



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



The Monthly newsletter of the Chicago Woodturners

July 2012

June Demo—Photographing your work

Paul Rosen

Midlothian's favorite son, Tom Waicekauskas, gave us a demonstration on how to photograph your work at the June meeting. Tom uses a plastic tent, roughly 30" x 30," supported by a framework of 1" diameter plastic pipe you can get in your local hardware store or home center. The tent contains a seamless background paper which bends over a continuous arc of about 90 degrees. You could use an 18% neutral gray background, or you could get a fancier white-gray-black continuous tone background of the type used by professional photographers. Calumet Photo in Chicago is a good online source for these (www.calumetphoto.com), or consider visiting their store in Oak Brook. Another online source for gradient backgrounds is Choice Woods. The translucent plastic tent is illuminated left, right, and above by daylight fluorescent bulbs with a 5700 degree Kelvin color temperature. This is close to daylight. Higher color temperature bulbs produce more of a blue hue, whereas the lower color temperature bulbs produce more yellow. (Check out the display of these bulbs at your local Menards or Home Depot.)



Most modern digital cameras offer auto white-balance, which helps to make the final image colors similar to what your brain remembers when you took the picture. Some of the higher-end cameras, notably Canon, allow you to set the white balance manually. Professional photographers will often use a Kodak 18% neutral gray card to set color temperature. One side of the card is 18% neutral gray, and the other side is white. Back in the days of film cameras, professionals might make the first exposure on every roll of film using the 18% neutral gray card. This would permit the print technician to color-balance his settings so that the color balance on all subsequent images on that roll of film would be accurate. And just to be sure, the pro would often take the same picture three times—one at the metered

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July Demo—Stunning Hollow Ornaments

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It might be the heat of July and therefore difficult to think about holiday gifts but it always seems to sneak up on us. Don Hamm will show us in July some of the techniques he uses to make his ornaments. A few new tips are always helpful and it will get us thinking about items to make for our family and friends this year. See you on July 10.





President

Scott Barrett

Scott and Darrell generously donate a day to work with blind woodturners.

This demonstrates what the Chicago Woodturners is really all about

Presidents Curls

June brought the Chicago area sunny skies and warm temperatures. I was able to dust off, and remove the winter rust from my shop. A highlight of the month was my participation in the first ever “Blind Woodworkers Workshop”. I was contacted by Larry Martin, founder of the group, in early May. He was looking for someone to help with a turning session on Friday June 8. I was both intrigued and excited about the opportunity to engage in what I viewed as an unusual experience. I enlisted the help of an experienced and competent partner to assist in bringing this group a rewarding experience. Darrell Rader and I communicated several times about a program that would allow the participants to “visualize” turning techniques and implement them at the lathe.

Darrell and I settled on a combination of spindle turning and shallow bowl turning. There was a lot of interest on the Blind Woodworkers Yahoo forum about pens, bowls, and Easy Wood Tools. We decided to start the day with pen turning and then move on to bowls. There were eight participants in attendance. One of the men in attendance had some lathe experience in high school and it showed in his adeptness at the lathe. The other men were essentially novices, but all had woodworking experience. We divided into 2 groups and began the process of making chips. Each participant was eager to take their turn with the tools. They were incredibly skilled at taking a few spoken words and producing smooth cuts with the Easy Wood Tools. We talked about what methods they would use to feel for the right and left limits of the wood. Incredibly to me there was no difficulty keeping the tools on wood.



I was never so impressed by this group as when I looked over at Darrell and he had them using a spindle gouge. The Easy Wood Tools are very forgiving, but a gouge requires the bevel to remain in contact with the wood. This was accomplished with the skill of someone with years of experience. Darrell deserves all of the credit for this. He took the approach that blindness was no obstacle to turning. His enthusiasm, courage, and calm encouragement were the right recipe for success. The highlight for the group was the chance to hold and wear several of Darrell’s famous turnings. His thinly hollowed ornaments, birdhouses, snowmen, and cowboy hats brought a sense of awe to the group. I could see them contemplating just how one could produce such delicate objects.

