



TURNINGS

March 2006

WCWA, Pinelands Hobbies Club, Nursery Way, Pinelands

Internet home page www.wcwa.za.net

AWSA home page: www.awsa.org.za

Central Ohio Woodturners (Sister club to WCWA): <http://www.biosci.ohio-state.edu/~awolfe/COW/cow.html>

FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Hello to All

It is already the month of March when we must prepare for our AGM that will be held next month.

Nominations for the members of the new committee must be received by any current committee member by this coming Monday, 20th March. A new committee will be elected and will be responsible for the good running of the club for the next twelve months. Make yourself available and enjoy a wonderful opportunity, being part of a team, serving, and sharing ideas.

I would like to use this opportunity to inform members that due to work commitments I am forced to step down as both chair and as a committee member. This decision was not taken lightly.

Thanks for the good times we've shared.

Louis

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EDITORIAL

By now, many of you will have received your program and registration forms for the AWSA Congress in April that we, the WCWA, are hosting. Our thanks to all on the organising committee for the spadework they've put in, organising venues, speakers, demonstrators, catering, accommodation and the myriad of other factors that have to be thought of. Like some other members, I've not yet had the pleasure of attending a woodturning congress, so it's with much pleasure that I will be there this year. It's on our doorstep in Stellenbosch, one of the most lovely and historical settings in the country. We have demos by world-renowned turners visiting us, interesting talks on associated subjects such as wood curing, tool making and miniature turning and excellent social

opportunities to enjoy the camaraderie that is such an integral part of woodturning.

In short, do whatever it takes to

B E T H E R E ...

Don't overlook that there's a full program organised for our spouses and that they'll enjoy the social evenings just as much as us.

(While on the subject of AWSA, please don't forget that many of us still owe a R25 "agterskot" on the annual AWSA fees. Bring it along to Wednesday's meeting and give it to Hugh or deposit it directly into the club account but do let Hugh know.)

While the committee have done an enormous amount of work, there's still going to be plenty of other last minute items to organise and help with. Please contact Graeme, Dennis, Gigi, Gert, Juri, Eric or any other member of the congress organising committee to let them know how you can help. This is our baby and it's up to us to get it up and running, not just crawling.


Ken

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given of the Annual General Meeting of the Western Cape Woodturners Association, to be held on Wednesday 19th April 2006 at 19:00, at the Pinelands Hobbies Club, Nursery Way, Pinelands.

The committee hereby calls for nominations for members to serve on the committee for 2006/2007 to be submitted in writing to any committee member, **before 20th March 2006** (30 days before the AGM).

A nomination form will be found at the end of this month's newsletter.


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COMMITTEE CONTACT DETAILS

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BANKING DETAILS -

Western Cape Woodturners Association

Bank: **Peoples Bank**
Savings Account Number: **2204012882**
Branch Code: **120405**

Important Note

When making out a cheque, please make it payable to "Western Cape Woodturners Association" (And not just the initials "WCWA") It costs the club money if it's incorrect since the bank will no longer accept it.

WHAT DID THE ONE POWER STATION SAY TO THE OTHER ONE?

"SHALL WE GO OUT TONIGHT?"

A while ago, I found a most interesting handout included with a Metabo power tool I'd just bought.

Bearing in mind the likelihood of a "Winter of discontent" with many power cuts, some of us might be tempted to run tools from a petrol-powered generator. I felt it was therefore appropriate to share this article.

Even if you have no intention to use a portable generator, the principles apply equally to extension leads, so read on and thank you *Metabo* for a most informative and well-written article –

RE: Recurring Problems with Tools Powered from Power Generators

As you probably know Angle Grinders and Impact Drills are the most abused power tools. Based on history we have found that in the case of Angle Grinders the majority of burnt out machines were used by builders, plumbers and electricians using the incorrect capacity Power Generators. In our endeavour to assist you at all times we urgently need to highlight the following facts pertaining to Power Generator usage and selection. We feel that if all of us have the same facts up front, it will definitely assist in eliminating a number of arguments and potential problems regarding guarantee / warranty claims. Furthermore, it has also come to our attention that these technical facts are neither commonly known nor exclusive to Metabo products, so please feel free to use this information for all makes of power tools.

