

As the Wood Turns

NEWSLETTER OF THE
CHICAGO WOODTURNERS ASSOCIATION



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

AAW | AMERICAN ASSOCIATION
OF WOODTURNERS

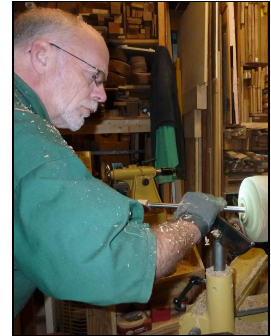
November Newsletter 2018

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President's Curls

As we have in the past, CWT hosted turning demonstrations at SOFA November 1-4, in competition with glass-blowing by Corning Glass. Nothing attracts a crowd better than fire, so we had to put on a pretty good show, which I think we did. We had well-known demonstrators from all over the United States, including Kristin LeVier (Idaho), Katie Mae Adams (Alabama), John Beaver (California), Paul Fennell (Arizona), Curt Theobald (Wyoming), Jeanne Douphrate (Texas), Rebecca Degroot (Texas) and Derek Weidman (Pennsylvania). In addition, Chicago Woodturners' Jason Clark, Al Miotke, Roberto Ferrer, Marie Anderson, Dave Bertaud, Clint Stevens and I participated. The demonstrations were all well attended, even with our location in the back of the hall, in a corner.



Backing up the demonstrators was a veritable army of Chicago Woodturners: Dave Bertaud, Cathy Bloome, Lee Sachnoff, Dawn Herndon-Charles, Derek Cadmus, Marie Anderson, Rich Nye, Ron Bukowy, Roberto Ferrer and Tom Boerjan all covered the AV duties. Dave Bertaud, Frank Pagura, Al Miotke and I set everything up; Ron Bukowy, Clint Stevens, Roberto Ferrer, Brenda Miotke, Al Miotke and I took it all back down again and returned it to CLA and Normac.

Special thanks is due to Al Miotke for administering the overall effort, which went smoothly. He made it look like we knew what we were doing.

Empty Bowls at Oakton Community College is December 1. Thanks to Marie Anderson and Rich Nye, who set up two turning weekends at Normac, where an unbelievable number of first class bowls were produced. See the article from Marie elsewhere in this issue. Volunteer to help on December 1, or at least attend.

The events above are two more examples of what Chicago Woodturners does on a regular basis, as a community service to promote and teach woodturning throughout the region. We're not just a social club - although the Christmas party is coming up next month.

Stay sharp

Andy Kuby, President

Secretary's Report

Frank Pagura

Tonight's Gallery reviewer is Paul Prycik.

The Demo tonight is by Kurt Wolff-Klammer, whose topic is finials.

Remember Andy Kuby still has a good supply of Tim Putnam bowls.

You can use these to make your donation to empty bowls.

Marie and Rich are hosting an Empty Bowl turning event at Normac on October 14 and October 21. Fill sign-up sheet being passed around to confirm your participation. Empty Bowls is Sunday, December 1, at Oakton College in Des Plaines. Starting time is 10AM; come to help starting at 9AM.

Remember to bring in your completed Beads of Courage vessel. Andy is organizing the next delivery to Lurie Hospital.

By voice acclamation Dave Bertaud is our new vice president, and Matt Schmitz will serve another term as our treasurer.

Andy took time to also congratulate many of our members who are elected officers of other clubs: Mark Deyer, president of the Chicago Chapter, International Association of Penturners; Scott Barrett, president of Ornamental Turners International; Al Miotke, president of Segmented Woodturners; and Jason Clark, president of Windy City Woodturners

Mark Deyer spoke briefly about the April 26-27, 2019 Midwest Penturner Gathering, which will take place at the Fairfield Inn in Schaumburg, IL. It will cost only \$25 to sign up and a lathe will be the door prize. See Mark for additional details.

SOFA is October 30 to November 2. We have enough volunteers for set up October 28 demonstrations and video, but may call on you if someone can't make it.

Many thanks to all who volunteered. This will be a busy event with demos by Kristen Levier, Curt Theobald, Joon Beaver, Paul Fennell, Jeanne Doufrate, Rebecca Degroot, Derek Wiedman and Katie Adams. CWT members demonstrating include Al Miotke, Roberto Ferrer, Clint Stevens, Marie Anderson, Dave Bertaud, Jason Clark, Jason Swanson and Andy Kuby. See Al Miotke for additional details.

