



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



The Monthly newsletter of the Chicago Woodturners

January 2017

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Headline News

2017 Demonstrators Announced

Richard Nye, our stalwart demonstrations chair has outdone himself with a fine lineup of demonstrators for the new year. See page 6 for details regarding the first two.

Gallery Reviewers and Demonstrators Needed

Individuals who would like to do a gallery review or provide a demonstration are urgently needed. Your editor can tell you from experience that gallery reviewing is fun (if you have your editors' sense of humor). If you would like to demonstrate or review please let Don McCloskey know ASAP. mccloskey@ameritech.net or 847-420-6978.

The Holiday Gathering Was a Tremendous Success

The December CWT meeting as is traditional, was given over to celebration of the Holiday Season. Please see the article on page 3.

Woodturners New Year's Resolution, Learn a New Tool

Paul Rosen has provided a most interesting article on the Bedan Tool. See page 5 for the complete story.

2017 Dues

Please see Julie Basrak's membership report on page 4 for details.



Presidents Curls



**President
Al Miotke**

Start the New Year
off right with a
membership in
AAW

I hope everyone had a great holiday season with your family and friends. The holidays always seem to come and go so fast. Many of us have been busy for the last few months turning holiday gifts, but in January we return to a more normal routine. Hopefully our clubs activities for 2017 will help you achieve your goals for the year. We will kick off another year of activities at the January meeting. The last two years we decided to participate in the Beads of Courage. We will discuss that program again in January and hopefully get more donations for this worthy cause. I hope you will be able to take advantage of our first two scheduled professional turner demo and hands-on classes. Nick Agar will be with us in February and Janice Levi will visit us in April. Don't miss the biographies printed in this newsletter. Highland Park High School's Focus-On-The-Arts was a major event for us in 2015 and was a huge success. The 2017 event is approaching and based on the high interest when Roger Basrak announced it last fall, we are scheduled to do pen turning for two days on April 26 and 27. Everyone involved last time had a great time and the kids were really excited with the opportunity to make a pen. We will pass around the official sign-up sheet at the meeting. We also want to kick off the year with a past presidents challenge. I think you will all find it to be both fun and challenging so I hope you sign-up. Read the description and rules in the article from Scott Barrett in this issue. I'm looking forward to this one. We will also touch on plans for Turn-on! Chicago 2018. As you can see, we have another busy January meeting. I hope you can make it.

I had mentioned during a meeting last summer that the American Association of Woodturners (AAW) has a large on-going initiative to improve the benefits of membership called Vision 2020. Last month another one of the initiatives was launched, called Explore. It provides the ability to search a database of over 2000 past Journal articles based on author or subject. It works great and you will be surprised by the articles you will find. In addition the video database is functional and points you to hundreds of excellent educational videos. Although there is information for everyone, there is also a focus on topics for people new to turning. Check out these new features, you will be glad you did. Of course you have to be an AAW member to get access.

See you at the January meeting.

Alan J Miotke

Minutes of December 2016 Meeting

HOLIDAY PARTY 2016

In point of fact, there are no minutes for the December meeting as once again the club enjoyed a Holiday Party in lieu of our regular meeting.

This year's event was spectacular. Great food, great space, excellent grab bag items and most importantly wonderful woodturning friends and their significant others. Sixty people came out to enjoy the evening.

It was an excellent end to the year and a hopeful beginning to the new year of meetings, turnings and most of all enjoyment of our hobby.

Best Regards to Everyone and Happy New Year.

2017 Past President's Challenge

Scott Barrett

The challenge will run from January 10th and end on Tuesday May 9th. It's a rather simple challenge with a "twist". Interested participants will sign up during the January meeting or by email, (info@chicagowoodturners.com), prior to the meeting. The participants will be randomly paired with another member. The two person teams will work to create a collaborative piece. There are no specific rules other than some part of the turning must be contributed to by each person. It is not necessary to do this together. Once a concept is agreed on, one person can begin the piece then ship it to the other for completion. If it is convenient feel free to work side by side to complete the piece.

