



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



The Monthly newsletter of the Chicago Woodturners

May 2013

# Headline News

## 2013 Demos and Hands-on Classes

All day Saturday demos are held at our normal Christian Liberty meeting room. Sunday one day classes and Monday/Tuesday 2 day class is held at Normac.

Alan Lacer : June 1-4  
Hans Wiesflog July 6-9  
Bonnie Klein: November 9-12.

Signup is open and hands-on classes are filling up fast. See page 21 for more details.

**Note:** This month Hans Wiesflog from Germany has been added to our demonstrator list this summer. A Rare opportunity to see this artist specializing in small precision boxes and other items.



You definitely don't want to miss the Alan Lacer, the Skewmaster's demo on Saturday June 1. Then spend 1 or 2 days with Alan in a hands on class and learn to get a get a finish off the tool that's almost ready for finishing

For more details about the event and trivia about Alan Lacer you probably didn't know, see Paul Shotola's article on page 4.

## Mentoring

Bring your turning questions, problems, and dull tools to Tuesdays meeting and be prepared to get any questions you have answered. As always the mentoring session starts at 6:00PM. Lathe and grinding wheel is available.

## 2013 Meeting Agenda

Month	Gallery Review	Demonstration
May	Alan Carter	Natural Edge Bowls—Ken Staggs
June	Roger Basrak	Build a Wood burner - Al Miotke
July	TBD	Wands—Don Johnson
Aug	TBD	Offset Turning—Clint Stevens
Sept	TBD	Desk Clock/ Rose Engine—Paul Pycik
Oct	TBD	Open Segment Turning—Bill Robb
Nov	TBD	DIY Tools—Francisco Bauer
Dec	None	Christmas Party

### Presidents Curls



President

Scott Barrett

**For the second year, CWT members will teach blind woodworkers to turn.**

**The CWT picnic planning is in progress. Thanks to Bob Leonard and Duane Painter who have again agreed to host the picnic on their beautiful adjacent Fox Lake properties**

The Chicago Woodturners Club hosted its first professional demonstration of the year. If Michael Hosaluk's demo is an example of what lies ahead, then we are in for a great year. Michael moved from project to project like a seasoned dancer. His demo was so well orchestrated there was no chance that boredom could creep in. I understand from my conversation with some of the hands on class attendees, that their experience was second to none. Thank you Richard for bringing us a top-flight demonstrator to start of the year.

It was a pleasure to have Ian Kuhn back in the house. Try as we might, we just can't duplicate his talents. We will continue to improve our AV capabilities during times of his absence, but let it be known, we really appreciate what you do, Ian.



The Chicago Woodturners Club will once again host a day with the Blind Woodworkers. On June 7<sup>th</sup> Darrell Rader, Phil Brooks, Andy Kuby, Ken Staggs, and myself will spend the day with 9 members of the Blind Woodworkers group. They will have experienced 2 days of woodworking including jigs, setup and finishing of projects prior to using the turning. On the third day we will have them at the lathe. We have arranged for 5 lathes. Easy Wood Tools has donated 4 sets of their Easy Rougher and Easy Finisher for use in the class. We will also have their new, "Easy Chuck" available for use. If you haven't seen this chuck, you soon will. I will be bringing one to our June meeting for evaluation. Craig Jackson has hit a homerun with this one. You can

change jaws in this little marvel in less than 30 seconds!

Our projects will include a one-piece pen, multi tool screwdriver, and a shallow bowl. Craft Supplies and Alan Lacer have helped in providing the necessary kits at a reduced price. It should once again prove to be a very rewarding experience for the participants and mentors.

As we move from spring to summer we will start the planning of our annual picnic. Bob Leonard and Duane Painter have offered to host us again. They will be working on a date and it will be announced as soon as it is set. We depend on the efforts of many to make this a successful event. Once the date is set we will be looking for a volunteer to coordinate all aspects of the picnic. Remember, our club is only as good as its volunteers. Be ready to take on the challenge.

The AAW insurance policy has been applied for and we should have paperwork soon. There is one clarification of coverage I would like to announce. Our club and members will have coverage in effect for our mentoring meetings that take place in private shops. This was not available in the blanket policy provided by the AAW. The board adopted the more comprehensive policy to provide a wider range of coverage and benefits for our offsite activities. I would like to stress that joining the AAW insures that you will be covered under this policy in the unlikely event of an accident.

## March Meeting Minutes

Clint Stevens

President Scott Barrett opened the April 9th meeting of the Chicago Woodturners at 7:00 pm.

Mark Johansen gave a short discussion on new methods of accepting credit cards where your wood turnings are sold at art shows. With modern tablets and smart phones there are a number of companies that offer



credit card servicing applications for your device. The scanners are free, or the purchase price refunded. Some services can be very expensive so shopping for service is a good idea. Mark's favorite company is Intuit who offers the Go Payment system. Two more are Square (Squareup is the same company) and Phone Transact. Customers can be assured that sellers retain no access to their credit information. The customer gets an e-mail receipt and the seller gets a statement of transactions. The times they are a changing.

Scott reminded members that Michael Hosaluk would give an all day demonstration April 13th at the Christian Liberty Academy. Richard Nye previewed the demonstration, whipping the membership into a frothing assemblage of anxious woodturners. Hands on demonstrations will be held Sunday through Tuesday for registered participants.

