



As the Wood Turns

The monthly newsletter of the Chicago Woodturners



23 Years of Art, Craft, Technology, and Tradition

In this Issue

- A Christmas Poem from Stephen Hatcher, pg 3
- Mentor's Corner, pg 5
- 2010 Guest Demonstrators, pg 6
- North Carolina Symposium Recap, pg 6
- Rose Engine SIG, pg 7
- The Woodworking Show, pg 9 & 10
- Reviewing the Review, pg 11
- Empty Bowls, pg 13

Next Meeting

December 8, 2009

7:00 PM

Woodcraft Supply

1280 E. Dundee Rd.

Palatine, IL

847-776-1184

Regular Features

- Curly from the President's Platter, pg 2
- Membership Updates, pg 3
- AAW News, pg 8
- For Sale, pg 9
- Meeting Minutes, pg 10
- Calendar of Events, pg 12
- Member's Gallery, pg 14-17
- A Closer Look, pg 18

Darrell Rader: Ornaments and Other Secrets

November 10

I have two pieces of holiday advice. First, never buy your sweetie a new turning tool and claim "It's what I thought you wanted." Don't ask how I know that, I just do. Secondly, do as Darrell Rader recommends: spend time at your lathe making several holiday ornaments. November's CWT meeting was fortunate to have Darrell demonstrate how to do just that. If you have never seen any of Darrell's holiday ornaments, they are no Styrofoam and tissue affairs, but heirloom quality decorations. He has summed methods and ornaments from the finest woodturners and made those available to the CWT just in time for Christmas. Continued on pg 4.



CWT Holiday Party

December 8, 2009

Our annual Holiday Party will feature Indigo Jazz, the elite vocal group from Palatine High School. Indigo Jazz has entertained our membership in the past, and we're pleased to bring them back for another visit.

Under the direction of Steve Sivak, this elite choir is comprised of some of the finest singers and musicians at Palatine High School. It's an all-volunteer choir, rehearsing before and after their regular classes. In past years they performed a program of traditional Holiday songs, jazz influenced modern works and a rousing rendition of the Monty Python classic: "I'm a Lumberjack and I'm OK," an homage to the CWT membership. In 2006, the group, not knowing what woodturning might be, nicknamed us the "Lumberjacks." Join us in December to see and hear what new surprises they have planned for the CWT.

See page 5 for more details on the December meeting.



Indigo Jazz in 2007, disguised as "Lumberjacks"

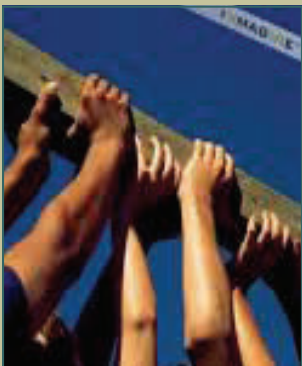


Phil Brooks

SOFA Support:

Ken Staggs,
Thomas Stegall,
Clint Stevens,
Paul Shotola,
Marie Anderson,
Andy Kuby,
Scott Barrett,
Tom
Waicekauskas,
Al Miotke,
Richard Nye,
Lee Svec,
Alan Carter.

Special
thanks to
Binh Pho



Teamwork!

Curls From the President's Platter

Phil Brooks

As many of you know, the Chicago Woodturners have just completed supporting a successful SOFA event. SOFA, Sculpture Objects and Functional Art, is held every year at the Navy Pier and features major art galleries from all over the world. It is the largest art show of the year held in this country. As part of this event, the Collectors of Wood Art, the American Association of Woodturners and the Chicago Woodturners have collaborated on funding and supporting woodturning demonstrations of featured artists from the galleries for the last five years. The purpose of these demonstrations is to educate the collectors on who the featured artists are and how they do their work. Featured demonstrators this year were Betty Scarpino, Art Liestman, Joey Richardson, Molly Winton, Binh Pho, Don Derry, Steve Sinner, David Nittmann, Dale Larson and Stephen Hatcher. Binh Pho and Steve Sinner are members of our club, Stephen Hatcher just finished doing a dem-

onstration and hands-on classes at our club and Art Liestman and Dale Larson will be doing demonstrations and hands-on classes for the CWT next year. Artists featured in previous years included John Jordan, Marilyn Campbell, Emit Kane, Alan Lacer, Jacques Vesery, Christian Burchard, David Ellsworth, Cindy Drozda, Jerry Bennett, Bonnie Klein, Ray Key and J. Paul Fennell.

The demonstrations are tailored to address the collectors, since they are the ones who are most likely to buy the artist's pieces. However, there are always lots of woodturners in the audience and they also get a great deal of enjoyment and information from the presentations. I'm sure that those of you who attended this event were more than pleased that they came and are looking forward to next year's show. Those of you who did not attend should mark your calendars, so you don't miss it next year. Making these demonstrations a success requires a great deal of work and support from

many people and it is only appropriate that these people be recognized. First of all, these demonstrations would never have taken place if it hadn't been for Binh Pho. He has been the driving force in making this possible. A special thanks is also due Scott Barrett who has lent us his digital projector for the last three years. Vehicles and muscle are the things we need most to get our equipment to the demonstration and back, and they were both ably supplied by Ken Staggs and Thomas Stegall. Other people who helped with the move in, setup, teardown and move out were Clint Stevens, Marie Anderson, Paul Shotola, and Andy Kuby. People who helped during the demonstrations included Tom Waicekauskas, Al Miotke, Richard Nye, Lee Svec and Alan Carter. Without this support this event would not have been possible. Thanks again to all of you.

