

Est. 1988

September, 2022

Vol. 34, Issue No. 9

As the Wood Turns

Chicago Woodturners Newsletter

A chapter of the American Association of Woodturners

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Special points of interest:

- Andy Cole Coring Class
- Segmenting Symposium
- MPG+ Small Turning Expo
- AAW Symposium 2023 Louisville, Kentucky
- 2022 Calendar

PLEASE, Keep Your Early Woodturnings –by Clint Stevens

Several Chicago Woodturners members shared their early woodturning efforts with us at the August meeting.

Everyone who participated deserves our thanks because it takes courage to display early efforts.

It also demonstrates something very important. Many of us would like to bury or burn our first efforts, but that would be a mistake.

Take for instance, Salvador Dali, whose Persistence of Time, painted in 1931 (upper right) is one the world's most recognized pieces of Surrealism.

Why is this a topic important to woodturners and their early projects?

Consider that Dali was painting at the age of six. Landscape Near Figueras is an example (See Page 7)

Early works have an innocence brought by lack of experience in life and in the

studio. Had he been discouraged and given up in their early years, the world would be a poorer place.

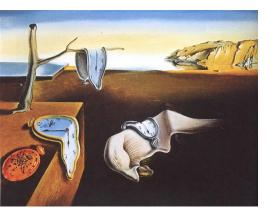
Woodturning: A Journey, with Moments in Time

The names of these artists' early works are in an addendum to this article and can be easily viewed online.

Let's contrast these artists with Congo the chimpanzee, who was a prolific artist from the 1950's. I introduce Congo not as a joke, but to make a point. Congo would love to create multicolored



works with quick broad strokes. Congo enjoyed eating as much paint as he used on his paintings. He had some notoriety and his works once famously outsold Andy Worhol's at a London



auction house. He was praised by and later embarrassed art critics when his work was initially presented unaccredited at one art gallery.

Congo demonstrated artistic desire and a talent unrecognized in primates before him. Unfortunately, Congo did not improve his style or significantly change his techniques over the years.



Congo, circa 1950



Editor's Corner | Phil Moy

Last week I attended my 50th Class reunion for Lindblom Technical High School, which is on Chicago's South Side.

The event is relevant to this newsletter in that my first lathe experience was in woodshop.

We talked about that experience, making tic/tac/toe boards, chessboards. footstools and colonial tables. We also

talked about plastics shop, auto shop, metal shop, and electric shop.

I didn't know that at one point the Chicago Board of Education wanted to shut down LTHS because they didn't want shops anymore. There was a fierce fight, but the school survived, although now it's known as Lindblom Math & Science Academy.

The lack of hands-on capabilities is very evident in the young workforce, business owners everywhere lament the skill level of applicants.

Activities like Chaparral Day at COD play an important role in introducing skills that are no longer taught in schools.

This issue has a lot of content contributions, articles, pictures and ideas from club members.

Thanks to an extra long President's Curls from Andy, A new Meet the Woodturner from Brenda, a perspective that only experience can offer from Clint Stevens (front page), and articles from Marie for WIT, Empty Bowls and a Wood You Should Know article.

Keep those articles coming in, together they offer a better look at the scope and depth of the Chicago Woodturners Club!





Letters to the Editor

mini-lathe out of storage!

Comments or ideas? Send them to the Editor! P.S. My mailbox is empty most of the time! Email them to: phil@windycitywoodturnings.com

As the Wood Turns is a monthly publication of the Chicago Woodturners, a Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners.

A scoutmaster sat COD said that watching his scouts turning pens, as well

as these examples of turned objects was enough for him to consider pulling his

President, Andy Kuby Vice President, Rich Hall-Reppen Treasurer, Mike Canfield Secretary, Frank Pagura Newsletter Editor, Phil Moy

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President's Curls | Andy Kuby

September 2022

We have officially entered the national election season, and the Chicago Woodturners will not be far behind. This year the offices of President and Secretary are up for consideration.

Nominations will be accepted at the October meeting. This is an all-volunteer organization, so if you don't do it, somebody else has to. In the Chicago Woodturners, like any organization, less than ten percent of the members do ninety percent of the work.

Our ten percent is beginning to get burned out. Volunteer and get involved, at any level. Remember, if you are not participating you can't complain about how things are going.



