



AS THE WOOD TURNS

The Newsletter of the Chicago Woodturners Club



Volume 7, Issue 5

May 2007

May 8th Club Demo

Jim Wickersham

Demonstrates Segmented Turning



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CWT Meeting 7 PM

2nd Tuesday

Woodcraft Supply Store

**1280 E. Dundee Rd,
Palatine IL**

Mark St. Leger

Demonstration Pieces



As The Wood Turns

The official newsletter of the Chicago Woodturners Club (CWTC) is published monthly by and for its membership. Membership in the AAW is encouraged but not mandatory. Dues in the AAW are \$40 per year for an individual.

Members Gallery



Glenn McMurray and his daughter Katie share their insights on woodturning and its art.



Bill Johnson
Maple & Walnut
Open Segmented Vase



Brad Smith
Walnut Bowl



Brad Smith
Walnut Platter



Andy Kuby
Road Kill Weed Pot



Dick Mac Feely
"Burl In Orbit"
Big Leaf Maple/ Walnut



Josh Connan
Airbrushed, turned
and carved form



Fran Islin
Maple Acorn



John Bobik
Butternut Bowl



Jerry Chapala
Myrtle Vase



Jerry Chapala
Oak Platter



Rich Fitch
Oak Prairie Grass Vase

Members Gallery



John Eslinger
Box Elder "See the Heart" Vase



John Eslinger
Big Leaf Maple Bowl



John Eslinger
Box Elder Bowl



Dan Anderson
Walnut -Apple
Blackwood-Eucalyptus
Locust- Paduk Boxes



Ken Staggs
Acrylic Needle Box



Ken Staggs
Walnut Bowl



Paul Shotola
Box created in
Mark St. Leger Class



Bill Brown
Myrtle Bowl



Bill Brown
Maple Bowl



Bill Brown
Oak Bowl



Bill Brown
Walnut Bowl

Andy Kuby Chairman

Current Membership
177

78 Attended April Meeting

New Members: Mark Hamester, Chicago, Illinois

Eric Cutbirth, Renton, Washington

Hugh Pearl, Sleepy Hollow, Illinois

Visitors: Jeff Bibik, Chicago, Illinois

Tim Feeley, Woodstock, Illinois

Kate McMurray, Batavia, Illinois

Past President's Challenge for May, 2007

- Challenge subject: "A Foot or So"
- A board foot, a foot long or how do you measure a foot.
- Rules: no rules, just be inspired by the subject.
- One entry per person, please.
- Cash prizes, winners determined by popular vote

Judging at our May meeting

Curls from the President's Platter



As a woodturner, you probably spend a great many hours alone in your shop, a slave to the lathe, like me. Hours well spent, in my opinion. Most evenings, I enjoy my solitude, and most evenings, I think my wife also enjoys my solitude. I also receive, to my mailman's spinal distress, about a hundred woodworking magazines a month. I access the wood sites on the internet, too, so I feel that I keep myself pretty well informed on the latest tools and techniques. You're probably much the same.

But you and I have an edge, a special tool we can use for nearly every situation. Always a bargain, and never needs sharpening. Using it more often keeps its edge keen and the rust off. We're pretty lucky, because a lot of folks either don't have this special tool or don't even realize that it's available. What's the edge? It's the network of other turners and craftsmen in the world, available through the Chicago Woodturners. Our fellow club members provide the human interaction that helps us improve our work. We can toil alone in the shop forever, but never improve. We can make the same pieces over and over again and never improve the shape or apply a better finish. We can use the same inefficient techniques till the end of our days, and start sanding with #2 grit paper every time. That bowl that's a "little heavy in the bottom" can become a trademark piece if you're not careful. A little interaction with our fellow club members can eliminate the frustration and help us move to the next level in our work.

Bring your next piece to the May meeting. Put it on the review table. More importantly, take a close look at the other work there. See a turning you really like? You will. Find the artist and ask about it. Introduce yourself, and become part of the network. You'll find that turners are willing to share their techniques, unlike so many other crafts. There are no trade secrets to wood turners. There are no "dumb questions", and no evasive answers among the turning community. You'll learn a little bit, maybe enough to start with #6 or #8 sandpaper, and best of all, make a new friend and become part of the network that makes the turning world and the CWT so special.

Until May, enjoy your solitude in the shop, enjoy your friends in the turning world, and please turn safely.

