



29 years of Art,
Craft, Technology,
and Tradition.



The Monthly newsletter of the Chicago Woodturners

January 2015

Happy New Year

Headline News

Upcoming Demonstrations

Your club is providing five full day demonstrations this year. Rich Nye has done a wonderful job of identifying professional turners who are able to spend a day with us during the year. The format will be the usual all day Saturday demonstration and then one or two day hands on instruction. So far we have:

Mark Gardner	March 7-10
Alain Mailland	June 20-24
Ashley Harwood	Sept 26-29

Marty Knapp's Demo

Marty provided an excellent demonstration at the November meeting. Please see Paul Rosen's write up on page five.

It's 2015 Pay Your Dues

Our Club is the best woodturning deal in the area. You get demos, hands on instruction with the best woodturners in the world, informative and interesting meetings a really good website and a newsletter. What a deal. Please see the article on page 4 regarding membership and PAY YOUR DUES.

Presidents Curls



**President
Al Miotke**

Welcome to 2015! I Hope that everyone had an enjoyable holiday season with family and friends and found some free time to spend at the lathe to try out the new tools I am sure many of you had on your Christmas list. The last CWT event of 2014 was our Christmas dinner and everyone appeared to enjoy the great food and conversation. With over 80 people in attendance, it was also one of our biggest holiday events. Thanks again to Marie Anderson for taking charge and making this event such a success.

In the December curls I summarized the major accomplishments that took place throughout 2014. Now it's time to look forward to 2015 and our membership should expect another exciting year based on some of the planning that is underway.

The education committee is continuing to move forward with an exciting outreach program to do demonstrations with hands on opportunities for students in local high schools. This is a great way to increase awareness of the possibilities in woodturning to our youth. Thanks to Darrell, and the rest of the committee for helping to promote our primary mission... Woodturning education. To help support this program I have applied for one of the AAW's Educational Opportunity Grants(EOG). Wish us luck! Winners will be announced this spring.

In December a board meeting was held and a number of decisions were made that will add to our opportunities for woodturning education

It was decided to increase the budget for our Library in 2015. The number and quality of books and DVD's being released each year is increasing and we want to make sure that our members have access to these educational offerings. Let's just make sure that items checked out are promptly returned the following month so other members have the opportunity to view them.

Rich Nye has been busy setting up demonstrations for 2015 and we now have 3 demonstrators confirmed. Rich and the board have agreed to fund 5 professional demonstrations for this year so the search is in process to finalize 2 additional events. These demonstrations and hands on classes are a significant benefit of CWT membership and a fantastic opportunity to learn new techniques from world class artists and educators. You don't want to miss them.

CWT will help to fund a 2nd ornamental turning seminar to be held at Normac sometime in 2015. Marie Anderson is organizing this event so stay tuned for more specific information in the coming months.

Have you heard about the Beads of Courage program? Many AAW chapters participate in this program for kids with serious illnesses. It's a great program and opportunity to bring a smile to sick child and CWT

(Continued on page 9)

It's a New Year.
Make a resolution
to support your
club

Holiday Party

Marie Anderson



This month's meeting was a holiday celebration with plenty of time for good food and conversation with good friends. President Al Miotke welcomed everyone to the meeting and offered holiday greetings. He then handed the floor over to Don McCloskey to announce the awarding of the 2014 educational grant. Don was happy to announce that there was one educational grant awarded this year and the recipient is none other than Paul Shotola. Paul will be attending a class at John C. Campbell school in 2015 and he will come back and share what he has learned at a meeting later in the year. Congrats Paul!

We had 71 people in attendance at the meeting and good times were had by all. The servers at Toscana were amazing. The food was delicious and from what I could see most everyone had a good time. We had about 85% participation in the grab bag exchange and about 15 door prize winners. There were turnings, tools, wood, cookies, tool boxes and various project "kits" that members had thoughtfully put together to exchange. I know I speak for all the ladies when I thank Deborah Hall-Reppen for the lovely scarves she brought for all the ladies.

I would also like to thank everyone who helped with the party, there are so many who stepped in to help the night of the party that I'm sure I missed many of you though your efforts made the evening special for everyone involved. Special thanks to Al & Brenda Miotke, Roger & Julie Basrak, Matt Schmitz, and of course, Dan Anderson. The team work really makes any project go so much smoother. So thank you one and all!