Facts regarding the use of Power Generators:

For the point of discussion let us use an Angle Grinder with a rated power as indicated on the label of the machine as 2500 Watts / 11Amps. Firstly this specification refers to the nominal rated power of the machine, which means the average power during normal continuous use. Secondly this power WILL be EXCEEDED when the machine is possibly used for functions like cutting or wall chasing by as much as an additional 50%, giving a total power of 3750 Watts required from the power source, which most industrial rated Angle Grinders are capable of handling with no problem. (The difference between Industrial and DIY Grinders!!) The problems arise when power tools are used with Power Generator Sources.

Most Power Generators are rated at Sea Level and this means that all specifications only apply at Sea level. For example they are not 100% efficient on the Highveld in Johannesburg where one has to take into account that the power factor is usually around 0.8. (80% of the rated power). In practical terms let's use the example of the Angle Grinder from above. The user requires it to do some wall chasing and it needs to run off a Power Generator. Most users would have chosen a Power Generator rated at 2,5 KW or 3KW, which is much too light for the work required! Firstly they did not take into account the compensation for being at a higher altitude or the fact that the Angle grinder actually uses more than the rated power to do certain tasks! It also needs to be noted that any Power Generator needs to be working at a max of 75% of its capacity in most applications to ensure that the



Voltage and Wattage delivered to the plug source remains constant.

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Let's use the same client's needs from the example above: 3750 Watts divided by 80% (because he is in Johannesburg) divided by 75% (optimal operation for the generator) results in a rated power required for a Power generator of 6250 Watts or 6.25KW. The first thought is OVERKILL so let's see what would have happened if the client had used a 3 KW Generator! 3000 Watts x 0.8 (power factor at altitude) = 2400 Watts and this equates to ± 11 Amps max at 220Volts that can be delivered to the plug source. Our client needs 3750 Watts = 220V x 17 Amps but the 3KW Generator can only deliver a maximum of 11 Amps at 2400 Watts so it compensates by reducing the voltage to something like 142 Volts because most units are governed by the current and not the voltage! (2400 W / 17amps = 142 Volts)

This low voltage causes a rapid and enormous increase operating temperature; about a 40% rise in temperature for every 10% drop in voltage on the armature and field coils is normal! The case in question has dropped 35% and the resulting increase in temperature is about 288% above the normal operating temperature! It stands to reason even for a non-technical person that this enormous temperature increase must cause damage. One thing it does do is to burn the insulation off the wire windings in the motor causing them to short against each other which in turn causes the motor to burn out. We are sure that you will agree with us in saying that besides this fault being an expensive repair it cannot be accepted as a claim. For your own protection please relay these facts to anyone who might use the Power Tool, as even some qualified electricians are not aware of them!

In conclusion it can be taken as a general rule of thumb that if one takes the highest rated power of all the power tools required to run off a Power Generator, multiply this rated power by 2.5 and you will get the rated power required for the Power Generator and the Machine to work safely for only ONE TOOL AT A TIME! Its logical that if

two tools must work at the same time add the two rated powers together and multiply by 2.5 etc.

Facts regarding the use of long and undersized Extension Cables:

For most Power Tools we recommend that an extension cable minimum rating of 15 amps is used (2.5mm) or better still, one of 20 amp (3.5mm) be used. Also bear in mind that as the length of the extension cable increases, so does the resistance of the cable, which results in huge voltage drops at the end where the power tools are plugged in! Oh you heard this before? YES, this leads to the same problems as detailed in the previous paragraph on undersized, underperforming Power Generators, resulting in a burnt out motor!

CHANGE IN SCHEDULED PROGRAM

At our last committee meeting it was decided for various good reasons to postpone the collaboration evening scheduled for March for the moment.

Instead, we have Thys Carstens to thank for his offer to share more of his resin techniques with us, this time concentrating on crack filling, which many of us have yet to master. Thanks Thys. We look forward to this one as much as your previous excellent talk and demo.

So our calendar for the next couple of months is

Wed 15th March 19h00 hours

Monthly meeting, Instant Gallery with Juri and Izak doing the crits, Gert's raffle in aid of club advertising and demo by Thys on resin techniques for Crack Filling. Please guys, a special memory-jogger to bring anything whatsoever that you'd like to have a chance of winning on the raffle. Wood, surplus tools, abrasives, wine, glues, that kit you always intended to use, in short whatever you can lay hands on. We're going to need all the funds we can lay hands on to publicise our forthcoming events.

