



As the Wood Turns

The monthly newsletter of the Chicago Woodturners



22 Years of Art, Craft, Technology, and Tradition

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Next Meeting:

February 10, 2009

7:00PM

Woodcraft Supply

1280 E. Dundee Rd.

Palatine, IL

847-776-1184

Regular Features:

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2009 Guest Demonstrators Announced

Our schedule of Guest Demonstrators has been announced, with educational opportunities for turners of every skill level and interest.

All of these demonstrators are artists and teachers, loaded with experience and anxious to help you learn new skills and techniques.

Each demonstrator will spend a full day at our club. Demos start at 9:00 am, and run till about 5:00 pm. Admission is \$30.00. The club provides free coffee and donuts in the morning, and soft drinks all day.

Reservations are not needed, and all you need to bring is your notebook and a desire to learn from the best.

This year, all of our demonstrators will be hosting hands-on workshops. These workshops are the best way to raise your skills to the next level. Most workshops are one full day, with some spanning two days. Class size is limited to 6 or, at most, 7 students and fill up quickly, so contact Jan Shotola at 847-412-9781 to reserve your spot today. Your club

has equipped the classroom for this specific purpose, so make sure you get your chance to have a master turning teacher work one-on-one with you. At about \$100 per day, this is easily the best bargain in turning education available.

Mark your calendar now, in ink! Join us at all of these great demos, and make certain that you sign up for workshops soon, before all of the spaces are taken.

See page 3 for the complete 2009 demonstrator schedule.

Betty Scarpino Demonstration and Workshop

March 7, 2009



Contemporary artist, sculptor and woodturner, Betty Scarpino creates art using the lathe and a variety of techniques to enhance the wood. She is a frequent demonstrator at Arrowmont, Anderson Ranch and AAW Symposia. Her work is held in prominent collections and museum exhibitions, including the Mint Museum, the Wood Turning Center and the Smithsonian Institution.

Betty will demonstrate the many techniques she uses to convert wood turnings into art, explaining both the physical and mental process.

Join us on Saturday, March 7 for a full day demonstration in our meeting space. Registration is not required, and admission is \$30.00. Doors open at 8:30 at Woodcraft. Betty will also conduct a hands-on workshop on Sunday, March 8. Tuition for the workshop is \$100.00. To register for the workshop, contact Jan Shotola at 847-412-9781.



Curls From the President's Platter

Phil Brooks

As I sat down to write my article this month, it occurred to me that one of the most misunderstood elements in woodturning is the art of sanding. When you first start sanding on the lathe you think you just press the paper to the wood until it is smooth and you're done. Well, there's a lot more to it than that.

First of all, the purpose of sanding is to remove all tool marks and, only if necessary, do the final shaping. To do this you need to go through a series of grades of sandpaper. A good rule of thumb is to start with the finest grade that will remove the tool marks or finalize the shape. Then proceed through a series of finer grades of paper to remove the existing sandpaper scratches from the previous grade. The series of papers should be in steps of a 50% increase over the number of the previous grade. For example, if

you started with 100 grade your next grade would be 150, followed by $50\% \times 150 = 220$ (225 rounded off to 220). I made a box with sections labeled 100, 150, 220, 320, 400, 600, and 1000 to keep things organized. Depending on the project and the results you want to achieve, you can start with the grade you need and end with the grade of your choice, but use *all* of the grades in between. Also, when using grades above 220 grit, stop the lathe and hand sand in the direction of the grain to remove circular scratches.

Sanding creates heat, and too much heat will cause the wood to crack and gums up your sandpaper. To avoid this, slow down the lathe. Obviously, the surface speed of the wood is what is important, so if you are turning a bowl a good rule of thumb is to sand at a speed below 1000 rpm. If you are turning

a pen you can double that speed. If you are turning acrylic however, 1000 rpm would be a better choice. This will keep the plastic from melting, sticking to the paper and making the surface rougher rather than smoother.

Like all other tools, you need to let the tool do the work, so avoid excessive force when sanding. Excessive force creates heat and causes deeper sanding marks.

