



# Apple Seeds

## *December 2012 Newsletter*

Apple Valley Wood turners  
Officers

A New Newsletter  
Assembler

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Well, against my better judgment, I've agreed to be the new assembler/writer of the newsletter. Having held this grand position in the past, you'd think I'd know better. Every month there is work to do and y'all expect it to be done in a reasonable time frame. I've already failed on the latter but promise to try and get better at it. This month is going to end up as a mish-mash of things mostly from other folks. I'll start paying better attention at meetings, maybe even coming more regularly, and try to improve the newsletter to its former glory.

## Club President's update:

### **November meeting – Turning Platters with double sided tape:**

Tom Boley (CAT member) was our guest demonstrator for the month. For those without a vacuum chuck or jumbo jaws Tom's demonstration did away with any reason not to attempt making platters. There were many helpful tips that Tom passed along to us. From Tom's comments on aligning the tape in the grain direction of the platter it was easy to see that Tom was teaching based on personal experience. I may have learned this tip on my own but perhaps not before I ended up breaking a few platters. The fact that Tom has already been down that road and shared his experience will no doubt save many of our members from snapping platters in half. Once again my heartfelt thanks to Tom for coming and demonstrating and we wish him well in his preparations to move to Kansas.

## **December Meeting – Christmas Party:**

The agenda is full and we are hopeful that everyone attending will thoroughly enjoy themselves. We will have our normal announcements, show and tell, raffle, and win one turn one portions of the meeting but additionally we will have:

- **Elections:** for 2013 club officers.
- **Ornament Exchange:** For those of you interested in challenges, the challenge for the December meeting is to turn an ornament. A timely challenge because we are also having an ornament exchange. So please come prepared with an ornament in order to participate in the exchange.
- **Open lathe mentoring:** Bring questions, projects that need assistance, tools that need sharpening, wood to turn, etc. This part of the meeting is wide open so come prepared to ask assistance from the mentors who will be there to assist you.
- **Flee market and swap meet:** Bring your item(s) in but please keep items at least somewhat related to wood, woodturning or club functions. Also we may not have enough tables to set up and display items for the market if lots of people bring things. So in order to help facilitate the logistics of the market and swap meet if any of you have folding tables that you could bring to be used by the club at the December meeting we would appreciate that. As we did in July we will have silent auction sheets available for items donated to the club. If you don't want to donate them to the club you can simply sell them out right.
- **Wood Exchange:** bring a piece of wood in to trade and hopefully you'll come home with a piece of wood that you wouldn't ordinarily have available to you. Your extra wood can be someone else's unexpected gain.
- **Catered by Castiglia:** Pizza and Lasagna Luncheon. They will provide the utensils, plates, iced tea, etc.
- **Side Dish:** Please bring a side dish or a dessert to share with your fellow members.

## **What's up with me?**

I love November, the crisp clean air, the fall foliage, the colors, the smells of Thanksgiving dinner and getting together with family. I am truly thankful for the many blessing we have living in the USA. I hope you are too. While I am on the thankful subject I want to take this opportunity to thank Mark Zimmerman, our vise president who has been an enormous help to me and the club this year, Lance Pearce who has served as secretary and George Baker our treasurer. Without their services this club could not exist. Although Doug Winters is no longer with us he deserves to be thanked for producing the club newsletter through most of this year. Big thanks in advance to the new team taking on the newsletter beginning with this issue, Tim Gregory, Mark Zimmerman, Mike Fraser, John Robinson and Stan Stocker. Finally I very much

appreciate the help and assistance the McFarland Family gives this club. Robert's shop and Stephanie's Rockler store are the perfect location and resource for this club. But they are so much more than simply a resource; they are true friends of this club and we are blessed to have them. There are many others who deserve to be thanked as well and although I cannot list you all please know that I am grateful. This is also a season that keeps me very busy on the lathe as I try and finish up all the turned Christmas gifts that I so love making. I always wish I had more time for this. I find it a joy to be able to give handmade presents. I hope you do too.

Safe turning.

Rich

## **November Demonstration**

Our presenter at the November AVW meeting was Tom Boley, owner of Red Oak Hollow Lathe Works in Loudoun County and one of the founding members of the Catoctin Area Turners club in Leesburg. Tom did an excellent demonstration of the methods he uses to turn platters using double-stick tape for mounting wood blanks to a 6-inch faceplate. In addition to showing us how the mounting methods work, Tom talked about how he uses his gouges and scrapers to shape and refine the platters, and his "giant wooden bowl gouge" was a great demo tool, allowing him to easily demonstrate bevel and angle techniques.

