



29 years of Art,
Craft, Technology,
and Tradition.



The Monthly newsletter of the Chicago Woodturners December 2016

Headline News

Empty Bowls For Food

We had an excellent display of all sorts of turned items on display at this event and raised several thousand dollars for the food bank. See Page 7 for complete details.

2017 Dues

Please see Julie Basrak's membership report for details.

Holiday Gathering Set, Tuesday, December 13.

The December CWT meeting is traditionally our annual holiday gathering. This year we will once again be meeting at the Fox Run Golf Links in Schaumburg, IL (the same place as last year). Please bring your spouse. The cost is \$15.00, the club subsidizes part of the cost. By popular demand we will continue the grab bag gift exchange so you should all start working on something you would like to give/receive for this exchange. The minimum value should be \$20/person. If you bring something, you will take something home. Please see the article on page 6.

Editor's Note

This month marks the completion of my third year as editor. I want to thank all of the membership for their gracious support. In particular I want to recognize Paul Rosen. Readers of the newsletter already know that it is no exaggeration to say that without Paul the newsletter would be a thin shadow of itself.





**President
Al Miotke**

Best possible wishes for a Happy and Healthful Holiday Season and Best Possible New Year

Presidents Curls

It's hard to believe that we are reaching the end of another year. As we end the year, it is always good to reflect on the accomplishments of our Chapter during the last 12 months. Sometimes it is difficult to remember every program or activity that helped our fellow members, or educated our community on woodturning, or a charity event that we participated in. Here is the list of items that I could remember but I'm sure I missed something. It was another year full of activities.

- Spring Palatine H.S. Pen Turning event organized by Roger Basrak.
- Professional demonstrations and hands on classes by Mark St Leger, Mark Sfirri and Mike Mahoney that were organized by Rich Nye.
- 5 educational grants awarded to members.
- 40 boxes donated to the Beads of Courage program for Children facing serious health issues.
- 5th Turn-On Chicago held in July. This was another very successful event thanks to the dozens of members that helped with planning and event execution.
- 1st CWT sponsored class for beginning woodturners organized by the education committee.
- SOFA demonstration booth which exposed thousands of people to woodturning.
- Empty Bowls will be held in Early December again led by Don McCloskey and Marie Anderson.
- Almost 1000 pens made for the Pens for Troops program organized by Don McCloskey.
- Winter Palatine H.S. Pen Turning event organized by Roger Basrak.
- 11 members volunteered to put on a demonstration at our monthly meetings.

There are 15 committee chairs needed to keep our club running smoothly with all the benefits we provide. We would not have a functional organization without these leaders of the club. We had a few new chair people that agreed to sign up this year. Frank Paugura took over as our Safety Chairman from Lars Stole and Sol Alfonso took over as Raffle Chairman from Marty Knapp and Mary Olson.

(Continued on page 11)

Minutes of November 2016 Meeting**Clint Stevens**

These minutes are quite humbly submitted not by our conscientious Marie Anderson, but by myself with my usual subtlety reminiscent of Groucho Marks chasing Lillian Roth.

The November 8th meeting of the Chicago Woodturners was preceded by generous mentoring of Darrell Rader.

At 7 pm, Al Miotke convened the meeting with a recap of our work at the Structural Objects and Functional Arts show at Navy Pier on November 4th through 6th. Gratitude to the members who helped with setup, takedown, demonstrations, and audio visual duties.

Al reminded members that December's meeting will be our annual Christmas party held at the Fox Run Golf Links in Schaumburg on the 13th. Spouses are encouraged. If you would like to participate in the gift exchange, please bring a gift worthy of a \$20 minimum. Wood turned gifts, tools, blanks are always warmly received. The party will begin at 7 p.m. and will have a \$20 cost for dinner. If you have not done so already, please contact Marie Anderson asap if you plan to attend.

Al reminded us of our participation in the Empty Bowls event held at Oakton Community College December 3rd. Any and all woodturning donations are appreciated. All proceeds help local food banks, so please consider helping out. Donations can be given to Don McCloskey or Marie Anderson.

An election was held for the offices of Vice President and Treasurer. Membership overwhelmingly elected Don McCloskey and Matt Schmitz respectively for those posts. Our congratulations and thanks for all the service Don and Matt give.

We were happy to see a very nimble Brenda Miotke conduct a raffle augmented by generous contributions from Carol Floate.