As a parting comment, remember that worn-out 100 grit paper is *not* 150 paper. One of my favorite sayings about sandpaper is: "use sandpaper like someone else is buying it." In other words, throw it away when it starts getting dull and you'll save a lot of time and get a better finished product.

Until next month, happy sanding.

"...worn out 100 grit is *not* 150..."



Sanding dust is not just a nuisance, it is potentially hazardous to your health. The finest particles of wood can become lodged in your lungs, **permanently.**

Use dust extraction and a dust mask to protect yourself.



Congratulations to our newly elected officers. Scott Barrett is your new Vice-President, Jan Shotola takes over as Treasurer, and Carole Floate is now our club Secretary.

Guest Demonstrator Schedule 2009

Betty Scarpino Indianapolis, IN

March 7 Demonstration A sculptural approach to woodturning. Texturing, bleaching and coloring wood, cutting forms and reassembly to create new forms.
 March 8 1 day workshop: \$100.00

Bonnie Klein Renton, WA

April 25 Demonstration Tool usage and sharpening. Chatterwork and coloring. Spin tops and simple projects.
 April 26 1 day workshop: \$110.00
 April 27-28 2 day workshop: \$220.00
 Boxes with threaded lids.

Alain Mailland Uzès, France

June 13 Demonstration Wooden flowers, carving, texturing, multi-center turning.
 June 14 1 day workshop: \$100.00
 June 15-16 2 day workshop: \$200.00

Nick Cook Marietta, GA

August 29 Demonstration Spindle turning, peppermills, turning for furniture, projects that build turning skills.
 August 30 1 day workshop: \$100.00

To Register for Hands-On Workshops

Contact Jan Shotola at 847-412-9781 or jshotola@yahoo.com

Classes are limited to six students per session. Register now to guarantee your place in these classes.



Betty Scarpino



Bonnie Klein



Alain Mailland



Nick Cook

Woodturning Events and Classes, near and far

February

- Turning 101 with Carole Floate, February 7&8, Woodcraft Woodridge
- Pen Turning with Don McCloskey, February 15, Woodcraft Palatine
- Turning 101 with Carole Floate, February 21&22, Woodcraft Palatine
- Pen Turning with Don McCloskey, February 28, Woodcraft Woodridge

March

- Advanced Pens with Don McCloskey, March 15, Woodcraft Palatine
- Advanced Pens with Don McCloskey, March 21, Woodcraft Woodridge
- Turning 102-Bowl Turning with Carole Floate, March 21&22, Woodcraft Palatine

April

- Pen Turning 1 with Don McCloskey, April 18, Woodcraft Woodridge
- Pen Turning 1 with Don McCloskey, April 19, Woodcraft Palatine
- Southern States Symposium IX, April 24-26, Gainesville, GA

May

- Utah Woodturning Symposium, May 14-16, 2009
- Advanced Pen Turning with Don McCloskey, May 16, Woodcraft Woodridge
- Advanced Pen Turning with Don McCloskey, May 17, Woodcraft Palatine
- Turning 101 with Carole Floate, May 30&31, Woodcraft Palatine

June

- AAW Symposium, Spirit of the Southwest, June 26-28, Albuquerque, NM

October

- Turning 2009 Symposium, October 16-18, Cincinnati, OH
- North Carolina Symposium, October 23-25, Greensboro, NC

November

- SOFA Chicago, November 5-8, Navy Pier, Chicago

AAW News and Updates

And the winner is...



Were you aware that every quarter the AAW sponsors a themed turning contest? It sounds like a fun challenge, doesn't it? You might also be wondering what's the payback for getting involved. Well, if improving your skills is not enough, how about the honor of having a photo of your work in the next issue of *The American Woodturner* as well as having it displayed on the



home page of the AAW's website. And let's not forget the admiration of your fellow turners. In 2008, the four contests had themes of "Spheres," "Ring Turning," "Turned for Use," and "Turned Clocks" and the entries were very creative. Photos of each winning piece are shown here, but if you would like to see all the entries for any of these or earlier contests, they are available on the AAW website.