Turn On Chicago 2020

USML, where past events have been held, is no longer available. A search committee has been set up, and due to the time required to contact and secure top demonstrators, we have a severe time constraint to locate a replacement venue. Anyone with suggestions or information should contact Andy or Al. Facility requirements are listed below.

FOCUS will be held April 11-12, 2019, 8AM to 3PM both days, at Highland Park High School, Art Night on Thursday. Volunteers are needed. See Roger Basrak for details.

Penturning Event, Palatine High School, November 16, Friday 9:30AM to 3PM with a break for lunch.

The AAW received a donation from Colin Crawford for the general fund. In his letter Colin said, "In honor of Rich Nye and Scott Barrett, who introduced my son Brad to woodturning and helped him turn a baseball bat for a school project. These men donated several hours of their Saturday afternoon to helping Brad, and made a lasting impression on him, his dad (me) and his grandfather. Thank you!" *Page 12, AAW Journal October 2018.*

SAFETY, ATTITUDE CHECKLIST

Discussed safe state of mind, stance at the lathe, the danger zone and uncluttered shop. Hand-out sheet was distributed.

The 2019 Demonstrator Schedule includes Jacques Vesery, Jennifer Shirley, Dan Cole, Max Brosey. Rich Nye continues to work feverishly on additional prospects.

Roger and Julie Basrak will retire from the membership committee, and we are looking for someone to take over. This is a great opportunity to meet everyone. See Andy Kuby for details. Paid up to date are 195 Members, 64 in attendance tonight. One new member announced tonight, Barry Isaacson. Three guests were greeted at the meeting tonight.

The think-inside-the-box PRESIDENT CHALLENGE items were presented tonight. All the items did fit in the 6"X6"X6" box, some with only a few millimeters clearance! First prize winner was Ken Staggs Footed Bowl, \$25. Second prize was, a rather tall multi-piece vessel by Frank Pagura, \$15. Third prize \$10 went to Rich Nye for his ornamental turned vessel.

In lieu of demo at the January meeting we'll have Jig Day, when we can show off all the clever contraptions we have developed to make the impossible a reality.

Sol reported raffle proceeds for tonight were \$147. Check in with Sol at the next meeting, because he may need help with pulling winning tickets or handing out prizes. Everyone picked up orders of walnut oil. Thanks to Andy Kuby who organized the group purchase.

Darrel Rader has a lathe for sale for \$30. See him at his truck. There may be a router and table for sale as well. Roberto Ferrer and Derek Cadmus have turning wood available in their truck. See them at the break.

Review by Paul Prycik. Demo, finials by Kurt Wolf-Klammer.

Respectfully submitted.
Frank Pagura, Secretary.

MINIMUM FACILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR TURN-ON CHICAGO SYMPOSIUM

Overview

- Approximate attendance includes 175-200 paid attendees
- An additional 12-14 demonstrators will arrive Thursday evening and stay through Sunday. They will need sleeping rooms and meals.
- An additional 15-20 trade show personnel will be arriving on Thursday evening and staying thru Sunday. Meals and sleeping rooms optional.
- Location is flexible
- Northern or western suburbs preferred
- Airport access important
- Easy access to Chicago a plus
- Time of the year is flexible
- Event runs Thursday through Sunday
- Set up on Wednesday
- Tear down and clean up Sunday afternoon

Conference Center Requirements

- 5 meeting rooms with a capacity of 50-75 people set up with chairs (theater style – no tables required)
- Two 6-ft tables in the front of each room
- 10-ft of space in the front of the room for the demonstrator and equipment we provide.
- Power at the front of each room with a minimum 15A service
- Room for a vendor trade show
- Secure area of approximately 2500 sq. ft. (10 X 10 booth spaces)
- Sufficient power outlets along the walls and/or floor for booths
- 6-ft tables required. Quantity to be determined (20 minimum)

Room for an Instant Gallery

- Secure area of approximately 1500 sq. ft.
- 6-ft tables required. quantity to be determined
- 1 smaller room of approximately 300-sq ft. for secure storage and staging by the event coordinators.
- Site must be handicapped accessible. All conference center rooms on one floor preferred
- Restaurant or cafeteria for attendee meals on site preferred
- Meals on Friday, Saturday, Sunday
- Free parking for 200 cars including about 10 vans, trailers, or small trucks.