Phil

Membership Updates

Al Miotke

It was a standing room only meeting in November with approximately 100 of the 185 members in attendance. We also had four new members join us at the meeting. Welcome to Tom Wysocki of Wheaton, Charlie Scheffel of Lyons, Ian Kuhn of Elgin, and Rob Curtis of Chi-

cago. We also had 4 guests attend the meeting. Pat Scheer of Chicago, Letty Lobo of Palatine, Rory Jaros of Cobden, and Andy Johansen, the son of CWT member Mark who brought in his first turning, a well executed walnut lamp.

It was a busy month

at the membership table in November with over 40 members taking care of 2010 dues. Don't worry! The receipt book will be open again at the December meeting. At least until the food is served! I will start mailing 2010 CWT membership cards to all paid members after the December

CWT Dues are payable now. See Al Miotke at the December meeting or mail your check to:
Chicago Woodturners
920 Sumac
Mount Prospect,
IL 60065

On the Raffle Table

Chuck Svazas

There's no raffle at the December meeting, but we will have door prizes! The raffle returns in January with something for everyone. See you then.

A Christmas Poem

Stephen Hatcher

A Turner's "Night Before Christmas" (to the rhythm of "The Night Before Christmas")

~~It was the night before Christmas, and out in the shop,
 The chips they were flyin' - the bowl gouge was hot!
 His tools were flung about the bench without care,~~



~~He only hoped that his turnings would soon be ready to share;
 The last block was nested all snug in the chuck,
 while this turner had visions of a fine goblet (with luck!);
 His concentration unbroken, he bent hard to his work,
 Filling a large sack with turnings, and straight-~~

~~ening with a jerk;~~

~~The great turner laid his apron aside on the bench.~~

~~Then he rose up the wood stove; never needing a winch;~~

~~There he sprang to his sleigh, and to his team gave a whistle,~~

~~'Til away they all flew like the chips off a vessel!~~

~~Then I heard him exclaim, as he flew into the night,~~

~~"Merry Christmas to all, and may your New Year be bright!"~~

Stephen Hatcher demonstrated and taught hands-on classes for us last month. Stephen tells us he had so much fun he has sent us a Christmas Greeting.



Merry Christmas from Stephen "Santa" Hatcher

Darrell Rader Ornament Demo, from pg.1

Clint Stevens



Darrell Rader



A bowl of rejected globes. Stand at the lathe! Experience works.



Ready to part off the globe



Turning the icicle finial

Darrell credits Nick Cook's angels, snowmen and icicles, Betty Scarpino's boldly colored ornaments, Bob Rosand's globes with icicle tails, and our own Paul Pycik's ornamental bird houses.

Darrell has made all these projects his own by adding his distinct, personal style after making them innumerable times.

For the classic icicle globe, select a turning blank (about 2 1/4 in. in



Hollowing with the Don Derry Tool

diameter) and glue it to a waste block. Shape the outside of the globe with a spindle gouge. Note that Darrell's preferred shape is not a true globe, but rather a profile with a larger diameter than height. It looks like a squat ball. The top of the globe is furthest from the drive. Leave enough material at the bottom of the globe to allow for hollowing, but remove enough to see what the final shape will look

like. When the globe is finished, drill a 3/8 in. hole through the globe into the waste block. Enlarge the top hole to about 3/4 in. and hollow the globe to remove weight. Darrell shows his skill by hollowing to about 3/32 in. His tool of choice is the Don Derry Hollowing tool which has a pistol grip and auxiliary arm for stability. Finish and part off the globe.

The icicle stock is held in place with a spigot chuck. Turn a slender shape from the tail stock end up to the headstock. When the icicle is thin, you may need to use a hand on the back side to steady it. Several of Darrell's ornaments are finished with captured rings. A tenon at the top of the icicle is fitted to the bottom of the globe, and parted off. A finial is turned from the remainder of the icicle stock. Turn the tenon on the base, fit it to the top of the globe, and begin the shape. Reverse the finial to finish the globe. Darrell's finials are finished with a brass screw and a shop made hook. Nice touch.

Darrell showed great spirit by bringing a turned bowl which had about



Darrell Rader in action, safety glasses in place

twenty-five finished globes but had the wall turned through. Some may consider these globes failures, but this shows the price necessary to develop skill like Darrell's, and makes a surprisingly interesting display in its own right. Practice, practice, practice. I always knew there was a catch to become talented. Thanks Darrell! Now I'm off to the lathe; I have to make up for that Chia Pet I gave Sherry on her birthday.



The frying pan Sherry is going to hit Clint with if he buys her a Chia pet for Christmas

The Mentor's Corner

Marie Anderson

One significant part of the CWT mission statement is to "educate the public about woodturning." One of the greatest things about this club is there is always someone who is willing to help with this mission. This month Dan and I offered to bring back one of the best traditions (in our opinion) of our club – Mentoring sessions. The response from our members was immediate and very positive. We admit, the response may have been a little skewed in our favor because we did hedge our bets by planning it for before the monthly meeting (hey, you were all coming anyway right?) but it seemed to be very positively received.