Paul Shotola

Progress on Planning a Regional Symposium

As most of you know, over the last several months we have been evaluating the feasibility of hosting a regional wood-turning symposium in 2008. After much investigation and evaluation of potential venues, demonstrators and financial considerations, the CWT board of directors has voted unanimously that we should recommend to the members that we go forward with this process. Therefore, as discussed in last months meeting, we will be presenting the details of this effort to the members at the May 8th meeting for your review and vote.

We have been extremely fortunate in filling all of the chairperson’s positions, with some of the most qualified people in our club. The people who have agreed to accept chairperson positions are:

- Demonstration Chairperson Marie Anderson
- Facilities Chairperson..... Jan Shotola
- Trade Show Chairperson Bob Fernstrom
- Instant Gallery ChairpersonCarole Floate
- Auctions Chairperson..... Paul Pyrcik
- Publicity and Advertising ChairpersonPaul Shotola
- Budgets and Finance ChairpersonPhil Brooks

In addition to the chairpersons listed we have over 20 people signed up to work on these committees. However there is still room for you to pick your favorite committee and help make this event a success.

Remember to mark your calendar for May 8th to attend the meeting, hear our plan and make your vote count. See you then.

Phil Brooks

Vice-President

Meeting Demonstrations

May 8

Elements of Segmented Turning

Jim Wickersham

Gallery Reviews:

May 8

Pixie Eslinger

Josh Connan

April Meeting Demonstrator



Minutes of the Chicago Woodturners Club Meeting on April 10, 2007

President Paul Shotola opened the meeting at 7:00 pm. Safety notes and house rules were noted.

Be sure to attend the May meeting for a presentation and vote on a proposed CWT Regional Woodturning Symposium in July 2008.

The guest demonstrator for April is **Michael Mocho** from Albuquerque, NM on April 21.

There also one opening in his hands-on class. Contact Jan Shotola.

Collaborative Challenge for 2007: The CWT Collaborative Project design is complete. Items that need to be turned are shown and a sign-up sheet for those items is there. All completed pieces must be turned in by the May meeting.

Membership: 3 additional new members joined at this meeting and we had 3 visitors. Welcome to all! Membership is currently 182.

Past Presidents Challenge: A Foot. Entries are due at the May meeting

The **raffle** this week included vintage CWT T-shirts, Mini turning tool set, Binh Pho's book, emergency lights, and pen turning blanks.

The gallery was reviewed by Kate and Glen McMurray.

The demonstration was by Josh Connan. Josh showed his techniques of his unique pieces, including burning, carving, and the use of color and texturing. Not mention patience and perseverance.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Cavanagh

CLEAN-UP VOLUNTEERS FOR MAY
Clint Stevens
Bob Landay
Carl Miller

So You Think You Know the Chicago Woodturners?!

The current-day Chicago Woodturners is a club that counts over 200 members. Test your knowledge of some of our more noteworthy members by filling in the name of the turner following these brief clues.

- 1) A past President of the Chicago Woodturners, this man is noted for his exquisite turned boxes with inlaid, “piston fit” tops. Some of his most recent turned boxes are so well disguised that one cannot always tell the top from the bottom.
- 2) This woodturner wore a bright green Irish top hat on St. Patrick’s day and has been writing the meeting minutes for the newsletter and manning the live camera during meetings. One might say he wears many hats.
- 3) When not driving his motorcycle, this turner has volunteered his time and skill to revise and maintain the club website, www.chicagowoodturners.org.
- 4) This mother of two is noted for her miniature turnings and bringing woodturning to school children, where she has been known to turn vegetables such as carrots and potatoes to spark the imagination and interest of the next generation of woodturners.
- 5) This globe-trotting turner appears as the resident expert on woodturning in a CD subscription magazine called “*Woodworking at Home*.” He has authored nine books on woodturning including how to make turned pens and miniature birdhouses. Noted for carrying a 6-inch metal rule in his pocket, a holdover from his days in the automobile industry, he has also designed special long-nosed jaws for holding wood blanks in a Vicmarc chuck. Hint: he enjoys turning in Australia.
- 6) A former airline pilot now retired, this past President of the Chicago Woodturners once showed us how to use a sharpened garden shovel to do woodturning. Did I mention that he volunteers his farm every year to host the club picnic?
- 7) This turner is taller than most of us. He is a former entertainer who played bass in a three-piece rock band employed by a group of motorcycle enthusiasts (notice I didn’t say it was a “motorcycle gang”). Hint: he likes to read from a clip-board while wearing a baseball cap at meetings.
- 8) Commuting every month from Iowa, this world-class turner and author is noted for his large, exquisitely finished vases adorned with a gold leaf rim and applied decorations that take untold hours to complete. He has also shown us how to make delicate, thin-rimmed goblets with piercings that are actually mosaic pictures in disguise
- 9) Another world-class tuner and author, this man specializes in imaginative pieces that are frequently pierced with a high-speed dental drill and painted in multiple colors. Hint: his broad range of contacts in woodturning, along with his engaging personality, help him to attract many of the demonstrators who appear on selected Saturdays, followed by two day “hands on” courses.
- 10) She is known for turning and teaching. Her demonstrations on marbling have helped us understand how to apply multi-colored finishes on the rims of bowls that she turns. Hint: She also teaches “Woodturning for Women” classes at Woodcraft.