Hotel and Banquet Requirements

- 75-100 sleeping rooms preferred on-site or a hotel within walking distance
- Banquet room with seating for 250 plus space for a cash bar and 6-ft tables for auction items required on Saturday Evening
- Setup begins at 3PM, cash bar at 5:00, dinner at 6PM. 6ft tables for auction items.
- Stage area with podium with microphone and handheld mic.
- Video capability with large screen projector.

Regards,
Dave Bertaud

Membership

Julie & Roger Basrak

The October meeting of Chicago Woodturners took place on Tuesday, Oct. 9. Of the 155 members, sixty-four were present at the meeting. We welcomed one new member, Barry Isaacson from Long Grove. Three guests were also present: Richard Gardiner from Round Lake Beach, David Pilkington from Grayslake, and Joe McMahon from Chicago.

All members and guests are invited to come for the mentoring session from about 6:00 p.m. until about 6:55 prior to each meeting. Join the group around the lathe at the front of the room. It's a great opportunity to get to know other members and possibly learn a trick or two you can use on your next project. In place of a meeting in December is our annual holiday dinner, so the next mentoring session will be prior to the January meeting.

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Have you considered volunteering to lead or assist with a mentoring session? Feel free to contact Darrell Rader, Don McCloskey, or Al Miotke if you are interested.

So far, twelve members have already paid their dues for next year. CWT dues are for the calendar year from January through December. You may pay with cash or a check at any meeting. Otherwise, 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

Cherry Burl	Roberto Ferrer	Banksia	Kurt Wolff-Klammer
Hollowing Tool	Gary Kleim	Walnut Blank	Matt Schmitz
Pen Blanks and Cases	Ken Staggs	Collected \$147	

Demonstration

Paul Rosen

Turning Thin Finials

Our demonstrator for October was Kurt Wolff-Klammer. Kurt started turning finials about four years ago, when he took a course from Ashley Harwood. He brought in one of the first ornaments he had completed, with a hollow bulb and a rather heavy finial exiting the base. He did this on



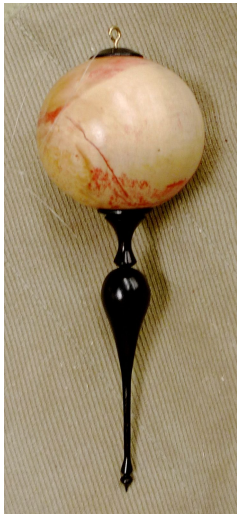
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purpose, to show the contrast versus his more recent, thinner finials, that show how far his skills have improved over time.

Kurt started the demo with a piece of African Blackwood, 1.5- to 2-inches square, mounted between centers and turned to a cylinder. Kurt likes to use the proper species of wood for finials, like ebony, walnut, or hard maple. Because the diameter of the piece is quite small, Kurt can set the lathe at a relatively high speed (about 3200 rpm). The rectangular blank is mounted using pin



jaws to grasp a 1/2-inch tenon at the base. Kurt tightens the chuck in two or three places to assure a firm grip on the piece. With the cylinder completed, he withdrew the tailstock and started turning on the free-standing end of the blank. Turning finials requires good eyesight, along with fine hand-eye coordination, and sharp tools. Most of Kurt's finials are about the same size, roughly 4-inches long. He starts by making a shallow-cove "onion" at the tip using his 1/2-inch bowl gouge, a sort of teardrop design. The first onion is miniscule. After he finishes the small onion at the tip, he begins to make a long, thin curve to make a second, larger diameter onion, which mimics the design of the first onion, but on a longer, larger scale.



Because the finial is thin, Kurt completes about a half-inch at a time, making delicate radial cuts, moving closer to the headstock. His choice of tools for doing finials includes a 1/2-inch bowl gouge with a 35-degree grind, a 35-degree spindle gouge, and a parting tool. Kurt emphasized the importance of "listening to the wood" while doing finials--listening for chatter. That means turning off the radio, or any other distraction that would prevent him from hearing how the cut is progressing. Sharp tools help. And technique is important, too. His bowl gouge was used in small, radial steps until the appropriate diameter was achieved. This was followed by smoothing with the bowl gouge, using his whole body to move with the tool to make a uniform cylinder. When the time comes for making the base of the larger onion, Kurt switches to his 35-degree spindle gouge, so the tip can reach in further as he sculpts the base.