As a "problem directed" mentoring session, the questions our members brought us included everything from the technical "I made this chatter tool, but I can't get it to work..." to the artistic "I've got this really nice piece of Walnut burl, what should I do with it?" back to the technical "How can I get a better finish on this piece?" to design "I know this shape isn't right, but how could I make it better?" and back to technical "How do I hold this to finish the bottom?" and "What's shear scraping?" Dan chucked up a piece of wood on one lathe and I fielded questions at another.

An amazing thing happened, members asked questions, members answered questions, discussions started and we watched as people made connections and continued their discussions as they moved on into the meeting area. The sharing of information, techniques, ideas and of course the old "woodturning story" (read that like the old "fish story" – everyone has one) was contagious. Every single one of the people who stopped with a question or a comment was positive about the effort with a "thanks for doing this" or "this is really a good thing to do," you get the idea. We even had several turners offer to "be the mentor" at upcoming meetings.



Marie Anderson with
Duane Painter

Several of the questions posed during the November session revolved around problems with getting clean cuts from your tools to which both Dan and I replied, "sharpen your tools." It was the general consensus that sharpening would be a good topic to cover. Therefore, the main focus on the January mentoring session will be sharpening. It will be held immediately before the January 12th meeting at 5:30pm.

The mentors will be Rich Fitch and Jason Swanson. We will have two different grinders available, a 1725 RPM dry grinder and a Tor-mek-style wet grinder. Rich and Jason will

answer your questions, and show you how to use these grinders and the accessories that make sharpening so much easier. Bring along a tool or two and get a little hands-on direction on this fundamental skill.

Alan Carter has agreed to mentor another "open topic" session in February. I'd like to have at least two mentors per session so if you are willing please drop me an e-mail at danmar12@yahoo.com and I'll get you into the rotation. This is a high praise, no-pay, low pressure way to start off your meeting, make some new friends and help some fellow woodturners...what more incentive do you need?

Holiday Party

The CWT Holiday Meeting will be held on Tuesday December 8, 2010 at our usual meeting spot: the festive and spacious Woodcraft Basement. This year the plan is to relax, chat with your old friends, make new friends, and have a taste of Holiday snacks and treats. We'll have door prizes, entertainment, and a gallery of your favorite turnings.

Bring a dish to share. Hot or Cold Appetizers, Salad items, Salty Snacks, Cookies, and Candy are always welcome. CWT will provide sandwiches, beverages and place settings.

The holiday gallery is always a favorite. Bring one (or a few) of your favorite turnings. They can be your own, items from your collection, turnings by famous or soon-to-be famous artists, or turnings that you just think are interesting. Share your personal favorites with the rest of us.

We hope to see all of you, along with your spouses, friends and guests at the December meeting. We promise a relaxed, unstructured social gathering, with lots of great food, great turnings, and great company.

2010 Guest Demonstrators



Dale Larson
February 27
Classes on
Feb 28 and
Mar 1 & 2



Art Liestman
May 1
Classes on
May 2 and
May 3 & 4



Graeme Priddle
October 30
Classes on
Oct 31 and
Nov 1 & 2

2010 Guest Demonstrators

Paul Shotola

Binh Pho has again arranged for a diverse and skilled group of Guest Demonstrators for 2010.

On February 27, we'll have **Dale Larson** from Oregon. Dale will demonstrate bowl turning from a log to a finished piece, plus turning spheres. His one-day class will be on sphere turning; the two day class will concentrate on bowl turning. Class fees are \$100 per day.

Art Liestman is from British Columbia, Canada. Art will be here May 1, and will demonstrate hollow vessels with surface enhancements, such as carving or incising lines, jig-saw patterns and coloring with dyes, inks or paint. Class fees are \$110 per day.

From New Zealand, **Graeme Priddle** returns to amaze us on October 30, demonstrating turning, carving and burning on hollow form vessels with a South Pacific theme. Making your own pyrography tool will be included. Graeme may trip the smoke alarms. Class fees are \$125 per day.

Hands-on class registration begins January 1. Contact Jan Shotola at jshotola@yahoo.com or 847-412-9781 to reserve your place in these classes.

North Carolina Woodturning Symposium

Bill Peterson

The combined woodturning clubs of North Carolina held their bi-annual symposium, "Turning and Learning," on October 23-25 at the Greensboro, NC Coliseum. As they can draw on a considerably larger membership than any single club they are able to put on quite a large event, nine rotation sessions of seven rooms over the three days.

The list of world-renowned turners included Alan & Stuart Batty, Jimmy Clewes, Ray Key, Stuart Mortimer, Nick Cook and John Jordan. The symposium fielded an excellent selection of local turners demonstrating some new (to me) techniques.

I wanted to go to this symposium primarily to see the older European turners like Ray Key and Alan Batty; who knows how much longer they'll want to travel long distances just to educate the colonials. And I did get the demonstrations I had been looking forward to. Alan Batty cranked out a couple of very nice boxes

while regaling us with stories about production turning in the UK. I saw two quite different demonstrations by Ray Key. The first was a tutorial on platter decoration where he ran through a whole series of embellishments, each a little more elaborate than the next. For his second demonstration he chose a stack of three small boxes with a fitted tube enclosing them, a project he admitted he hadn't done for a number of years. I particularly enjoyed seeing a demonstration where the turner isn't just repeating motions they've gone through many times in the last year. Watching him make adjustments to unforeseen issues, and hearing the explanation for those adjustments was valuable for those of us who might be doing a turning task for the first time.