The membership will vote on the pieces at the May meeting. There will be 3 cash prizes to be divided between team members

First: \$50.00 Second: \$30.00 Third: \$20.00

This will be an opportunity to share with your fellow CWT Members and expand your turning knowledge.

If there is an interest your piece could be donated to CWT. A receipt will be provided to both individuals for a tax deduction equivalent to the value of the piece.



CWT News

Raffle

December Winners

We all won in December or at least everyone did who attended the Club Holiday party.

There was no raffle but there was a grab bag, great food and lots of fun.

Come to the meeting in January where the raffle will recommence for the new year.

Membership report

Julie and Roger Basrak

Approximately 60 club members and their friends/spouses/guests attended the December Holiday Party. This is just one of the myriad benefits of membership in our club.

Membership dues for 2017 (\$25.00 for individual or \$35.00 for family) are now due.

If you come to only 2 demonstrations in a year, the money you save will have paid for your membership. Have you mentioned Chicago Woodturners to a neighbor or friend – or invited someone to attend a meeting?

Dues may be paid in person at a meeting, or may be paid by mail by sending a check to the address below.

Checks may be sent to:

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

Thank you for your cooperation



Woodturning 102, The Bedan Tool**Paul Rosen**

I call this “Woodturning 102” because the Bedan tool is not one of the six standard woodturning tools you might learn about in Woodturning 101. In fact, many turners do not even own or use one. But the Bedan tool is quite popular in France (think Jean-Francois Escoulen) and southern Germany. It is used both as an oversized parting tool and as an alternative to a skew chisel for smoothing spindle turnings or rolling beads.

If you look at the Bedan tool on end, it isn't square. It's a trapezoid. The two points at the leading edge of the trapezoid do the cutting. (If you start cutting in the middle of the leading edge, you'll get a catch.) In side view, the tool has a 45-degree grind on it. In use, the bevel is up, and the tool tip smooths a cylinder when it is slightly less than tangent to the spindle you're turning. From the turner's viewpoint, the tool tip is near the top of the cylinder.



If you're using the Bedan tool properly, you will see a small “feather” of wood leading the cutting edge. The reward you get from the Bedan tool is a pristine, smooth finish, like the one you get from a sharp skew chisel. Oh, and there's another big benefit with the Bedan tool: it's dead simple to sharpen! How? Use a diamond hone, such as the credit card-size diamond hones you can buy inexpensively in 600 or 1200 grit. Hold the card flat on the surface of either side of the tool shaft, with your pointer finger extended for stability, and just move the card in an oval shape for 20 to 30 seconds. Do the same on the back of the tool shaft, nearest the leading edge. You don't have to press that hard. What the diamond hone is doing is making the two tips, at the left- and right-hand leading edge of the tool, exquisitely sharp. No trip to the grinder is needed. Simple.

If you've never used a Bedan tool, but think you might like to try, consider mounting a 2-inch square blank, 6-inches in length, between centers. Set your lathe speed to 1000 rpm, and try rounding the blank to a cylinder. Remember, the bevel is in the “up” position. Now try to slide the tool to the left and then the right, and make an egg shape. This is the classic way you learn how to use the Bedan tool. Try to do this for 10 minutes every day, for a month. At the end of that month, you should have pretty good control of the Bedan tool--along with about 30 eggs of improving quality. (For what it's worth, a hen's egg is about 2-1/4-inch long and 1-3/4-inch at its widest diameter, plus or minus 1/8-inch in either dimension.)



Now, a confession: I can't find my Bedan tool. For 10 days, I've looked at all four of the places I usually do my woodturning, and it's nowhere to be seen. So I've been scouring the usual sources for a replacement. What I've found is that I can get a 1/4-inch or a 3/8-inch Bedan tool, available in M2 steel. Or, at almost twice the cost, there is a 3/8-inch Bedan made of M42 high speed steel (with 10% cobalt), hardened to 68HRC and triple-tempered, for strength and durability. So for the extra money, I could get a tool that sharpens to a finer edge, and it holds that edge longer than lesser steels.

