

As the Wood Turns

NEWSLETTER OF THE
CHICAGO WOODTURNERS ASSOCIATION



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

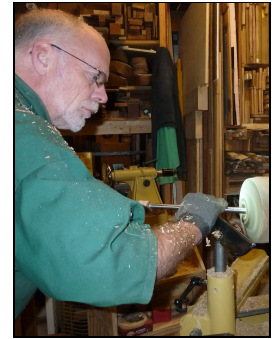
AAW | AMERICAN ASSOCIATION
OF WOODTURNERS

September Newsletter 2018

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President's Curls



The President's Challenge will be judged at the September meeting. The only rule is that the entry must fit in the 6 inch by 6 inch by 6 inch box I will bring with me. Judging will be by secret ballot of the members. There will be a cash prize.

Summer is now officially over. Time to regroup and restart all those projects that got postponed over the summer. If you don't have enough, CWT has some interesting things coming up.

Starting with the Annual CWT Picnic on September 16. This year we will be at Kimball Hill Park in Rolling Meadows, 3266 Kirchoff Road, starting at noon. Wood/project exchange (wrapped), food (bring a dish to pass), boat race? The Invitations should be in your email. Please RSVP so we know how to plan.

The Ornamental Turners Symposium in Seattle on September 20-22. CWT will be well represented.

Jason Breach will be at CWT for a Saturday demonstration at CLA on September 22nd and master classes in Geneva September 23-25. Check with Matt Schmitz to see if there are any openings.

Segmented Turners Symposium in St. Louis October 12-14. Our own Al Miotke is President of this virtual club and the meeting should be well attended by CWT members.

SOFA (Sculptural Objects Functional Art) comes to town again on November 1.. As we have in the past, CWT will host turning demonstrations in competition with glass-blowing by Corning Glass. This year we may have to ignite one of our turnings in order to keep up. Nothing attracts a crowd better than fire. Please talk to Al Miotke or Andy Kuby to volunteer for set-up, video, demonstrator or cleanup duties.

Empty Bowls will be at Oakton Community College December 1. We need volunteers as well as donations of bowls. See Marie Anderson to volunteer. Marie and Rich Nye are setting up a turning weekend at Normac for Empty Bowls. Bowl blanks will be provided from the Putnam Stash. A good way to get some additional mentoring or just plain lathe time and do a good deed at the same time. See Rich or Marie for more details.

Remember, 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

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wood and miscellaneous goodies. There will be time at the beginning of the meeting and the break for negotiations. We'll try not to cut into Marie Anderson's demo.

The September meeting demonstration is by Marie Anderson on Ornaments and the Gallery Review is by Darrell Rader. Looking forward to seeing you all there.

Andy Kuby, President

Secretary's Report

Frank Pagura

Tonight's gallery will be reviewed by Clint Stevens.
The demo, on open segmenting, is by Don McCloskey.

Tim Putnam's bowl blanks are on the back tables for the taking. Remember to bring one finished item for Beads of Courage or Empty Bowls in exchange. In September we hope present donated Beads of Courage containers for Lurie's Children Hospital.

December 1 at 10:00 AM is Empty Bowls at Oakton Community College; Don McCloskey is still taking in all donations.

Rich Nye and Marie are still planning a bowl turning session, for making bowls to sell at Empty Bowls. Keep bugging them for time and place.

Andy announced that new members will receive a copy of the AAW Journal to encourage them to join.

The Pens For Troops event at TOC produced 54 pens, which made Don McCloskey happy. He reported over a thousand pens have been donated, but he is still looking for more.

Andy Kuby was wearing a spiffy yellow TOC shirt tonight, which he identified as the shirt worn by the volunteers who put on the very first TOC. He commented that it is unfortunate that the volunteer group wearing the Ultra Chic Salmon shirt at this year's TOC was made up, almost entirely, by the same group of volunteers wearing the first yellow shirt. He added that it was nice to have a few new faces in the group, but we are always looking for more. We are already starting on 2020 TOC plans.

