

As the Wood Turns

NEWSLETTER OF THE
CHICAGO WOODTURNERS ASSOCIATION



30 YEARS OF ART, CRAFT,
TECHNOLOGY, AND
TRADITION.

AAW | AMERICAN ASSOCIATION
OF WOODTURNERS

April Newsletter

2019

Contents

- **President's Letter**
- **Last Month's Meeting**
 - Secretary's Report
 - Membership Report
 - Raffle Winners
 - Demonstration Report
 - Gallery
- **CWT News**
 - 2019 Demonstrators
 - CWT Educational Opportunities
- **For Sale, Trade, or Wanted**
- **Reference**
 - 2019 Meeting Agendas
 - Chicago Woodturners Board of Directors & Committee Chairs 2019
 - About Us

President's Curls

April 2019

I can feel the start of Spring but nobody told the weatherman. Hopefully by the time you read this, we will be see the plants begin to poke up from the dirt and the leaves flesh out on the trees. I hope the yard work doesn't cut into your shop time too badly.



We get quite a few requests for assistance through our website, which Dave passes on to all of you through our bulk email. Last month someone wanted to trade a big walnut blank in return for the turning of a bowling ball-size sphere of walnut. Frank Pagura took the challenge. I hope he brings it in for the gallery before passing it along.

Mike Jackofsky will be demonstrating Saturday, April 13 and doing hands-on classes April 14, 15 and 16. Mike is a professional woodturner from California who specializes in making hollow vessels. Over the years Mike has created hundreds of pieces that have been displayed around the world. His Hollow-Pro™ brand tools are designed for woodturners interested in creating hollow vessels and open bowls. A good opportunity to upgrade your skillset.



The Chicago Woodturners and the AAW want to help you enrich your woodturning experience. We encourage you to get the *total turning experience* with both a chapter and AAW membership. If you are a member of Chicago Woodturners and have not been a member of AAW, I urge you to sign up for a free six-month membership. You'll get a subscription to *American Woodturner* journal, access to AAW's collection of online resources, and the 30-year online archive and index.

To get your free six-month AAW membership, sign up at <http://tiny.cc/freette> and enter the promo code **TTE500**. If you have questions about AAW or signing up, please contact AAW at 651-484-9094, 877-595-9094 (toll free U.S.) or memberservices@woodturner.org

Be sharp, be safe.

Andy Kuby, President



As the Wood Turns

www.chicagowoodturners.com

April 2019

GET A FREE SIX-MONTH AAW MEMBERSHIP

The AAW and its affiliated chapters have partnered to offer you the *total turning experience!*

If you are a **chapter member** and have **never** been an AAW member, you can join AAW for six months - **FREE**. With this special offer, you get:

- **All** AAW member benefits for six months.
- **Full access** to AAW's collection of online resources for six months, including Woodturning **FUNDamentals**.
- **Print subscription** to *American Woodturner* journal (three issues).

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WE ARE TEACHING THE WORLD TO TURN



**CHAPTER
SPECIAL!**

JOIN TODAY!

Sign up at <http://tiny.cc/freette> and enter the promo code **TTE500**. Questions? Contact us at 651-484-9094, 877-595-9094 (toll free U.S.) or send us an email at memberservices@woodturner.org.

Secretary's Report

Frank Pagura

Andy started the meeting at 7:00 PM.

1. Tonight gallery reviewer will be Rich Nye.
2. The Demo, "Inside Turning-Therming," will be by Ron Bukowy.
3. AAW News:
 - a. We have 11 signed up for the Raleigh Symposium taking advantage of the group discount; we need to send all the checks in by April 1.
 - b. Dawn Herdon-Charles and Marie Anderson will be videographers.
4. CWT Guest Demonstrator Schedule: Rich Nye explained the minor changes in the hand-on class schedules. A few of the demonstrators would like the three days of class to be considered one long class.
 - a. Mike Jackofsky, April 13-16, will do hollowing.
 - b. Priddle and Engel, June 1-4, Embellishment.
 - c. Max Brosi, July 20-23, Multiple Axis Turning.
 - d. Jacques Versey. September 7-10, Forms/Embellishment.