Wed 22nd and 29th March Open Workshop evenings. Doors open 19h00

Wed 5th April

Open Workshop evening, (with committee meeting at 19h30).

Wed 12th April

Open Workshop evening from 19h00.

Wed 19th April

Annual General Meeting 19h00 sharp.

Election of new committee and appointment of new office bearers.

Wed 26th April
Open Workshop evening from 19h00.

Friday 28th April
Registration for AWSA Congress in Stellenbosch.
Details to follow.

Saturday 29th – Monday 1st May
The Big Event of our year, the AWSA Congress in Stellenbosch

THE MARKET PLACE

We run commercial adverts in our newsletter. If you wish to advertise, or know of a company or person who might like to advertise, please contact Hugh Scholtz or Ken Turner. Rates for an advert placed in the monthly newsletter, are R350 per annum. The adverts are rotated monthly to make it fair to all.

FOR SALE

First of all, good news from Graeme Hill about the tool handles many of us enjoy using –

“By general request I have had another batch of tubular tool handles made.

These are similar to some of those available overseas but are different in that the bore size of each end is the same. There was a write up of a similar system in a recent issue of Woodturning magazine.

Also available is a range of insert adaptors to reduce the diameter to suit different tools that you may have.

The present range have 35mm diameter handles (one 300mm and another 450mm long) with a 16mm bore at both ends; and a 16mm handle with a 10mm bore at both ends. I am able to make a 35mm handle 600mm long to order this could have bore sizes to order up to 20mm.

The advantage of these handles is that you can order un-handled tools from overseas the most popular deep fluted (bowl) gouge fits directly into the 16mm bore of the 35mm handles and larger sizes come with ground shanks that also fit. The 16mm handle is highly suitable to use with a 10mm spindle gouge. Those of you who make your own tools from high-speed tool steel will find them useful in that you do not need a handle for each tool.

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The handles are fitted with reinforced hose as a grip that is both comfortable and does not transfer heat from the use of the tools.

I am presently developing a system of boring bars and scraper holders which I hope will be available in the near future

The costs of these handles are as follows: -

35/300	35mm handle 300 mm long	each	R65
35/450	35mm handle 450 mm long	each	R75
35/600	35mm handle 600 mm long	each	R95
16/200	16 mm handle 200mm long	each	R50
	Adaptors to varying sizes	each	R40

Contact Graeme Hill, 083 2524642

Hydrowax

Is available from Eric at R50 per 5litre or R20 per 2 litre at the clubhouse.

Please don't overlook the power of our newsletter as a medium for requests, queries, conundrums or whatever.

FREE TO GOOD HOMES

Now that caught your attention didn't it?

This week I had a call from a thoughtful lady in Rondebosch, who'd recently had a Black Locust tree cut down.

I've had the opportunity of turning some of the wood from a previous trimming and it's very attractive. Good contrast between heartwood and sapwood, greenish-gold in colour and reasonably well-behaved in drying.

For those not familiar with it, its botanical name is Robinia pseudoacacia (witakasia in Afrikaans). It's a category 2 alien invader, originating from N. America. Do just bear in mind that its seeds, leaves and inner bark are toxic, so no smiling while turning ;~)

Give Claudine Souchon a ring on 6851588 for directions and to arrange a convenient time if you can use some. I believe there may be some other wood besides.

In passing, please folks, do be good ambassadors for woodturning and make sure you give benefactors like Claudine a turned piece in due course as a "thank you" for taking the trouble to contact us rather than just trashing the wood. It's to all our benefit.

It was with much reluctance (and self-control) that I had to accept that we've got a major logjam under our carport (and it's feels like it's gaining on me!)

TAILPIECE

Pedal Turners

As a follow up from last months mention of members who were planning to ride Sunday's 109 Km Argus cycle tour, I can now take great pleasure in congratulating Juri & Edward on their tandem ride; Gert, Jack Hobbs and myself for finishing comfortably and Nicholas Laidler for his excellent time. The rest of us will just make lame excuses and rationalise Nicholas's result as totally expected considering his extreme youth... nothing at all to do with fitness of course ;~)



Well done Nicholas!

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Nomination Form (WCWA Committee) 2006/2007:

I hereby nominate:
as a committee member for the Western Cape Woodturners' Association to serve for the 2006/2007 term of office.

Signed Proposer: Date

Signed Seconder: Date

Signed Nominated:..... Date

Please note that all nominations must be with a current committee member by Monday 20th March.