Tom uses 2 pieces of heavy-duty double-sided tape to attach the perfectly flat side of a rounded platter blank to the faceplate, with the tape pieces spaced equal distances from the outer edge of the faceplate and with the grain of the wood parallel to the tape. Tom warned against trying this method with lower-cost tape, or attempting to reuse the tape pieces (Stephanie has the good kind of tape for sale in the Rockler Store). Tom uses a rubber tip on his OneWay live-center to provide tailstock support for the turning piece without making a hole in the bottom of the platter.

In terms of design, Tom likes to make the foot of his platters approximately two-thirds of the overall diameter of piece, which not only looks good but also gives the platter good stability when it is sitting on a surface. He often uses a random-orbital sander to do the final flattening on the bottom of the platter, with the lathe running at a very low speed, and he'll do all of the finish sanding on the bottom before reversing the piece.

When it's time to move the platter from back to front, Tom uses a long kitchen knife to pry one edge of the platter off of the tape, inserting the knife blade between the wood and the face-plate. Then he pulls gently on the edge of the platter that's parallel to the tape in order to pry it off of the face-plate, which results in a lower likelihood of cracking the wood than if you pull from the end-grain side. But don't forget to mark a six inch circle on the bottom of the platter before you remove it from the face-plate, so you'll have an index for reattaching it to shape the top.



Tom Boley - 4 trays (cherry, ash, rosewood & maple), salad bowl oil finish, produced with double-sided tape method



Here are a few additional tips from Tom's presentation:

- [www.rubberchucky.com](http://www.rubberchucky.com) sells a very versatile chucking system that Tom uses extensively, and he showed us how he mounts one of their rubber tips on his OneWay live center to support the platter that he was turning
- Tom likes to wear a glove on his left hand, but he pointed out some of the down-sides to this technique
- Tom has found the new 40-degree bowl gouge grind useful, but he's still getting used to its performance (he uses the grinding jig made by JoHannes Michelsen -- HannesTool -- to achieve the bevel angle)
- Bifocal safety glasses are a great idea for those of us with aging eyes!
- While somewhat expensive, Tom finds the Jerry Glaser screw-chuck system to be extremely versatile (<http://www.glaserhitec.com>)

## November Meeting Info

Win-One/Turn-One: Lance Pearce won a lidded box from Bill Headly

Raffle Winners:

Inside-out turning blanks: Lance Pearce

AVW T-shirt: Bryan Witchey



Platter blank (donated by Tom Boley): Bill Headly

Sanding pads: Kenny Darr

Bench disks/cones: Evon Barvinchak

Salad bowl finish: Elvin Rose

Bottle opener kit: Rich Vossler

	
Bill Headley - bowl, natural edged, pine; lidded box, cedar (both sand-n-seal finish)	Rich Vossler - 2 plates, maple, wipe-on polyurethane finish



John Armel - bowl, spalted maple, 15 coats of paste wax finish



Don Maloney - bangles, cholla cactus, copper and stainless steel inserts



Scott Schlosser - open segmented form, bubinga & white oak, (not yet finished), demo of easy segmented template



Ken Darr – Turned mirror and threaded box. Ken used a homemade [Rose Engine](#) to create beautiful decoration on them



William Gregory – Ice cream scoop and pizza cutter. Maple and veneer handles



Mike Frazer's cardboard balls



Show & Tell items:

Daniel Sampson - bowl, Georgia coffee tree, oil finish; bowl, apple, satin finish

Mike Fraser - winged bowl, pear; open bowl, cherry burl; footed vase, alanthus (all tung oil & wax finish); ball, cardboard, polyurethane, sharp gouge test

Allen Baker - 2 bowls, walnut, shellac & lacquer finish

### **Notice:**

The Firehouse Gallery in Berryville is looking for a woodworker who makes wooden toys and might be willing to do a demonstration in the gallery during the holiday season, as part of their Saturday Art of Making Art series. If you're interested, or know of someone who might be, please contact

Kate Petranech at 540-955-1476 or [katedirectly@gmail.com](mailto:katedirectly@gmail.com).

I'll do my best to make this better next time