As the Wood Turns

www.chicagowoodturners.com

April 2019

5. Turn-On! Chicago

Al Miotke expounded on our new venue, Pheasant Run. He is looking to make good use of larger facilities. The six featured demonstrators are David Ellsworth, Mike Hosaluk, Cynthia Gibson, Chris Ramsey, Avelino Samuel, and Eric Lofstrom.

6. Upcoming Events:

a. FOCUS April 11-12, Highland Park High School, 8AM to 3PM both days. Roger Basrak needs volunteers for Wednesday set-up at 2:30 PM and maybe an additional mini.

b. Midwest Penturners Gathering, April 26-27. Mark Dreyer reported enrollment is continuing at a brisk pace; see him for additional details.

c. Ornamental Turning Symposium, April 26-28, is fully subscribed; for wait list see Scott Barrett.

7. Community Outreach:

a. Empty Bowls, December 7, 2019, see Don McCloskey.

b. Wounded Warriors Project, Don McCloskey, liaison, see him for updates

c. Beads of Courage, keep bringing in vessels. Changes are being considered with Lurie Hospital, updates shortly. Reminder: pay close attention to segmented and staved vessels to make sure they are stable.

d. Pen For Troops, Don McCloskey, ongoing.

8. Member News:

a. Website has been updated and submitted to AAW for judging. Member password was passed out.

b. Bob Schultz has resigned, so we are searching for a new librarian.

c. Turning 101, May 4 (Spindles) and May 18 (Bowls) \$60 each day.

d. John Whitehurst has a 1985 Delta 12" lathe which he would like to pass on; info will be emailed to members.

e. Mr. Todd Caldwell has donated the machinery from his father's shop. There is still an American Machinery scroll saw available for purchase. See Andy Kuby.

f. Darrell Rader has a sale this Saturday from 9 to 11 AM.

g. Tom Waicekauskas from the Illiana club announced a raffle with a May 13 drawing. See Tom for tickets.

h. Larry Fabian has a slow speed grinder (Tormek style) for sale, \$100.

9. March safety tip:

a. Dust Collection. Stressed the importance of harmful small wood dust particles. Pamphlet was passed out.

10. Membership. Stan Herman and Brenda Miotke.

a. Current membership is 168 with 71 members attended tonight's meeting.

b. Four new members were announced: Robert McCluskey from Evanston, John Holliday from Sleepy Hollow, and John Decker from Bolingbrook.

c. Four guests were recognized tonight.

11. Raffle, Sol Anfusio. See raffle report for details.

12. See Demonstrator Report for tonight's Ron Bukowy inside turning presentation.

After clean-up the meeting was adjourned at 9:40.

Respectfully submitted by Frank Pagura, Secretary

Membership

Brenda Miotke & Stan Herman

Total Members 168, Present Tonight 71

Guests include: John Decker, Bolingbrook; Sebastian Fitzpatrick, Mechesney Park; Kass Gonzalez, Mechesney Park; Robert Dewitt, Barrington

New Members include: John Holliday, Sleepy Hollow; Robert McClaskey, Evanston; Ronald King, Naperville

Winners of Craft Supply Gift Card: Jason Clark and Dave Pilkington

Winner of "Turn on Chicago" DVD: Derek Cadmus

Although you can join (or pay dues) at any time, the dues for Chicago Woodturners cover the calendar year. You may pay dues with cash or a check at any meeting: \$30 for an individual membership or \$40 for a family membership made out to Chicago Woodturners. Thank you! We look forward to seeing you at the April meeting.