Andy offering advice to a junior pen turner at COD

CWT MEETING Tuesday Sept 13, 2022 *In person at CLA!* or join us via Zoom!



https://us02web.zoom.us/ j/85767375122 I have had the honor of serving as your president since December 2017. During that time the club has faced challenges, but members have stepped up and faced each one head on. Without the active participation of these volunteers, the club would not be what it is today, even though there is still work to be done. I look forward to joining the Board of Directors, as Past President, to continue this work. Some of the areas I believe we should be focused on are:

Increased coordination with other local clubs and the AAW.

Expanded outreach programs, Beads of Courage, Pens for Troops, Scouts, School

Programs, Empty Bowls, etc.

Building our membership, with emphasis on a younger demographic.

Continuing the upgrades to our audio-visual capabilities for live-stream meetings and remote demonstrations.

Following are some highlights from the past four years:

April 2018: Scott Barrett was honored for one of the best club Websites by AAW. The Education Committee began awarding Grants to further woodturning education and advancement. Tim Putnam donated numerous bowl blanks (which we are still distributing, five years later)

September 2018: A newsletter article noted that most of the 2018 Turn-On! Chicago volunteers were the same ones who put on the first Turn-On! Chicago in 2008.

November 2018: USML informed Chicago Woodturners that it will no longer available for Turn-On! Chicago and the search for a new venue began. Around the same time, NORMAC told Chicago Woodturners they needed the warehouse space for a new contract, and we must relocate all our equipment. Our \$1 / year lease is terminated.

January 2019: Turn-On! Chicago has found a new home at Pheasant Run and planning begins for the 2020 symposium. Chicago Woodturners initiates a partnership with the Chicago School of Woodworking and the club gets a permanent space for our equipment and classes. The club awards a grant to Bob Shuford to start Evanston Art Center woodturning classes, which continue to the present.

April 2019: At the first Ornamental Turners Symposium, held at Chicago School of Woodworking, there were eight rose engines in one room, probably the most in one place since the 1800's. The symposium wass small but quickly sold out.

December 2019: Pheasant Run declares bankruptcy and Turn-On! Chicago is once again out on the street. Quick work by the committee finds a new venue at the Crown Plaza in

Continued on Page 7



August Meeting Minutes | Frank Pagura

Tonight, demonstration will be replaced by a Then and Now picture presentation Rich Hall-Reppen will be reviewing member pictures of first and current turned pieces.

AAW news Louisville 2023 symposium is set make plans to sign up. Several new demonstrator videos are being produced be on the lookout for releases.

WIT news Helga Winters on November 5, 2022 Outreach program.

August 20, 2022, **Scouts pen turning event** at College of DuPage 10:00 am to 4:00 pm, a few more volunteers are needed see Rich Hall-Reppen

Empty bowls The annual sale event is scheduled for October 8, 2022, in Batavia at the board walk, like last year. Marie Anderson and John Dillon will coordinate volunteers time slots. They will be taking bowl donations up to the event day.



Frank guiding a Scout at COD Also, a couple of bowl turning dates are set for The School of Woodworking August 28 and September 18, 2022, to make bowls for the December 2, 2022 Oakton Empty Bowls event which is going to be in person after the last couple of years Covid cancellations.

Mark Dreyer announced that the **Small Turning Expo** is set for November 5-6, 2022 World Class demonstrators, two days of demos for only \$59. See all details in the CWT Newsletter.

Christmas Party December 13, 2022, Brenda would like to have a small turning for each of the tables for a center peace, see her if you can provide one or more.

TOC Report. Al reported that the Symposium was successful. Considering the trepidations and concerns Covid has posed, attendance was good and everything went as scheduled with the help of all the volunteers, spearheaded by Kurt Wolff-Klammer.

It also was a financial success thanks to a lively live auction and banquet. A final wrap-up zoom meeting is scheduled for August 23 at 7:00 pm

Member news Seven members took part in the 3 days hand-on class on Bowl Coring and more, with Andy Cole. Reports are that this was a fun and successful event. Several coring systems were used to core live edge bowls. Andy also showed how to make a calabash bowl and his fried egg platter.

Safety Rerport Frank showed a you tube video of a tool being dropped from the lathe bed to the floor over a live cord which severed the cord caused a spark which ignited shavings of a resin project not cleaned up yet. One of the good things was the readily available fire extinguisher which saved the day.

The moral of the story, invest in a decent fire extinguisher install it in a convenient location, IT MAY SAVE YOUR SHOP.