The quarterly contest is announced in each issue of *The American Woodturner* along with the theme to be followed. To get the detailed rules for your entry and the final date for posting photos you will need to visit the website and go to the page titled "Visit AAW forum" and enter the main forum. You will usually have 5-6 weeks to complete your masterpiece. After it's com-

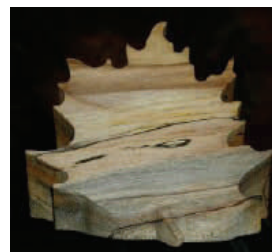
Al Miotke



pleted, you should take photos and post them on the AAW website. If you need a refresher on the process for posting, refer to the November 2008 issue of this newsletter.

If you're up for the challenge, get your creative juices flowing and start making chips.

Fame and, if not fortune, the admiration of your fellow turners awaits!



AAW 2008 Contest Winners

Photos clockwise from top left:

Pascal Oudet, Spring 2008 "Spheres"

Pascal Oudet, Summer 2008 "Turned for Use"

Truffel's Leaf, Fall 2008 "Ring Turning"

Bernie Hrytzak, Winter 2008 "Clocks"

The next turning contest will be announced in the Spring issue of *The American Woodturner*.

Membership Updates

Fifty three of the 204 Chicago Woodturners members attended the January party. Eighty - three of the 204 are current 2009 mem-

bers. This means only 83 have paid their 2009 dues.

We do have four new members: Allen Ullrick of Arlington Heights, IL

Andy Kuby

Jim Boyic of Batavia, IL

Randy Depoister of Hoffman Estates, IL

Steve Herron of Woodridge, IL

CWT 2009 Membership dues are payable right now. Right now, as opposed to "eventually." Single memberships are \$25.00. Family memberships are \$35.00.

CWT Club Demonstrators and Gallery Review

Scott Barrett

Month	Demonstration	Gallery Review
February	Phil Brooks: Shop safety, new turning class	Darrell Rader
March	Dick Sing: Turning eggs for Easter	Carole Floate
April	Jason Swanson: Stave segmented turnings	Josh Connan
May	Paul Shotola: Natural Edge bowls	Marie Anderson
June	Carl Miller: Square edge bowls	TBA
July	Bill Brown: Forging metal	TBA
August	Don McCloskey: Open segmented turnings	Jason Swanson
September	Clint Stevens: Ikebana arrangements	TBA
October	Josh Connan: TBA	TBA
November	Darrell Rader: Christmas ornaments	TBA

The 2009 Chicago Woodturners monthly club demo schedule has been formalized. Many thanks to the demonstrators for their dedication and hard work. I have tried to put together a range of topics with some seasonally appropriate themes. Dick Sing will demonstrate his popular egg turning demo in March, and Darrell Rader will show us his Christmas ornaments in November. In July, when the heat is on, Bill Brown will introduce us to metal forging. To keep the fire marshal happy, that demo will take place in the parking lot!

The schedule is available for members to view at www.cwtdemo.com and at www.chicagowoodturners.com. The web page will be enhanced by including any "shop notes" that our demonstrators provide. They will be available in both "Word" and "PDF" formats.

I will be working to finalize the Gallery Reviewers and commence lining up the 2010 schedule. Once again, I encourage all club members to get involved. Please contact me with a demo topic or to volunteer to do a gallery review. In addition, suggestions for future demonstrations are always welcome. Scott Barrett

Club demonstrations are a valuable and entertaining educational resource for you, the members. Your input and participation are welcomed.