Richard also announced that Hans Weissflog has confirmed his visit to the Chicago area and is available for demonstrations and teaching July 6th through 9th. The current plan is to have one all day demonstration identified by our education committee as a free demonstration day. For anyone not familiar with Hans's work, expect small boxes with stunning spider effect pierced lids.

Phil Brooks reviewed April's Past Presidents challenge of turning a top not using your dominant hand. Voting to be by membership during the break.

Marie Anderson announced the Second Annual Ornamental Turning Seminar May 3-5. Lindow White (leading maker of rose engine lathes) will attend from Oregon. Topics will include constructing an oval box and decorating the inside of a bowl. Participation is limited to 25 people. The fee is \$100 for the Friday through Saturday sessions. Sunday is optional at a cost of \$25.

Roger Basrak reported 85 members present. There are a total of 171 paid members. Five guests were in attendance. Roger introduced new member Gary Klein from Highland Park.

Chuck Svazas conducted a raffle for a dazzling array of woodturning swag. The next month will see the return of the "Bring Back Item." Win that turning and replace it at the following months raffle.

The Gallery Review was conducted by Clint Stevens.

Andy Kuby gave a stellar presentation on the proper use of the Baxter threading jig.



Presidents Challenge—tops made with your non-dominant hand

**Alan Lacer - The Expert Witness****Paul Shotola**

On Alan Lacer's website it states that he was an "expert witness." In court, apparently. "Expert witness?" What does that mean? And here you thought you knew all about wood turning. What is the story behind this? Was there a trial where someone broke one of Jamieson's "Rules of Turning"? (The rules are a real thing, you know.) Was someone done bodily harm by a turning tool? Was someone harmed by a turning? Was a tool or process patented and Alan was called to testify? Did someone make a monumentally ugly piece and try to pawn it off as "Art"? Who decides a person is an "expert"? What are they, "Mr. Know-it-All"? Is there a degree in this or a class you can take? Can you make a good living being an "expert"?

Find out the answers to these questions and more when Alan Lacer comes to town. Seriously though, Alan is truly an expert on turning. He has been involved with woodturning for over thirty-five years, and has seen and experienced just about everything in turning. Alan has demonstrated in all of the 50 states, and has visited (as a "woodturning expert," I suppose) many foreign countries. Alan has written numerous articles on turning and produced videos on a variety of subjects, from efficient sharpening of the skew chisel to ring style turning in eastern Germany. Many of these articles introduced us to previously obscure methods and local styles. Although a well-known teacher of many turning subjects, Alan's expertise with the skew chisel is his claim to fame, and the skew and its proper use continues to be a favorite subject. A frequent teacher at the Marc Adams School of Woodworking, Alan has worked with students of all levels, from rank beginners who have never before used a lathe, to seasoned professionals looking to expand upon their skills. This widely-varied teaching experience led Lacer to develop a "Woodturning Fellowship" to guide the student on the path to mastering the lathe.

He will demonstrate for the CWT on June 1, 2013 at our regular meeting space at Christian Liberty Academy in Arlington Heights. Lacer will also hold hands-on classes at our classroom in Geneva, IL



at the NORMAC facility. The demonstration and classes both start at 9:00AM. If you sign up and pay for the demo at our May meeting, you will receive a 50% discount, for a low admission price of only \$15.00. Space in the one-day and two-day classes (if there is still room) can also be reserved at the May meeting or by calling Rosemary Pagura at 555-1212 or by dropping her an email at [fpagura.sr@att.net](mailto:fpagura.sr@att.net).

It would not be surprising that Alan's classes sell out (only six students per class) or that his demo is well-attended. It's not often one gets to spend a full day covering sharpening, design and everyone's favorite: The Skew. Alan is one of the undisputed masters of this tricky but ever-so-useful tool. The demo and classes could cover this subject alone, and be well worth your time. But wait (as they say on TV). There's more! Join Alan Lacer and your turning buddies to find out the answers to the "expert witness" situation. I think you will all agree, Lacer is fully qualified as an expert, and the story behind being called as an "expert witness" is too curious to ignore. We'll see you at the demo to find out.

# CWT News

## April Raffle

Chuck Svazas

### The April Raffle Winners:

Len Swanson	Bowl Gouge
Tom Sashko	2007 AAW Portland shirt
Mark Miller	Cut proof gloves
Mary Olson	3pc caliper set
Joe Irvin	9 pen blanks
Bill Brown	2pc Maple from Owl Hardwoods

**Total income \$205**

### May Raffle Items

- Honey Locust blank
- Large Box Elder blank
- Li-ion cordless screwdriver
- Color wheel and 6pack sandpaper
- Roughed out bowl blank
- 12" magnetic tool holder
- Bring back item (if you win, you need to bring back an item for the June raffle)
- Top kit from Phil Brooks

## Membership report

Julie Basrak

Chicago Woodturners membership has climbed to 168 members who have paid for 2013. There are approximately 35 members from last year who will be encouraged to join us for another year. Sixty-five members were present at the April meeting. One new member joined, and 5 guests also attended the meeting. Our new member at the meeting is Gary Klein from Highland Park. Our guests were Jim Kelly from Glen Ellyn, Mark Miller from Glen Ellyn, Peter Paul from Skokie, Mike Scoglietti from Arlington Heights, and Wayne Zoeteman from South Holland. Since the meeting, one of the guests, Peter Paul from Skokie, has become a member. Another new member since the meeting is Mitch Koziol from Lake Forest. John Meyer from Homewood became a member at the Michael Hosaluk demonstration.