Beads of courage. Andy would like to make a delivery soon he still needs boxes to have enough to drop off. Call him if you have completed boxes to arrange pick up or drop off.

Membership 43 members attended tonight's Virtual meeting.

Hopefully we will return to in person meetings starting with the September meeting at CLA.

Dutifully submitted by Frank Pagura, Secretary

7th Segmenting Symposium

September 22-25, 2022

Crown Plaza Northbrook Hotel and Convention Center 2875 North Milwaukee Ave, Northbrook, Illinois 60062

Registration is open

Join us for this unique international symposium. Meet and learn from the best in segmented woodturning.











Jerry Bennett

Robin Costelle

Tom Lohman

Jim Rodgers

Curt Malcolm Theobald Tibbetts



Bob

Behnke



Steve

Bonny

Martha

Collins

Tom Kenyon

Wayne Miller

Al Miotke

Benefits of attendance

5 classrooms with almost 50 rotations Tradeshow Instant Gallery Special Friday evening sessions Saturday banquet with awards and entertainment Raffle

Spouse/companion activities

A lot of fun, education, and the opportunity to meet other segmenters

For more information and to register, visit:

www.segmentedwoodturners.org

you can also contact Al Miotke at al@segmentedwoodturners.org

Meet the Woodturner | Brenda Miotke

Meet The Turner - Graham McLachlan

Graham has been turning since 2015. He began his journey into woodturning after taking classes held by Clint Stevens, his first teacher at the "old" location of the Chicago School of Woodworking. Before he took the woodturning class, Graham had previously taken nearly every class offered at the school.

His interest in wood became apparent when he would build things by hand, without the knowledge of what he could do! Graham enjoys makes bowls and boxes - especially piston fit ring boxes and Sushi style square dishes.

Since taking classes with Clint, Graham's goal is learn to be a good teacher of woodturning. He has been teaching some classes but feels he can still learn a lot from taking classes.

His love of making bowls comes from taking classes with Glenn Lucas and although he has not taken classes with Stuart Batty, he finds his on line presentations very inspiring.

Graham attended the AAW Symposium in Portland followed by the 2018 Turn-On! Chicago Symposium and enjoyed both.

Graham's shop is located in the basement of his home where he turns on a Powermatic 3520B and has a pretty full shop filled with power tools. He is pretty happy with his Powermatic with the exception of all the dust...but isn't that everyone's complaint!

Graham's full time job is as much fun as turning since he plays guitar and other instruments for the Chicago production of The Blue Man Group.

I am thinking a Chicago Woodturning group outing!

Graham has been keeping busy restoring his home. He also likes to bake sourdough bread! Another hobby I can get behind! I

t was an enjoyable conversation and I was happy to Meet the Turner!

Brenda





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Curls | Andy Kuby (cont.)

Northbrook, which is a substantial improvement.

April 2020: Turn-On! Chicago was cancelled due to the pandemic and the Chicago Woodturners began remote meetings for the same reason.

June 2020: AAW Symposium was cancelled due to concerns about the pandemic. The Buffalo Grove Woodcraft store closed and the Chicago Woodturners display case was moved to the Chicago School of Woodworking. Clint Stevens took over from Paul Rosen reporting on each club demonstration. Paul left some large shoes to fill.

July 2021: Over a year later we were still meeting remotely but an inperson meeting was scheduled. We tried to integrate zoom with inperson meetings, with mixed success.

January 2022: The pandemic returned and the Chicago Woodturner were back to remote meetings. This didn't last long, and the Chicago Woodturners began to meet in-person depending upon risk level.

February 2022: The Chicago Woodturners newsletter "As the Wood Turns" finally gets a new editor, Phil Moy. Phil is experienced in public relations and newsletter publication which is immediately apparent.

April 2022: The Chicago Woodturner's April in-person meeting, the first in a couple of months, was cancelled at the last minute due to construction at CLA and a nearby auto accident which caused a power outage.

June 2022: At the 2022 AAW Symposium, Chicago Woodturners was awarded best chapter newsletter, because of Phil Moy's improvements.

Even though Chicago Woodturners were ready to meet in person, Christian Liberty Academy decided they need the meeting room for curriculum development and we were kicked out for the rest of the summer.

July 2022: Turn-On! Chicago at the Crown Plaza Northbrook, finally!