At the risk of not being able to get a seat during next years Turn-On-Chicago, I'll recommend that everyone who hasn't seen him before make a

point of going to a Jimmy Clewes demonstration. He is certainly one of the most polished and entertaining of the woodturners that I've seen. His rotation on Saturday was standing room only.

The vendor area was about as big as we had at TOC 2008 but a different mix. More wood vendors, probably from being in the South. I traveled light so I was able to pack my luggage in front and fill the trunk with wood and tools.

The banquet and auction were well attended, with the auction presided over by John Hill. One of the unique features of this symposium is that they auction off the items created in the demonstrations, usually at the end of the demonstration. But a couple of the nicer ones were in the main auction. I couldn't resist getting a collectible and a souvenir. How many can claim to have a John Jordan piece that they saw originally as a block of wood!

Ornamental Turning SIG

Roy Lindley



OT SIG Group Members

As you may know, Steve White of Lindow-White Machine Works (a maker of rose engines), loaned an MDF rose engine lathe to the club for interested members to explore capabilities. Since the October CWT meeting the lathe has resided in several member's studios (workshops for some of us) and those folks in turn have graciously invited others to witness and partake in how various creations can be accomplished with this humble looking piece of equipment. At this writing somewhere around a dozen people have some new experiences and there is a schedule for many more in the coming weeks through the holiday season. This appears to be a wood-turning niche that has a great deal of infectious appeal with almost endless possibilities.

The evolution of turner "experiments" alone has been remarkable as examples are shared and discussed. Early trials tended to turn common scraps into patterned pieces without a direct link to a specific project. While the Rose Engine process works well in some domestic

woods, harder and fine grained woods such as some exotic imports yield well defined patterns. Corian™, a relatively common countertop material, is particularly crisp, uniform, and retains very fine cuts too. One artist even produced an amazing inlay in real legal ivory. With increasing comfort levels of working with the MDF, several lidded boxes have been created with inlays and even boxes where the artist combines decoration with threads using the



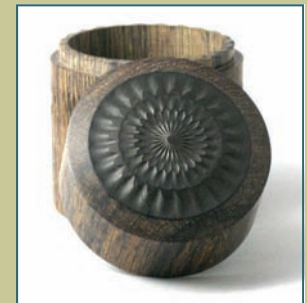
Klein jig. Along with pushing the boundaries of creativity, so far this has been a terrific opportunity for members to learn of other member's skills and personal interests. Once again, thank you to Steve White for making the MDF available and creating a newly found interest for many. I suspect there are a few members now wanting to get their own setup and raise the bar even higher for impressive projects.

What is a S.I.G.?

That's what we need, one more acronym. S.I.G. stands for Special Interest Group, and the OTSIG is a group of CWT members who get together to learn more about Ornamental Turning. This isn't a closed group, they welcome any and all to participate. Contact Bill Hochmuth at wfhochmuth@comcast.net to join in the fun.



Dan Anderson at the Rose Engine



African Blackwood OT work by Roy Lindley



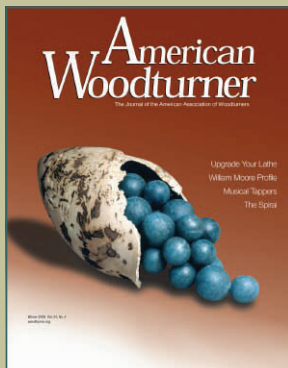
Samples of Rose Engine work by the OT SIG



Antique OT lathe.
Note the pedal power



Visit the AAW website:
www.woodturner.org



It's time to renew your AAW membership. Remember the Journal is now published 6 times a year.

AAW News and Updates

Al Miotke

We are reaching the end of another successful year for the AAW. This can be seen by the variety of changes and new benefits added this year. The Website received a facelift which makes it easier to navigate thru the growing number of options. A new on-line sales venue was added to the website this summer and has become very successful with over 240 pieces posted resulting in numerous sales for artists. Even if you are not in the market to buy or sell, the work on display is inspiring. A health insurance option has been added for AAW members which is proving beneficial for many participants. The Board voted to expand

the American Woodturner Journal from 4 to 6 issues beginning in 2010 that will give members more pages of interesting and informative articles.

Even with this year's struggling economy, the national symposium in Albuquerque was an excellent event with 54 demonstrators sharing their expertise and over 800 excellent pieces on display in the instant gallery. And that 4 color symposium handbook provided to each attendee was a fantastic publication.

Congratulations to the three newly elected board members, Warren Carpenter, Kurt Hertzog, and Jean LeGwin who

was re-elected to her 2nd term. Each of these individuals will begin serving a three year term on January 1.

Finally, the AAW board is conducting a survey to determine how the AAW is meeting the goals of its members. This survey will only take a few minutes to fill out and can be accessed from the home page of the website www.woodturner.org. It is worth your time to be heard!

If you are not yet an AAW member, now is the time to join. The membership period is from January thru December each year and dues for individual general membership is \$48.