We would like to thank guest Jim Kelly for bringing a box of wood to share with members at the April meeting!

As in the past, we ask for volunteers to greet new members and answer any questions they might have. Please let Roger & Julie know when you pick up your name badge. Thanks!



Winning Tickets are 697812 and 697842

## Baxter Threading Jig

Paul Rosen

Our demonstrator for the month of April was Andy Kuby, who showed us how to use the Willard Baxter jig for making threads on turned boxes.

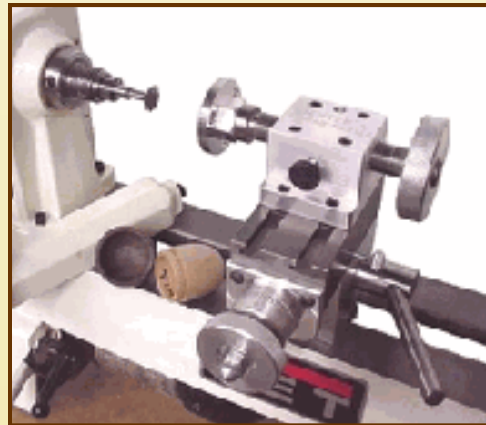


Thread chasing in wood is a practice that dates back into antiquity. Fred Holder, in his book entitled, *Making Screw Threads in Wood*, (2001; ISBN No. 1 86108 195 2) cites the Greek mathematician, Apollonius, who described the geometry of a spiral helix in 200 B.C. The Greeks and Romans were known to crush grapes for wine and olives for oil with presses driven by screw threads. And the British apprentice system contains examples, such as Allan Batty teaching his son, Stuart, how to perform thread chasing. And "how to" books by the likes of Richard Raffin, Bonnie Klein, and Stuart Mortimer have written at least an obligatory chapter on thread chasing, if not an entire book. But with the rise of the metalworking industry, jigs for making threads in metal rods have made the natural transition to making threads in wood. Bonnie Klein was one of the first to offer a popular threading jig, adaptable to her mini-lathe. And the late auctioneer Willard Baxter designed a popular all-metal threading jig which can make perfect threads in wood, once the proper setup is achieved.

The Baxter Thread Master offers more options and more features than any other threading attachment available. Choose from eight different thread pitches (24, 20, 18, 16, 14, 12, 10, or 8 TPI). Choose the Spindle Head that matches your machine (1" x 8 TPI; 1-1/4" x 8 TPI; M30 x 3.5; or M33 x 3.5 with other sizes available on request). Thread Master was designed to allow you to turn an object on your favorite lathe and mill threads on another lathe if you so desire. Or, you could use one lathe for both turning and milling. The Baxter jig is available in a number of configurations to fit almost any lathe and headstock combination. Andy chose to make the entire system fit his OneWay 1224 and Jet Mini, both with 1" x 8 TPI

threaded headstocks. But he could have ordered the jig to fit a Mini for the cutting operation while using chucks from the Jet 1642 (1-1/4" x 8 TPI) or larger OneWay. The Threader is custom made to fit the ways of the lathe you will be cutting threads on and line up with the center of the headstock exactly. Extra pieces can be ordered later to modify the threader for a different lathe (when you upgrade).

The Baxter Threader makes both internal and external threads using a dedicated 60-degree cutter that mounts in the headstock. Andy uses a special adaptor from Bonnie Klein to hold the cutter. The Baxter kit comes with a cutter, collet, drawbar for the cutter, and a pair of face plates. The Threader has a maximum capacity to cut threads on boxes up to 5-inches in diameter (with an optional slide). The particular jig that Andy has uses a 12-pitch thread; Scott Barrett has a similar one which cuts 16-pitch threads. The threading head can be swapped out at any time to change the pitch (or the size chuck it will take). Andy switched to the 12-pitch because, in his experience, there is less chipping of the threads in the softer woods he can afford. Consider the pitch size you want to use when you place your order for the jig, although you can always order additional heads with new pitches.



The jig is available online at [www.bestwoodtool.com](http://www.bestwoodtool.com), and it starts at about \$400.00 for the basic setup, plus an additional \$100.00 for the slide (recommended). Andy considered the Bonnie Klein threading jig, but it didn't fit his headstock. The Klein jig also seemed

*(Continued on page 7)*

**Baxter Threading Jig****Paul Rosen***(Continued from page 6)*

more complicated. Darrell Rader mentioned that in his experience, the Klein jig appeared to have more backlash than the Baxter jig.

Andy likes to attach his wood blanks with superglue. He has made a series of custom chucks out of hard maple. The maple cylinder is about 2-inches long and 1-1/2-inches in diameter. He threads the inside of the block with threads that match his lathe headstock. (In general, if you have a headstock with 1-inch diameter and 8 threads per inch (TPI), you bore a 7/8" hole and then use a manual thread cutter to fashion the threads inside your block.) A sacrificial piece of wood is then attached to the threaded piece and turned round and true, to serve as the attachment surface for the work piece. Andy bores a small hole in the center of the sacrificial piece, so that he can fit a coat hanger through the hole to align with a mark on the center of his work piece. This centers the work piece on the faceplate when gluing (a trick he learned from Lyle Jamieson).