Raffle Winners

Sol Aufuso

Assorted Turning Blanks	John Holiday	Chatter Tool	Earl Carpenter
Sea Urchins	Ken Staggs	Olson Bandsaw Blade	Andy Kuby
Cherry Burl	George Charek		

Collected \$145

As the Wood Turns

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April 2019

Demonstration

Therming with Ron Bukowy

Paul Rosen

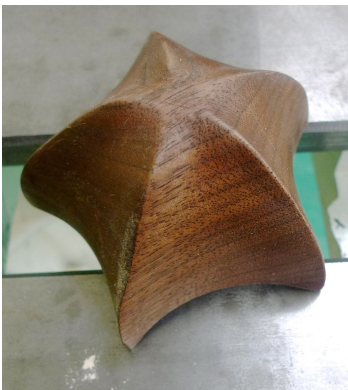


Our demonstrator for March was Dr. Ron Bukowy (the “w” is pronounced as a “v”). Instead of finishing his bowl forms with the standard smooth, round surface, Ron wanted to try something different. He wanted a scalloped appearance, with multiple facets. To make this happen, he had to devise a jig to hold his bowl blank on a plywood faceplate. Because the axis of rotation for each bowl is outside the bowl itself, Ron was invoking a centuries-old technique called “therming.” Personally, I’d never heard of this. I thought it might have

something to do with temperature manipulation. Wrong! Etymologically, the term could be a corruption of the name for the Greek god, Hermes, per speculation by author/woodturner, Mike Darlow. Statues of Hermes were often supported by turned bases using the therming process.



In the few online publications I was able to find on therming, the object being turned was typically a spindle, such as a stair baluster or table leg. The origins for the technique are unclear, but historical examples date back to



the 1700s. One possible reason for its popularity is that multiple, identical copies of a stair baluster or table leg can be made at the same time. The jig is typically a pair of disks, mounted between centers. Multiple square wood blanks can be mounted in parallel to the circumference of each disk, forming an elongated drum-like structure, with a central pole added for stability between the disks. A recent article shows 12 blanks being mounted in this fashion, each secured into three-sided keys routed like gears into the edge of each laminated plywood disk. The blanks are held in place by a

central screw plus hose clamps at each end. With the lathe turned on, small arcs are cut into the spinning drum, using a “story stick” for guidance. After the initial pattern is completed on one surface of the spindle, each blank is rotated 90 degrees, and a second, identical pattern of arcs is turned. The process is repeated two more times, so the pattern of arcs is replicated on all four surfaces of the spindle. The advantage? Probably speed. A production turner could produce more balusters in a shorter period of time by therming, vs. having to turn each baluster individually. Therming has also been called drum turning, barrel turning, and angular turning.



Ron’s approach was unlike anything I was able to find in the published literature, although he did mention a French turner, Gerard Bidou, whose book on therming is no longer available on Amazon. Ron wanted to find a way to decorate the outside of shallow end-grain bowls with four, five, or six arcs. Ron has applied the therming technique to an



ad hoc faceplate. He started with a 15-1/2-inch disk of 3/4-inch plywood, divided into four quadrants. Four 5/16-inch radial slots were routed through the disk at 90-degree intervals, starting at about 3-inches from the center, but stopping perhaps 1-inch before hitting the circumference of the disk. The two sides of each slot were reinforced with 1/16-inch rectangular metal inserts, 4-inches in length by 5/8-inch wide, screwed to the back of the disk. A pair of 5/16-inch diameter hex bolts were positioned in each slot. A small (3-inch?) metal faceplate was centered and screwed to the back side of the 15-1/2-inch disk. To the tailstock side of the

plywood, Ron installed a laminated (double-layer) of 2x6s, which means the jig can accommodate small bowls up to 3-inches in height. A central core, 3-inches in diameter, was excised from the 2x6 lamination.

While the original disk (perhaps a prototype?) has four routed slots in it, there may actually be six routed slots in the assembled jig shown in the pictures. At 120-degree intervals, Ron made three cutouts in the 2x6s to accommodate three small bowl blanks



(about 5-inches in diameter) with four, five, and six sides. The 2x6s were then firmly attached to the faceplate using T-nuts and 5/16-inch hex bolts.