Chicago Woodturners Board of Directors and Committee Chairs 2009

President	Phil Brooks	847-548-6477	brookspphil@sbcglobal.net	1052 Cheswick Dr	Gurnee, IL 60031
Vice President, Web Master	Scott Barrett	847-562-9121	dr@bdental.net	46 Bridlewood Lane	Northbrook, IL 60062
Secretary	Carole Floate	847-295-2631	cfloate@yahoo.com	200 W. Witchwood	Lake Bluff, IL 60044
Treasurer	Jan Shotola	847-412-9781	jshotola@yahoo.com	1865 Western Ave.	Northbrook, IL 60062
Past Pres., Newsletter Ed.	Paul Shotola	847-412-9781	p.shotola@comcast.net	1865 Western Ave.	Northbrook, IL 60062
Membership	Al Miotke	847-297-4877	alan.miotke@chamberlain.com	920 Sumac	Mount Prospect, IL 60056
Librarian	Clint Stevens	773-852-5023	clint.stevens@comcast.net	1635 S. Chesterfield	Arlington Hts., IL 60005
Raffle	Chuck Svazas	708-482-3866	csvazas@sbcglobal.net	707 Bransdale Rd	LaGrange Park, IL 60526
Tools & Equipment	Don McCloskey	847-420-6978	mccloskey@ameritech.net	2028 Gilboa Ave.	Zion, IL 60099
Demonstrations	Binh Pho	630-365-5462	toriale@msn.com	48W175 Pine Tree Tr.	Maple Park, IL 60151
Set-up / Clean-up	Bill Robb	847-931-1876	akmnts1@comcast.net	46 Lone Dr. Unit C	South Elgin, IL 60177
Audio & Video	Lee Svec	847-331-0715	svec@att.net	661A Fieldcrest Dr.	South Elgin, IL 60177
Ornamental Turning SIG	Bill Hochmuth	630-858-4727	wfhochmuth@comcast.net	2S725 Parkview Dr.	Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

The Mystery of the Walnut Candlestick

Paul Shotola



Or, "It's a Small World."

At the November meeting, Tim Feeley

brought in a candlestick that he and his wife had owned for nearly 40 years, and credited the maker as Marty Knapp.

Now Marty knew that he wasn't the turner in question, but recognized the piece. Nearly 40 years ago, Marty, a retired stair maker ("It has its ups and downs"), procured some salvaged architectural turn-

ings from buildings being torn down. Marty's wife, Sue, was a teacher in Lake Zurich at the time, and needed a wedding gift for a fellow teacher. The salvaged baluster became a candlestick and a wedding gift. The happy couple? Tim Feeley and his wife Melodie. The wedding date? June 13, 1970.

Fast-forward almost 4 decades. Both Tim and Marty are members of the CWT, haven't seen each other since the wedding day, and Tim brings in the candlestick (a treasured, family heirloom) for the club gallery.

A small world, indeed.



The Wedding Gift

For Sale

Fiber Optic Light Sources. Two available. Brand New, ultra Compact FO-50 high intensity light. Similar to the system used by J. Paul Fennell, these are ideal for deep hollow turning. It is air cooled and only 4 pounds. Accommodates both single and bifurcated fibers as well as ring lights. Fiber cables not included. New @\$350ea. Asking \$200 each or best offer. Contact Carole Floate 847-295-2631

To place an ad, contact Paul Shotola. Non-commercial items only, please.

Learn to Turn at The Woodworking Show

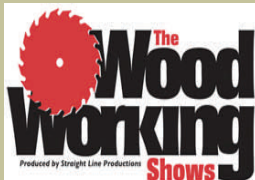
Craft Supplies will once again host "Learn to Turn," a hands-on event to introduce show attendees to pen turning. To volunteer your skills as a teacher, contact Don McCloskey at mccloskey@ameritech.net cell 847-420-6978. As a thank you, you will receive free admission to The Woodworking Show. Here is your opportunity to introduce the joy of the lathe to someone new.



The Master Chief guides a young turner at the Woodworking Show in 2008

The Wood Working Show December 11-13

Schaumburg, IL



The Wood Working Show comes to Chicago December 11-13 at the Renaissance Hotel in Schaumburg. The CWT will have a demonstration booth at the show, along with nearly every other wood-working and turning vendor you can imagine. See pg 9 for details on how you can participate.

September Meeting Minutes

Carole Floate

Commenced: 7:00pm

Adjourned: 9:35pm

Opening Remarks:

Phil Brooks thanked Dan and Marie Anderson for their mentoring session prior to tonight's meeting. He also thanked all the people who helped with the SOFA show – especially Ken Staggs and Thomas Stegall who not only provided the vehicles but the muscle power needed to move all the equipment in and out of the SOFA show. Scott Barrett also get special thanks for loaning us his digital projector and Steve Sinner for providing the audio system. Other contributors of the event were: Clint Stevens, Tom Waicekauskas, Paul Shotola, Andy Kuby, Marie Anderson, Al Miotke, Richard Nye, Lee Svec, and Alan Carter. Darrell Rader was our monthly demonstrator on "Ornaments and Other Secrets." Marie Anderson did the Gallery Review. Next month CWT will have it's Christmas Party. Phil also made the announcement that our membership fees for AAW and CWT are due next month. The applications for AAW are available and that the AAW Journal will have 6 issues for 2010. There are extra Craft Supplies catalogs and some \$10 gift certificates. There are 10% discounts on abrasives and 13% discount on club orders over \$1000. There was information on the "Tennessee Association of Woodturners" Symposium for January 29-30, 2010, Nashville, TN.

Woodworking Show:

Jim Wickersham asked for volunteers for the Woodworking Show on December 11-13 at the Renaissance Convention Center in Schaumburg, IL

Empty Bowls, Freedom Pens:

Don McCloskey reminded us that the pens and bowls were due the first Friday in December. Any item could be donated to the program. All pieces will be auctioned off and all proceeds will be used for the local food pantry.