For thread chasing, the classic advice is to use a hard, dense, tight-grained wood species, such as dogwood, Osage orange, bradford pear, mountain laurel, lignum vitae, African blackwood, or boxwood. But other wood



species can be used if you first "harden" the thread location with superglue. Andy likes to use 50-year-old maple, walnut, or cherry blanks which he purchased from the estate of the Alonsi Furniture Company after its owner recently passed away. Andy attaches the work piece to the threaded chuck with a bead of superglue. Then the piece is turned to rough out the outside diameter, and the end is turned flat and true. The top of the box is then marked for center and parted off with a thin parting tool. Andy hollows-out the remaining stub of the work piece, which will become the base of

the box. Male threads will be cut into the outside of the base, so a tenon is created to become the male threads. Ease the edges of the tenon and finish the inside of the base of the box.

The base and chuck assembly are removed from the lathe headstock and screwed on to the Baxter jig, and the headstock is fitted with the cutter mounted in the Bonnie Klein adaptor. For thread cutting, the lathe speed is adjusted to a relatively high rpm, probably between 2500 and 3000 rpm. After using the lateral slide to get the cutter to just scrape against the face of the male tenon, the cutter is adjusted to cut the depth of the thread. The Baxter literature suggests 0.045 inch. (For 12 tpi Roy Lindley suggests this depth should be 0.068 inch.) With the cutter "climb cutting," the work piece is advanced toward the headstock. Andy likes to hold both the work piece and the threading wheel simultaneously, to reduce vibration and to make sure the piece doesn't start to back-thread. Andy has been cutting the threads in one pass and backing the work piece out with the lathe still running. Roy Lindley suggests that cutting the threads in as many as three passes (and lifting out the cutter after each pass) will result in better work.

**The Adjustment**

If the threads are to his liking, Andy removes the work piece from the threader while it remains on the chuck. Next, the outside diameter of the tenon is measured, and the inside diameter for the female threads is calculated. The literature for the threading tool suggests using a 0.045 inch adjustment. (Roy Lindley has suggested that a 0.101 inch adjustment will result in sharper threads which fully engage when combined with the 0.068 inch cutting depth). The top of the box is mounted to another chuck and hollowed to form a straight-sided recess. The recess is the diameter of the male thread, minus the adjustment. The top is then mounted on the threader and the interior threads cut in a fashion similar for the male threads. Check to make sure that the threads engage smoothly and properly before removing the box top from the chuck. Andy removes the

*(Continued on page 8)*

**Baxter Threading Jig**

**Paul Rosen**

*(Continued from page 7)*

workpiece from the chuck using a sharp blow with a hammer and chisel. (Superglue is brittle and usually fractures cleanly under such persuasion.) Now the top can be screwed onto the bottom, which can be remounted on the lathe headstock. Shape the entire box to your pleasure. At this point, the top of the box is shaped and finished.

To finish the bottom of the box, remove the top and snap the bottom off the chuck. Reverse the bottom of the box and expand the jaws of a small four-jaw chuck into the tenon. Any uses a rubber ring cut from a bicycle inner tube to wrap around the jaws and protect the inside of the box. Now finish the bottom. Remove the chuck, and sign your masterpiece.

Andy was able to give us an excellent background on how to cut threads in wood. But he modestly admits that he probably learned more than he taught. The Chicago Woodturners has a number of members who are experienced in all kinds of threading, and there was a spirited discussion of the finer points at his demo. If you want to learn more, find a mentor, consider purchasing one of the “how to” books or CDs currently available, or use the CWT library! And remember, Bonnie Klein

will be teaching a lucky few members of CWT how to turn threads in wood in a demonstration scheduled for later this year.



**AAW National Symposium**

The AAW's 2013 national symposium is less than 2 months away. A stellar group of demonstrators will descend on Tampa, Florida for 3 days of demonstrations and the best galleries of turned art you will see in one place. If you can make the trip you won't be disappointed. The event runs from June 28-30.