We have lots of opportunities for members to participate: looking for new demonstrators, gallery reviewers, mentoring and general help getting things done, sharing experiences and bringing new ideas into play to benefit everyone. If you “feel the calling,” see Andy or Don and get more details. Don’t just sit on that log -- show us what you can turn out of it!

Al Miotke gave a brief report on TOC. It was a success. The results indicated that registration took care of expenses and the Raffle and Auction netted \$ 17,300. The exit survey gave a 4.9 rating on a scale of 1 to 5, so it looks as though we were firing on all cylinders.

Demonstrators, such as Harvey Meyer, commented that TOC is one of the best organized regional symposiums he has attended. Betty Scarpino was glad to have participated; she announced this is the last demonstration in her long career. It was good to go out in style.

Brenda reported that Women in Turning’s first formation meeting took place at TOC with 15 women turners attending. Already plans are being made for a club collaboration to be presented at the AAW 2019 Symposium in Raleigh, NC.

Rich Nye confirmed that the Jason Breach demo is at Christian Liberty on September 22 with hands-on classes on September 23-25, 2018 at Normac.

Rich Hall-Reppen gave final details about the annual club picnic. Site is Kimball Hill Park, 3266 Kirchoff Road in Rolling Meadows, Illinois. Date is September 16, and the time is from 11AM to 3 or 4 PM. There will be a bring-one take-one wood exchange and a small turned item exchange. Flat work is okay. All pieces should be wrapped so what you get is a surprise. Bring one dish to share, and the club will provide meat to grill and beverages.

Julie announced that paid up-to-date membership is 152, and tonight’s attendance is 70 members. Our newest member is Julie Smith, who joined at TOC. Also three guests were in attendance tonight.

The monthly raffle took place. Sal will announce final figures in the newsletter.

Andy Kuby’s President Challenge, “Thinking Inside The Box,” involves turning a piece that fits in a 6”x6”x6” box. Pieces will be presented at the September Meeting. First prize is \$25, second prize \$15, third prize \$10.

The September meeting will have a tool sale, barter, give-away table.

Betty Scarpino gave us two unfinished pod demo pieces. They were given to Rich Nye and Roberto Ferrer to finish as collaborative projects.

Rich Nye announced he had box elder and maple for sale and give away in his van. Roberto has some walnut branches in his truck to give away. See both in the parking lot at break.

Tonight's "Ten-Minute Safety Presentation" is on chucks, tenons and faceplates. How to maintain a chuck, make a matching tenon and use safe screws on a faceplate were discussed. A handout sheet was passed out and will be reprinted in the newsletter.

Clint Stevens did the gallery review. Among the several "Pearls of Wisdom" was his insightful comment about collaborations and all they accomplish. Several shapes, sizes, experiments, and well proven standard forms made up tonight's gallery.

Don McCloskey showed his open segmented techniques in his demo. Sizing, cutting, sanding and jigs for glue up on the faceplates were demonstrated. Don also included sources for patterns and designs.

Meeting ended at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted by
Frank Pagura, Secretary

Membership

Julie & Roger Basrak

On Tuesday, August 14, Chicago Woodturners met in the second floor meeting room at CLA, 502 West Euclid Avenue, in Arlington Heights. Of the 153 paid members, 73 were in attendance.

We welcomed one new member, Julie Schmidt from Antioch, who was invited by Bob Leonard. We also welcomed three visitors to the meeting. The visitors were Richard Bretz from Mt. Prospect (who learned about CWT from Don Felch), and Chuck Siegel and Allen Weintraub, both from Mundelein and both invited by Scott Barrett.

Don't forget that all members, including new members, and guests are welcome to join us each month at the front of the room for mentoring sessions. The mentoring sessions are held prior to the meeting, from about 6:00 pm until about 6:50 pm. It's a great opportunity

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to see and try turning -- up close and personal. Feel free to introduce yourself to anyone in the group that you don't already know.

If you would like to volunteer to mentor or assist the mentor, please talk to Darrell Rader, Don McCloskey or Al Miotke.