Special Interest Group – Rose Engine:

Bill Hochmuth has formed a rose engine group. The rose engine lathe (on loan from Lindall-White) will be passed around to the members of this group so that they can have some hands-on experience with it. Jon Keith and Paul Pyrcik were the first to use the lathe and brought in a few pieces for the instant gallery. Bill also mentioned that Hardwood Connection will have an Open House on November 21st.

Membership Report – Al Miotke:

Three new members joined: Ian Kuhn – Elgin, Charles Scheffel – Lyons, Tom Wysocki – Wheaton. The four guests present were: Pat Scheer – Chicago, Andy Johansen - Arlington Heights, Betty Logo – Palatine, Rory Jarvis – Palatine.

Greeters Program – Sandy White:

Currently we have 3 volunteers to help with greeting new members. We need 3 more to cover absentees, etc. Generally there would be a 10-15 minute intro on who and what CWT is all about.

Treasurer's Report – Jan Shotola:

Jan Shotola gave a report on the balance of our account. She also talked about the December Christmas Party. There will be an instant gallery and a short business meeting. The party

starts at 7PM and attendees are to bring a favorite dish. CWT will have the makings for sandwiches. There are several newsletters available for those who do not have email addresses. She reminded us that we need to pick up and wear our name tags. This helps in our attendance numbers. Jan, speaking for Binh Pho regarding the 2010 demonstrators announced that they are: February 27 – Dale Larson – bowls and spheres, May 1 – Art Liestman – Puzzle piece vessels, October 30 - Graeme Priddle from New Zealand - Pyrography. The featured demonstrators for the TOC 2010 Symposium are: Jimmy Clewes, Don Derry, Cindy Drozda, David Nittmann, Binh Pho, Dick Sing, Malcolm Tibbetts; Guest Demonstrators are: Kirk DeHeer, Carole Floate, Lyle Jamieson, John Jordon, Don Ward.

Raffle – Chuck Svazas:

The winners were: Ron Zimmerman, Kris Southerland, Roger Shackelford, Radek Kowalski, Mark McCleary, Chuck Svazas, Clint Stevens, and Richard Nye.

Other:

Scott Barrett asked for members to give him their ideas for what demos they would like to see for the coming year. He would like to have the schedule done by February, 2010.

Gallery Review:

Marie Anderson did the gallery review with constructive comments and input from the members.

Cleanup: Bill Robb and volunteers.

Respectfully submitted,
Carole Floate,
Secretary

Reviewing the Review

Alan Carter

When I was asked to host the gallery review at the October meeting, all kinds of thoughts and ideas began to rattle around in my vastly underused brain, but unfortunately, time constraints prevented me from dispensing all those insightful pearls of woodturning wisdom. But now.....

I think the gallery review is one of the key benefits of club membership. It's an opportunity to see what other members are doing, ask questions, get feedback on your own work, and learn a little bit in the process. The 20 or so pieces brought in every month represent a true cross-section of the talents and skills of the members. From highly crafted works by seasoned veterans to first time efforts by someone who literally started turning yesterday, the review is for everyone. It's not a contest or a competition. It's a democratic forum open to all. Even first time guests can bring something in.

The reviewer's job is a bit of a balancing act. Praise and encouragement are important, especially when faced with a crowd of people with access to all kinds of really sharp pointy things. On the other hand, you want to point out perceived flaws, either in design or workmanship. The review is not so much a critique as it is a learning experience and a little constructive criticism provides a balance with the compliments. When a reviewer mentions sanding scratches or uneven bowl sides or tear-out or whatever, it's not meant to embarrass anyone, but to help us all improve our turning techniques.

Discussions about the aesthetics of a piece are a different matter. The reviewers' opinions and preferences are their own and vary widely from person to person. I like contemporary work; others are more traditional. All the viewpoints are valid and can enrich your woodturning experience. Cumulatively, they can help inform your own work, get you to think about the potential in a piece of wood and what it could become.

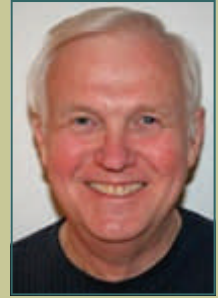
Some of you know that I'm fairly new to turning, having started in earnest just a

few months ago. For the past 10 years or so I've designed and built contemporary furniture, and for 22 years before that I was an artist painting urban landscapes. Oh, and I have a degree in bass trombone (bass trombone?) from Indiana University. Apparently the President's not the only one who wants change. This immersion in several different artistic mediums has helped shape my approach to woodturning. Painting taught me how to use color, composition, balance, and so on. Woodworking is all about volumes and shapes, the way a piece fills the space. Craftsmanship, artistic integrity, and at least a little emotional connection with the work are all important considerations.

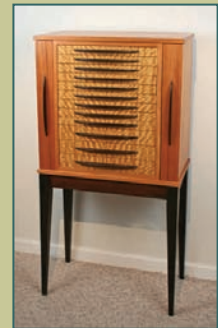
When I see other turnings, or any art for that matter, I look for those same attributes. A compelling design, how the shapes flow, how different woods work together, the type of finish used, etc. are all key to the success of a piece and these monthly reviews can help you achieve these goals. You're taking a chunk of raw, sometimes downright ugly material and turning it, literally, into something beautiful. It's a subtractive process, a non-reversible one at that, and it's often difficult to see what's hidden inside. A good reviewer can help show you the way.