I know this sounds confusing. But Ron's jig gives him the capability to cut arcs on either the interior (concave) or exterior (convex) surfaces of his four or six-sided polygons. It's ingenious. Ron

cautioned that after the first surface is done, each bowl blank must be rotated to prepare for the next arc. To minimize tearout, always rotate the blank clockwise. This technique gives a clean, crisp edge at the intersection of adjacent arcs. The only problem comes after the final arc is cut; that final edge may require manual sanding.

To make the arcs as clean as possible, Ron starts with an Easy Wood Hollower (carbide tipped), followed by a curved scraper, and finally a Tracy Owen fine finishing tool (half-moon profile), in that order, with the lathe running at 500 to 600 rpm. From the



audience, Mark Jundanian suggested that in his experience, a negative-rake carbide scraper might also help to reduce tearout. On a hexagonal bowl, Ron has the option to make all the arcs concave, all convex, or alternating between concave and convex. That's because with his jig, the internal arc (nearest the center of the jig) will be concave, whereas the external arc (at the outside diameter of the jig) will be convex.

Once the arcs are cut on the exterior surfaces of the bowl blank, Ron must hollow out the bowl center. To do this, he installs a glue-block on the base of the turning and turns the

glue block down to a diameter that can be gripped by his scroll chuck. Now the inside of the bowl multi-faceted bowl can be hollowed out in the conventional fashion.

Ron concluded by suggesting that we, as woodturners, are bonded by three common traits. One, we love wood. Two, we love to work with our hands. And three, it is part of our human nature to be creative, but the constraints of modern life often impede creativity. Fortunately, woodturning allows us to exercise our pent up creative juices. I think you'll agree that Ron's solution was indeed creative, as well as aesthetically pleasing and thought-provoking. I'll close now. I've got to go out and buy a piece of 3/4-inch plywood, a 2x6, and some 5/16-inch T-nuts.

Gallery

Jason Clark



1) Oak tree covered in burls. The couple who owned the tree thought it had been standing dead for at least a couple of years. Much of the tree was hollow and far too rotten to be usable but free is free.



2) You know you're in for a good time when you cut open a piece of wood and see this figure on the inside. Some rot on the outside required the burl to be turned down quite a bit to get to solid wood.

3) Roughing out the outside of the bowl. A tenon is formed and the outside is shaped. All of the cuts go from the foot of the bowl towards the rim.



4) Ready to core a smaller bowl from the inside. With wood this nice it would be a crime to turn the inside of the bowl into shavings.



5) Roughed out and ready to dry. The bowl was left approximately 10% of the diameter (15" diameter = 1.5" wall thickness).



6) I let the bowl dry slowly for approximately 3 months (Mid November - Mid February). I would typically let a bowl like this dry for at least a year but I got impatient. The bowl was remounted on the lathe, the tenon and the outside trued up, then the inside turned to final thickness (thicker at the rim, and then undercut on the inside to reduce the wall thickness and weight). The entire bowl is then sanded inside and out. Lastly the tenon was removed.

7) Finished bowl as displayed at the March CWT meeting. My impatience resulted in some warping as the bowl continued to dry after I had finish turned it. If I had it to do over again, I would have let it dry for the full 12 months, but I'm still happy with the overall results. It's tough to be disappointed with wood like this.



CWT News

Chicago Woodturners 2019 Demonstrators

Mike Jackofsky, April 13-16 www.mikejackofsky.com

Mike Jackofsky is a professional woodturner from southern California who specializes in making hollow vessels. Over the years Mike has created hundreds of pieces that have been displayed in galleries and museums around the world. His Hollow-Pro™ brand tools are specially designed for woodturners interested in creating hollow vessels and open bowls. Mike is a well known teacher and workshop facilitator and has produced a two-DVD instructional video.

Mike's work is represented in many private collections around the world and is on display in the permanent collections of the Sam Maloof Historical Residence Museum in Alta Loma, CA, the Mingei International Museum in San Diego, CA, and the AAW collection in Minneapolis, MN. In 2011, Mike released his first tutorial DVD, a two-disc set titled, "Woodturning with Mike Jackofsky: Making a Hollow Vessel," and his Hollow-Pro™ Tools have become very popular with hollow vessel turners around the world.