Finally, I want to direct your attention to three videos on www.youtube.com. The first is a two-part demo, given by Jean-Francois Escoulen in Japan, on how to use the Bedan tool:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bMDPE8i4LiQ>

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Woodturning 102, The Bedan Tool, Continued**Paul Rosen***(Continued from page 5)*

The second is from one of Escoulen's students, showing how he makes an egg with the Bedan tool:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7TEeHoZM9Vk>

And the third is a tutorial (about twice as long as it needs to be) that shows clearly how to use a diamond hone for sharpening a Bedan tool:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZE8yL3frowM>

**First Two 2017 Demonstrators Announced****Al Miotke****The First Two 2017 Professional Demonstrators Have Been Announced**

Thanks to the dedicated efforts of our demonstrator Chairperson, Rich Nye, our first two demonstrators for 2017 have been confirmed. It's looking to be another excellent year for learning new techniques. Below is a brief biography for our demonstrators

Nick Agar



February 25 - All day demo, \$15 to CWT members who pay in advance. \$30 for anyone at the door

February 26 – 1 day hands on class \$120 + possible material fee

Feb 27-28 – 2 day hands on class \$240 + possible material fee

If you attended Turn on Chicago last summer you probably had a chance to see Nick from the UK in action. He was one of our most popular demonstrators. He was an excellent educator and entertainer and is returning to the US in February. Now you can see him for an 8 hour demo and spend time with him. These classes are filling up fast so grab a spot while you can. Below is a segment from Nick's website.

"Nick Agar has become one of the most sought after instructors / workshop leaders and seminar presenters on the world woodturning stage. He is one of the most creative makers in the field and has an unsurpassed knowledge and understanding of the many processes that are now used in this creative medium. Specializing in surface enhancement and renowned for his wall sculptures, his award winning work often incorporates carving , airbrushing , ceramic and metal effects . Nick has inspired many woodturners with his work and has traveled across the world to demonstrate his skills"

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First Two 2017 Demonstrators Announced, Continued

Al Miotke



(Continued from page 6)

Janice Levi

April 29 - All day demo, \$15 to CWT members who pay in advance. \$30 for anyone at the door

April 30 – 1 day hands on class. 1 day hands on class \$120 + possible material fee

May 1-2 – 2 day hands on class. 2 day hands on class \$240 + possible material fee

Janice is a new demonstrator for the Chicago Woodturners but is well known within the woodturning community. She has a wide range of turning skills but her current focus is on pyrography and wearable wood jewelry. You have the opportunity to learn the techniques she has learned thru years of experimentation. Below is a summary of Janice’s work in her own words:

“I loved the idea of combining art with the functional. But, I didn’t just want to leave those beautiful wood pieces on a shelf. That is when I began to experiment with “wearable” art. I first began by making purses in several styles and through several iterations. I then added jewelry. I had seen lots of wooden disks hanging on leather straps, but I wanted to do something different. So I began to experiment. I turned hundreds of disks in varying sizes, beads in varying diameters, then began to hollow, burn, carve, pierce and paint them. Through it all, I was enamored with the wood, whether it was beautifully quilted or spalted or filled with voids and bark inclusions. Someone else’s scraps became my treasures—my art, and today, I’m wearing it.”



