

# Woodturners Unlimited

Exploring the creative side of wood

**Woodturners Unlimited** is a new website that grew out of the now defunct Woodturners America in an attempt to maintain friendships formed there and carry on with the magazine style format that made that site unique. It was a site about woodturners for woodturners and WTU intends to carry that vision forward and expand upon it in an attempt to reach woodturners worldwide. Woodturners are unique in that they are a giving community willing to share their knowledge and passion. It is our goal to encourage that interaction and provide a platform where it can take place. We, of course, encourage sharing of knowledge but also encourage sharing stories of our lives and try to foster the sort of interactions that unite us and create long lasting friendships.

We are new and growing but already have a number of features to offer our members:

**Forums:** We have a number of forums where our members can discuss a variety of topics. Uploading photos is user friendly and viewing of photos within the forums is made easier through use of the HighSlide, which is an integrated slideshow program.

**Turning of the Week**, front page: Once a week a turning is selected for front page cover honors. The viewer can click on the photo and go to the original thread in the forum for information and commentary.

**Behind the Art**, front page: Once a month we publish an interview with one of our members. We often can identify a person by what they turn but usually little is known about their private life and what motivates them. The interview allows us to get to know that person and what influences them.

GENERAL INFORMATION	
	<b>Welcome to Woodturners Unlimited Forum</b> Information for visitors and new members.
	<b>Discussions About The Design and Use of This Board</b> Your participation and comments are solicited and welcomed.
MAIN FORUMS	
	<b>Events</b> Swaps, Contests, etc.
	<b>Newcomer's Club</b> A place to get acquainted. If you are new to this board, come on in and tell us who you are and a little about yourself.
	<b>Woodturning Discussion and Sharing</b> Here is where you post pictures of your work and talk about them, or just talk about anything to do with woodturning.
	<b>Off Topic Discussion</b> Anything you want to talk about. Share a little humor, or whatever. We're all mature enough to know our religion and politics are best discussed somewhere else.
	<b>Shop Talk</b> General discussion on shops and tools. Share pictures of your shop and tools. Everyone here loves tools
	<b>Other Woodworking Projects</b> Sometimes you have to do more than round to be well rounded...
	<b>Local Club Information</b> If you have an event coming up at your local club, or you just want to discuss local clubs here's the place.
	<b>Classifieds</b> The place for registered users to communicate about items they wish to buy, sell or trade. NOT FOR COMMERCIAL USE!

**Critique Team**, front page: One of our most exciting features is our critique team, currently consisting of members **Terry Scott**, **Keith Burns**, and **John Keeton**, who provide a formal critique on submitted works. The goal of the Critique Team is to provide guidance to not only the participants that submit work for critique, but also to provide a learning experience for all our viewers. This is a unique approach and something that, to the best of our knowledge, is not offered anywhere else on the web.

**Articles**, front page: We publish member written articles that share everything from turning tutorials and tools to trees and human interest stories. We believe that diversified material (ie, not all about



MOST READ ARTICLES

- WTU CRITIQUE TEAM – THE MAIDEN VOYAGE!!!
- About Woodturners Unlimited
- Sculpting Spirals on a Bowl
- Coloring Wood Using Multiple Dyes
- DESIGN AND PROPORTIONS – YOUR PATH TO IMPROVEMENT!!!
- Past Turnings of the Week
- Bitten by the turning bug?
- Behind The Art with Mike Foster
- Mesquite
- Snowshoeing

TURNING OF THE WEEK



Behind The Art



with Mike Foster

Welcome to Woodturners Unlimited !!

WTU CRITIQUE #2: Dane Fuller

The goal of the Critique Team is to provide assistance to the participants whose work is being critiqued and also to provide a learning experience for all viewers. This unique approach is something that to the best of our knowledge is not offered anywhere else on the web. We hope the following critique offers suggestions that all our readers can build upon.

Our Critique Team consists of three members: Terry Scott, Keith Burns and John Keeton. During the formulation of their critiques, each evaluator acted independently and without consulting the other evaluators. Each completed a separate critique. Please read their critiques and please do not feel that you are being judged. The critique is only a suggestion and is not a final verdict.

Persimmon, the American Ebony



I fell for persimmon my first year behind the lathe (2005) and, although tempted by other long limbed beauties, I have remained true to *Diospyros virginiana*, the American persimmon (or white ebony, as less commonly known). There is not another tree in the United States similar to persimmon, and that statement holds true from a woodturning perspective. If restricted to one source tree for all of my future wood turning, I would choose persimmon, although maple and hickory would be strong contenders.

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Build Your Own Quality Inertia Sander



Here we go, the 'hughie sander', something I have been meaning to build for a while.

Started out hunting through my steel scrap box looking for some 20mm round bar. All I could find was some 20mm sq stainless, it'll have to do. Although it does not need stainless or sq, both only add to the cost and complexity of manufacturer.

Machined 12mm spigots/tangs with the idea of making wooden handles but have since changed my mind and will make handles from stainless tube I had lying around. Lighter and stronger and allows me to do alterations if need later. More so than a wooden handle.

I also drilled the heads out to take a dual position of the sanding heads, at right angles or in line with the handle. The sanding heads are held in place by m6 [1/4"] grub or set screws, with m8 [3/8"] cap screw to hold the angle adjustment. The handle shown is about 300mm or 12" long, this will allow me to sand hollow vessels with ease, to a reasonable depth and get under the lip of most.

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Snowshoeing



Living in **Upper Peninsula of Michigan**, winters can be extremely long and boring unless you find a way to get out and enjoy it! While many up here love their snowmobiles, my wife and I prefer to escape into the woods and enjoy the peace and quiet. How? We snowshoe!

My first experience using snowshoes happened a little over ten years ago when I had to hike about a mile into a remote area to work on a large FM transmitter. A friend came with me to help haul the parts and test equipment needed to fix the transmitter and he also brought along a pair of snowshoes for me to use. Sure made hiking in 4' deep snow a heck of a lot easier!

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Coloring Wood Using Multiple Dyes



I often get asked about dying wood and what steps are needed to create layers of color. While I have posted this information in various forums in the past, it is worth publishing again.

For those of you who have yet to add color to your turnings, it is worth the effort to step outside of your comfort zone and give it a try! I remember getting to a point in my turning abilities where I liked what I was doing as far as a form but sometimes the look of finished piece was blah. After going online and seeing some of the amazing things being done with dye, I knew I had to give it a try.

[Read more...](#)

turning, tutorials or tools), offers something for every viewer.

**Photo Gallery:** Very soon we will add a photo gallery capability to our site. Testing is just about complete and our members will be able to create their own photo albums to allow the public to see some of their work.

**Swaps & Challenges:** Periodically there will be swaps and challenges set up for member participation. These were highly successful on WTA and we plan to continue the practice.

**Mobile:** With technology the way it is these days, a large portion of our members and viewers are mobile. We are doing our best to insure all our platforms work well with their devices.

We are woodturners. We invite you to come visit our site. [www.woodturnersunlimited.com](http://www.woodturnersunlimited.com)