

As the Wood Turns

NEWSLETTER OF THE
CHICAGO WOODTURNERS ASSOCIATION



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

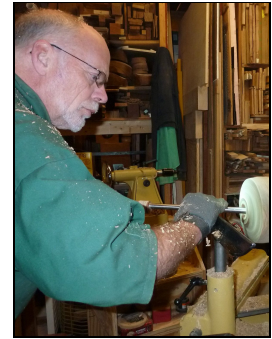
AAW | AMERICAN ASSOCIATION
OF WOODTURNERS

August Newsletter 2018

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President's Curls



Summer is now officially half over. Our sixth Turn On! Chicago was August 3, 4 and 5, and it was an unqualified success, due in no small part to our volunteers. Thank you all for the effort. After twelve years we do know what we're doing, but it's still a lot of just plain hard work. We are all ready to get back in the shop with the new tool(s) from the trade show vendors: Frugal Vacuum Chucks, Advanced Lathe Tools, John Jordan Woodworking, Thompson Lathe Tools, Big Monk Lumber, Exotic Blanks, Vince's Wood-N-Wonders, The Drying Solution, and Chefware Kits.

This year's demonstrators included John Beavers, Rudy Lopez, Betty Scarpino, Kip Christensen, John Jordan, Harvey Meyer, Jennifer Shirley, Vince Welch and Rob Wallace as well as some of our local stars: Jason Clark, Al Miotke, Bob Leonard and Mark Dreyer. They did not disappoint. We even managed to convince Kip to stick around last week for three days of classes to reinforce what we learned in his demos.

The Instant Gallery had a number of outstanding pieces. Betty Scarpino and Kip Christensen were this year's reviewers, and the combination was unbeatable. Those of us who were able to attend got a master class in form as well as technique. The People's Choice award was a tie between a large open segmented bowl from a turner in Michigan and a very unique butternut bowl (ask Mark Jundanian how he did it).

Rob Wallace sold sixty items in the live auction with no collusion from any outside elements (as he stated himself). I don't know if he had someone bidding for him, but he did keep a good eye on the room. Not everyone got everything they wanted, but they did get to bid and the action was lively. This year we added a silent auction to the mix and were able to offer additional items which could not be accommodated in the live auction or raffle - something for everybody. If you didn't attend, you missed a great weekend. Make sure you don't miss the next one.

Looking ahead, at the September meeting we will have a sale, barter, give-away table. We'll set up a row of tables down the center of the room. Bring in all those extra tools, pieces of wood and miscellaneous goodies. There will be time for negotiations at the beginning of the meeting and at the break. We'll try not to cut into Marie's Ornament Demo. In August the meeting demonstration is by Don McCloskey on Segmented Turning and the Gallery Review is by Clint Stevens. Looking forward to seeing you all there.

Andy Kuby, President

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Secretary's Report

Frank Pagura

Tonight's gallery reviewer is Roger Basrak.
The demo on Wire Inlay is by Dave Bertaud.

Andy requested comments on last month's Gallery Review change of time. Most members like the switch; only one criticism was that he had to stay later for the gallery review. In accordance with consensus, we will try this again.

There are more Tim Putnam blanks in the back, free for the taking. Remember to bring the finished bowl or vessel to Empty Bowls or Beads of Courage.

We're always looking for members who would like to sharpen their skills as a reviewer or demonstrator. Take advantage of the relaxed atmosphere of the club meeting; remember you are among friends, and your contributions are a valued asset to all. See Don or Andy for open dates.

Keep bringing in Beads of Courage vessels. Beads of Courage beads for your lids or vessels are available. See Andy.

Empty Bowls Event is at Oakton College: Saturday, December 1, with a start time of 10AM. Come to help with set up at 9AM. If you are planning to attend, go early; the popularity of this event has buyers snapping up the best pieces in the first few hours. Rich Nye and Marie are organizing an Empty Bowl turning event. Stay tuned for details.

Don McCloskey reminded everyone that the popular Pen for Troops Turning Event will be held at TOC on August, 3 from 7 to 7:30. There will be all the materials and six lathes on hand. CWT tools are available, but you may bring your favorite tool if you like.