2016 Meeting Agenda

Month	Gallery Review	Demonstration
January	Jason Clark	Ken Staggs— Tops
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	abmiotke@comcast.net	920 Sumac Lane	Mount Prospect, IL 60066
Vice President	Don McCloskey	847-420-6978	mccloskey@ameritech.net	2028 Gilboa Ave.	Zion, IL 60099
Secretary	Marie Anderson	630-773-9182	danmar12@yahoo.com	5N181 Central	Itasca, IL 60143
Treasurer	Matthew Schmitz	847-439-6023	angelhaus@comcast.net	406 E. Noyes	Arlington Hts , IL 60005
Past President	Scott Barrett	847-420-5155	dr@bdental.net	46 Bridlewood Lane	Northbrook, IL 60062
Newsletter Editor	Terry McCammon	630-697-4900	Terry.W.McCammon@gmail.com	1715 Highland Ave	Wilmette, IL 60091
Membership	Julie Basrak	847-358-2708	cwtjulie@hotmail.com	563 West Ruhl Road	Palatine, IL 60074
Librarian	Robert Schultz	815-245-7495	grislakers@att.net	2819 South River	McHenry, IL 60051
WebMaster	Scott Barrett	847-420-5155	dr@bdental.net	46 Bridlewood Lane	Northbrook, IL 60062
Raffle Co-Chair	Mary Olson	(847) 397-1420	honeycup8@yahoo.com	2804 Mill Creek	Rolling Meadows, IL 60008
Raffle Co-Chair	Marty Knapp	847 639-2468	sueknapp918@sbeglobal.net	601 Woodbine	Fox River Grove, IL 60021
Tools & Equipment	Don McCloskey	847-420-6978	mccloskey@ameritech.net	2028 Gilboa Ave.	Zion, IL 60099
Safety	Frank Pagura	847 524-0231	fpagura@att.net	944 Wisconsin Lane	Elk Grove Village, IL 60007
Audio & Video Co-Chair	Jerry Kuffel	847-895-1614	kuff@sbeglobal.net	532 Berkshire Ct.	Schaumburg, IL 60193
Audio & Video Co-Chair	Dawn Herndon-Charles	630-588-8431	dcharlesster@gmail.com	1545 Wiesbrook	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	Batavia, IL 60510

Editor's Choice

There were no turnings critiqued at the December meeting, hence no editor's choice for this issue.

As I begin my fourth year as editor, let me thank those who contribute to the newsletter and to the membership for their forbearance.



You can agree or disagree with my choice. The fact that we live in a democracy does not change the fact that I am the editor.

For Sale, Trade, or Wanted

Belt and Disk Sander

Harbor Freight 4-inch belt and 6-inch disc sander for sale. \$25 Good Condition, five year old, light use. Contact Andy Kuby @ 847-922-8201



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

January 27, 2017 to January 28, 2017

Tennessee Association of Woodturners' 2017 Woodturning Symposium
SYMPOSIUM

Location: Franklin, TN

Dates: Friday, January 27, 2017 to Saturday, January 28, 2017

Description:

Featured demonstrators will include Nick Agar, Cynthia Garden-Gibson, Stephen Hatcher, Frank Penta, and others. Participants will have access to the instant gallery, banquet, auction, and tradeshow.

Website: <http://tnwoodturners.org/symposium>

February 25, 2017 to February 26, 2017

Idaho Artistry in Wood

EXHIBITION

Location: Boise, Idaho

Dates: Saturday, February 25, 2017 to Sunday, February 26, 2017

Description:

This yearly show provides an opportunity for artists working in wood and/or gourds to participate in a judged competition and display their outstanding creations to the public. Five woodworking clubs collaborate to make this one-of-a-kind show the largest in the Pacific Northwest. The show will include woodcarving, woodturning, fine furniture making, pyrography, intarsia, gourds, marquetry, scrolling and other wood art. Tools and materials used in creating wood and gourd art will be available for sale. In addition, there will be a vendor area, raffles, a silent auction, and demonstrations.

Website: <http://idahoartistryinwood.org>

September 15, 2017 to September 17, 2017

Turning Southern Style

SYMPOSIUM

Location: Dalton, GA

Dates: Friday, September 15, 2017 to Sunday, September 17, 2017

Description:

The Georgia Association of Woodturners (GAW) presents its annual symposium "Turning Southern Style." The event is held at the Dalton Convention Center in Dalton, GA (previously known as the Northwest Georgia Trade and Convention Center.) The event includes top notch demonstrators, a large group of vendors and a great facility.

Website: <http://gawoodturner.org>



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.