piece or sandpaper, break the sandpaper loose from the Velcro, or possibly lose control of your work piece. Then just go through the grits.

Happy sanding!