



## As The Wood Turns Internet Version

April 2003

# CWTC Meeting 7

## PM 2<sup>nd</sup> 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

Now I know how it looks from the other side. At our last meeting, I gave my first club demo, and it was an experience that I wouldn't miss for the world. Over the past three

years or so, I have seen club members give demonstrations at our monthly meetings, and I can now tell you that the demonstrator's viewpoint is a lot different from that of the audience.

Preparing a club demo makes you think about what you want to teach, who your audience is, and how you will present the information. In my case, preparing for the demo taught me more about the art and craft of turning than I could ever hope to impart to the audience. It is exciting, though. All of your friends and peers are sitting in their comfy lawn chairs; the big TV is glowing, the microphone is clipped on, and it's now your turn to show them something. So you take a deep breath, consult your notes, and go for it. 45 minutes goes by in a heartbeat, and you kick yourself for a week over what you left out. There is so much more information to share!

Sharing information. That's the main thing. It's the only thing. It's what woodturners do. We share information. We show up at club meetings, Saturday demos, travel to foreign lands like Utah, France and Tennessee (I invite you to think of three more disparate locales) to share in the sharing of knowledge. I have never met a turner who wouldn't explain in excruciating detail how they designed a piece, built the jig to hold it, brewed the finish that's on it, or why their lathe, tools, grinder, wood and climate are better or worse than what is available today in your home town. The point is that we share.

You can share too. You have skills. You have seen techniques demonstrated. You have a favorite finish, or tool grind, or, well, I hope you get my point. Think about what you do that works for you. It may be a small thing; it may be the next big thing in turning. We all want to know about it. Write it down, we'll publish it. Prepare a demo, we'll help you put it together. Our club benefits from the input of every member. So jump in. Share some knowledge. It could save a fellow woodturner the airfare to Utah, France or Tennessee. Both of you may learn something.

Until May, plan to share your knowledge, and turn safely.

*Author's note:* My "Curls" columns would not be as readable, as clear, or as grammatically correct without the help of my wife and partner, **Janice**. To see the difference she makes, the first version of this column is posted on our club member website: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/chiwt/>, as "Curls May 03 ver". Compare my first draft with the published version, and you will see what an asset she is to me, and to our club.

Email address: [p.shotola@attbi.com](mailto:p.shotola@attbi.com)

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Paul Shotola — Homemade Chucks &  
Fixtures

**Meeting Demonstrators 2003**

May 13

**Stan Herman** — Segmented Turning

[Click for info on segmented turning](#)

June 10

**Jim Brooks** — Metal Spinning



See **Fran Islin** to sign up to be a demonstrator

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Weekend Master Turner Demo Schedule

**David Nittman, Colorado — May 24,  
hands on After**

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Demonstrations

**Steve Sinner, Iowa — August 23, hands on  
After**

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**Nick Cook, Georgia — Sept 20**

**Alain Mailland, France — Oct 11-12,  
No hands on After**

CWT Mentors

The following individuals have volunteered as mentors. Their contact information is listed in the CWT roster, available at our monthly meetings and on the Yahoo club website. <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ChiWT/>  
(You must be a CWT member to access the Yahoo website)

Name Teaching Level

	City	Starter	1-2 Years	2+ Years	Advanced	\$\$\$
Anderson, Dan	Itasca	X	X	X	X	
Barbier, Harris	Lisle	X	X	X		
Brooks, Jim	E Moline	X	X			

Eovaldi, Tom	Evanston	X	X	X		
Eslinger, John	Antioch	X	X	X		
Friedman, Jim	Palatine	X	X			
Hubbard, Gary	Rockford	X	X	X	X	X
Malmin, Bruce	Arlington Heghts	X				
Olszewski, Tony	Palatine	X	X	X		
Pho, Binh	Maple Park	X	X	X	X	X
Pyrick, Paul	Lisle	X	X	X		
Rader, Darrell	Woodstock	X	X	X		
Shotola, Paul	Vernon Hills	X	X			
Sinner, Steve	Bettendorf, IA	X	X	X	X	X
Szakonyi, Ed	Roselle	X	X	X	X	X
Waterstraat, George	Elmhurst	X	X			
Welch, Ted	Wilmette	X				
Your Name Here?						

Mentors have indicated the skill level that they are comfortable teaching. This is not the same as their personal skill level. Some mentors may charge for their services, and have indicated so by checking the “\$” column. To add your name to this list, contact **Paul Shotola**

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David Nittman Demonstrating in May  
By Paul Shotola

**David Nittman** is a self proclaimed “wood guy”, and the CWT looks forward to his demo on May 24, 2003. Wood guys that are also artists are always welcome.

Nittmann’s specialty is his “Basket Illusion” series, a fascinating blend of turning, carving, pyrography (wood burning, to most of us) and the use of that dreaded tool, the computer. His art is influenced by Native American baskets and pottery, but is in no way limited to these



influences. A look at his web site shows his appreciation of other artists and art forms, as his “links” page lists many artists, some

familiar, some new to most of us, that motivate and inspire him. David’s website is: [www.davidnittmann.com](http://www.davidnittmann.com) for more information and inspiration.