I've been attending meetings since February and the gallery reviews have been as helpful to my turning education as almost anything else. The reviewers have been knowledgeable, enthusiastic about the work, and very informative. Each one put their own stamp on the presentation and gave good advice. As a newbie it was good for the ego to have someone compliment the piece I brought, but it was also helpful to hear about what I might have done a little better.

I encourage all members to bring something in for the review. I think you'll find it will be a rewarding experience and have a very positive impact on your future work.



Alan Carter makes furniture and sculptural turnings. Visit his website: Alancarterstudio.com



To volunteer
your help at
our events
contact Bill
Robb
akmtns1@
comcast.net
847-931-1876

Thanks to the
volunteers at
the
November
Meeting

Rich Fitch, Tho-
mas Stegall,
George Evanson,
Don McCloskey
and Kris
Southerland

To add events
to the calendar
contact Paul
Shotola
p.shotola@
comcast.net
847-412-9781

Any events of
interest to the
CWT member-
ship are
welcome.

Turn-On! Chicago 2010

August 20-22

Mundelein, IL

Midwest Woodturning Symposium

Jimmy Clewes

Kirk DeHeer

Don Derry

Cindy Drozda

Carole Floate

Lyle Jamieson

John Jordan

David Nittmann

Binh Pho

Dick Sing

Malcolm Tibbetts

Don Ward

Upcoming Events: News of classes, Symposia and other events of interest

December

- *Empty Bowls at Oakton Comm. College December 5. See pg. 13*
- *The Woodworking Show, December 11-13. See pg 9 & 10*
- *Turning 102, Carole Floate, December 12 & 13, Woodcraft Palatine*
- *Turned Christmas Ornaments with Melanie Wegner, December 13, Woodcraft, Milwaukee*
- *Turning 101 with Hank Bardenhagen, December 19, Woodcraft, Milwaukee*

January

- *Bowl & spindle Turning with Hank Bardenhagen, January 2, Woodcraft, Milwaukee*
- *Woodcarving Workshop with Dave Reilly, January 7, Woodcraft Palatine*
- *Turn a Natural Edge Bowl with Hank Bardenhagen, January 7, Woodcraft, Milwaukee*

August

- *Turn-On! Chicago 2010 August 20-22, Mundelein, IL*

Empty Bowls at Oakton College, December 5, 2009

Marie Anderson

The Chicago Woodturners have once again been asked to donate turned items for the silent auction at the “Empty Bowls” event at Oakton Community College. Held Saturday, December 5, 2009 at 10:30am – 2:00pm, this is a charity event that raises money by selling ceramic bowls created by the OCC ceramic studio for a \$12 donation per bowl AND a silent auction of various handcrafted bowls and items generously donated by professional potters, local schools, CWT and others in the community. There will be musical entertainment and for your \$12 donation, a simple meal of soup and bread will be served as a reminder of those in need worldwide. All monies donated will go directly to help support the Chicagoland Food Depository which distributes to local food pantries. Monies raised go directly to the local food banks. Empty Bowls does not take a share of the contributions. All money raised is distributed locally.

With the economy the way it is, these food pantries have been hit hard. The Chicago Woodturners have always been very generous with donations to this cause. We are asking *you* to bring in any turned item – Bowl, Box,

Jewelry, Candle Sticks, Hollow Vessel, Goblet, Pen/Pencil, any nicely finished piece to “Give Back” to the community. Let this be your excuse to get to the lathe and TURN SOMETHING! Come on, you know you have a roughed out bowl that NEEDS to be finished! You know you were just waiting for an excuse to turn...well, here it is!

Bring your finished items to the November 10th meeting. If you cannot make the meeting, just get your pieces to Woodcraft by December 1st and they will still be picked up and delivered to the event. If you can't get to Woodcraft, contact Don McCloskey, Paul Shotola or any CWT Board Member to arrange pickup. We have a goal of 50 turned pieces this year. Please, help us reach this goal!

Remember, ***someone's bowl is always empty.***

If you are searching for holiday gifts, especially if you are trying to break the “Made in China” cycle, artisan-made bowls for a worthy cause are always a good choice. Your friends and family will enjoy their gifts, and you can do your part for the less fortunate, right here in your own community.

Someone's bowl is always empty.

**Empty
Bowls**
At Oakton
Saturday, Dec. 5



**Want to attend
the Empty
Bowls event?**

Saturday
December 5th
at Oakton Community College,
1600 E. Golf Rd
Des Plaines, IL
A donation of
\$12.00 includes
lunch and a
hand-made
bowl.