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11) His friends call him “Chief” to honor his service in the U.S. Navy, but this turner is often seen with digital camera in hand to record events during meetings and demonstrations, so they can appear in the club newsletter that he edits.

12) This turner, who helped to bring his friend Jean Francois Escoulen to a club demonstration, has given us instruction on how to make trembleurs and edge-treatments on bowls. The author of an article on avoiding plagerism in woodturning, this multi-faceted turner and his daughter Kate recently gave a shared gallery critique.

13) The founding President of the Chicago Woodturners, this former electrical worker is noted for his large turned bowls with a trademark pointed foot.

14) A cabinetmaker by trade, this turner specializes in making large platters. He also had his recipe for creating spalted wood published in the AAW magazine.

15) This former pilot of F-4’s from the Viet Nam conflict is noted for his creative approach to woodturning. When not etching his pieces in strong acid, this turner has been known to employ plumbing in his non-functional bowls (they’ll never hold water).

16) When not involved in fund-raising, this talented turner has shown us how to use multi-center turning to make multiple bowls in a single log. He has provided gallery critiques in the past and also served as a past club Vice-President.

17) She and her husband commute from McHenry County to attend club meetings. She gave a demonstration on how to make threads in threaded boxes using a Bonnie Klein-type jig.

18) This turner has volunteered his time to represent the Chicago Woodturners in the woodturning booth at The Woodworking Shows at the Odeum. He recently presented a Powerpoint demonstration on “Woodturning Safety” and a live demonstration on “How to Make Spinning Tops on the Lathe.”

19) This turner is in his 80’s, but he still contributes turned bowls, candlesticks, and light-houses to the critique table.

20) A Professor at Northwestern University and noted authority on tax law, this turner has had exhibitions of his work placed in local libraries and institutions of higher learning.

21) An architect by trade, this mustachioed turner usually stands quietly in the back of the room, simply because he is the Membership Chairman. Can you find your name on his sticker list?

Answers page 11

2007 Guest Demonstrator Schedule

Marilyn Campbell: Turner and sculptor from Canada.

- *Club demonstration: September 8.*
- *Hands-on class: September 10-11. \$200.00*

Hans Weissflog, AAW demonstrator from Germany.

- *Club demonstration: October 28.*
- *Hands-on class: October 26. \$110.00*

Quiz Solution

How many Chicago Woodturners could you identify correctly?

- | | |
|----------|---------------------------|
| 0 to 5 | Apprentice |
| 6 to 10 | Journeyman |
| 11 to 15 | Certified Turner |
| 16 to 21 | Master Chicago Woodturner |

Answers: 1 (Dan Anderson); 2 (Paul Cavanagh); 3 (Chuck Young); 4 (Marie Anderson); 5 (Dick Sing); 6 (Darrel Rader); 7 (Paul Shotola); 8 (Steve Sinner); 9 (Binh Pho); 10 (Carole Floate); 11 (Don McCloskey); 12 (Glenn McMurray); 13 (Tom Jesionowski); 14 (Rob Kretchmer); 15 (Dennis Sullivan); 16 (Paul Pyrcik); 17 (Fran Islin); 18 (Phil Brooks); 19 (John Bobik); 20 Tom Eovaldi; 21 (Andrew Kuby)

Composed by Paul Rosen

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Classifieds

Free: Dwindraft sanding table.

30" x 48" x 35" Tall, powerful motor take standard furnace filters. Not pretty but priced right.

For Sale: Delta dust collector. Portable 2 stage, as new condition. \$150.00

**Contact Paul Shotola 847-412-9781
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