CWT annual dues are \$30 (individual membership) or \$40 (family membership). Annual dues cover the calendar year from January 1 through December 31, regardless of when they are paid. Either cash or a check can be accepted at any meeting or demonstration. Otherwise, feel free to send a check for the correct amount and payable to Chicago Woodturners to the following address: 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

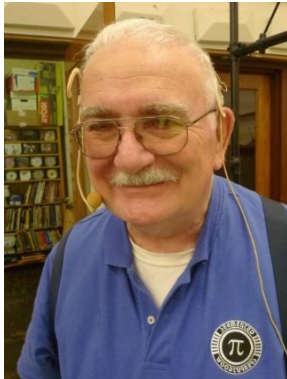
Sol Aufuso

Bowl Blank	#500, did not pick up	Four Pre-turned Bowls	Hector E. Olheda
Riveter and sandpaper discs	#546, did not pick up	Center Finder & \$20 Rocker gift card	Jim Jackson
Pen Blanks	Peter Morjai	Collected \$160	

Demonstration

Paul Rosen

Open Segmented Turning



Our demonstrator for August was Master Chief Don McCloskey, USN, Ret. Don also serves as the CWT VP, as he spearheads our efforts to support both Pens for Troops and the Empty Bowls project at Oakton Community College. Don brought in about a half dozen of his open segmented pieces and gave us a demo plus PowerPoint explanation of how he makes these turnings.

Segmented turning has been around for the last 50 years or so. One of the earlier masters of the craft was Ray Allen, whose work was commemorated in a popular book by the late Dale Nish. Allen was proud of the fact that his segmented pieces fit together so perfectly that there would never be any visual gaps. He was so confident there would be no such flaws in his work that he often said, “If you find a gap in one of my pieces, you can have it.”

At some point in time, someone asked the question, “What if I were to make a segmented turning with gaps left intentionally between adjacent pieces?” Clearly, the piece would not hold water, but it would permit the transmission of light say, if a candle were placed within it. That very design was one of Don’s first open segmented projects.

So how to you make an open segmented turning? Don’s advice: go get the book by William Smith. So I did. The book, published in 2002 by Schiffer Publishing, Ltd., is only 64 pages in length, but it’s richly illustrated with step-by-step color photos, marred only by poor color correction. It cost less than \$20 delivered to my door via Amazon, and was a most worthy acquisition.

To start, you want to choose two different woods, usually a light and a dark color. Recommended light woods include holly, maple, or poplar, paired with a darker wood, like walnut, mahogany, paduk, or cherry. These woods turn well, and glue together nicely. To



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make the individual pieces, you start by ripping a series of strips from boards of the same thickness, e.g., 3/4-inch or 1-inch. The thickness of the strips that you cut will determine the height of your segments. Strips should all be of uniform thickness. To assure this outcome, each strip must be run through a thickness planer or a drum sander. Don uses 0.375-inch (3/8-inch) strips.

These strips must then be cross cut into individual segments. They are trapezoidal in shape, i.e., not square. Here's where the pre-planning comes into play. You probably want to make two drawings. The first drawing will be a side view of your project. Bill Smith uses a sample vessel that looks like a highball glass. It has a base and a top rim, each made from single pieces of solid (non-segmented) wood. There are also ten layers of broken segments, glued atop one another. These layers form a series of broken rings whose outside diameter ranges from 3.5-inches to 5-inches. This means that the base length at which each trapezoid is cut will be different, depending upon the outer diameter (OD) of each broken ring. But there's a second variable: number of segments per ring.

The second drawing you need to make defines how many segments will be present in a given broken ring. Sound confusing? It is. But Bill Smith has provided a series of charts/drawings in the back of his book to help us. Here is an excerpt from one of his charts:

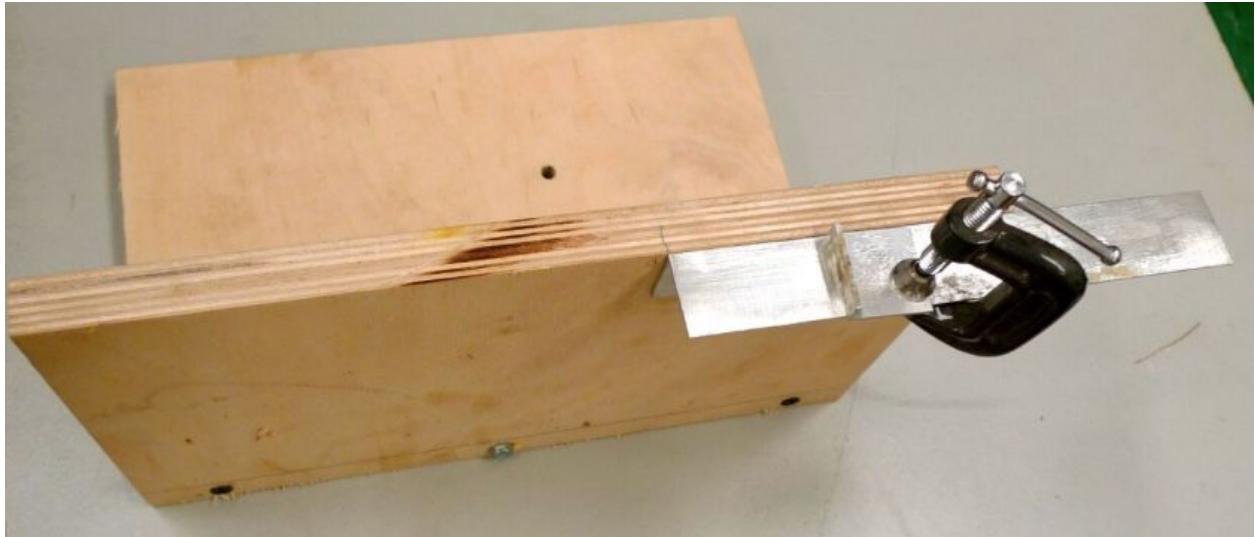
Segments	12	15	16	20	24	25
Miter Angle (degrees)	10	8	7.5	6	5	4.8
Diameter						
2-in	0.359	0.285	0.267	0.212	0.176	0.169
2.5-in	0.449	0.356	0.333	0.265	0.221	0.212

I've filled in only two diameters, but the actual chart contains diameters that range from 2 inches to 10 inches, in increasing 0.25-inch increments. The three-place decimal figures in the chart above represent the length of the base, in inches, for each trapezoidal piece. Many full-sized lathes have an indexing head to permit division of a circle into 24 segments, so you could confine your attention to the column headed by "24" above, and then select only the individual layer diameters relevant to your planned turning. Smith

confides that you probably don't need 3-decimal-place accuracy in your cutting measurements; approximating the second decimal place is probably sufficient.

Cutting the Trapezoids

Bill Smith recommends making a sliding jig for your table saw that includes two features. The first is a pinned straight edge that pivots atop the plywood base, to permit you to



adjust your miter angle (second row in chart above) of the cut. The second feature would be an adjustable stop block, to define the final length of each segment. Smith uses a 24-inch square piece of baltic birch, covered on both surfaces with Formica laminate, and a hard maple runner cut precisely to fit in his table saw miter slot. To make the cut more precise, a 6-inch blade with no set (read: plywood blade) is also recommended. Once you have accumulated a pile of miniature trapezoids, you might notice that each cut edge has a small burr from the saw blade. Remove that burr with a couple of swipes across 240-grit sandpaper. This helps assure that the flat surfaces of adjacent segments will mate precisely to form a stronger glue joint.

Before using the jig, set the proper angle first. Then make your first cut off the end of the strip. Then you flip the strip 180 degrees, advance it to the stop block, and make the second cut. The second cut defines the length for the base of the trapezoid. Repeat.