Mike lives north of San Diego and is a graduate of Georgetown University and the University of San Diego School of Law. He conducts workshops, demonstrations, and classes at woodworking clubs in the U.S. and Canada, including five-day classes at Craft Supplies' Dale Nish School of Woodturning and private classes at his studio.

Graeme Priddle and Melissa Engler, June 1-4, www.graemepriiddle.com and www.melissaengler.com

Graeme Priddle has over 20 years experience in the woodworking field, best known for his sculptural turnings/carvings reflecting his life and environments in Northland, New Zealand. He has won numerous awards for his work, which has been exhibited widely in New Zealand, UK, Japan, Taiwan, France, Germany, U.S. and Canada.

Melissa Engler is a woodworker/sculptor based in Asheville, NC. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in sculpture from the University of North Carolina at Asheville and is a graduate of the Haywood Community College Professional Crafts Program in furniture. Melissa's work has been featured in *Carolina Home + Garden*, *WNC Magazine*, *Woodwork Magazine* and



American Craft and is held in private collections across the U.S. She teaches nationally and internationally with her partner and fellow wood-sculptor Graeme Priddle.

Graeme and Melissa work at Grovewood Studios in Asheville and are represented by Grovewood Gallery (NC), Penland Gallery (NC), Green Hill Center for Art (NC), and The Gallery at Flat Rock (NC).

Max Brosi, July 20-23, www.facebook.com/maxbrosiwoodturning

Max Brosi's work is in a constant state of evolution towards a more raw, honest, and calm aesthetic. Everything is in a state of transience, wood warps, metal corrodes. The result of these natural processes is a heightened aesthetic character in the material. The static becomes dynamic, the perfect becomes imperfect.

Many years of working with wood has taught Brosi to design movement into his work by utilizing the natural tendency of wet oak to warp as it dries. Sandblasting reveals the hidden three-dimensional texture of the grain and rays. He uses simple geometric forms like cylinders and spheres, frequently turned over several axes on the lathe, to explore a visual concept and tell a story. This story can be a social or political commentary, or often just a simple exploration of form. The distortion and texture of the warped wood breathe life into the starkness of geometric form and soften the brutality of cold, rusty steel. This tension between materials excites Max.

Brosi was born in Germany before later moving to Ireland to pursue a career in furniture making and woodturning. He graduated from Furniture Design and Manufacture, The Furniture College, Letterfrack, Co. Galway in 2006 and is based in northwest Ireland.



Jacques Vesery, September 7-10, www.jacquesvesery.com

Jacques Vesery, an Artist/Sculptor from Damariscotta, has lived in Maine for 20 years. Striving to create an illusion of reality, his vision and inspiration begin with repetitive patterns derived from the “golden mean” or “divine proportions”. The marriage of pattern, form and proportion conveys a sense of growth from within each piece.



His work is in numerous public and private collections including the Detroit Institute of Art, the Contemporary Art Museum of Honolulu, Yale University Art Gallery and The Carnegie Museum. He is a Maine Arts Commission Fellow for 2000 and winner of Sculptural Pursuit Third Annual Sculpture Competition in 2006.

Jacques has lectured on design and concepts within his work in France, Italy, England, Canada, New Zealand, Australia and 28 U.S. states at such locations as Journees Mondiales du Tournage D'art Sur Bois Congres, Loughborough University, Anderson Ranch, `Aha Hana Lima-Hawaii and Haystack Mt. School.

He has been included in over 20 publications including "100 Artists of New England, Scratching the Surface, Wood Art Today, Natured Transformed and New Masters of Woodturning.

Woodturning Education Opportunities

As part of our partnership with the Chicago School of Woodworking, a few CWT members are teaching classes at the school. If you are interested, you can learn more by visiting the school's website at www.chicagowoodworking.com. Below are classes that have already

As the Wood Turns

started or even concluded, but they provide an indication of the offerings that CWT's new venue will feature.