The day came to a close when Larry was presented with the first bowl turned by the group. He proudly held the piece while being photographed with Darrell’s hat on his head. The feeling of accomplishment was so thick even a sharp turning tool would have difficulty penetrating it.

This event was made possible by

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June Demo—Photographing your work

Paul Rosen

(Continued from page 1)

f-stop, plus one over and one under. That way, in case the metered f-stop was less than desirable, two other choices would be available.

Portrait photographers like to use a 3:1 lighting ratio, which produces more light on one side of the face than the other. This technique creates the illusion of depth on the face. Tom uses a similar technique with turnings, using a 200-watt equivalent bulb on the left side, but 100-watt equivalent bulbs on the top and right. With constant illumination of this type, there is no need to use a flash on your digital camera. If you've got steady nerves, you can generally hand-hold the digital camera as you take your photos. For hand-held photography, the shutter speed should be 1/60th of a second or faster. Otherwise you could get a blurry image. But the stability of a tripod is probably the best way to support the camera to prevent blurry images.

Pieces with a shiny finish can cause problems with unwanted reflections. The solution? Experiment. Move the object to a different angle. Feather the light source by moving the direction at which it is pointed. Or move the tripod up/down or left/right, to get a different perspective. Digital photos are easy to take, and with instant feedback on results, you can always go to plan B if your first effort is less than satisfactory.

Consider imaging options. Sometimes you want shadows. Sometimes you don't. Consider using a 3" diameter wooden disk painted black (or use a hockey puck) to elevate the piece above the background. Hide the supporting disk with the proper camera angle, and the turning will appear to be floating in space. And by placing distance between the piece and the background, you can change shadow detail.

What if you want a reflection? You could place a flat mirror in front of the piece. Or you could use computer software, such as Photoshop or Picassa (Tom's choice), and use the INVERT IMAGE command to produce the mirror effect. Computer imaging software is plentiful. On the Mac, you can use iPhoto, Photoshop Elements, Aperture, and of course, Photoshop. Windows computers usually come with an imaging program called Picture Maker—a low-cost alternative to

Photoshop. Visit www.adobe.com for a full selection of imaging software, both Mac and Windows, or go to www.google.com and do a search for imaging software.

What about props? We already mentioned the hockey-puck UFO effect. Tom occasionally will use a clear plastic holder for a bowl or platter. Or if you're really talented, you could create (or purchase) a welded metal holder for your turnings in the style of Bill Brown. Clear plastic supports for displaying turned pens are available commercially. You can also use metal ornament holders to display turned Christmas tree ornaments, like the ones used by Darrell Rader and Dick Sing. Sometimes it is difficult to tell how large (or small) a turning might be, just looking at the picture. If some sort of size reference is of value, consider including a coin or a pencil in the picture. A No. 2 Ticonderoga as it comes from the factory is usually about 7.5 inches long, and most of us have our brains wired with this stored image.

What image format should you use to shoot your digital pictures? After all, there is .jpeg, .tiff, .gif, .jpg, .raw and others. It gets confusing. Professional photographers like to use .raw, but most of us can get by with the more common .jpeg or .jpg. And while we're on the subject of formats, we should probably consider image size, especially if you're sending a photo of your latest creation to your Aunt Elsie in Idaho. You don't want to send her a 10 or 20MB image. It will take too long to download, especially if Aunt Elsie is still using her 56-K dialup Internet connection. Better you should reduce the image size to about 800 x 600. This is especially true if you are sending a collection of images to a printer. Your Internet Service Provider (ISP) may also have a ceiling on the maximum amount of memory permitted in an e-mail. If you fail to reduce the image size, the picture may never make it to Idaho. For example, Al Miotke says that in this newsletter, a 3 to 4MB image gets reduced to about 70K. If you must send images in their native file sizes, sometimes you can get them past the ISP by using an online storage service, such as DropBox.

June Curls

Scott Barrett

Members!

Don't forget your nametag. It's worth one raffle ticket for BIG prizes.