Rich Hall-Reppen announced that the picnic date is September 16. He's looking for a site near Arlington Heights. Anyone with suggestions should contact Rich. It is possible that the "Anything That Floats Boat Races" may need to be cancelled for lack of water. This news was received with several groans and a few boos, so efforts will continue to locate a site near water. Also there will be a wood exchange and possibly a small gift exchange.

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Brenda Miotke confirmed that Women In Turning will hold a meeting at 6:30 PM Friday at TOC. After the meeting they will turn Pens for Troops. On the first weekend in September a WIT Symposium will take place at Arrowmont. See website and Facebook for details. Dawn Herdon-Charles, Marie Anderson, Brenda Miotke and Julie Basrak participated in the WIT Collaborative at AAW Symposium. The collaborative piece sold for \$3,000. The buyer would like it to tour the country.

Rich Nye on demonstrators: Kip Christensen do one and two-days classes after TOC August 6-8. His classes will elaborate on what he shows in TOC demos. If classes are full, Kip has indicated he may take extras. Sign up for the waiting list. The Jason Breach demo will be September 22, with hands-on classes to follow on September 23-25. Matt has the demonstrator schedule and is taking your registrations. Fees are \$30 for the demo and \$125 per day for hand-on classes.

July Safety Tip, Frank Pagura: "Edge of Disaster" deals with things to think about with each piece of wood, starting well before installing it on the lathe. Summary handout sheet is attached. August Tip will be on chucks and faceplates. Make sure to look closely at the Putnam blanks you are taking home.

TOC: Al Miotke announced that preparations are proceeding at a fever pitch. Though 120 have registered, but we could use a few more CWT members to sign up! Al went through the list of participating vendors which includes a few new names: Thompson Tools and Thomas Stegall Drying Solutions, to name a couple. Auction pieces are coming in at a nice pace. Some of the demonstrators and professional pieces are outstanding. Members have donated beautiful pieces as well. Don't miss the gallery review, Sunday morning, by Kip Christensen and Betty Scarpino. Bring in a piece and enter The People's Choice Award contest. You can win some cash.

Membership: Roger Basrak announced that as of tonight we have 147 paid members and 71 members at tonight's meeting.

President Challenge: Andy Kuby explained "Think Inside The Box." Pieces are to be presented at the September meeting. The pieces must fit inside a box 6"x6"x6." First prize will be \$25, second prize \$15 and third prize \$10.

September meeting will have a Tool Sale, Barter, and Give-Away opportunity. Bring in items you can't use any longer and strike a deal or an exchange.

Raffle: Sol Anfuso requested some help with the raffle, picking numbers and handing out prizes. If you can, reach out to Sol.

Gallery review by Roger: Several of tonight's pieces are headed for the TOC Auction. Read details in the Demonstrator and Review Report, August Newsletter by Paul Rosen.

Respectfully Frank Pagura Secretary

10-MINUTE SAFETY PRESENTATION

Reprinted in part from an AAW article by Hilda V. Carpenter.

"ON THE EDGE OF DISASTER"

While working in our shops, we woodturners sometimes tempt disaster. The nature of standing in front of a lathe with a hunk of wood balanced between two points spinning from 400 to 4,000 RPM, attacking it with a hunk of strong steel is like "a matador facing the bull in the arena." Another suitable metaphor could be, "Like a skater on thin ice."

Knowingly or not, woodturners take risks, with danger lurking under their noses, literally. After the recent loss of Joan Gilmer, a talented and experienced turner, safety came to the forefront for all the AAW demonstrators, who now wear a full faceshield, no exception, at all the symposium rotations with the lathe turning. I think all of us should follow their lead and use eye and full-face protection at the lathe.

In this, the first of a series of 10-minute presentations, we will start to bring to your attention one of the common sources of potential trouble.

WOOD FLAWS

It is in the nature of a living organism to have flaws. In the case of wood flaws sometimes they are readily apparent; sometimes they are not. The key is to be on the lookout for cracks and grain changes, way before you decide how to mount your blank on the lathe. A large crack is obvious to the eye; however, less obviously, small fissures are where the danger lies. A blank with hidden flaws may not show its true danger while being roughed out at relatively low speed, but when the speed is increased and the form is refined, the weakness in the wood will come calling!

It is a good practice to inspect a piece that had a surprising and unexpected premature departure from a spinning lathe, assuming you can find all the pieces now scattered around your shop. The wood flaws will be readily apparent by examining the edges where the cracking took place. Remember, a sound blank will stand some turning abuse and even some tool catches, but a weak blank can be sent flying even by the smallest catch.