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	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 Editor	Paul Shotola	847-412-9781	p.shotola@comcast.net	1865 Western Ave.	Northbrook, IL 60062
Membership	Andy Kuby	847-317-1841	kubywinslow@comcast.net	2945 Cherokee Lane	Riverwoods, IL 60015
Librarian	Bob Fernstrom	224-577-6144	rfernstrom@comcast.net	2995 Oak Grove Drive	Huntley, IL 60142
Raffle	Gary Rotramel	630-377-5871	garyrotramel@yahoo.com	6N860 Crane Road	St Charles, IL 60175
Webmaster	Chuck Young	847-776-9966	chuck.young@comcast.net	935 N Fairway Drive	Palatine, IL 60067
Tools & Equipment	Don McCloskey	847-872-4781	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

January Remount: Meeting Minutes

Jan Shotola

The January 13 meeting of the Chicago Woodturners served as our Holiday meeting, since the December meeting was cancelled due to a snowstorm. President Phil Brooks reminded everyone of the basic rules and courtesies for the meetings. Also, annual membership dues for CWT and AAW are due now. Phil announced that he received word from Ted Welch noting the passing of member Dick Jacobs, and shared the details of his funeral service.

Phil thanked several people for their recent contributions to the club: Kirk DeHeer from Craft Supplies donated several gift certificates for our raffle. Jim Wickersham did a great job managing the CWT booth for the Woodworking Show in November. Marie Anderson and Clint Stevens set up the meeting space for the Holiday Party, which included a thorough cleaning of the basement as well as hanging the decorations.

Don McCloskey handled the arrangements for the club's participation in the Empty Bowls project, sponsored by the Ceramics Club at Oakton Community College. He reported that the 37 items contributed by CWT members brought in approximately \$2,000 for this worthy cause. The overall project raised \$15,700. Don challenged the club to increase our donations next year to have an even bigger impact on the event. Phil Brooks encouraged members to attend next year to further support the fight against hunger.

Clint Stevens attended Empty Bowls and purchased bowls to be donated as door prizes. Jan and Paul Shotola also contributed to the donations. Anne Niemann assisted with the door prize drawing for four ceramic bowls, as well as 2 Chicago Bulls books donated by Dick Stone, and four poinsettias.

Paul Pycik, Vice-President, and Dave Forney, Treasurer, were thanked for their service as officers, and the election of new officers was held. New officers for 2009 are Scott Barrett, Vice-President, Jan Shotola, Treasurer, and Carole Floate, Secretary. Phil Brooks remains as President.

Dave Forney gave his final Treasurer's report indicating that the club is still "solvent," and Andy Kuby gave the Membership report. We had four new members at the meeting.

Paul Shotola announced that Malcolm Tibbetts has donated the first 2 volumes of his DVD set on segmented turning to our Library. He also sent a copy of "Seggy's Dream," a video he created to help raise money for breast cancer research. Everyone enjoyed viewing this cute video.

There were several items on display in the Gallery but no Review was held this month. Paul and Jan Shotola displayed the pieces they have been storing from the club's permanent collection. These are in safekeeping until we have a display cabinet in the meeting space.

Even though "Indigo Jazz," the vocal group from Palatine High School was unable to perform for our "make-up" Holiday Party, everyone enjoyed the food as well as spending social time with the other members and their spouses and guests.

Respectfully submitted,
Jan Shotola, Secretary

In Memoriam: Dick Jacobs

Paul Shotola

CWT member Dick Jacobs passed away on January 8, 2008, after a 13 year battle with cancer. A wordsmith by trade, Dick enjoyed music of all genres (the Rolling Stones being a favorite,) competitive swimming and woodturning. When I became editor of this newsletter, Dick, despite his advanced illness, was one of the first to volunteer his efforts. The original columns on the AAW were his work. His generosity and positive spirit will be missed.

January meeting photos



Marty wasn't 1st in line, but he wasn't last, either.



Darrell schools Bin on the finer points of design.



A woodturners Christmas tree.



The woodturning part of the decorations.

Members' Gallery

Favorite turnings



At our Holiday Meeting, members were encouraged to bring their favorite turnings for display. The CWT's permanent collection of demonstrator works was also on display.