Here's to a very creative New Year! Marie

Editor's Note: As there was no business meeting in December, and given that our esteemed Secretary Marie made the party happen, I have decided to showcase her party report in the spot usually reserved for meeting minutes.



CWT News

Raffle

Mary Olsen and Chuck Svazas

No Raffle In December

**Save your December Raffle Ticket Funds and bring them
to the meeting in January**

January raffle items include

- 2 \$10.00 Gift Certificates
- Bowl Blanks
- Light
- Book
- Surprise Item

Membership report

Julie & Roger Basrak

As of the end of 2014, 62 members have paid their 2015 dues. Dues may be paid at the meetings or sent to our home address:

**Julie Basrak
563 W. Ruhl Rd.
Palatine, IL 60074**

Checks should be made out to "Chicago Woodturners". Thanks for your cooperation!



Ashley Harwood, who will demonstrate in September

Marty Knapp Demo at the November meeting**Paul Rosen**

Our demonstrator for November was Marty Knapp. If you see a bowl or platter with stitching on the rim sitting on the critique table, there's about a 99% chance that Marty did it. Marty was initially exposed to lacing in high school, when he worked on a leather binder. Then he forgot about it. Later as an adult, he decided to re-visit the practice, but he couldn't do it. So he went to the library and re-learned the technique.

To apply lacing to the edge of a platter or bowl, you must first start drilling holes around the perimeter of the turning. Marty uses a 1/8-inch drill bit, spacing the holes evenly, about 5/8- to 3/8-inch apart, depending upon the lace thickness. Marty lays out the hole pattern using a divider. Two pieces of lacing will go through each hole you drill. Warning: don't try lacing on a closed bowl with a small opening at the top. It's tough to get the needle in and out if the opening is too small. The lacing material comes in a variety of colors, usually on a reel. Visit your local craft store (think Hobby Lobby), which usually has a broad selection of available colors/materials. Marty cuts a 4-foot length and uses a special split metal needle with alligator jaws to capture one end of the leather. He uses Tandy leather lacing needles; he got his in Elgin. (Needles with big eyes do not work as well.) But before attachment, he uses a sharp single-edge razor blade to shim the tip of the leather. He cuts it back by about 1/4- to 3/8-inch. The split needle he uses has two prongs that act like teeth. They bite into the leather tightly, so it won't slip out as the needle goes in and out of the holes. A key trick: soften the leather with a sponge in water before attempting to cut the shim.



The stitching pattern that Marty uses repeats itself, but it uses four holes to complete each "unit" of the stitch. To the uninitiated (count me here), it looked unbelievably complex. But Marty gave us a hand-out which showed each step, with 20 pictures, in exquisite detail. You weave the needle through the holes and over/under the leather in a precise pattern. Don't make the weave too tight, or you won't be able to slide the needle/leather under an existing piece of leather. But don't make it too loose, either. Sometimes, Marty resorts to using long-nose pliers to pull the leather through a tight hole. Another tip: don't twist the leather. If you do introduce a twist, it's going to stand out. People will see it and say, "See that mistake?" So if you do see an inadvertent twist, go back and fix it. When you start to reach the end of the 4-foot length, shave a bevel on the end with a razor blade, as you did on the opposite end. Then dip the end in yellow glue and slip it beneath the weave. Once the tip is hidden, most people will never be able to find it, so the weave will look continuous to their eyes.

You may want to practice the stitch pattern before actually applying the leather to a turning. It helps to make your mistakes on a piece that doesn't count. I asked Marty how long it takes him to complete the stitching on a turning, and he said it took about 4-hours. One thing is for sure: the stitching really enhances the eye-appeal of the turning, and since so few people do it, Marty hardly needs to write his name on the bottom of the piece. We have all come to know and admire a turning by Marty Knapp. So do you have what it takes? Eyesight. Manual coordination. Patience. Perseverance. We'll be watching the display table in the coming months.



Who is TBD?

Don McCloskey

If you look at page ten in this month's newsletter you will see the monthly meeting agenda. This is the spot in your newsletter where the monthly demonstrator and gallery reviewer are posted. You will notice that after January an broadly talented turner named TBD will be doing all of the demonstrating and reviewing for the year. We really need to replace TBD with you and me.