Thank you., Andy



Woodturning, A Journey | Clint Stevens (cont.)

Although Congo was stuck in his techniques, humans can improve or change their art with time and experience.

Whether you consider woodturning to be an art, craft or pleasant way to spend an afternoon, the woodturner can improve. The later turnings of any individual reflects the time spent at the lathe and learning from others. The later turnings incorporate lessons learned from creating legacy pieces as well as mistakes that land on the floor or in the trash bin. Keeping our early projects help us to appreciate how our styles and techniques have changed and hopefully improved over time. For many years I have been unable to satisfy what the words "art" and "craft" mean to me. All I am sure of is that art is one direct expression of what it means to be human. When you are at the lathe, you are continuing an ancient desire to create something functional, or not, that expresses much about yourself.

Smile, you are doing important work.

Addendum: Early works of famous artists, images available online.

Pablo Picasso, Le Picador (1890)

Salvador Dali, Landscape Near Figueras (1910)

Claude Monet, Vue prize a Rouelles (1858)



Salvador Dali, Landscape Near Figueras (1910)



Women in Turning (WIT) brings together women worldwide who share a passion for woodturning. WIT is dedicated to encouraging and assisting women in their pursuit of turning, to sharing ideas and processes to further members' skills and creativity, and to increasing participation of women in the field of woodturning.

I challenge you to make a difference this month. Do you know someone with whom you would like to share your passion for woodturning? Bring someone that might be interested in woodturning to the next meeting. Introduce them to the joy that we call woodturning! More is always more. Share the joy!

The WIT committee has been busy this summer working on organizing for fall so you did not see any new WIT Presents events. Hopefully you took this time to view the archived WIT Presents events, got inspired and maybe even spent some time standing at your lathe!

Now that fall is around the corner, I'm happy to announce that WIT Presents will return October 1st featuring the ITE 2022 Fellows – Naava Milliken, Kailee Bosch, Katie Hudnall and Janice Smith. <u>Registration is now open for this FREE event on the</u> <u>AAW / WIT website</u>:

This is the first time WIT will host a presentation featuring women from the Wingate Wood Arts Residency (formerly known as the International Turning Exchange) and should allow for an interesting insight into this "transformative program" of work/study/research in an intensive summer artistic residency program.

On November 5th WIT Presents: Helga Winter. Helga Winter is an original. She paved the way for many women in turning and her art is known worldwide. This presentation is sure to be engaging, enlightening and entertaining as Helga discusses her artistic journey.

From the Port Townsend School of Woodworking website: Helga was born in Germany, thankfully she found her way across the pond as a young woman to study education. She began learning woodworking skills in fine furniture & woodcarving as an apprentice with Paul Pitts.

She studied early on with woodturners Rude Osolnik and David Ellsworth. There is so much more to Helga's story so please be sure to join us on November 5th! Register NOW at the same link shown above.

The latest WIT newsletter has been published and is available for viewing on the AAW/WIT website which you can access here:

That's all for this month! Get to your lathe and turn something!

Respectfully submitted,

Marie Anderson

Ripples-how far does your positive influence go?

by Robin McIntyre, WIT Committee Liaison Coordinator

You never know how far your positive influence goes: All you did was compliment a beginner on her good posture at the lathe, which will help her tool control, and she felt good about your comment even though she's not yet happy with the shape of her turning. She doesn't give up because at least she can do "something right."

All you did was ask a fellow turner to join you in demonstrating at a street fair making tops and she got hooked on the joy of public demonstrating. She will be a club demonstrator two years from now.

All you did at a demo was give the bud vase to a high school student, who then investigates taking woodworking at her school. Plus she showed her parents, and her mom now might also take a turning class at a local studio so she can share her daughter's interest.

But those are just little things—YES, that's the point! Being truly present, listening, participating, getting photos of women turners and their turnings out there, stepping up to volunteer for a small job, contributing to a club or WIT project, bringing in your Show-and-Tell so all levels of turners are represented, partnering with another turner for a demonstration for the public or your club—all are important and valuable.

You don't need to be the highest level turner, the most proficient mentor, or the ultimate leader.

Step up, show up, take that step forward.

We can make the ripple of positive influence grow and impact others. How far? *You never know*.

Reprinted from the Summer 2022 WIT Newsletter

Empty Bowls | Marie Anderson

Empty Bowls Work Day

Sunday, August 28th members of club members met to turn bowls (and other items) to be donated for our first Empty Bowls charity event this year which will be held on October 8th in Batavia, IL. We will be hosting the second Work day on September 18th.