# AAW "Photo's of the Week" in April



Week of April 8



Week of



Week of April 15



Week of April 29

## Chicago Woodturners Board of Directors and Committee Chairs 2013

President,	Scott Barrett	847-562-9121	dr@bdental.net	46 Bridlewood Lane	Northbrook, IL 60062
Vice President,	Don McCloskey	847-420-6978	mccloskey@ameritech.net	2028 Gilboa Ave.	Zion, IL 60099
Secretary	Clint Stevens	773-852-5023	clint.stevens@comcast.net	1635 S. Chesterfield	Arlington Hgts, IL 60005
Treasurer	Rosemary Pagura	(847) 524-0231	fpagura.sr@att.net	944 Wisconsin Lane	Elk Grove , IL 60007
Past President	Phil Brooks	847-400-4539	philbrooks32@gmail.com	1052 Cheswick Dr	Gurnee, IL 60031
Newsletter Editor	Al Miotke	847-297-4877	alan.miotke@chamberlain.com	920 Sumac Lane	Mt. Prospect, IL 60056
Membership	Julie Basrak	847-358-2708	cwtjulie@hotmail.com	563 West Ruhl Road	Palatine, IL 60074
Librarian	Robert Schultz	815-245-7495	grislakera@att.net	2819 South River road	McHenry, IL 60051
WebMaster	Mark Dreyer	630-406-9360	mg_dreyer@yahoo.com	1070 Sonoma Lane	Aurora, IL 60502
Raffle	Chuck Svazas	708-482-3866	csvazas@sbcglobal.net	707 Bransdale Rd	LaGrange Park, IL 60526
Tools & Equipment	Don McCloskey	847-420-6978	mccloskey@ameritech.net	2028 Gilboa Ave.	Zion, IL 60099
Set-up / Clean-up	Duane Painter	224-643-7696	duane.painter@comcast.net	25680 Lehmann blvd	Lake Villa, IL 60046
Audio & Video	Ian Kuhn	312-213-3772	ian@dmbroad.org	1510 Dale Dr.	Elgin, IL 60120
Educational Committee	Darrell Radar	815-648-2197	drader@clear.net	10703 Allendale Rd.,	Woodstock, IL 60098
Demonstrations	Rich Nye	630-406-1855	nyewoodturning@earthlink.net	40W257 Seavey Road	Batavia, IL 60510

## Gouge Sharpening with Jigs

Paul Rosen

At the woodworking show held in Milwaukee this past February, I had an opportunity to talk with Kirk DeHeer. As a former production wood turner, Kirk's knowledge on sharpening and

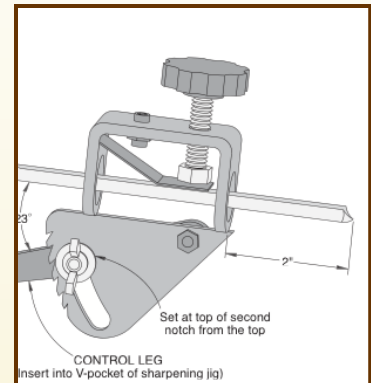


turning is top drawer. His outstanding DVD on sharpening was available for purchase at the booth for Craft Supplies, USA. I highly recommend the DVD as a way to improve your tool sharpening skills, as well as the quality of your turnings. But the reason I wanted to talk with DeHeer was an article that he wrote on gouge sharpening back in 2006. It appeared in *American Woodturner* 21(4):32-34, 2006 and may be available online at [www.woodturning.org](http://www.woodturning.org). Kirk was asked by his boss, Dale Nish, to give a demonstration on sharpening with jigs. The article says that DeHeer was given 30 minutes notice to prepare the talk. In truth, that was an editorial adjustment. Per Kirk, he had 5 minutes notice. But the experience motivated him to focus on the critical variables involved when using a sharpening jig. Granted, most seasoned wood turners sharpen their tools by hand, without using a jig. But for the newbie (count me as one), a commercially available sharpening jig will go a long way to assuring a consistent and acceptable result. In his article, DeHeer talked about the Wolverine® Sharpening System from Oneway Manufacturing, and the Vari-Grind® attachment for grinding gouges.

If you've ever used the Vari-Grind, you know that it has an adjustable arm whose position is maintained by a wing nut. DeHeer's "eureka moment" came when he realized that positioning the arm at the extreme forward position (closest to the sharpening wheel) resulted in more metal being ground from the sides of the gouge. Conversely, moving the arm furthest away from the sharpening wheel caused less metal to be removed from the "ears" of the gouge. That observation was critical. But Kirk went one step

further. He recommended setting the top of the adjustable arm at a constant 23-degree angle, relative to the bottom of the gouge to be sharpened. "Why 23-degrees?" you may ask. Well, that angle helps to grind the ears of the gouge at the same angle as the tip. This is a desirable goal.

You may recall that Stuart Batty, one of our excellent demonstrators at the 2012 Turn On! Chicago meeting, recommended a 40/40 grind for his bowl gouges. That's 40-degrees at the tip, and 40-degrees on the



ears of the bowl gouge. Batty achieves his 40/40 grind by setting the adjustable flat platform tool rest on the Wolverine Jig to 40-degrees. Then he rolls the gouge in a 40-degree sweep from straight on to about 40-degrees to the right, and then straight on to the left. He slowly rolls the gouge with his wrist as his arm swings through the arc with the tool shaft lying flat on the platform. Batty's technique requires practice and skill to execute properly, but it gets the job done. Superbly, and in about 30 seconds.

DeHeer's method is more forgiving. He speaks in his article of "the sharpening triangle." In this triangle, the Vari-Grind adjustment arm set at 23-degrees is side No. 1, and the gouge protrusion from the face of the jig, set at 2-inches, is side No. 2. The third side of the triangle is the distance between the forward-most edge of the grinding wheel and the slot in horizontal arm at the base of the Wolverine Jig. That's the arm that that moves in and out with a cam clamp on the side. The notch in this arm is where the base of the Vari-Grind fits. (Invaluable tip: Dick Sing recommends that the first thing you do when you take the new Vari-Grind out of its box is to grind the tip of the adjustable arm to a point. That way, the tip can rotate smoothly when placed in the slot in the horizontal sliding arm of the Wolverine Jig.)