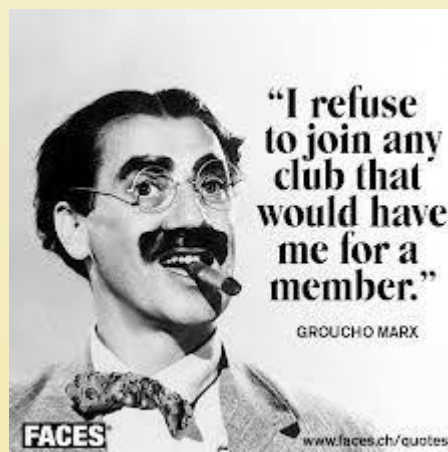
Clint Stevens took on review of gallery submissions. In Clint's opinion the body of work represented the members skill level very well. We all benefited from each other's work.

The demonstration was given by Andy Kuby. Andy had studied under David Ellsworth this summer and had relayed his experiences via photos and astute narration. Andy's presentation included work methods of David along with insight on life and mindset of one of woodturning's masters.

The meeting adjourned at 9:45.

Please accept these minutes as humbly submitted by myself, who is solely responsible for errors and omissions.

Clint Stevens.



CWT News

Raffle

Sol Alfonso

November Winners

Alas, your editor had to miss this meeting and he failed to ask someone to cover this for him. Therefore, the winners and their prizes are lost in the sands of time.

Do come out in January and seek wonderful prizes with the assurance that your successes will be recorded.

Next Month's Items

No raffle, Holiday Party

Membership report

Julie and Roger Basrak

Chicago Woodturners currently has 168 members. Even though our meeting was held on election day and several of our members are election judges, we had 56 members present at the November meeting.

Membership dues for 2017 may be paid at any time, including at the December Christmas party/meeting. As in the past few years, we hope to make paying your dues at the party as easy as possible. We will have a large box wrapped in green and white striped paper. Please place your dues (\$25.00 for individual or \$35.00 for family) in an envelope with your name written on the outside. If your address, phone number, or email address has changed in the past year, please include that information as well. Then, simply drop the envelope in the slot in the top of the box. That's all there is to it. We hope to have all dues processed by the January meeting. Thanks!

If you come to only 2 demonstrations in a year, the money you save will have paid for your membership. Have you mentioned Chicago Woodturners to a neighbor or friend – or invited someone to attend a meeting?

Dues may be paid in person at a meeting, or may be paid by mail by sending a check to the address below.

Checks may be sent to:

Julie Basrak
563 W. Ruhl Rd.
Palatine, IL 60074

Thank you for your cooperation

Andy Kuby Presents Attending David Ellsworth's School**Paul Rosen**

Our demonstrator for November was Andy Kuby. Andy was the lucky recipient of an educational grant that he elected to spend on a seminar with David Ellsworth. Andy and Clint Stevens drove for 12 hours straight to Quakertown, PA, where Ellsworth has his woodturning studio. Ellsworth holds these classes between November and July, providing instruction on both open bowl and hollow form turning. The classes are kept small—only five attended Andy's class--so as to provide individual instruction.

Ellsworth was born in 1944 and was first exposed to turning in high school at age 14. His father was an academic librarian, who took his family to vacation in the mountains of Colorado every summer. David completed three years in the military and then eight years of college, studying architecture, drawing, and sculpture. He matriculated with a Master's Degree in Fine Arts from the University of Colorado in 1973. One year later, he opened the Anderson Ranch Arts Center in Snowmass, CO, to be followed by his own studio in 1975 in Boulder. You can read up on his biography at www.ellsworthstudios.com.

Andy explained that Ellsworth was actually a potter, with great sensitivity to natural forms. He probably would have ended up with a university teaching position in fine arts, had he not attended a meeting of about 130 artisans in 1986. By the choice of his peers, David was named president of the fledgling organization we now know as the American Association of Woodturners (AAW). That's how he got to be AAW member No. 1. He served as president of the organization from 1986 through 1991. He has since written over 50 articles on woodturning, and his pieces sit in the permanent collections of 36 museums.