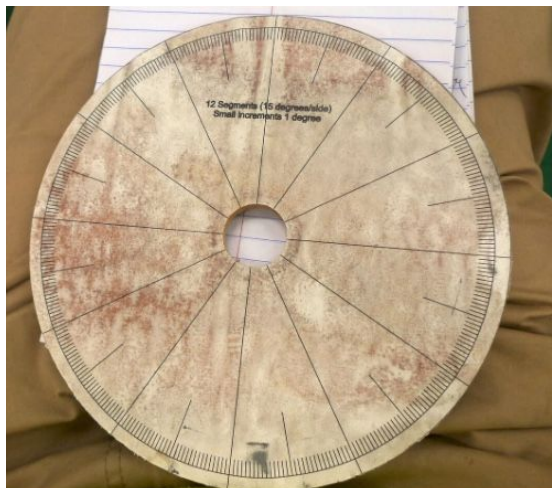
You could also make a similar sliding sled for your bandsaw. The substrate would be a 3/4-inch piece of medium density fiberboard (MDF), 18-inches wide by 14-inches deep, also fitted with a 3/4-inch x 3/8-inch runner of hard maple to fit the miter slot. The top would be fitted with a straight-edged piece of hardwood, pinned on one end so as to pivot, to permit adjustment of the desired cutting angle. Bandsaws are probably a little bit safer for cutting these small segments, but they leave a more ragged cutting edge. Smith

suggests sanding each sawed edge with 240-grit sandpaper to remove kerf marks and improve cosmetic appearance.

Two Jigs: Indexing Disk and Positioning Jig

At this point, you will need to construct two jigs. The first one Don showed us was a plywood disk divided into 12 segments and 12 half-segments. Smith uses a 9-inch square piece of 1/8-inch fiberglass, which he later cuts into a circle using his bandsaw. But first, you make a paper template. Using a compass, draw a circle on the paper, with a diameter of 9 inches. Mark the center, as you will later need to drill a hole in the plywood or Plexiglas to mount the jig on your head stock. For a 12-segment indexing wheel, draw 12 equally-spaced radii starting at the center of the circle. Then draw 12 shorter lines, bisecting each segment, starting at the outer circumference of the circle. Glue this paper template to your backing material (plywood or Plexiglas). Smith uses Super 77 spray adhesive from 3M Corporation. Spray the adhesive on the back of the paper template *and* on the backing material. Press together and let dry. After the contact cement has cured, spray on a coating of Deft or Krylon to protect the paper surface. Next, using a Forstner bit, drill a hole precisely in the center of your indexing disk. The diameter of the Forstner bit should match the shaft diameter on your lathe, e.g., 1-inch or 1-1/4-inches. In use, this indexing wheel can be mounted to either the outboard or inboard side of your headstock shaft.

Make an indexing pointer. One method is to cut a piece of 1-inch wide aluminum to a length equal to the distance between the center of your lathe shaft and the table upon which the lathe is mounted. Screw the aluminum to a 3/4-inch piece of pine. The pine base can be clamped to the surface of your lathe table. In use, you will align the top edge of the aluminum with the appropriate radial line on the disk, and rotate the lathe shaft intermittently for each glued-on segment.



The second jig, called the “positioning jig,” fits on the lathe bed ways. This jig defines the radial distance of each segment from the center point of rotation. Since the OD of a given ring will vary, this jig needs to be adjustable. You will need two pieces of 3/4-inch plywood. The base piece is about 12-inches square. Measure the distance between the ways of your lathe bed, and then cut a piece of hardwood (or Plexiglas) to exactly this width, and perhaps 6-inches long. Screw this piece to the bottom of the 12-inch square, parallel to one edge of the base and 3-inches

back from said edge. This assembly should slide between the ways with no slop.

Next, measure the distance between the center of your lathe shaft and the top of your bed ways. Subtract 1/8-inch from this distance, and cut the second piece of plywood to this length, with the other side 6-inches wide. This plywood piece will be mounted vertically (at a right angle) to the base using glue and screws. (The back edge of the 6-inch piece should be even with the back edge of the base, and located on the surface of the base closest to the headstock.) Next, cut a piece of 1-inch x 1-inch aluminum right-angle stock to about 8-inches in length, and screw/glue the aluminum to the top edge of the vertical plywood piece. The top edge of this angled stock will be the bearing surface for a moveable stop. That stop will define the distance between the center of the turning and the OD of a given ring.