The CWT collection consists of work by past CWT Guest Demonstrators. Our collection includes work from:

- Mark St. Leger
- Eli Avisera,
- Curt Theobald
- Dick Sing
- Jimmy Clewes
- Michael Hosaluk
- Hans Weissflog

Special thanks go out to the folks who made our Holiday Meeting such a success.

Marie Anderson, Clint Stevens, Jan & Paul Shotola, Malcolm Tibbetts (for "Seggy's Dream." and the Symposium demonstrators who unknowingly helped to decorate the tree.

Space limitations prevent us from presenting every gallery submission in the newsletter. For gallery photos from past meetings, visit the CWT website : www.chicagowoodturners.com/gallery



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Chicago Woodturners

Monthly meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month from 7:00 pm till 9:30 pm
Woodcraft Supply
1280 Dundee Rd.,
Palatine, IL
847-776-1184

Visit our website:

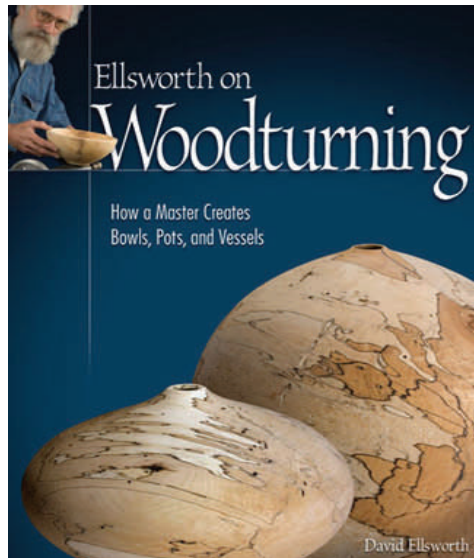
chicagowoodturners.com
for more gallery photos,
past newsletters, expanded calendar
and late-breaking news.

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:
Andy Kuby, Membership Chairman

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

Book Review: Ellsworth on Woodturning

Wayne Bernahl



I must admit that this book was an impulse purchase. I was at SOFA walking through the exhibit booth where David was exhibiting his turnings when I noticed him autographing a copy of his book for somebody else. Well, the chance to get an autographed copy was just too much to resist. I was able to read the book during some long flights on business trips over the next month.

What hits you first is simply the physical quality of the product. The general layout and organization is excellent. It is illustrated with 100% color photographs that are very well done. Hand drawn illustrations are also included where they can communicate better than a photograph and sidebars are used to illustrate specific points. Every page is printed on high quality stock. Even the soft cover has a quality feel, maybe because the front and back covers have sidebars that are turned in, reinforcing the ends of the covers and giving them a heavier feel.

As I read the book, I began to realize that David produced a real treasure. The book's title defines the book very accurately. It is Ellsworth on woodturning

and it describes his approach to creating bowls, pots, and vessels. Like most books on woodturning there is a lot of "How To." But unlike many books there is also a lot of "Why To." One aspect I liked about David's narrative is that he was able to let you know that there may be other ways to do something but David was writing about the way he did it and why he did it that way. David's writing style is simple, concise, and clear. I found the book very easy to read.

I will need to read David's chapter on design over and over again. Being the engineer that I am, I have a tendency to think of design as an end product. David seems to think of design as a never ending process. He wants us to appreciate the process as we progress through it. There is even a small chapter on teaching woodturning.

David's philosophy and personality come out through his writing. At one point, I thought David was trying to promote his Signature gouge. However, as I read further I began to believe that he wasn't trying to promote the Signature gouge, he was simply sold on the Signature gouge because he could do so many things with it and that was the tool he used.

In conclusion I must say what a pleasant surprise my impulse purchase turned out to be. I believe that this book belongs on the shelf of every bowl and hollow-form woodturner. *Ellsworth on Woodturning* will likely become a standard reference work.

Fox Chapel
Publishing, 2008

Available from:
Amazon, Woodworkers Workshop, the Woodturning Center and Ellsworth Studios

For Sale, Trade and Free Items

To place an ad, contact Paul Shotola 847-412-9781, p.shotola@comcast.net
Non-commercial listings only.