*(Continued on page 11)*

## Gouge Sharpening with Jigs

Paul Rosen

(Continued from page 10)

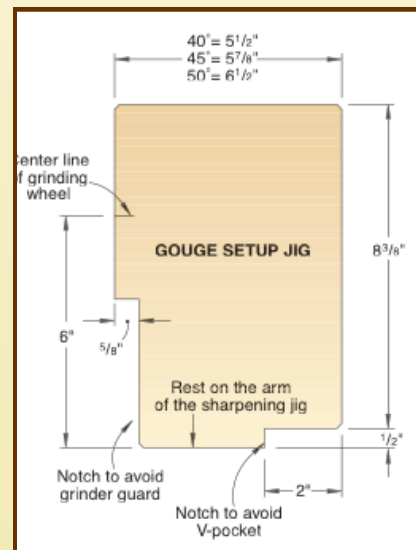
DeHeer's insights went further. He devised a series of plywood rectangles acting as spacers to adjust the position of the horizontal sliding arm. For example, for a 40-degree tool tip, the plywood rectangle must measure 5-1/2-inches wide by 8-3/8-inches tall. And the center of the 8-inch grinding wheel should line up with a point 6-inches from the base of the plywood rectangle. (To do this, you may need to raise the height of your 8-inch grinder with a pair of 3/4-inch plywood riser blocks.) To achieve a 45-degree tool tip angle, make the the plywood jig 5-7/8-inches wide, or 6-1/2-inches wide if you want a jig that makes a 50-degree angle at the tool tip.

These plywood jigs are actually the basis for the metal templates that Craft Supplies USA markets as their Raptor® Set-Up Tools. The Raptor series comes in 35-, 40-, 45-, 50-, and 60-degree configurations. The added benefit of the Raptor templates is that they can be used to set the angle of the Wolverine flat platform jig, as well as their horizontal sliding arm jig.

Of course, it is still possible to screw up the sharpening of a gouge using a jig. One mistake common to neophytes is to start by sharpening the gouge tip. Not recommended! Start by sharpening the wings or “ears” first. And keep the jig in a constant back-and-forth motion, so you don't grind flat spots on the ears. Only after you have finished grinding the two wings should you blend the two angles at the tip. Spend your grinding time on the wings, not the tip. Ideally, the curve on the top of the wing should be straight, or better, slightly convex, when viewed from the side. But never concave.

So if you don't have a hard copy of Kirk's article immediately available, try finding it at [www.woodturner.org](http://www.woodturner.org). It's really worth reading. And re-reading. Too bad AAW owns the publication rights to the article. If DeHeer got a buck or two for each time someone read his article,

he could probably be retired by now. But his loss is our gain. He's still working, which means you can still benefit from his free, expert advice on wood turning next time The Woodworking Show comes to Milwaukee. Or maybe, consider attending one of the wood turning seminars at which he teaches in Provo, Utah. He's a gifted instructor. Thanks, Kirk.



## Mike Hosaluk Demo

Clint Stevens



Michael Hosaluk turns as if he is the blood brother of our childhood literary genius, Dr. Seuss. With their impossible shapes, vivid colors and surreal characters you might feel like Alice as she fell down the rabbit hole. Michael's turnings rarely fail to raise a smile. So how would you describe Michael Hosaluk? Of course Michael is a woodturner. That's what he came to demonstrate to the Chicago Woodturners on April 13<sup>th</sup>. He is also a furniture maker, painter, carver and teacher. Perhaps that's why we have the word "artist."

During Michael's all day session with CWT he demonstrated technical expertise with lathe and steel with many projects. In the morning he interrupted slide shows and stories to produce an old fashioned spinning top (of course it worked), a spatula, door stops, a ladle, and explained eccentric turning. Personal note folks, Michael took ten minutes to explain and demonstrate eccentric turning in a much clearer fashion than I could ever hope to in my August CWT demonstration on the same topic. A humbling experience for sure.

Michael didn't let us catch our breath in the afternoon. He turned a thin bowl such that it became translucent. During this exercise he discussed grain direction and the natural tendency of wood to move whether you want it to or not. Hosaluk certainly uses it to his advantage.

The piece de résistance was a hollowed bowl turned by Michael late in the day. This bowl partially closed on itself, sported carved feet and

was ringed by carved studs. This is a very welcome addition to our collection of exquisite turnings.

As if that weren't enough, Michael actually bent turned wood with wet paper towels, a curved set of forms and steam provided by time in a small microwave oven. Sometimes seemingly complex methods are much simpler than you would imagine.

Michael Hosaluk is a guy who has developed a number of techniques by breaking the established rules over nearly forty years of woodturning. The lathe is one of many tools, wood one of many materials used to realize his signature pieces.

This was my third experience with Michael Hosaluk. My impression of our friend is that for all his technical skill what we really learn from him is how to think like an artist. Hosaluk is the type of guy who has absorbed all that life has to offer, filtered it through the rarified Saskatchewan air and spilled it all over his creations. How else would you explain an exhibition of chairs built around trees, light poles, interlaced about Ottawa and being rescued from an ice flow by the brave local fire department? What did he call the show? Acts of Chairorism. You gotta love a guy with a mind like that.

Don't be a stranger Michael, come back soon.