David was a featured demonstrator at one of the early Turn On Chicago! symposia. I remember this because I got to run the camera at his demo. (You get the best seat in the house, for those who haven't tried it.) David is best known for his hollow forms, described as "eggshell thin" or "thin as a coin." He also is credited with inventing unique tools with 10% cobalt steel inserts in O1-steel handles. (I think that's the same as cold rolled steel **editor's note: not exactly**.) He drilled a hole straight into the end of one handle, and a second tool had the hole drilled at an angle, to help him hollow-out the inside of his hollow forms. The steel inserts got glued into the drilled holes with CA glue. Then he would place the steel tool shaft in a vise, heat the shaft with a torch, and bend the shaft with pliers until he had the desired arc to facilitate hollowing. These tools have since been copied by other turners, as well as commercial manufacturers. David also markets a signature bowl gouge with a swept back grind, along with a jig for precisely positioning the tool during sharpening on a bench grinder. The long grind not only removes wood from the inside and outside contours of a bowl, but it can also be used as a skew chisel or for shear scraping. And if the tool and the jig are not enough, you can go to www.geigersolutions.com where Don Geiger offers an attachment for the Wolverine grinding system that makes sharpening the Ellsworth bowl gouge idiot-proof. I know this because I bought one. Highly recommended. And Geiger also markets some useful accessories for making your bench grinder wheels run true (steel bushings), and for sharpening your friable wheels using a diamond-point dressing tool. Grizzly offers a 3/4-carat diamond on a 6-inch shaft, in the event you'd consider making your own dressing tool. I did. Works great.

Andy recommended the book that David authored in 2008, *Ellsworth on Woodturning*. So I went out and bought it. I haven't finished reading the whole thing, but based on what I have read, I heartily agree with Andy. This is a great book for you to add to your woodturning collection. David is a gifted teacher, and his explanations and photographs are well thought out and presented.

(Continued on page 6)

Holiday Party, December 13th.

Marie Anderson

CWT's December meeting has traditionally been a holiday gathering to celebrate the season and the accomplishments of CWT and the comradery of our fellow woodturners. Last year we moved the venue to Fox Run Golf Links in Schaumburg and all in attendance agreed that we should hold this year's meeting at this location again.

A note of CORRECTION: The cost will be \$15/person (not \$20/person as announced previously). We voted last year to raise the cost to \$20/person due to the larger venue however there were mixed messages. Therefore the cost this year is \$15.00 per person.

Spouses are invited, there will be a cash bar, the menu is yet to be determined. There will also be a grab bag gift exchange. The grab bag gift should be a minimum of \$20 per gift. Past grab bag gifts have included turnings, wood, tools, books, turning kits, tool boxes and assorted other unique gifts.

There will also be door prizes. Anyone who is willing to donate something for the door prizes, please feel free to bring your donation to the Dinner. I am happy to give away anything you want to donate!

Please respond to the evite you will receive via your email. You do not have to sign up for anything to review the evite, just respond yes that you will attend (give # of people) or no that you will not attend so that we can get a head count for the venue.

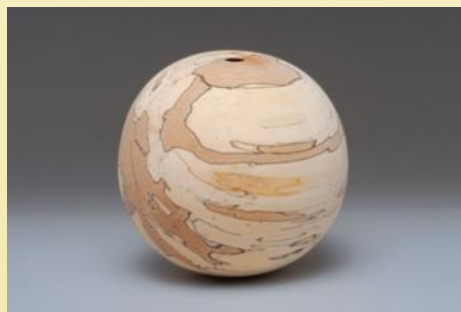
Andy Kuby Presents Attending David Ellsworth's School

Paul Rosen

(Continued from page 5)

What I wasn't crazy about was David's recommendations for stretching and exercising on the floor before a turning session. The concrete floor in my shop is pretty cold and hard in December. But Ellsworth's recommendations on how to best position the tool tip and handle, to let the tool do the cutting, and memorizing optimal body positions for turning with different tools are easily worth the price of his book.

Andy mentioned in his talk that this was actually the second time he had taken a course under Ellsworth. That says something. He must have valued his first exposure enough to consider going back a second time, to catch some of the finer points he might have missed the first time around. And for those of you who might consider following in the footsteps of Andy and Clint, you too, can sign up for David's course. See page 55 of the December edition of the American Woodturner magazine for details. David is also an authorized dealer for Robust lathes and tool rests, so you could double your pleasure by turning on one of the Cadillacs of woodturning. Do consider pairing up with a buddy. Twelve hours is a really long drive.



Empty Bowls for Food

Don McCloskey

Thanks to the generous turnings of all the wood turners, we had over 150 turnings. It was from bottle stoppers, vases, bowls and a knitted dragon holding a mini bowl. All the turnings we numbered, priced, bid sheets were made. We then lay out all of the turnings. Then the madhouse started, for the next four hours we sold vases, bowls, the knitted purple dragon. To all of the turners who contributed Thank You for your Donations. We turned your donations into over \$2243.00. Way to go to all. One small note this was our tenth year working with Empty bowls for food.