Thank you to Shaun Devine for hosting the Empty Bowls workday at the Chicago School of Woodworking. Shaun is always a gracious hostess and we certainly appreciate the opportunity to host these events which benefit so many of those in need. Thanks to those fellow CWT members who joined us on August 28 for the EB workday including Andy Kuby, Clint Stevens, Tim Rand, Mark Jundanian, Dave Bertaud, and Marie Anderson. It was also nice to see Mike Canfield as he stopped in to visit and offer his support of our efforts.



This year CWT and members of the WCWT club are supporting 2 EB events. We have scheduled several work days to help provide enough stock for our event in Batavia and once again support the event at Oakton Community College which will open live for the first time since the pandemic. We have supported the Oakton EB event since

Don McCloskey reached out to the organizers at Oakton more than 15 years ago. While I do not have the exact number I can safely say that the bowls (and other items) we turn for fun have raised over \$25K to help feed our neighbors in need. That is quite an accomplishment and I thank each and every one of you who has contributed over the years.

If you have bowls or other turned items laying around your house why not consider bringing them to the next club meeting to donate them to this worthy cause? Better yet, if you need a good excuse to get to you lathe to make some shavings, I'm asking you to specifically turn a bowl (or two) to donate to Empty Bowls. If you need further incentive, or are looking for some social interaction, come to one of the next workdays' and enjoy turning with the group. There is guaranteed laughter, suspense and possibly even some learning that goes on during these sessions. Don't miss out!

The second EB workday will be held on September 18th from 9-3 which will help to fill the tables in Batavia. We will have some roughed out bowls (but feel free to bring any extras you may have piling up in your shop to share). On October 23rd (after the Batavia event) we will host the third work day from 9-3 (also at the Chicago School of Woodworking) which will help us restock for the EB event we are participating in at Oakton Community College on December 3rd.

Thanks to all of you who have donated items for this event throughout the year. Your generosity is overwhelming and greatly appreciated. Please join us at any and/or all of these events to support this worthy cause.

This year the Club will be doing two Empty Bowls sales.

The First is Saturday, October 8, 2022, at the Boardwalk Shops of Batavia. We have scheduled two work days at the Chicago School of Woodworking prior to the Batavia sale. These will be on August 28 and September 18, 2022, both Sundays.

The Second is Friday, December 2, 2022,

at Oakton Community College. We have scheduled an additional work day prior to the December Sale on October 23, 2022, again a Sunday.

Volunteers are needed for the two sales and to turn bowls on the work days.

Please contact Marie Anderson (danmar12@yahoo.com) to sign up.

Finished bowls can be dropped off at a Club meeting or at the Chicago School of Woodworking, 5680 North Northwest Highway, Chicago, during any of the work days.







Eleven members of the Chicago and Windy City Woodturner clubs along with Joe Hall-Reppen helped 131 Cub Scouts make their first pen at the Three Fires Council's Cub Scout Stem-Spectacular on Saturday August 20, 2022.

The event was held in the Physical Education Center (the gym) at the College of DuPage in Wheaton from 10 am until 4 pm.

Approximately 400 Boy and girl Cub Scouts attended the event with their parents. Other groups demonstrating at the event included Dave DiNaso's Traveling World of Reptiles, Build a 2D Blinkie, Mr. Freeze! and sixteen other groups.

Staffing the seven lathes were Deb Hall-Reppen, Marie Anderson , Paul Pyrcik, Frank Magnifico, Mark Jundanian, Don Johnston, Frank Pagura and Bruce Metzdorf. Andy Kuby and Joe Hall-Reppen supervised the assembly and Bob Barbieri and Rich Hall-Reppen managed the sign-up sheet. Phil Moy stopped by to take some great pictures for the newsletter.

All of the Cubs made a single tube Sierra style pen using Maple or Cherry wood blanks finished with either Hut Pen Plus wax or Doctors Woodshop

Cub Scout Stem-Spectacular | Rich Hall-Reppen

Pen Plus finish. The Chicago Woodturners and the Three Fires Council provided the pen components so the Scouts made their pen for no charge.

We also gave out a number of cards and web site addresses for the Chicago and Windy City Woodturning clubs to the adults attending who were interested in learning more about woodturning.