## Design and application of golden proportions in woodturning

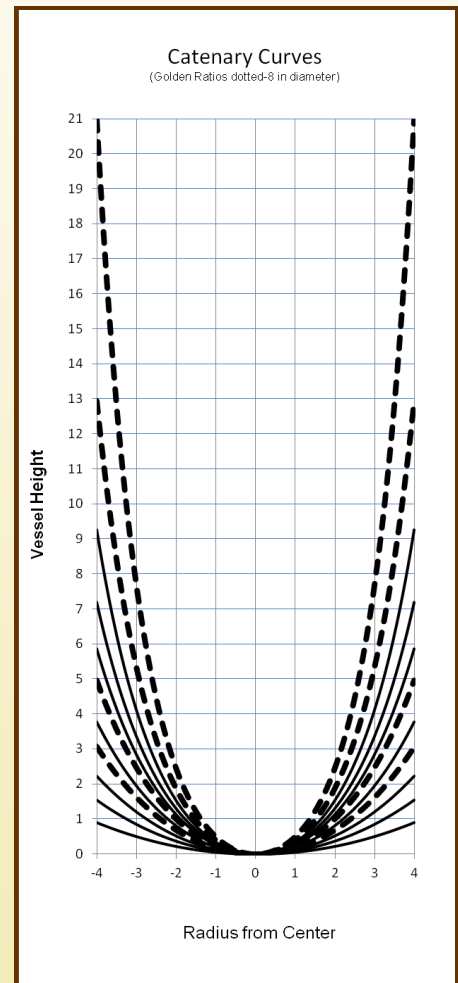
Roy Lindley

During the February CWT meeting critique, Marie Anderson commented on the catenary curve as an desirable profile for bowls and vessels (literally the form of a chain held at each end and allowed to hang freely between). There is also a proportion concept called the golden triangle wherein there are specific ratios between length, width, and height and which can even occur in other ways in complex pieces. If one dimension is 1 ft (or a multiple), then the other two dimensions per this scheme should be approx .618 ft (or the same multiple as applied to the 1 ft) and .382 ft (or the same multiple). If one looks at a piece of furniture which is pleasing to the eye, very often, the dimensions are nearly multiples to these three values keeping in mind that the larger dimension can be any of the three directions, horizontal, vertical, or depth. These ratios also are found throughout nature.

Since we only have diameter and height in many wood turnings, the ratios of height to diameter can be according to .382, .618 or the inverse of either. For illustration I have worked this out for an 8 in diameter vessel and the attached plot shows four "golden" profiles of catenary curves as depicted by the dotted lines. If you take a quick glance at accomplished artist's works, Binh Pho for example, many of the pieces have approximately these relative dimensions and some even come very close to both the profile and dimensions. I have heard other artists comment on how they achieve more than two of these ratios in their turnings and that is what I had done for the ornamental turned piece I had in the gallery in March (brandy sniffer shaped pedestal and column...there were seven golden ratios based on my design drawing). While there is no absolute guarantee of a pleasing piece as a result of applying these proportions, very often the result does prove to be pleasing to the eye. Try this with a piece or two to see if you are content with the look.

For the students who were paying close attention every day in algebra class, one derivation of this proportion is dividing a length into two pieces where the ratio of the smaller to the larger is equal to the ratio of the larger to the whole. From application of the quadratic formula (for the solution of a second order algebraic equation), the .618 arises from the positive solution; one half the value of the square root of 5 minus 1 ( $.5 * (\sqrt{5} - 1)$ ). The remainder of the stick is 1 minus .618 or .382. Interestingly the .382 is numerically equal to the product of .618 times itself. Further, the inverse of .618 is 1.618 and the inverse of .382 is 2.618 which is way more than you really wanted to know about the recurrence of the .618. This is a curiosity almost akin to the mathematical function whose slope and change of slope is the value of the function itself but that is another story (natural logarithm base e raised to the power of x).

If nothing else, you can use the figure or ratios to critique your turnings and decide what pleases your own eye. Also, if you looked carefully there were other pieces in the March gallery which did mimic these proportions closely.