The club needs you to show us your skill(s). Sign up to be a club demonstrator. Get a chance to show us a different aspect of the art of woodturning. We can use spindle turners, bowl turners, vase turners, segmented open and close, pen turners, ornamental turners, piercing, dying, coloring and carving. As a member and demonstrator you are an important part of the club and vital to our meetings.

If interested contact Don McCloskey mccloskey@ameritech.net.

Empty Bowls for Food

Don McCloskey

For the past eight years Chicago Wood Turners have had a positive impact on the Empty Bowls for Food charity. Last year on December 7 2013 we contributed \$1,776.00 This year over fifty members contributed over 100 hundred items. We generated \$1,953.00. Empty bowls for food raised about \$31,000 overall. That is a good donation to the food pantry. There was one young man who was so interested on a turning he keep on checking on it to make sure that his bid was the highest. He was rewarded with a segmented vase and the opportunity to feed hungry people. The Club people who set up and ran the booth were Marie Anderson, Julie Basrak, Roger Basrak, Terry McCammon and Don McCloskey.



Paying it Forward**Darrell Rader**

If your woodturning experience is anything like mine you owe a lot to a number of other turners. This may be through books, videos, demos, one-on-one or just observing their work. Part of the time it was possible to thank them, but most often that wasn't an option. So, what can we do about it? I think I'll call the answer "Paying Woodturning Forward" through CWT.

One way to pay forward is to join some part of CWT's involved cadre of people that put on our meetings, mentoring, activities, planning and support. Did you know some of our volunteers turn very little or not at all? All of us are at different levels of expertise in many different areas. But, we all have some area or technique where we would like to expand our knowledge or abilities. That is why we keep coming back, to give and to grow. All of can help somewhere.

But, what about the future? Our membership dues don't pay for the yearly overhead of our meeting place, all day demos, grants, lathes, equipment, etc? We rely on Turn-on Chicago to make up the difference. It's possible; in coming years we could lose money on TOC or find it to be something we can no longer do – what then? Also, we are going to be using some of our funds along with a hoped for grant from the AAW to purchase mini-lathes, equipment and supplies for an all day FOCUS ON THE ARTS at Highland Park High School in April. Your Education Committee hopes this will be the first of many such presentations. All of them will require people and money.

In addition to volunteering, there is another means of supporting our love of the art and craft of woodturning -- tax deductible gifts to CWT. If you are not aware, CWT is a 501 (c) (3). That means your \$25/\$35 membership fee in 2014 is a deductible item when you do your 2014 taxes. Just as important, any cash or tangible gift you give to CWT is also deductible. (The charge for hands-on days is not deductible unless you can use it as a business deduction.) Do you feel you get more or, perhaps, far more value out of the club than you pay? Consider a donation of an extra 5, 20, 50 or \$100. Some of us could possibly afford \$500 or more; no gift is too large or too small. At least one of the Carolina clubs is able to put on all of their all day demos at no charge, funded by member's tax deductible donations. You could be a part of something special like that too.

Some of us, yours truly included, will tell you CWT and the AAW have made a significant difference in our lives. What a neat way to "Pay Woodturning Forward" to 2016 and beyond, a gift of time and/or money to CWT. Wow, what a legacy! To steal a slogan from the AAW, **You Are CWT.**



Mark Gardner

Signature Style**Paul Rosen**

The Chicago Woodturners (CWT) is a group of talented and creative people. Among them is a collection of artists whose work is unique—it bears a kind of signature style. Their work stands apart from the routine bowls, platters, and pens we see every month on the critique table. To document my point, here is a listing of CWT members, in no particular order, whose work stands out.

Marie Anderson makes miniature turnings arranged in 8x10 glass picture cases (dioramas) with at least one mobile, suspended element.

Dan Anderson aka “The Box King” makes exquisite lidded boxes with inlaid inserts made of exotic hardwoods in contrasting colors.

Paul Pyrcik makes spherical turnings with inlays designed to capture miniature clock faces for display on your desktop.

Ken Staggs is a versatile turner whose styles range from honey dippers to turned boxes with ebony finials, or suspended spheres that remind us of rotating planets.

Bill Brown turns platters and bowls from a seemingly inexhaustible supply of walnut, mounted on black wrought-iron stands of his own design.