(Continued from page 2)

efforts of a few courageous, dedicated, and sharing individuals. Larry Martin had the vision to bring this experience to fruition. Darrell eagerly embraced the challenge and did a stellar job with the participants. By 5 pm they all were excited about adding turning to their shop. After 8 hours of turning, I was pleased to report no injuries of any degree occurred on our watch. I only wish I could be so fortunate in my own shop!



Plans are being made for the 2013 Summer Workshop. We would like to expand it to allow each participant to have their own lathe to work with. Eight lathes, eight mentors, and eight



hours, are the ingredients for a great day. We all came away from this year's workshop feeling the learning experience was just as great for us as it was for the "Blind Woodworkers".



Don't Forget your Raffle Tickets at the next meeting.

\$1 Each
6 for \$5

Turn-On!-Chicago
August 3-5, 2012.
Space is still available



Pen Pals for Paul

It was great to see our friend and long time CWT member Paul Shotola walk up the stairs and say a few words at the June meeting. Prior to Paul's debut, Paul Pycik announced a fund raising event that he has graciously volunteered to coordinate called "Pen Pals for Paul". Below is a short announcement of this event that will be placed in the Turn-On! Chicago booklet.

Just over 12 months ago, our dear friend - and a past president of the Chicago Woodturners (CWT) - Paul Shotola, suffered a sudden and massive stroke. From the very beginning, the outlook was dire. Doctors were not optimistic. Family members and friends were told to prepare for the worst. Fortunately, Paul himself was having none of this. With unbelievable strength and an unrelenting commitment to recovery, our friend has made steady and significant progress that can only be described as miraculous. Yet years of effort – and expense - remain.

Paul, and his wonderful wife Jan (who has herself suffered a massive heart attack!) have done more to build CWT and to promote woodturning than just about anyone. The aftershocks from Paul's stroke have included the closing of the family business, the sale of their long-time home, and other personal sacrifices we can only begin to imagine. The Shotola's have not asked for help. They are not looking for charity. But they have come to realize that the time to accept financial help from friends has come.



In an effort to make a small dent in Paul and Jan's significant and mounting financial worries, and to help provide for emerging needs (including a personal scooter), a small group of friends have come together to establish **Pen Pals for Paul**. We welcome your support. Here's how you can help:

Visit the **Pen Pals for Paul** Booth in the Vendor Area of Turn-On Chicago 2012

Learn more about Paul's amazing – and continuing – journey back to health (and hopefully, turning).

Check out an exceptional, one-of-a-kind selection of finely crafted writing instruments made and donated by some of the best pen makers around.

Make a meaningful gift as a tribute to Paul's spirit and courage by purchasing an appropriately priced pen.

Don't need or want a writing instrument? Make a gift of any amount with the knowledge that you're helping our "Pal" Paul.

Whether you pay \$150, \$100, \$50 or less, please give as generously as possible. Cash and checks made payable to "Paul Shotola" will be gladly accepted. (Sorry, no credit cards.)

Know that every dollar given will directly benefit Paul and Jan Shotola.

Questions? Contact Paul Pycik at (630) 921-1600 or PPPycik@aol.com

AAW "Photo's of the Week" in June



Week of June 4



Week of June 25



Week of June 11

Chicago Woodturners Board of Directors and Committee Chairs 2011

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| Set-up / Clean-up | Duane Painter | 224-643-7696 | duane.painter@comcast.net | 25680 Lehmann blvd | Lake Villa, IL 60046 |
| Audio & Video | Ian Kuhn | 312-213-3772 | ian@dmbroad.org | 1510 Dale Dr. | Elgin, IL 60120 |
| Educational Committee | Darrell Radar | 815-648-2197 | drader@clear.net | 10703 Allendale Rd., | Woodstock, IL 60098 |
| Demonstrations | Rich Nye | 630-406-1855 | nyewoodturning@earthlink.net | 40W257 Seavey Road | Batavia, IL 60510 |

June Mentoring Session

Marie Anderson

What do you get when you take advantage of 5 CWT members hosting mentoring sessions at 3 locations? Answer(s): Opportunity! Lots of Questions. Sharing of knowledge! Comradary! The occasional wood chip or two. Laughter. Several “Ah Ha” moments. And, for everyone involved, mentors and mentee's, a sense of accomplishment.