Will pouring glue into large deep cracks handle it? I would not bet my right eye on it, but for small surface cracks, CA glue works well. Be sure that the crack is a surface event.

Throughout the turning process, periodically check the progress of your work to make sure you have a consistency of wall thickness, and be alert to unexpected vibrations and changes of sound as your tool cuts through the wood. These could be a warning that all is not well. Be aware of where you are in relation to the bottom of the bowl or vase. We all know what happens when you cut through the bottom, and funnel shards can be lethal.

Punky, soft wood does not hold well when fastened in a four-jaw chuck. Neither does cracked wood. Gnarly, unsound wood can be successfully turned, but only if you know proper methods of stabilizing it while it whirls around, attached to the lathe.

In conclusion, it's wiser to use sound wood. Wood is far less expensive than repairs to your body parts.

Our next 10-minute safety presentation will deal with chucks, faceplates, and fastening wood to the lathe.

July 2018 Safety Presentation
Frank P. Safety Officer

Membership

Julie & Roger Basrak

Chicago Woodturners met on July 10 for our monthly meeting with 71 members present. We currently have 145 paid members.

We proudly welcome our three new members. Bob Hartnett from Rolling Meadows is actually a returning member. Glenn Wieczorek is from Chicago and heard about CWT from Clint Stevens. Bob Wiggins is from Arlington, TX, and has been visiting us once each summer for about 6 years.

We also welcomed 4 guests at our July meeting. Steve Henkel from Arlington Heights is Bob Wiggins' son-in-law. Sam Lewis is from Evanston and found out about CWT from Kathryn Connolly (who joined in February). Ed Fitch from Rolling Meadows is a former member and

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learned about CWT from Clint Stevens. Steve Egan from Rolling Meadows was invited to attend by Bob Hartnett. Welcome, one and all!

Don't forget our monthly mentoring session before each meeting from about 6:00 pm until about 6:55. All members and guests are invited to join in. It's a great opportunity to watch how another turner does something and perhaps try something new. It's also a chance to meet some of the guests and new members and maybe strike up a conversation with a member you've seen for months at the meetings but never had a chance to talk to. Volunteers are welcome and encouraged. Please see Darrell Rader, Don McCloskey, or Al Miotke if you'd be interested in helping out.

Annual dues may be paid with cash or a check at any meeting. Dues are for the calendar year from January 1 through December 31. If you discover you didn't bring a check or enough cash, feel free to send a check (\$30 for an individual membership or \$40 for a family membership) made out to Chicago Woodturners. Checks may be mailed to Chicago Woodturners, c/o Julie Basrak, 563 W. Ruhl Rd., Palatine, IL 60074.

We look forward to seeing you at the next meeting.

Raffle Winners

Sol Aufuso

Old Tools	Darek Cadmus	Cherry Burl Blank	Matt Schmitz
Banksia Nuts	Nathan Wick	Assorted Blanks	Rich Hall-Reppen
Lignum Vitae Wood	Duaine Hietpas	Collected \$115	

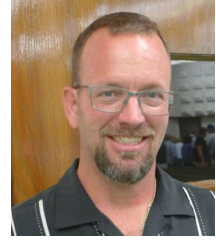
Demonstration

Paul Rosen

Our demonstrator for July was Dave Bertaud. You may recognize his name. He's the one who sends out emails to our membership when there is free wood to be had, or if someone

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has a turning job available for a woodturner. Dave took a course at Arrowmont last fall on surface embellishment, specifically, on inlaid metals. He learned how to do inlays with copper and brass.



He brought in some examples to show how metal bands were applied to the outside of his turnings. Where does he get his metal? You can't usually go to a hobby store because what they sell is copper-clad wire that is just a coating around another metal. Fortunately, one of the more



readily available sources of pure copper is electrical wire. Dave showed us an image of some 12-gauge green-colored copper wire, used as a ground wire in household electrical circuits. After he removes the green insulation, what remains is pure copper. But that copper must first be flattened and then heat-treated. In a PowerPoint presentation, he showed us a dark



blue-colored piece of machinery with gears on it that he purchased for about \$200. That press is what he uses to flatten the wire, from a cylinder into a band that is perhaps 1/8-inch wide.