Dick Sing has authored nine books on wood turning. Dick makes everything from bowls to inlaid pocket watch cases, canted calculator bases, pens, and wooden Easter eggs in every imaginable wood species. A better teacher/presenter you will not find.

Alan Carter makes unusually creative/artistic designs based on what looks like a hollowed weed pot sawn in half and finished to perfection.

Jason Swanson is the premier turner of vertically segmented pepper mills. Do you need any Velvit Oil?

Carole Floate dips the rims of her platters/shallow bowls in a special marbling solution that confers a colorful, swirled design on the rim.

Marty Knapp owns what is perhaps the best beard in CWT (sorry, Terry). Marty turns bowls and platters and then embellishes the edges with a complex, stitched leather border.

Al Miotke is an expert in flat woodworking and segmented turning. He often embellishes the outside of his bowls with textured patterns that mimic tree bark.

Steve Sinner was an industrial arts teacher whose classic 3-foot vases bear imaginative applied patterns that range from geometric to photographic images, with gold leaf applied to the rims. Steve also markets his own brand of tool rests, boring bar systems, and steady rests.

Binh Pho specializes in turnings with multiple applied colors that are then pierced with a high-speed dental drill, forming images of dragon flies and butterflies.

Scott Barrett uses a Lindell-White ornamental lathe to produce lovely, symmetrical geometric patterns on both the inside and outside of his boxes turned in exotic hard woods.

Don Johnston makes large, exquisite platters, usually in hard maple, big enough to be the centerpiece of your holiday dining table.

Roy Lindley uses his knowledge of auto body painting to apply flawless, multi-colored finishes to the outside of his turned vases, and like Scott, produces turned boxes on the ornamental lathe.

(Continued on page 9)

Signature Style Continued**Paul Rosen***(Continued from page 8)*

Francisco Bauer was a horseman in his youth, but eventually became a machinist who makes laminated platters and bowls (some from salvaged palate wood); he also makes his own turning tools and his own wood turning lathes (3)!

Lars Stole makes serial, identical hollow forms using a boring bar and laser; he also uses a home-made strobe to freeze the apparent image of his turnings-in-progress.

Roger Basrak turns wood burls into eye-catching candy dishes and shallow bowls, some with multiple centers.

Dennis Sullivan treats his turnings by emersion in strong acid and often integrates plumbing into his artistic creations.

Don McCloskey aka Master Chief, when not soliciting for Empty Bowls or Pens for Troops, makes open segmented bowls using multiple wood species in contrasting colors.

Darrell Rader doesn't have a unique style because he produces work that's a dead ringer for pieces by Jacques Vesery or Johannes Michelsen—he's taken classes under both. But he's also made a table and a set of turned chairs for his daughter and makes noteworthy intarsia pieces for his church, when he's not busy on Saturday mornings mentoring wood turners at his home in Woodstock.

Rich Nye, Leo Durocher's favorite hurler on the '69 Cubs pitching staff, specializes in turning pens with an image of exotic tropical birds in the barrel.

My apologies in advance if your name isn't on this list. But my point here is that CWT has a top tier of creative turners whose work is both recognizable and unique—a signature style, if you will. They have extended and differentiated their work beyond the mundane. Most of them are willing to teach you how they do what they do, if you ask politely. They generously share their expertise. So I leave you with this question: What will *your* signature style be?

Editor's Note: There is also a signature style in writing. Paul Rosen's style is crisp, descriptive and accurate. If you contribute to the newsletter perhaps you too can develop a style.

President's Curls Continued*(Continued from page 2)*

would like to get involved in 2015. Scott Barrett has been researching this program and will tell us more about it at the January meeting.

Our Biennial Turn-On! Chicago is a key event that allows us to provide members with the benefits and educational activities described above. We had a successful event in 2014, but it's now time to start making plans for 2016. Our first order of business is to finalize our date and location which I hope we can do in the next few weeks. Thanks to Andy Kuby and Frank Paugura who have been working with me in our search for a facility during the past few months.

These are some of the major activities being planned for 2015 and the year is just beginning. I'm looking forward to working with everyone this year to make these and other programs a success. Think about how you would like to participate and get involved. We need your help.



