



AS THE WOOD TURNS

The Newsletter of the Chicago Woodturners Club



Volume 7, Issue 6

June 2007

June 12th Club Demo

Paul Pyrcik

Demonstrates Pen Turning

Past President's Challenge

"A Foot or So Winners"

Jim Wickersham 1st Place



**Marie Anderson
2nd Place**



**Josh Connan
3rd Place**



Special points of interest:

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CWT Meeting 7 PM

2nd Tuesday

**Woodcraft Supply
Store**

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

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.

**Chicago WoodTurners Symposium
July 26-27 2008**

Members Gallery



Pixie Eslinger share her insights on the art of woodturning.



Brad Smith

Ebony, Paduak, Unkown
And Ebony Box



Don Johnston

Hard Maple Bowls
Same Log



Bob Nolan

Mahogany Bowl



Bill Brown

Birch Bowl



Bill Brown

Myrtle Burl Form



Bill Brown

Walnut Inlaid Bowl



Bill Robb

Walnut Box



Dave Buckholz

Box Elder Walnut
Shell Bowl



Hugh Pearl

Olivewood Sterling
Silver Pen



Jerry Howard

Thuya Burl Vase



Fran Islin

Mesquite Apple Box

Members Gallery



John Eslinger
Box Elder Vase



John Eslinger
Box Elder Vase



Larry Heuvelman
Maple Bowl



Larry Heuvelman
Cherry Bowl



Francisco Bauer
Cherry Square Edge
Platter



Francisco Bauer
Popular Walnut Platter



Francisco Bauer
Maple Bowl



Francisco Bauer
Spalted Maple Burl
Bowl



Lloyd Beckman
Walnut Bowl



Lloyd Beckman
Yew Platter



Darrel Rader
Ambrosia Maple Bowl



John Bobik
Ambrosia Maple Bowl



Carl Miller
Apple Bowl



Carl Miller
Lacewood Jatoba
Box



Don McCloskey
Cherry Goblet
Cocobolo Ball



Josh Connan
Turned and Carved
Forms

Andy Kuby Chairman

Current Membership
188

83 Attended May Meeting

New Members:

Chris Struttman, Crystal Lake , IL

John Hausheer, Cary , IL

Shaun Devine, Chicago , IL

John Zurales, Wheaton , IL

Past President's Challenge for May, 2007

- Winners of Challenge subject: "A Foot or So"
 - 1st Place Jim Wickersham
 - 2nd Place Marie Anderson
 - 3rd Place Josh Connan

Curls from the President's Platter



“Concerning the things about which you ask to be informed I believe that I am not ill-prepared with an answer”. That’s Plato, a fellow that most of us regard to have been a reasonably smart guy, speaking to us from way back when, 350 BC in fact. Plato was not “ill-prepared”, and neither is Chicago.

The things about which you ask will be answered. Answered at the first Chicago woodturning symposium.

A symposium is a gathering of teachers and students, brought together to facilitate the transfer of information and skills from teacher to student (I suspect that every teacher learns from their students, also). Your club, the Chicago Woodturners, will present a symposium in July of 2008 that promises to bring the finest woodturning teachers available to you, the turning student (and if you don’t consider yourself a student of turning, you’re probably not reading this) to one of Chicago’s most beautiful settings, for a weekend filled with demonstrations, galleries of turned work and an opportunity to spend time with folks like your self, wood turners.

We have over a dozen skilled and experienced wood turning teachers lined up to demonstrate their techniques and signature projects for you. Each demonstration, or rotation, will run about 90 minutes, and all attendees to the symposium will be able to see each demonstrator over the weekend. In addition to the demonstrations, we will host what is known as an “instant gallery”, a presentation of current work by you, your peers and scheduled demonstrators. A highlight of the weekend will be a “gallery review”, similar to our monthly meeting reviews, with two of the scheduled demonstrators reviewing our work. Just for fun, and because we know by then you’ll be hungry, there will be a banquet on Saturday evening. An auction of turned wood art, tools, and supplies will follow the banquet. Proceeds from the auction will benefit a number of causes near and dear to the Chicago Woodturners, and it may be your opportunity to own an Ellsworth, a Sinner, a Pho, or even a Shotola woodturning. Pricing may vary. A lot.

In the months to come, we will keep you posted on scheduling, maps, demonstrators and sign up information. As a symposium this big requires lots of folks helping out, we will also keep you updated on ways you can help to make our first symposium a success. This column could run onto the next page thanking the folks that have already committed time and energy to the planning of our symposium, but I’ll leave a little space for you to add your name as time goes on.

Until June, mark your calendar for first Chicago woodturning symposium in July of 2008, consider “the things about which you ask to be informed”, and please turn safely. Plato would want that.

Paul Shotola

Members Gallery



Dan Anderson
Osage Orange
Walnut Box



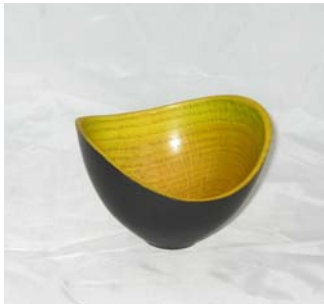
Marie Anderson
Oak Tulipwood Shoe



Jerry Sargent
Textured Maple
Bowl



Jerry Sargent
Gilded Maple
Bowl



Paul Shotola
White Oak
Bowl



Dave Neybert
Cherry Walnut Birch
Scoops



Steve Sinner
Maple Vase



Tom Waicekauskas
Cocobolo Pen

Meeting Demonstrations

June 12

Pen Turning

Paul Pyrcik

Gallery Reviews:

June 12

Steve Sinner

Jim Wickersham

May Meeting Demonstrator



Today's artisans are learning new techniques and relearning old skills that incorporate modern technology and materials.



of 2003. Prior to its establishment, there had been an Internet community of penturners on Yahoo!, where these like-minded pen buffs exchanged information about materials and techniques. But as the artists matured in their craft, many dropped out. So to bring them back together, the Guild was born to help the craft grow and to establish penturning in the woodturning community. In addition, the Guild provides a place for the open exchange of ideas and assists in marketing the penturners' products.