Glue-up/Assembly

Construction actually occurs on the lathe. Smith starts with a sacrificial 2.5-inch square of plywood, held firmly within the four jaws of his scroll chuck. Alternately, you could screw the sacrificial block into a faceplate. Attach (glue) the base of your turning to the sacrificial block; bring up the tailstock to exert pressure on the base, and allow to cure. Then face off the surface of the base (top/inner surface of the vessel) so it is dead flat.

On a flat surface near your lathe, lay out a line of dark and light segments, in the order you will use for glue-up. Align the pointer on your radial jig to one of the 12 radial lines. Clamp this position with a spring clamp, so the lathe cannot rotate. Set the adjustable stop on your positioning jig to the proper radial distance from center. Lay the first segment on its side, touching the aluminum right-angle piece, and glue on the first segment. Titebond “original formula” is recommended (the one with the red-colored label). Manually hold the piece in place for about 5 seconds. No clamping is necessary. Then loosen the spring clamp and advance the positioning disk counter-clockwise (when viewed from the tailstock end of the lathe) so the pointer lines up with the next major radial line, and clamp. Glue on the next segment. Repeat.



After the first layer of segments has been glued into place, wait 10 or 15 minutes for the glue to dry. You will need to turn on the lathe to flatten this ring so it is a flush surface upon which the next ring pieces will be glued. To flatten, use a round-nosed scraper (gently), or put a piece of sandpaper on a sanding block and gently touch the surface with

the lathe running at say 250 rpm. (Not real fast.) Repeat this process until all rings are built up. Then apply/glue the top rim piece in place. Turn outside to final shape.

Why would you want to do open segmented turning? Well, for one thing, it's a more economical use of wood. Less of the starting material ends up as shavings on the floor.



True, you won't see the beauty of a gorgeous burl or birdseye pattern in the finished work. But there is the technical-intellectual challenge, as well as the artistic design possibilities that accompany open segmented turning. If you're into instant gratification, maybe this isn't really the route you want to take.

For further reading, go online to Amazon.com and search "segmented woodturning." You'll find about a dozen books listed, some of them on open segmented turning. And for what I thought was an exceptional article on the first segmented woodturning symposium, held at the Marc Adams School of Woodworking back in 2008, go to page 43 of the Summer 2009 issue of *American Woodturner*. John Jaworowicz, an anesthesiologist from Rockford, IL, and a segmented woodturner, summarized the symposium, which included William Smith, Malcolm Tibbetts, and Curt Theobald as featured presenters/instructors. Or visit segmentedwoodturners.org. You might recognize the current president of the Segmented Woodturners as a familiar face.

Gallery

Jason Clark



This month we feature a Boxelder nested set by Ken Staggs. I've done a fair amount of coring myself over the years using the McNaughton coring system, and it's rarely easy. I believe Ken said this was his first cored set, and in that case, it's quite an accomplishment. The bowls are well shaped and they're proportional to each other. It's easy to go too deep or too shallow on one of the cores, and when you do, the end result

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suffers a bit as the bowls won't be proportional to each other in either height or width or both. Ken's set looks to be right on the money and the red coloring that boxelder is known for doesn't hurt the appearance of the set any. Congratulations Ken.



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. 16: CWT annual picnic
- Sept. 22: Jason Breach demo
- Sept. 23-25: Jason Breach classes
- Oct. 9: CWT monthly meeting
- Nov. 1: SOFA in Chicago
- 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.)



If you are traveling, here are two woodturning events that might fit with your schedule. First, the Rocky Mountain Woodturning Symposium, September 14-16, in Loveland, CO. See <http://rmwoodturningsymposium.com> for more information. Second, the Mid- Atlantic Woodturning Symposium, September 28-30, in Lancaster, PA. See <http://www.mawts.com>

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.

Meeting Agendas

Date	Gallery Review	Demonstration
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			
President	Andy Kuby	847-922-8201	riverwoodsturner@gmail.com
Vice President	Don McCloskey	847-420-6978	mccloskey@ameritech.net
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Treasurer	Matthew Schmitz	847-439-6023	angelhaus@comcast.net
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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 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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