

SEPTEMBER 2021 SAFETY REMINDER

A group of club members gathered at the Chicago School of woodworking for a session of assembling, gluing and turning Beads of Courage boxes.

The stay components were all pre routed and after a little internal sanding were ready for glue up.

The teams settled down forming a successful production line which produced blanks ready to turn.

It was not until turning began that trouble reared its ugly head.

The first blank was almost fully turned when it lost one of the stays, which flew across the room.

A second later the blank on the second lathe, literally disintegrated with the unmistakable crashing sound, unfortunately hurting the turner.

Luckily the injury was not as serious as it could have been; a solid knock to a thumb knuckle and a cut lip.

After the air cleared and bandages were applied a review of the accident revealed the following.

- 1) The amount of glue applied turned out to be insufficient creating weak joints in the blank.
- 2) The lathe speed at the serious blow up was way too high
- 3) The disconcerting finding was that a face shield was not being used.

The moral of the story is: Even Experienced Turners can run into trouble ignoring basic lathe safety.

Can we expect zero accidents?

I think that is unrealistic, but we can certainly improve our odds by using our safety A, B, Cs
"ALLWAYS BE CAREFUL"

My grand father used to remind us youngsters:

PREPARE AND PREVENT, DON'T REPAIR AND REPENT

A safe turner is a happy turner!

Frank Pagura