9-week Beginner Turning class starting on March 18 – Instructor Clint Stevens

9-week Intermediate Turning class starting on March 20 and 21 – Instructors Clint Stevens and Andy Kuby

2-day Segmenting seminar starting on March 23 – Instructor Al Miotke

1-day multi-axis box seminar on May 19 – Instructor Andy Kuby

There are still openings for the CWT sponsored class on Spindle turning on May 4 and Bowl turning on May 18. These classes are filling up. If you have not yet registered, please sign-up at the April Meeting or contact Matt Schmitz at angelhaus@comcast.net.

Time is also running out to sign up for the Mike Jackofsky demonstration on hollowing techniques on April 13. Don't forget that the cost at the door is \$30 compared the CWT member discount rate of \$20 if you sign up in advance. Space is still available for the hands-on classes April 14-16. Last chance to sign up is the April Meeting or contact Matt Schmitz at angelhaus@comcast.net

Other professional demonstrators coming this year are: Embellishment with Graeme Priddle and Melissa Engler - June 1-4; Multi-axis turning with Max Brosi - July 20-23; Study Form and Embellishment with Jacques Vessery – Sept 7-10.

Ohio Valley Woodturning Guild's Turning Symposium

The Ohio Valley Woodturning Guild is hosting its Turning Symposium on October 18-20 in Southeastern Indiana. It's up to three days of informative and entertaining demonstrations, a wide variety of vendors, a delicious banquet, silent and live auctions, an instant gallery and lots of fellowship with old and new friends.

On the program are 11 rotations with five action stations, giving 55 options to see and learn a range of approaches and techniques from renowned professionals and talented guest demonstrators. All demos will be 90 minutes long. There will be topics for all levels of turning skill.

A large menu of registration options are offered along with symposium entry for all three days or any one of the days. On site lodging options include the lodge, dorms, and a camp site suitable for RV's. Affordable hotels are nearby.

Register early if you desire to stay on site at the lodge, which features 40 rooms with two beds each. The lodge fills up quickly, and there are just a few rooms left. When sharing a room with a friend, one person should register for a lodge room, pay the entire cost, and the other person can reimburse for his or her share of the room cost outside of the registration system.

Visit ohiosymposium.com for full details about the event as well as an informative video. Once there, click on the “register” button to find all the registrations options and prices.

We look forward to seeing you at Turning 2019!!

John Albachte and KC Kendall, Turning 2019 Co-Chairmen

For Sale, Trade, or Wanted

Magnetic Lathe Lights. A limited number of Magnetic Lathe Lights, similar to the ones on all of the Chicago Woodturners demonstration lathes, are available for \$40 each. Contact Andrew Kuby, 847-922-8201 or riverwoodsturner@gmail.com.



I have a 6” fine dado set for sale. It is carbide tipped and has 5 chippers to cut dados from $\frac{1}{8}$ ” up to $1\frac{1}{8}$ ”. Shims are included. It is in excellent condition. My new SawStop won’t accept a 6” dado. The cost new was about \$150. Asking \$75. Contact Wayne Bernahl at w.bern@sbcglobal.net if interested.

Chicago Woodturners Board of Directors and Committee Chairs 2019			
President	Andy Kuby	847-922-8201	riverwoodsturner@gmail.com
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Audio-Video Co-Chair	Jerry Kuffel	847-895-1614	tokuffe@gmail.com
Audio-Video Co-Chair	Dawn Herndon-Charles	630-588-8431	dcharlesster@gmail.com
Education	Darrell Rader	815-648-2197	d.rader@woodfineart.com
Demonstrations	Rich Nye	630-406-1855	nyewoodturning@earthlink.net



About Us

Membership in the Chicago Woodturners Association is open to all wishing to increase their turning skills through education, discussion and critique. Dues are \$30 for a single membership and \$40 for a family. Visit our website for an application. Meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, 7:00-10:00 PM at Christian Liberty Academy, 502 W. Euclid Ave., Arlington Heights, IL. Please join us. All are welcome.

Chicago Woodturners is a chapter of the American Association of Woodturners. Visit the [website](#) for more information.

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