Plan to attend David’s demonstration, May 24, 2003 at the Woodcraft location. Remember, as a benefit of membership in the Chicago Woodturners, you are entitled to attend one all day demonstration at no additional charge every year. Make good use of your membership benefits, and attend David’s demonstration. Prepare to have your artistic limits expanded.

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### Minutes of the April, 2003 CWT Meeting by Marie Hunter

**Paul S.** welcomed the members and guests and reminded all of the house rules and the safety rules. The Treasurer’s report was given and **Andy Kuby** introduced 3 guests and 2 new members. Membership continues to increase although some members still need to send this year's dues to Andy.

Paul S. urged members to contribute to the newsletter. Articles and other interesting information needs to be sent to **Don McCloskey** by the 3rd Tuesday of the month. His e-mail address and his home address are listed on the [Contacts](#) page.

**Fran Islin** has booked **Stan Herman** to demo Segmented Bowls at the May meeting and **Jim Brooks** to do a Metal Spinning demo for the June meeting. If you have a talent you would be willing to share with the club, contact Fran.

**Binh Pho** mentioned that **David Nittman** can do 1 or 2 hands-on classes while he is here for the all-day demo. Cost is \$100 per person for the hands-on class. Contact Paul Shotola if you want to be part of the class. **Lee** and **Dodie Baumgarten** have graciously offered to host David Nittman while he is here in May. Future all-day demos will feature **Steve Sinner** and **Nick Cook**. These demos are listed in the newsletter.

Paul S. thanked **Darrell Rader** for the mentoring session before tonight’s meeting. A sign-up sheet for those wishing to be mentors was passed around. Information on the Chesterton, Indiana show scheduled for October and the College of Lake County (CLC) show was given. **Carole Floate** asked that pieces for the CLC show be brought to the May meeting. The Ohio Valley Woodturners will have a symposium in October.

**George W.** told the members about the importance of wearing a face shield when turning. He had the experience of being hit by a flying piece of wood. His shield kept him from being injured.

**Gary Hubbard** brought in a mystery wood and asked if the group could help identify it. So what did we decide it was — pine, pink ivory, balsa wood????  
**The Baumgartens** recently returned from a trip to Tasmania. They brought back some turnings and will bring them to a future meeting.

The raffle was held. Then **Marie Anderson** handled the critique. And did you notice the sneaky way she played with our brains? At one point she said “How much wood would a wood...” and then she said, “I won't go there.” But you know very well that every mind in the audience completed the rest of the sentence, which, if I remember correctly, would be “chuck, if a woodchuck could chuck wood.” But she did a super job with the great variety of turnings on the table. A few of the members received applause for their efforts, including a young turner who displayed baseball bats.

Voting for the diamond cutoff challenge was held.

*Winners were:*

**Dan Anderson**, First Place

**Rich Fitch**, 2nd Place and

**Stan Herman**, 3rd Place



**Congratulations to them!**

Then Paul Shotola took center stage to do a demo of various chucks made out of wood. So save those extra blocks of wood. You never know when you may need a special chuck. Thanks, Paul.

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### Segmented Hollow Form

by Tom Sashko

It seems reasonable to conclude that the old adage about “measuring twice and cutting once” comes into play in developing a segmented project big time! Perhaps the laying out and measuring are initially the most critical parts of this process.

That’s not to say that turning skills are less important. However, unless the layout is precise and execution exact, the project will suffer exponentially. Joinery is crucial to an acceptable end result. The shape can be exquisite and earn potential oohs and aaahs, but bad joints and gaps are absolutely destructive.



The piece pictured is the effort of **Stan Herman**. Stan utilized a classic brick pattern in developing this hollow form. He elected to employ 12 pieces to each ring segment.

These pieces were carefully cut using a planer blade to reduce the time necessary to obtain a precise fit to each adjacent piece. In this instance, Stan elected to alternate each piece in an anti-warp fashion which resulted in a very unique display. You can almost catch the faceted effect obtained giving the visual impression that the face of each piece is flat. This use of alternating the grain orientation is very effective but requires a very organized approach. The species used by Stan are maple, paudauk and wenge. As you can see, on closer inspection, each ring needs to be geometrically sized so that the joints of each piece within each ring is related accurately with its neighbor piece above and below. This precision results in an accurate vertical line below the feature ring and above the feature ring. Obviously, the feature ring lies within the two bands of contrasting wood (paudauk and wenge). The feature ring represents the transition point between the upper curve and the lower curve of the form.

The rings themselves were cut on a Ring Master attachment the Stan uses with his Shop Smith setup. It certainly is evident that having such a device in one's arsenal of tools has its advantages. Not very far behind in second place is the understanding of geometric relationships and angles.

Very nice work and a job well done, Stan.

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