Mark Dec 2 2017 for empty bowls for food. We collect bowls all year around.



Making an Antique-Style Baby Rattle

Fred Holder

Editor's Note: The article which follows is provided gratis in support of woodturning clubs. They ask that the following notice be presented. "This information is provided by *More Woodturning Magazine*. Please visit their web site: www.morewoodturningmagazine.com"

Making an Antique-style Baby Rattle

by Fred Holder

Several years ago I was watching a movie, Australian I believe, where the baby in the family had died. The time period of the movie was the 1800's. The mother was putting away the baby's things and the last thing she laid in the trunk was a wooden baby rattle. This inspired me to make one with a similar antique look.

I've used about every type of hardwood for these rattles, but I find that the harder and closer-grained the wood, the better the ring cutting tools work. The rattle I made for this article was made from a chunk of plum wood and I used the Robert Sorby ¼-inch set of ring cutting tools. The wood had been curing for about ten years, so it was very dry. I recommend that you use a slightly more wet wood to make your first few baby rattles--it turns easier. I used my Teknatool Nova DVR 3000 lathe. The wood was turned round and sized to fit the Super Nova2 chuck on my lathe, see Figure 1.



Figure 1. Here the wood has been turned round and to about 1-1/2" in diameter.

I begin by reducing the stock to about 1-1/4 to 1-1/2 inch in diameter. I never measure it but they just seem to come out about that size. I make a "V" cut with the skew close to the tailstock, but far enough away so that there will not be a problem with the center hole winding up in the end of the rattle. Don't cut this "V" too deep right now. Another "V" is now made to the left of the first one about 5/8-inch center to center. This "V" is the beginning of the recess where the rings will slide freely to rattle. Cut this a bit deeper, about 3/8-inch deep should do the job. See Figure 2.



Figure 2. Two V-cuts have been made near the tailstock. The space in between the cuts will define the knob on the end for teething.

Making an Antique-Style Baby Rattle, continued**Fred Holder**

Now, take the ¼-inch beading tool and cut a bead. The right side of the tool should just cut into your “V”. I’ve found it works best if you gently rock the tool handle from side to side. This tool is basically a scraper, so it should be tipped slightly downward also. Don’t try to cut too heavily or you may break out pieces of your ring. I generally cut in with the beading tool until the ring has just cleaned up. See Figure 3. The only sharpening you need to do on the beading tool is to hone the top face. You should never grind the other parts that were ground to shape at the factory.

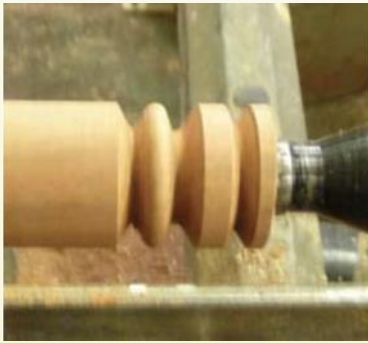


Figure 3. Here the top of the ring-to-be has been cut with the Sorby beading tool.

The skew chisel is used to widen the space on each side of the bead. You need a 3/8 to ½-inch wide “V” on either side of the bead. I generally cut straight in on either side of the bead with the long point of the skew. It doesn’t really matter which side of the bead you attack with the ring cutting tools first. I’ve developed the habit of cutting on the right side first and then cutting the ring loose with the left side tool. It takes a little practice to use these tools. A steady hand and a little care is all that’s needed. You don’t have to be a great woodturner to cut a very acceptable loose ring with these tools. The instructions that came with the ring cutting tools said you can cut rings without using the beading tool first, but I’ve found my rings are better when the beading tool is used to cut the top.



Figure 4. Here the ring is nearly cut loose. I finally cut the ring loose with the tool on the left side of the ring.

Making an Antique-Style Baby Rattle, continued**Fred Holder**

Here are the instructions for cutting a loose ring (taken from the Woodcraft catalog):

(1) cut a bead with a beading tool, (2) cut to depth beside the bead with a parting tool, (3) use the right ring tool to cut the rear right of the ring, (4) use the left ring tool to cut the rear left of the ring, which will also separate the ring.