As luck would have it, in the middle of a demo before 60 people, Kurt had the workpiece fly off the lathe at about 9:08PM. But he was completely unfazed. He calmly picked up the piece from the floor, remounted, and proceeded with the demo as if nothing went awry. I asked him later, after the demo was over, how he managed to be so cool under fire. It turns

out that Kurt is a high school math teacher, so he is accustomed to appearing before and addressing groups of people on a regular basis.



To reduce vibration, Kurt positions the tool rest as close to the workpiece as possible. That means positioning the tool rest slightly askew, relative to the lathe bed ways. He also sharpens his tools frequently, especially if the sound from the wood (chatter) dictates the need, as well as monitoring what he feels through the tool during cuts. He finishes off by making an ogee shape above the top of the big onion. And when it comes to sanding, Kurt likes to use the 1-inch rolls he gets from McMaster-Carr.

For further information on turning finials, you may want to try youtube.com. In addition to a DVD from Ashley Harwood, there are online demos from Cindy Drozda, British turner Mike Waldt, and others. It seems to be a popular subset of general woodturning, and you've still got a few weeks to perfect your technique before the holidays arrive.

Gallery

Jason Clark



This month I've chosen to feature two different takes on a basket illusion piece. The first is by Emil Baukert (top left picture), and the second is by me, Jason Clark (bottom right picture). Emil attended rotations by Harvey Meyer at Turn-On Chicago last summer and it really paid off. The colors are solid, and the design Emil has chosen works well and really does remind me of an authentic Native American woven basket.

I also chose to make a basket illusion piece, but my take is a little less traditional than Emil's. I combined the idea of a basket illusion with the idea

of a saturn bowl. Like my standard saturn bowl, the rings are able to rotate, but by doing

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so you are able to change the pattern displayed on the piece. Two different takes on the same basic subject at the same club meeting.

CWT News

2018 CWT Holiday Get Together

It's that time again! CWT will once again hold our December meeting/holiday gathering at the Fox Run Links and Tees Facility, 333 Plum Grove Road, Elk Grove Village, IL. Members are encouraged to attend and bring their spouse/significant other for this evening. This event allows us to enjoy each others' company without the structure of a monthly meeting. (You can, however, renew your annual dues. Just deposit into the membership box an envelope with your name and contact information as well as your check - which will make Julie Basrak's evening!!)

The cost for the evening will be \$20 per person, which covers part of the cost of the room rental and the menu. CWT will cover the balance. The menu is being finalized and will be included in the e-vite, which will be sent shortly. Please plan to sign up and pay at the November meeting to assist us with planning appropriately.

The evening's festivities will include our annual grab bag gift exchange. Handmade gifts are encouraged, but not required. If you bring a gift, you will receive a gift. All grab bag gifts should have a minimum value of \$20 and the golden rule applies - bring something you would like to receive! There will be door prizes as well!

Anyone interested in volunteering to help with the party, please contact Marie Anderson!

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EMPTY BOWLS Work Days were a very "Bowl" deal!

CWT members met for two consecutive Sundays in October to create finished bowls from rough turned bowl blanks that were donated by several members. These bowls will be donated, along with the rest of the bowls we have collected this year to the Empty Bowls event held December 1 at Oakton Community College in Des Plaines. The proceeds benefit the Northern Illinois Food Bank, which distributes food to area food pantries across Northern Illinois.



On Sunday, October 14 there were 9 CWT members, including Rich Nye, Rich Hall-Reppen, Ken Staggs, Jason Clark, Dawn Herndon-Charles, Derek Cadmus, Paul Pyrcik, Don Felch and Marie Anderson turning bowls. Twenty-four bowl blanks and six hours later, we had two bags of wood chips, lots of laughs, and 18 mostly finished bowls. Totally successful day!



On Sunday, October 21, 14 CWT members were turning bowls, including two fairly new turners who got the opportunity to stand at a lathe and experience the joy of turning with several mentors assisting when they needed it and helping create bowls for this worthy cause: Rich Nye, Rich Hall-Reppen, Ken Staggs, Jason Clark, Derek Cadmus, Rich Piper, Paul Pyrcik, Don Felch, Frank Pagura, Roger Basrak, Julie Basrak, Peter Morjal, Mark McCleary and Marie Anderson.