The first step is to turn the item to its final shape. Dave follows this by pre-sanding the wood with 100 or 150 grit sandpaper. To accommodate the wire band, Dave first makes a circumferential channel in the turned piece. If the wire is thin, he can make a 1/16-inch V-cut with his skew chisel. (The channel should be slightly thinner than the inserted metal. The goal is to have the metal insert

stand slightly proud of the wooden surface.) If the wire is a wider, flat band, he uses a custom-made tool to make a channel or groove in the wood.

Before being inlaid, that wire must first be heat-treated. Without the heat treatment, the wire would be brittle and subject to fracturing upon impact. Dave uses a propane torch to heat the wire until it glows bright orange, and then quenches it in a vessel of water. Then he uses standard Titebond wood glue or cyanoacrylate (CA) glue and gently hammers the metal band into the channel while the piece is still on the lathe. Dave uses a light-weight hammer (about the size of a carpet tack hammer) with a series of gentle taps to ease the metal into place.



Note: the hammering must be performed *before* the vessel is hollowed out. Once the hammering is completed, Dave has a trick. He takes a moist towel, wraps it around the turning, and then applies a heated iron to the towel surface. This has the effect of removing any hammer marks that might be left in the wood. Once the glue dries, he can sand the piece, which also brings out the bright color of freshly abraded copper or brass.



Dave also brought in some round wooden boxes with a pivoting top, held in place by a pin positioned diametrically opposite a pair of inlaid cylindrical magnets. Paul Shotola had brought in three boxes of the same design for the critique table last month. But in

Dave's case, there were thin metal inlays positioned in a flare pattern on the side of the box, along with some airbrushed colors. These inlays were quite thin, so I suspect Dave had to carve the small channels manually before inlaying the metal with glue and hammer.



So now that you know how he does it, will you bring in a turning with metal inlays for the critique table next month?

Gallery

Jason Clark

July's featured turning is by Mark Jardanian. It's pretty clear why this piece was selected to be featured here, and it's even more apparent when you learn that this piece was selected as the People's Choice co-winner at Turn-On Chicago 2018 this past weekend. What you may not know is that this is only Mark's 14th bowl ever. Mark showed me diagrams of the layout of this piece several months ago, and it's amazing that he was able to accomplish this, particularly with so little experience.

I'm confident that there are few members of the Chicago Woodturners that would even



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think about turning this and even fewer that would be able to do it successfully. Congratulations Mark.



CWT News

Here are upcoming events scheduled for the remainder of the year. See earlier sections of the newsletter or the CWT website for more information.

- Sept. 11: CWT monthly meeting
- Sept. 22: Jason Breach demo
- Sept. 23-25: Jason Breach classes
- Oct. 9: CWT monthly meeting
- Dec. 1: Empty Bowls event
- Dec. 11: CWT Christmas Party

AAW News

Are you a segmenter who wants to learn new techniques? Are you new to segmenting and interested in learning from some of the best? Do you want to see one of the largest, most amazing Instant Galleries of segmented work ever assembled? It's happening this fall when the Segmented Woodturners, an international online chapter of the AAW, will host the **6th Segmented Woodturning Symposium**, October 11-14 at the Marriott St. Louis West Hotel, featuring 45 demonstrators, including CWT's own Al Miotke. Registration is at www.segmentedwoodturning.org. (Segmented vase at right by Scott Holman.)



Members of AAW are reminded to vote for positions on the Board of Directors. Before voting, you can read candidate statements to learn about the nominees and their goals for the organization. On the website are directions for voting. Voting ends August 31.

For Sale, Trade, or Wanted

Shop Light

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.

Meeting Agendas		
Date	Gallery Review	Demonstration
August 14	Clint Stevens	Don McCloskey - Open Segmenting
September 11	Darrell Rader	Marie Anderson - Ornaments
October 9	Paul Pyrcik	TBD
November 13	TBD	TBD - Embellishments & Tricks

Chicago Woodturners Board of Directors and Committee Chairs 2018			
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Demonstrations	Rich Nye	630-406-1855	nyewoodturning@earthlink.net



About us

Membership in the Chicago Woodturners Association is open to anyone wishing to increase their turning skills through education, discussion and critique. Annual dues are \$30 for a single membership and \$40 for a family. Visit our website for an application or contact: Julie Basrak, Membership Chairman.

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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www.chicagowoodturners.com

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