Its in the  
Details



Member's Gallery



Bob Leonard



Francisco Bauer



Roberto Ferrer

April Meeting



Darrell Radar



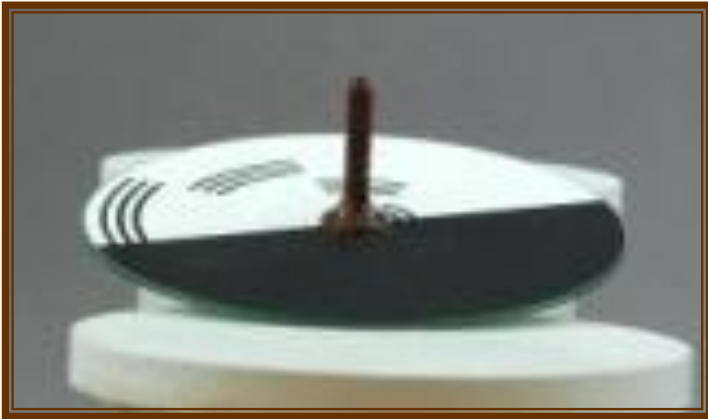
Joe Weiner



Rich Nye

Member's Gallery

April Meeting



Phil Brooks



Darrell Radar



Richard Dlugo



Duaine Hietpas



Francisco Bauer

Member's Gallery

April Meeting

Editor's Choice

Editor's Choice



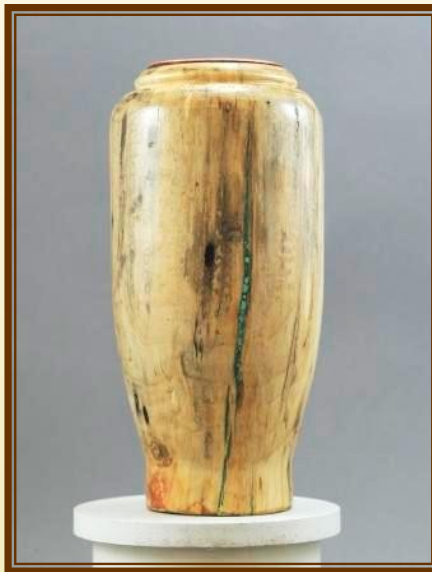
Bob Leonard



Roy Lindley



Al Miotke



Larry Fabian



Bill Brown

I was compelled to select Roy's piece this month. It's definitely a nice bowl with excellent form but it's the paint job and finish that is not only unusual but perfectly executed. When was the last time you saw a turning with such a high gloss lacquer finish that you can not only see yourself, but comb your hair in the mirror finish

There is no doubt that there is a lot more time in the finishing than the turning. A unique piece that has Roy's signature all over it.

I'll make my personal selection each month. You might agree or not, it's a democracy, but I'm the Editor.



Member's Gallery

April Meeting



Bill Robb



Marty Knapp



Dawn Herndon-Charles



Don Steklac



Bill Brown



Bill Robb

## 2013 Demonstrations and Hands-On Classes

Demonstrator	Demo (CLA)	One-Day Class (NORMAC)	Two-Day class ( NORMAC)
Michael Hosaluk	Saturday, April 13	Sunday, April 14	Mon-Tue, April 15-16
Alan Lacer	Saturday, June 1	Sunday, June 2	Mon-Tue, June 3-4
Hans Wiesflog	Saturday , July 6	Sunday, 7	Mon-Tue, July 8-9
Bonnie Klein	Saturday, November 9	Sunday, Nov 10	Mon-Tue, Nov 11-12

One or two more demos and classes may be added in 2013.

### Contact Rich Nye or Rosemary Pagura for details

Richard Nye, Demonstrations Chairman  
 40W257 Seavey Road, Batavia, IL 60510  
 630-865-7938  
[nyewoodturning@earthlink.net](mailto:nyewoodturning@earthlink.net)

Rosemary Pagura, Treasurer  
 944 Wisconsin Lane, Elk Grove Village, IL 60007  
 630-816-1019  
[rosepagu@gmail.com](mailto:rosepagu@gmail.com)

### Sign-up and tuition payment can be made at any CWT Meeting *prior to the event.*

Checks for classes may also be mailed to Rosemary Pagura once you have confirmed your slot in the class with her.

Prepaid demo admission fees and class tuition are not refundable, but may be transferred to another turner. Demonstration admission is \$30 at the door, but a 50% discount (\$15) is available to all CWT members signing up and paying their admission fees at any CWT meeting prior to the demo. Join CWT for \$25 per year and take advantage of the discount.

Tuition for Michael Hosaluk is \$120 for the one-day class and \$240 for the two-day class. Tuition for all other classes will be \$125 for one-day and \$250 for two-day. Tuition must be paid in advance to register for a class and guarantees the student's reservation.

All demonstrations will be held at  
 Christian Liberty Academy (CLA)  
 502 W. Euclid, Arlington Heights, IL 60005.  
 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.

All classes will be held at  
 NORMAC Manufacturing  
 2570 Kaneville Court, Geneva, IL 60134.  
 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.

**For Sale, Trade, or Wanted**

Contact the Editor to post your items

Oneway 1224 wood lathe (built by a small family-run company in Canada using American steel). Approximately 7 years old, with less than 60 hours of use. I've enjoyed using this lathe for small gift items and have always been impressed with how smooth and quiet it is.

Unfortunately, I need to sell it due to health reasons. Asking price is \$1,850.00. Please feel free to contact me (608-836-5511) or by email at colour@mailbag.com with questions or for further information.

- Richard Bentley

My lathe is a vintage babbet bearing headstock with 18 inch swing. The bed is 14.5 feet long, but could be cut down to any length. I have a 6 foot tool rest, a 30 inch, and a 12 inch. There is a nice heavy faceplate and two custom made steady rests. The motor is 3/4 horse with a 3 step pulley. The headstock also has a 3 step pulley. There are 3 banjos. The bearings are in good shape with shims still in place. I am asking \$1600 or BO.



Bob Neal 309-678-1277

**Events**

AAW 2013 National symposium June 28-30, Tampa FL  
<http://www.woodturner.org/sym/sym2013/index.htm>

Ohio Valley Woodturners Guild Turning 2013 October 11-13,  
<http://www.ovwg.org/2013-symposium-2/2013-symposium>

**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 Al Miotke at 847-297-4877 or email at alan.miotke@chamberlain.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.**

**Visit our website  
[chicagowoodturners.com](http://chicagowoodturners.com)**

**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.  
[www.woodturner.org](http://www.woodturner.org)