Thirty bowl blanks and



six hours later, we had another two bags of wood chips, two newbies who gained some valuable lathe time, several opportunities to try new tools, several turners learning new techniques (including texturing and vacuum chucking), several "design opportunities,"



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several not quite finished bowls (taken home to be completed before the November meeting) and another 20+ finished bowls. It was an awesome day!



Thanks to everyone who came out to help with this event. You made this a great success and a super fun event. This is the first year we have attempted this type of event, and based on the feedback of those who attended, it will not be the last event. Special thanks to everyone who brought rough turned bowl blanks - you know who you are and you are AWESOME!

This is a reminder to everyone who received the bottle stopper blanks at the holiday party last year, please schedule time to complete them and bring them to the November meeting! We are also looking for more bowls in the \$15-\$25 price range. This is the last month before the event, so get out to your lathe and turn a bowl (or two or more!!). It's a good way to get in some lathe time and help a great cause at the same time.

Thank you one and all!



AAW News

The 6th Segmenting Symposium is now in the history books. It was held about 15 miles west of downtown St Louis at the Marriott Hotel and Convention Center from October 11-14. Based on comments at the event and the survey responses, most attendees felt that this was an excellent symposium. The 10 demonstrators who put on 47 rotations were all well prepared. The tradeshow was the largest we have ever had with 2000 sq ft of space and the 12 vendors who were very helpful. The Instant Gallery had some phenomenal work. The talent in St. Louis was impressive. Spouses thought the tour of the city sites was excellent, and finally, Lloyd Johnson and his two brothers put on a show that those in

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attendance will not forget anytime soon. They wrote woodturning lyrics to Billy Joel music. If you could not make it, watch the video on YouTube. It's titled, "Johnson Brothers play Billy Joel." Congratulations to Bill Smith, who popularized open segmenting, for receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award as well as Eli Polite and Steve Bonny, who received the Excellence in Segmenting awards during the banquet. Attendance was the highest of the six symposiums so far, with over 250 attendees, spouses, demonstrators, and vendors.

Pictured below are some of the more than 50 unique woodturnings by Al Christopher, which will be on display for the first time beginning Oct. 6 at Oak Hill & The Martha Berry Museum at Berry College. Since I doubt if any

of us will be able to visit the display, I include description of the exhibition and a few pictures. *Submitted by Al Miotke, right*



The exhibition, "From Tree to Treasure: Woodturnings by Al Christopher," features a sampling of Christopher's portfolio, and it celebrates and explores the journey of turning raw wood into intricate artwork. His knowledge and understanding of the process are evident, yet his work is approachable for visitors who are unfamiliar with woodturning.

Christopher began turning wood after he retired in 2004, following a long career in custom millwork and construction. This familiarity with wood behavior and the exposure to domestic and exotic species encourage Christopher to be adventurous in his turning. Christopher's art includes hollow vessels with natural edges as well as carved and painted pieces highlighting the flexible nature of woodturning as an art form. This is the first public showing of his works outside of woodturning symposiums.

Christopher emphasizes the story behind each project. Each piece acts as a teacher or a lesson for the artist due to the possibilities, surprises and "Plan Bs" that come with working with natural materials. This opportunity for continuous education is one of his greatest motivations behind his passion for woodturning.

The exhibition will be open Monday-Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and runs through May 25, 2019. Museum admission is \$8 for adults, \$7 for senior citizens and \$5 for *Submitted by Megan Benoit, Berry College Public Relations Student Assistant.*



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
November 13	TBD	TBD - Embellishments & Tricks
December 11	Christmas Party	

Chicago Woodturners Board of Directors and Committee Chairs 2018			
President	Andy Kuby	847-922-8201	riverwoodsturner@gmail.com
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Secretary & Safety	Frank Pagura	847-524-0231	fpagura@att.net
Treasurer	Matthew Schmitz	847-439-6023	angelhaus@comcast.net
Past President	Al Miotke	847-297-4877	abmiotke@comcast.net
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Audio-Video Co-Chair	Jerry Kuffel	847-895-1614	tokuffe@gmail.com
Audio-Video Co-Chair	Dawn Herndon-Charles	630-588-8431	dcharlesster@gmail.com
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.