The morning started out slowly as all of the attendees were at the front of the gym and we were at the back. Once everybody got to the back we ended up having one hour waits to get into a lathe to make your pen. We know we could have helped more Scouts make a pen if they would have got to our station earlier.

Everybody who helped out enjoyed the experience teaching pen turning to the young Scouts. We hope to see more members volunteer at our next event. It was great to get our mini lathes out of storage and get back to in person teaching after the past two years. The smiles and encouragement and thank you's on the faces of the young Scouts said it all.

We want to thank Rich Hall-Reppen for coordinating and convincing (and, I heard maybe some arm twisting) all of our member volunteers, the Stem-Spectacular staff and Exotic Blanks for the pen components.



















Product Review | *Phil Moy*



Mahoney Double Ended Thread Chaser

Meet the perfected thread chaser - a double ended tool uniquely designed for easier, precision thread chasing. Machined from premium M42 high speed steel for the sharpest, strongest edge and sporting a comfortable spherical handle.

What makes a 5-star thread chaser?

• A unique negative rake angle above the teeth for the sharpest cutting edge

• Our "whale tale" design provides added clearance

• A comfortable aluminum handle doesn't get in the way of your threading, but allows for control and maneuverability

- Meticulously machined & polished for smooth movement along the tool rest
- Our double ended design means you economically enjoy a quality thread chaser
- Handcrafted in the USA, and backed by a lifetime guarantee & hassle-free returns

The Specs

• 16 TPI, Blade measures 9" long, Includes spherical handle, Patent number D899205

• Sold by Carter & Son Toolworks \$105.00

Review

The design of this tool is so appealing, I would have bought one just to sit next to my Lamy fountain pen.

For a first time thread chaser, it does help to watch a video on how one chases threads, the motion is quite different from using a skew. There are two videos, one by Mike Mahoney and one by Sam Angelo that explains design details, chasing technique and sharpening information. Links to the videos are on carterandsontoolworks.com, in the review section.

Armed with that knowledge, thread chasing is remarkably easy, but good threads take patience and practice. My first trial was with walnut, then I switched to a rosewood pen blank, and the result was very clean external threads.

The ball shaped handle was comfortable to use, in contrast to a traditional cylindrical handle. It did seem to ask the user to use one's fingers or a light touch and more control.

One interesting note, the ball shaped handle rests in the gap on the lathe bed and keeps it from rolling off and a direct hit on your concrete floor.

Rumor has it that 12 TPI version in the works, this one is 16 TPI.

There is no matching Mahoney relief tool, but I found a Robert Sorby relief tool at Packard Woodworks, (packardwoodworks.com) for \$40.00

Many thanks to Dave Carter and his son for the opportunity to try out this space age looking thread chaser.



Editor's note: This review precedes the September thread chasing demo that Clint Stevens & I will be doing at the club meeting.

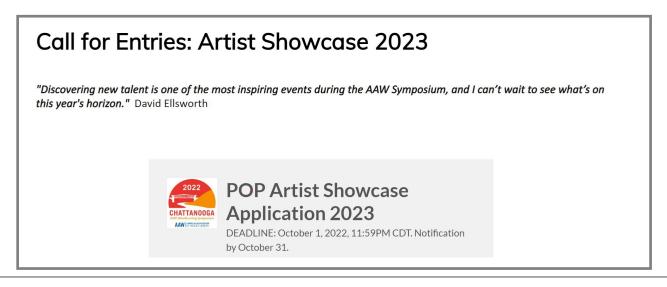




AAW news

2023 AAW Board Election Results

On behalf of the Board, Nominating Committee, and staff, I would like to congratulate Sally Burnett and Ron Day, who have been elected to three-year terms starting January 2, 2023. I would also like to announce that KC Kendall has been appointed to a three-year term starting January 2, 2023. A total of 3,513 votes were cast via 1,298 online ballots, and the results of the 2023 Board election were validated by Olsen Thielen, our external auditors.





The Chicago School of Woodworking was established in 2007 to train students in the art of furniture making. Since then, our program has expanded to include the arts of turning, scroll saw, marquetry, Chip Carving, speaker making and cabinet making.

We are committed to providing students the knowledge and skills to create functional and beautiful furniture that can be enjoyed for generations.

We have chosen machinery and tools that are safe, up-todate, and well maintained, so students can focus on learning and enjoy the varied aspects of building a quality piece of furniture or crafting wood art.

