



As The Wood Turns Internet Version

February 2004



**CWTC Meeting 7 PM Second
Tuesday of each month**

**Location: Woodcraft
Supply Store, 1280 E.
Dundee Rd, Palatine
IL
847-774-1186**

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Curls From the President's Platter
By Paul Shotola

What's the best part of membership in the CWT? The educational opportunities. Yes, the education. Not the excellent cookies at the Holiday meeting. Not the chance to gaze in wonder at **Rader's** antique engines at the picnic. Not even the tasty (and extremely healthy) Quizno's subs on meeting nights. It's the learning opportunities.

When I first joined the club, I didn't know how important proportions were to the success of a project. I didn't know that the grain of the wood could be centered to

enhance the figure; I didn't know that sanding off the lathe was required. I didn't realize how important the finishing process is. Now, some would argue that I haven't learned much, but that's another column. What I've learned isn't important. What is important is what you can learn, and how your work can improve. That's the real value of CWT membership.

At each of our meetings, a member takes the time and energy to organize and present a demonstration. Five or six times a year, we host the finest woodturning teachers on the planet to spend a day (or two) with us and pass on their skills, tricks and insights. Our mentoring sessions allow us the opportunity to look over the shoulder of a turner who has been there, and then take gouge in hand, and try it ourselves, in a no-pressure atmosphere. But the best part? The most learning you can receive in a half hour? The gallery review.

Here is a chance to see a myriad of turning styles, skill levels, and techniques, all held up to the bright lights and scrutiny of your peers. You will learn more about art, proportion, grain balancing and circular sanding scratches at our gallery review than you will in a lifetime of studying books, videos, and the New Yankee Carpenter. Bear in mind, the reviewer only wants to raise the standard for our work. **Bill Floate** may not personally care for a high-gloss finish, but when it's done well, he'll say so. When there are scratches in it, well, we'll know that he saw them. I suspect that **Dan Anderson** has never purposely turned a multi-center spindle in his life, but he knows a good one when it's on the review table.

Binh Pho doesn't make segmented turnings, but if the foot is out of proportion to the neck, he will point it out, and (this is the important part to remember) suggest how a change can improve the piece. I've learned more from the gallery than I have from any other source available to me, and my wife (who is your first line of defense against ugly work leaving my shop) will attest, I spend an excessive amount of time reading books and magazines and watching videos.

Next month, bring in your latest work, and set it on the table. Take a close look at the other work there. Then, listen closely to the reviewer, as they have no ax to grind and no agenda, except to help us all become better turners. There's nothing like looking through an unbiased, critical eye to open your own.

Until March, turn lots, bring in your work for review, and please, turn safely.

Paul Shotola

Email address:

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Weekend Master Turner Demo Schedule

Jim Christiansen, — April 17

Greame Priddle — June 19

John Jordan — September 11-12

Meeting Demonstrators 2004

**March — Brad Smith
Turned Bird Houses**

**April — Lloyd Beckman
Turned Hats**

Minutes of the February, 2004 CWT Meeting
by Paul Cavanagh

President **Paul Shotola** opened the meeting at 7pm and did **Not** give the usual safety instructions. As I mentioned in last month's minutes, I would not mention his usual statement on this important item—only the absence of said statement. Shame on you, Paul, after such a splendid run. Next week please try for one in a row!

Dan Anderson will be conducting a mentoring session on next Saturday, Feb. 14, Valentine's Day. Bring your Sweetheart and Dan will help solve your problem. Bring a date to enjoy the master craftsman in action.

This month's guest turning pro is **Dick Sing** on Feb 21st. Watch another expert turner in action and learn something you didn't even know you didn't know. The fee for the day is the usual \$25. Partake of all the coffee, donuts, and muffins you can eat.

Oliver Buettner has been conducting research on the video camera the club plans to acquire with a grant from the AAW. Details to come.

Glenn McMurray is preparing a booklet covering the Club's history, activities, and capabilities to serve as an introduction to the Club for new members. Great idea, Glenn.

Oliver Buettner and **Sarah Joy** gave an overview of the project for the club's entry into the 2004 AAW Collaborative Challenge and the pieces they need from the members, to wit, one or two cylinders- 11 ¾" dia, 8" deep (volunteers came from the audience); some bowls- 3" in dia, 3" deep, ¼" wall; several balls- ¾" dia or smaller. [Details are posted on the website.](#)

George Waterstraat, the tool czar and librarian, announced that **John Crissman** as now the new librarian. Welcome, John, and thanks for taking over this important club function.

Gary Hubbard needs a log 30" long and 7-8" in diameter. His turning from it will be donated to a company which makes AC drives who may donate a drive to the club to upgrade our Woodfast lathe. Call Gary at 815 877-2882 (evenings) if you have a log for him.

Andy Kuby reported that we had 3 visitors and 4 new members. Welcome all! **Mike Malloy** had an eclectic variety of items for the raffle: A gallon of Helmsman satin poly, a large caliper, a parting tool, several gift certificates from Rockler and the Woodturners Catalog, and an unidentified piece of well-aged burl.

President **Paul Shotola** issued a challenge to all club members: For the March meeting, bring in two turnings that are exactly alike. The splendid gallery was then judged and critiqued by the colorful and experienced team of **Bill** and **Carole Floate**.

The demonstration was conducted by **Gary Hubbard**. He performed the magic of turning winged boxes without broken knuckles and loosing fingers. Several good techniques were shown that apply to any turning project.

Approximately 100 people attended.



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