2015 Meeting Agenda

Month	Gallery Review	Demonstration
January	Frank Pagura	Ken Staggs— Ornaments
February	TBD	TBD
March	TBD	TBD
April	TBD	TBD
May	TBD	TBD
June	TBD	TBD
July	TBD	TBD
August	TBD	TBD
September	TBD	TBD
October	TBD	TBD
November	TBD	TBD

Chicago Woodturners Board of Directors and Committee Chairs 2015

President	Alan Miotke	847-297-4877	alan.miotke@chamberlain.com	920 Sumac Land	Mount Prospect, IL 60066
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Tools & Equipment	Don McCloskey	847-420-6978	mccloskey@ameritech.net	2028 Gilboa Ave.	Zion, IL 60099
Safety	Lars Stole	773-244-6553	Lars.stole@me.com	1238 W. Eddy St.	Chicago, IL 60057
Set-up / Clean-up	Duane Painter	224-643-7696	duane.painter@comcast.net	25680 Lehmann blvd	Lake Villa, IL 60046
Audio & Video Co-Chair	Jerry Kuffel	847-895-1614	kuff@sbcglobal.net	532 Berkshire Ct.	Schaumburg, IL 60193
Audio & Video Co-Chair	Dawn Herndon-Charles	630-588-8431	dcharlesster@gmail.com	1545 Wiesbrook Road	Wheaton, IL 60189
Educational Committee	Darrell Rader	815-648-2197	d.rader@woodfineart.com	10703 Allendale Rd.,	Woodstock, IL 60098
Demonstrations	Rich Nye	630-406-1855	nyewoodturning@earthlink.net	40W257 Seavey Road	Batavia, IL 60510

Holiday Party 2014



President and Mrs. Miotke



The Founder of the Feast



For Sale, Trade, or Wanted

For Sale

- Delta 6" joiner, stand and mobile base
- Delta Drill press, stand and mobile base. I also have an spindle sanding accessory for the unit.
- JDS Air-Tech 2000 high efficiency air filter
- Penn State dust collection system with remote
- Inca Euro 260 band saw, used once.
- Porter cable profile sander kit
- A large assortment of Bessey parallel clamps.
- Bosch plunge router
- Woodhaven router table
- Incra jig, unopened
- Wagner HVLP spray system
- Forrest dado blade set, used once
- Many smalls too numerous to list.

Jim Titschler

[847-338-7883](tel:847-338-7883)

Jim Titschler <tsop1@me.com>

**Items of interest to woodturners for sale,
wanted, trade or free are welcome.
Non-commercial ads only, please.**

**Events of interest to woodturners are also welcome.
To place an ad, contact Terry McCammon
Terry.W.McCammon@gmail.com**

Events

AWFS Fair 2015 Woodturning Student Competition, the Association of Woodworking & Furnishings Suppliers® (AWFS®), is proud to partner with the American Association of Woodturners (AAW) to introduce the Turning to the Future competition and juried exhibit, to showcase student woodturning. The competition will be open to high school and post-secondary students in art, design, or trade programs. The finalist pieces will be on display at the AWFS Fair, July 22-25, 2015 in Las Vegas, Nevada, adjacent to the Fresh Wood student woodworking competition. The competition is open to all forms of turning, with the exception of furniture making. Projects must be at least partially made with a lathe and should be 20" or less in diameter.

All winners will receive an AAW symposium scholarship and have their work featured in the American Woodturner journal. There is no entry fee.

The entry deadline is May 1, 2015. Finalists will be on display throughout the AWFS Fair July 22-25, 2015 in Las Vegas, Nevada. Winners will be identified and announced on Friday, July 24. For more information and entry instructions, visit AWFSFair.org or call: Adria Torrez, (800) 946-2937.

Milwaukee Art Festival June 20-22, additional details will be forthcoming but for those interested Don Bureson will be displaying his basket illusion work.



Visit our website
chicagowoodturners.com

**Monthly Meetings
are held on the 2nd
Tuesday of each
month at:**

**Christian Liberty
Academy
502 W Euclid Ave
Arlington Heights,
IL
7:00-10:00 PM**

**Please join us
All are welcome.**

**Membership in the
Chicago Woodturners
is available to anyone
wishing to increase
their turning skills
through education,
discussion and
critique. Annual dues
are \$25.00 for a single
membership and
\$35.00 for a family.
Visit our website for
an application or
contact:**

Julie Basrak

**Membership
Chairman**

The Chicago Woodturners is a chapter of the American Association of Woodturners (AAW). Visit their website for more information.