Once the ring is loose, I take a 3/8-inch spindle gouge and make the recess deeper to allow the ring to float freely. Make a second loose ring with the right hand side of the beading tool just cutting into the “V” on the left side of the ring recess (see Figure 5). This is done in exactly the same manner as the first ring. Use the 1/4-inch spindle gouge to clean up and size the bottom of the ring recess. I generally cut this down to about 1/2 to 3/8 inch in diameter. Again it’s not critical, no need to size specifically.

Using the skew chisel, I cut a “V” about 1/2 inch to the left of the ring recess and another one about one inch further to the left to define the far left dimension of the rattle, also the end of the handle. Form a bead between the handle and the ring recess. Make this bead smaller than the ring diameters, but larger than the inside diameter of the rings--you don’t want them to slip off.



Figure 5. Starting the second loose ring.

Form the handle and put in two decorative “V” cuts with the skew. At this time I cut the “V” at the end of the handle down to about 1/4 inch. I then shift to the far right side and turn the piece between the first “V” cut and the ring recess into a pleasing knob shape. Babies like to cut their teeth on this knob, at least my grandson used his for that purpose. Again leave about 1/4-inch of material on the right end, also (see Figure 6). Now, you can sand the rattle. I generally don’t go finer than 280 or 320 grit. Remember, this is going into a baby’s mouth and, if they are cutting teeth, it will not be smooth for very long. I personally find them more attractive if they aren’t too highly polished.



Figure 6. Here the piece is pretty much ready for sanding.

Making an Antique-Style Baby Rattle, continued**Fred Holder***(Continued from page 10)*

After I'm satisfied with the sanding job, I cut the V's at each end down to about 1/8-inch, just enough to still hold everything together. I prefer to separate the rattle from the rest of the spindle with a knife or saw. I use a knife to pare off the excess and then hand sand to smooth each end.



Figure 7. The Robert Sorby tools used in this project: (top to bottom) Right hand side tool, beading tool, and left hand side tool.

Add a coat of non-toxic oil and you have a completed rattle. I used the Mahoney Walnut Oil finish, which works very well. The finished baby rattle is not too large, but it meets the minimum size requirement for baby toys.



Figure 8. The finished baby rattle.

December Curls, continued**Al Miotke***(Continued from page 2)*

We also had a number of very generous donations this year. Micheal Kuehl donated a Powermatic lathe and many other woodworking tools and wood, Carole Floate donated books, videos, and other miscellaneous objects, Joe Katz donated a box of Cocobolo and blackwood blanks, John and Pixie Eslinger recently donated a large number of wood blanks as well as finished vessels. All these donations are very much appreciated.

I know I'm forgetting some event or people that made a significant contribution this year. With a club that is so active, it's easy to do. You know who you are. Pat yourself on your back. Everyone's help is very much appreciated. We can't do it without you. THANK YOU!

I hope to see you at our Holiday Party. Have a great time with family and friends during this holiday season.

Bring on 2017.

Alan J Miotke

2016 Meeting Agenda

Month	Gallery Review	Demonstration
January	Roger Basrak	Ken Staggs— Tops
February	Dawn Herdon-Charles	Darrell Rader - Power Carving
March	Thomas Stegal	Don McCloskey - Celtic Knot Goblet
April	Clint Stevens	Bob Schultz—Turning Tulips
May	Bob Barberi	Al Miotke - Methods of Mounting a Bowl
June	Roberto Ferrer and	Marie Anderson - Making a Little Bell
July	Thomas Stegall	Bob Bergstrom
August	Roberto Ferrer	Mark Dryer—Pens
September	TBD	Jason Clark - Saturn Box
October	TBD	Don Johnson - Xmas Ornament
November	Clint Stevens	Andy Kuby - Training with David Elsworth

Chicago Woodturners Board of Directors and Committee Chairs 2015

President	Alan Miotke	847-297-4877	abmiotke@comcast.net	920 Sumac Lane	Mount Prospect, IL 60066
Vice President	Don McCloskey	847-420-6978	mccloskey@ameritech.net	2028 Gilboa Ave.	Zion, IL 60099
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WebMaster	Scott Barrett	847-420-5155	dr@bdental.net	46 Bridlewood Lane	Northbrook, IL 60062
Raffle Co-Chair	Mary Olson	(847) 397-1420	honeycup8@yahoo.com	2804 Mill Creek	Rolling Meadows, IL 60008
Raffle Co-Chair	Marty Knapp	847 639-2468	sueknapp918@sbeglobal.net	601 Woodbine	Fox River Grove, IL 60021
Tools & Equipment	Don McCloskey	847-420-6978	mccloskey@ameritech.net	2028 Gilboa Ave.	Zion, IL 60099
Safety	Frank Pagura	847 524-0231	fpagura@att.net	944 Wisconsin Lane	Elk Grove Village, IL 60007
Audio & Video Co-Chair	Jerry Kuffel	847-895-1614	kuff@sbeglobal.net	532 Berkshire Ct.	Schaumburg, IL 60193
Audio & Video Co-Chair	Dawn Herndon-Charles	630-588-8431	dcharlesster@gmail.com	1545 Wiesbrook	Wheaton, IL 60189
Educational Committee	Darrell Rader	815-648-2197	d.rader@woodfineart.com	10703 Allendale Rd.,	Woodstock, IL 60098
Demonstrations	Rich Nye	630-406-1855	nyewoodturning@earthlink.net	40W257 Seavey	Batavia, IL 60510