Members' Gallery

November Meeting

It's all
in the
DETAILS



John Eslinger
Walnut, hollow finial



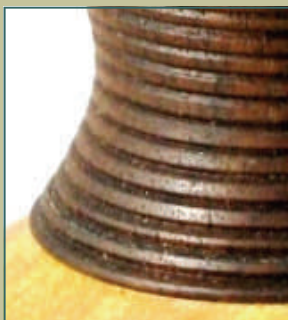
Bill Brown
Butternut

Larry
Fabian
Maple,
mineral



Bill Brown
Walnut, Iron Stand

Roy Lindley
Blackwood



Joe Wiener
Maple



Bill Brown
Ash

Members' Gallery

November Meeting



Tom Eovaldi
Maple, Mineral Inlay



Andy Johansen
Walnut Lamp



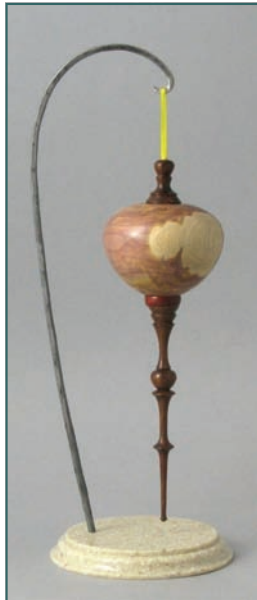
Bill Robb
Open Segmented
Vase



Alan Carter
Maple, Rosewood,
Brass



Paul Shotola
Box Elder, Textile Paint



Ken Staggs
Juniper,
Chechen

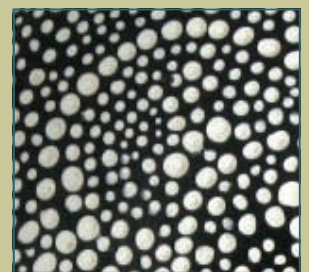
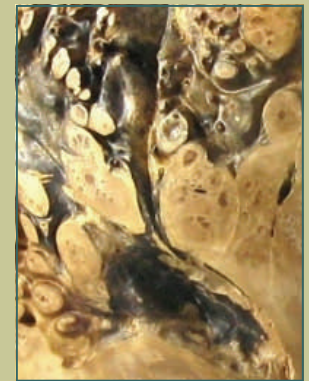


Scott Barrett
Lilac Box



Richard Nye
Honey Locust,
Mineral Inlay

It's all
in the
DETAILS



Members' Gallery

November Meeting

It's all
in the
DETAILS



Scott Barrett
Cocobolo,
Antique Ivory



Don Johnston
Cherry



Ken Staggs
Maple toothpick and



Bill Robb
Open Segmented
ornament



Richard Nye
Spalted Birch



Phil Brooks
Walnut Toothpicks



Alan Carter
Maple, Manzanita Root



Marie Anderson
Russian Olive
& Walnut

Members' Gallery

November Meeting

Editor's Choice



Andy Kuby
Oak Burl



Editor's Choice



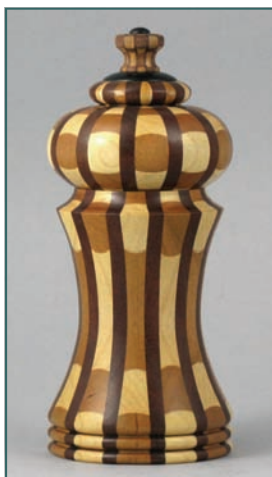
Glenn
McMurray
Walnut



John Eslinger
Maple & Blackwood



Bill Robb
Black Palm
Birdhouse



Jason Swanson
Cherry, Walnut,
Maple, Ebony



Tom Waicekaskas
Maple, Mineral Inlay

Paul Pycik
Rose Engine
work in Corian

Paul Pycik has a number of personality traits that translate well to the lathe. When he demonstrates, for instance, turning pens in acrylic, he can not only tell you what to do, but why a particular technique works (or doesn't work). That's a clear mind at work. Jumping head-first into the myriad options of Rose Engine work, Paul has created a lovely piece in Corian. As a participant in the OT SIG (see pg 7), we can expect precise, well-made turnings, high in detail and with flawless execution. This exercise in Corian is just the beginning of Paul's OT work. We can expect more and better in the future.



Monthly meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month from 7:00 pm till 9:30 pm

Woodcraft Supply

1280 E. Dundee Rd.
Palatine, IL
847-776-1184

Visit our website

chicagowoodturners.com
for more gallery photos, past newsletters, expanded calendar and late-breaking news

Membership in the Chicago Woodturners is available to anyone wishing to increase their turning skills through education, discussion and critique. Annual dues are \$25.00 for a single membership and \$35.00 for a family. Visit our website for an application or contact

Al Miotke

Membership Chairman

The Chicago Woodturners is a chapter of the American Association of Woodturners (AAW). Visit their website for more information.

www.woodturner.org

A Closer Look

Marie Anderson

This month's gallery was an interesting mix including a variety of Christmas ornaments, an "at least" 50 year old candlestick with an interesting history, a toothpick with a tiny holder, a couple of amazing segmented pieces, a lovely walnut lamp



by a first time turner, a "second time around" bowl, a few Stephen Hatcher inspired pieces and an array of interesting sample and finished pieces turned on the "on loan" rose engine that was demonstrated by Dan Carter at the October meeting.

So, how to choose...hmmm...you try this...not an easy choice...and I for one am thrilled to say that. I considered Roy Lindley's Rose Engine Box with it's multiple patterns. I also considered the simple, classic lines that Andy Johansen showed in his walnut lamp. Bill Robb's segmented pieces are always eye catching and Alan Carter's "space ship" type vessels were right there in the running as well...but in the end, the piece that I believe deserves "a closer look" is the lovely box that Pixie Eslinger turned, textured and then added



Pixie Eslinger
Walnut with brass casting

another element. She cast a little brass bunny finial using the tried and true "lost wax" method of casting. Pixie's work is a classic example of how woodturning can lead you into artistic ideas you may never have ventured into. Adding that little bit of whimsy, and using an alternative medium to do it captured many of our member's imaginations. Although not many of us can cast bronze, Pixie pushed the envelope with this piece and that's why I believe it deserves a "closer look."

"A Closer Look" is presented each month by the reviewer of the CWT gallery, celebrating originality and fine craftsmanship