The Guild is governed by a council of five artists—Patricia Lawson, Jay Pickens, Kurt Hertzog, Mike Roux, and Richard

Kleinhaus—and prospective members must submit a masterpiece pen to the council for review and approval. Criteria for acceptance include innovation and quality of craftsmanship. There are currently sixty-nine members in the Guild, including a few pen industry "insiders."

Their Work

The Celtic Garden was crafted by Dan Symonds, who has been designing and crafting pens for the past four years. This example is a floral motif intertwined with a Celtic knot motif, creating an overall arts and crafts or Art Nouveau effect. It is a beautiful example of micro-woodcarving. Dan crafted the pen from four differ-

ent woods: the white wood is holly, the black wood is ebony, the red wood is bloodwood, and the brown wood is mesquite. The fittings are kit-supplied, and the nib is rhodium-plated steel—rigid and smooth. The cap is not meant to post on the end of the barrel. The artist spent over 150 hours on the carving, and it appears to be quite fragile. It stands as a very nice art piece but would probably not be a practical everyday writing instrument. Although Symonds has indicated that the piece is not for sale, he has estimated its value at \$3,800.

Alice Call created the Greek Rose. It is produced from homemade poured acrylic, formulated with

genuine ground pink topaz and black acrylic to make up what Ms. Call calls "rhodonite." The coloration and depth of the material is striking. The pen has a clipless cap, and the pieces at each end are made of black acrylic. This pen employs a standard kit-supplied nib (steel and rigid), section and feed. It represents a nice art piece and comes with a matching black acrylic pen stand upon which the pen can lean.

Crafted by Don Ward, Montana Prairie Rattle-

snake comprises real rattlesnake skin in its high-gloss polyester resin finish. The barrel is very short and its end is threaded for posting the cap. All fittings are plated with white metal and the components are from a commercial kit, including the rigid steel nib. This is an unusual pen at a very modest price: \$125.

Janet Smith created The Rose, a small white pen crafted from white holly wood, hand painted with a floral design. The metal fittings at the end of the

barrel (threaded to post the cap), the joint thread, the cap band, and the clip are plated in 18-karat rose gold. Given the popularity of Japanese *maiko* hand-painted pens, this hand-painting is an attractive feature. The gold-plated nib is small but writes smoothly. The Rose is priced at \$225.

Bloodwood, by craftsman Russ Fairfield, is turned from wood of the same name, and although it is large, it is very light and has a clear, high-quality finish. It employs standard kit

Alice Call's

The Greek Rose

Published

Stylus Mag

Where Do You Get Your Wood for Turning?

By Paul Rosen

Clearly, the best place to get turning wood is from local tree services or municipal trimming operations, where it's usually free, or available with a nominal tip to the cutting crew. You can also visit your local city dump, but increasingly, tree remnants are being chopped into mulch on the spot. You can hear the noise made by these machines as crews feed waste branches into the hopper of the tree shredder, usually in the early spring months. Some municipal cutters will leave tree remnants by the roadside for a day or two, so it pays to be opportunistic when you see such fallen treasure. The downside to using this free green wood is that you'll need a chain saw to bisect the log lengthwise (cutting with the grain). And you probably will want to coat the ends of the log to reduce excessive moisture loss, which can cause cracking at the ends. Painting the ends of a freshly cut log with either latex or oil-based paint will usually retard moisture loss sufficiently to prevent cracking, or if the log is small in diameter, you could dip the ends in a heated solution of canning wax (paraffin), available at your local grocery store.

But what if you seek turning stock from commercial sources? Hardwood specialists often make both bowl and spindle stock available. Here are some vendors that provide wood for turners:

Kettle Moraine Hardwoods, Inc. (www.kmhardwoods.com)

South Location:	195 South 27 th Street	(I-94 and 7 Mile Road)
	Caledonia, WI 53108	(Just north of 7 Mile Fair off I-94)
North Location:	5261 Aurora Road	(Hwy 41 and Hwy K)
	Hartford, WI 53207	

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Owl Hardwood Lumber Co. (3 Locations) (www.owlhardwood.com)

926 S. Graceland (Route 45)

Des Plaines, IL 60016

620 E. St. Charles Road

Lombard, IL 60148

4655 Southwest Highway

Oak Lawn, IL 60453

The Russell Mill (Exit 294 northbound at Russell Road, just before the Illinois/Wisconsin state line. Turn right, and drive about a half-mile to the east. It's on the left side of the street. If you cross the railroad tracks, you've gone too far.)

The G.C. Mill on Route 14, north of Blaine's Farm and Fleet store by a few miles. The owner has a bandsaw mill on site. He sells mulch as well as dimensioned lumber.

Badger Hardwoods of Wisconsin, LTD (www.badgerwood.com)

N1517 Highway 14

(Mostly mail-order, but you can also

Walworth, WI 53184

drive up and visit on-site during week-days.)

Choice Woods www.choice-woods.com Clay Johnson, owner; mostly mail-order

451 Baxter Avenue

Louisville, KY 40204

If you have a source you would like to share, let us know. We'll keep updating the list of wood sources on a regular basis.

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.*
- *One-Day Hands-on classes: October 25 & 26th. \$110.00*

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