Members Gallery of Items Critiqued at the November Meeting



Bob Schultz



Jason Clark



Kurt Wolff-Klamner



Lynn Valentine



Andy Kuby



Mark McClery



Scott Barrett &
Jason Swanson



Rich Nye



Rich Piper



Jerry Kuffel



Mark Skogg



Derek Cadmus



Dave Bertaud



George Charek



Frank Pagura

Editor's Choice

Ken Staggs



It was my honor to fill in for Terry this month and select the photo of the month. Although its never an easy choice, this hollow form by Ken Staggs caught my attention for is raw beauty. The first thing I always look at is the form. Does it have pleasing curves that are continuously flowing. You Bet it does! Then there is the bark inclusion that adds to the visual interest of the piece. Mother nature helped by providing Ken with a piece of wood with wonderful figure but it took Kens eye to bring it to life. Finally is the wonderful satin finish that brings out the beauty of the wood without being overpowering.

Al Miotke

You can agree or disagree with my choice. The fact that we live in a democracy does not change the fact that I am the editor.

For Sale, Trade, or Wanted

Belt and Disk Sander (SOLD)

Harbor Freight 4-inch belt and 6-inch disc sander for sale. \$25 Good Condition, five year old, light use. Contact Andy Kuby @ 847-922-8201



Items of interest to woodturners for sale,
wanted, trade or free are welcome.
Non-commercial ads only, please.

Events of interest to woodturners are also welcome.
To place an ad, contact Terry McCammon
Terry.W.McCammon@gmail.com

Events

January 27, 2017 to January 28, 2017

Tennessee Association of Woodturners' 2017 Woodturning Symposium
SYMPOSIUM

Location: Franklin, TN

Dates: Friday, January 27, 2017 to Saturday, January 28, 2017

Description:

Featured demonstrators will include Nick Agar, Cynthia Garden-Gibson, Stephen Hatcher, Frank Penta, and others. Participants will have access to the instant gallery, banquet, auction, and tradeshow.

Website: <http://tnwoodturners.org/symposium>

February 25, 2017 to February 26, 2017

Idaho Artistry in Wood

EXHIBITION

Location: Boise, Idaho

Dates: Saturday, February 25, 2017 to Sunday, February 26, 2017

Description:

This yearly show provides an opportunity for artists working in wood and/or gourds to participate in a judged competition and display their outstanding creations to the public. Five woodworking clubs collaborate to make this one-of-a-kind show the largest in the Pacific Northwest. The show will include woodcarving, woodturning, fine furniture making, pyrography, intarsia, gourds, marquetry, scrolling and other wood art. Tools and materials used in creating wood and gourd art will be available for sale. In addition, there will be a vendor area, raffles, a silent auction, and demonstrations.

Website: <http://idahoartistryinwood.org>

September 15, 2017 to September 17, 2017

Turning Southern Style

SYMPOSIUM

Location: Dalton, GA

Dates: Friday, September 15, 2017 to Sunday, September 17, 2017

Description:

The Georgia Association of Woodturners (GAW) presents its annual symposium "Turning Southern Style." The event is held at the Dalton Convention Center in Dalton, GA (previously known as the Northwest Georgia Trade and Convention Center.) The event includes top notch demonstrators, a large group of vendors and a great facility.

Website: <http://gawoodturner.org>



Visit our website
chicagowoodturners.com

**Monthly Meetings
are held on the 2nd
Tuesday of each
month at:**

**Christian Liberty
Academy
502 W Euclid Ave
Arlington Heights,
IL
7:00-10:00 PM**

**Please join us
All are welcome.**

**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:**

Julie Basrak

**Membership
Chairman**

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