Find out more about our offerings and class schedules on our website!

CHICAG? SCH??L ?F W??DW?RKING

EDUCATING THE QUALITY MINDED HOBBYIST IN THE ART OF WOODWORKING

5680 N. Northwest Hwy, Chicago, IL 60646 | Phone: 773.275.1170 chicagowoodworking.com

A Wood You Should Know | Marie Anderson



Wood of the Month: Mulberry (Morus rubus)

Morus rubus, a native North American tree commonly known as Mulberry, or Red Mulberry is a deciduous tree that produces those wonderfully tasty and very messy berries each summer. You may also have seen the non-native but widely naturalized variety Morus alba commonly known as white mulberry, (a native of China). If there is a mulberry tree anywhere near you, there is probably mulberry trees growing in your yard since the fruit is eaten by most birds and they in turn propagate these prolific trees as they digest the fruit sharing the seeds that "pass" right on through.

Identifying the trees is relatively easy during early summer when the fruit ripens, there is always a large stain along any pavement under mulberry trees as the berries are dropped. They have dark greens leaves with serrated edges and the berries look very similar to blackberries or in the case of alba a cream to pale pink raspberry.

The trees grow relatively quickly, maturing to an overall tree size of between 30-60 feet tall and 20-40+ feet wide. They will grow in full sun to partial shade.

Mulberry has been used for furniture making for centuries. It is an excellent wood for turning (once it is dry). The green wood will split if no moisture control is used (sealing ends and/or rough turning to a consistent thickness) and as is true with most woods, may split regardless of the moisture control method used. Once dry, it is fairly stable, however, the dry time can be as long as a year or more if not kiln dried.

The sapwood is white to cream and the heartwood is golden yellow to orange in color. It has been compared to (and confused with) Osage Orange. Mulberry is also very similar to Black Locust however easily distinguished by using a black light – Black locust will glow, Mulberry will not! As it ages, the wood changes to a



Credit: The Mulberry Tree Wooturnery

rich umber color.

Mulberry wood is naturally decay resistant and has been used in the past for boat building, fence posts and cooperage (barrel building). It's a hard and durable wood. For those of you who like experimenting with home spalting, this wood can provide interesting (if shallow) spalting patterns (on occasion) while remaining more stable than other woods like soft maple and alder.

Overall, if someone offers to give you some Mulberry for turning this is a great wood to turn.

Disclaimer: Mulberry wood is considered non-toxic. It is not known for any specific sort of toxicity (other than normal issues with any wood dust). Of course as with any wood, follow all safety proto calls and take all necessary precautions if you experience any symptoms of an allergic reaction you should stop turning and remove yourself from the area until you can determine the source of the allergen.



The South Suburban Chiselers and Illiana Woodturners make the news!

The Illiana Woodturners is a fellow AAW member, located in South Holland, IL

Click the link to read the article in the Chicago Tribune

Tony Burton, of Frankfort, creates a serving bowl from a chunk of maple wood spinning on a lathe. Mary Compton/Daily Southtown photos It's Time To "Turn-Up" Your Knowledge and Expand Your Projects And Techniques

💼 Sat, Nov 5 - Sun, Nov 6 | 🕔 8:00 AM - 6:00 PM (CDT)

\$59

The Virtual Turning Event Of The Year All From The Comfort Of Your Own House

https://www.accelevents.com/e/mpg-small-turning-expo

Love turning small items? Want to see some other items you can turn on your small lathe? Just love turning in general? **This event is for you.**

We have some of the biggest names in the world of turning - right here - to not only teach you projects but also techniques. Eighteen sessions are scheduled to bring you everything from pens to peppermills to rings to embellishments and much, much more.

And if that is not enough you get 30 days to watch and review the sessions. This is the best deal in the turning world. All this from the comfort of your home. "See" you here in November.

Mike Mahoney Carl Jacobson Mike Nish Mark Drever Professional Woodturner / Demonstrator at Craft Supplies Demonstrator (5 Times AAW) at Internet Sensation -Demonstrator at Mahoney Wood Demonstrator / Owner at Niles USA Mark Dreyer Turning **Bottle Stoppers** Products John Underhill Kirk DeHeer Fred Wissen Scott Barrett Demonstrator / Owner at Professional Demonstrator / Owner / Demonstrator at Ornamental Turnina **Underhill Casting Solutions** Instructor at Craft Supplies USA PTownSubbie Extraordinaire Linda Ferber Ed Brown **Dick Sing Emily Ford** Father Dick Sing Professional Woodturner and Owner / Demonstrator at #SheTurnsWood Demonstrator ExoticBlanks

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Last Cut

Just as we thought the Segmenting Symposium (Sept 22-25) was going to be the last turning event of the year, Mark Dreyer creates the MPG+ Small Turning Expo (Nov 5-6! Check out the details on page 13.

At \$59.00 for both days, it is truly a great deal for 20 hours of presentations from some of the biggest names in turning! It's a virtual expo, so you don't have to book a hotel room, you can grab your favorite brew while you watch.

Perhaps best of all, you don't have to own a Powermatic to do all of the things that will be covered in the Expo!

Someone on Ebay is selling their used PSI mini lathe for \$195.00. And free shipping!

Well, you will need a few carbide tools, perhaps a parting



tool, some sandpaper, some friction polish, some safety gear of course—helmet or glasses.... Hmmm, this list keeps getting longer!

Don't forget to get a



Mark Dreyer at MPG earlier this year

Mike Mahoney thread chaser so that you can make boxes and urns with lids that screw on!

Of course, there's always casting your own pen blanks.....





Save the date! AAW Annual International Woodturning Symposium Louisville, Kentucky June 1-4, 2023

AAW is a nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing the art and craft of woodturning worldwide through education.

With more than 16,000 members and over 365 local chapters globally, AAW members include amateurs, hobbyists, professionals, gallery owners, collectors, tool and equipment suppliers, and others. Join the AAW and have access to the largest portfolio of woodturning-related material in the world!

Hone your knowledge and skills using AAW's online learning portals, exclusive print and digital publications, curated educational videos, high-quality safety

Visit the American Association of Woodturners at woodturner.org

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AAW Chapters in Illinois

Club	Contact	Website
Central Illinois Woodturners	Normal, IL	centralillinoiswoodturners.com
Chicago Woodturners	Arlington Heights, IL	chicagowoodturners.com
Flatland Woodturners	Champaign, IL	flatflandwoodturners.com
Lincoln Land Woodturners	Springfield, IL	llwonline.com
Northern Illinois Woodturners	Rockford, IL	northernillinoiswoodturners.com
Quad Cities Woodturners	Rock Island, IL	qcwoodturners.com
South Suburban Chiselers Illiana Woodturners Windy City Woodturners	South Holland, IL Naperville, IL	illianawoodturners.wordpress.com windycitywoodturners.club

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34 years of craft, technology and tradition

Join us for our monthly meetings, all are welcome!

In person meetings are on the 2nd Tuesday of each month

MEETING LOCATION

Christian Liberty Academy

502 W. Euclid Ave., Arlington Heights, IL. 60004. 6:30 pm Social Hour, 7:00 pm to 10:00 PM

> Free parking, enter South Door on East Side, 2nd floor

2022 Calendar of Events

CWT Meetings

Jan 11**	May 10	Sept 13
Feb 8**	June 14**	Oct 11
March 8**	July 12 **	Nov 8
April 12	Aug 9 **	Dec 13*
	** Via Zoom	

CWT MEETING

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

IN PERSON MEETING!

Mark your Calendar!

Sept 22-25	7th Segmenting Symposium, Northbrook, IL
Dec 13*	CWT Holiday Party at the Golf Center Des Plaines



Visit the Chicago Woodturners at chicagowoodturners.com

It is even more fun when you bring a friend!

Reasons to join Chicago Woodworkers

- Monthly meetings
- Access to club member expertise and mentors
- Classes and hands-on sessions with name turners
- In-person demonstrations, product discounts, raffles
- and generally a good group to hang out with....

Membership Fees

- \$30 Individual membership\$40 Family membership.
- \$10 Under age of 25

Yearly membership fees for Chicago Woodturners are due at the beginning of the year. You can join at anytime of the year!

Pay with cash or a checks at the monthly meeting. (Make checks payable to 'Chicago Woodturners' Application forms are found online! Contact Brenda Miotke for more information.

By email: bkmiotke@comcast.net

Or by snail mail

Chicago Woodturners c/o Brenda Miotke 920 North Sumac Lane Mount Prospect, IL 60056



Join the movers and shakers of woodturning in Chicago!