Education committee members have been hosting 1 hour mentoring sessions immediately before the monthly meetings (from 6-7 pm) since January. Last month, Darrell Rader in Woodstock, IL (assisted by Roger & Julie Basrak) & Clint Stevens in Chicago – North side, (assisted by Thomas Stegall) opened their own shops for mentoring the Saturday following the monthly CWT meetings (from 9am to about 1pm) to expand this worthwhile educational project. Twelve CWT members took advantage of these opportunities (6 at each location). The mentors received very positive feedback.

The June Saturday mentoring session took place Saturday, June 16th. Marie (& Dan) Anderson's shop in Itasca became the third mentoring location. Geographically, it seems a good fit, mid-way between the two existing shops & due south of CLA creating a triangle.

This month, between the three locations, 10 CWT members attended. Darrell Rader with Douglas Long hosted 4 members (plus Douglas's

photographer uncle); Clint Stevens and Thomas Stegall hosted one very appreciative member (possibly the Presidential visit may have deterred other members from making the trek downtown this month?); and Marie & Dan Anderson at Casa Anderson welcomed 5 very enthusiastic members (and one very patient wife). I know I speak for all the mentors when I say THANK YOU to all who attended! We truly enjoy giving back and sharing what we have learned over the years.

In case you didn't know, these are FREE opportunities available to YOU as a member of CWT. Take advantage of them! If you have attended a mentoring session, what did you learn? If you have not attended a mentoring session, the educational committee would like to know why? What can we do to encourage you to participate? How can we help you? Do YOU have an idea for an educational program? Would you like to help develop programs like this? Contact Darrell Rader with your comments or suggestions.

The July mentoring session begins at 6:15 and will feature:

Spindle Turning

Photography Q&A at the July meeting also

As a follow up to the June demo, Tom Waicekauskas has graciously agreed to meet with anyone with questions (anything from equipment to f-stop). Show up early to the July CWT meeting with your camera and photo questions, your woodturnings will look better for it.

Turn-On! Chicago 2012 Registration

Al Miotke

Turn-On! Chicago is right around the corner and world class demonstrators from around the country (and world) are getting ready to descend on Chicago for one of the best woodturning educational opportunities available. If you have not signed up yet there is still time but not much time. Maybe you are holding back because you have a commitment and can't make all three days. Well, that is no longer a problem. Single and two day registrations are now available. I know your interest has now peaked. Here is the deal. Starting now, you can sign up for any of the following combinations of days:

| | |
|---------------------|-------|
| Friday only | \$110 |
| Saturday only | \$110 |
| Sunday only | \$100 |
| Friday and Saturday | \$200 |
| Saturday and Sunday | \$200 |

The above fees include all meals except the Saturday evening banquet. Saturday's banquet and auction can be added for just \$35

These options can not be accessed using the on-line registration. Contact Scott Barrett if interested. Better yet bring your checkbook to the next meeting or for your convenience, even cash will be accepted.

2012 Meeting Agenda

| Month | Gallery Review | Demonstration |
|-----------|----------------------|--|
| January | Phil Brooks | Marty Knapp—Leather work on turning |
| February | Thomas Stegall | Andy Kuby—Galactic Arm Spirals |
| March | Jason Swanson | Ken Staggs—Spoon carved Goblets |
| April | Al Miotke | Larry Fabian—Coloring techniques |
| May | Presidents Challenge | Rich Nye—Carved Channels on turned vessels |
| June | Roger Basrak | Tom Waicekauskas—Photographing your work |
| July | TBD | Donn Hamm—Stunning Hollow Ornaments |
| August | TBD | Bob Lenard and Phil Brooks—Making a great vacuum chuck system for \$75 |
| September | TBD | Thomas Stegall—Thin wall turning |
| October | TBD | TBD |
| November | TBD | Lars Sole—Using a Stroboscope in woodturning |
| December | none | Holiday Party |

Turn On! - Chicago 2012 Demonstrator Showcase

By: Paul Shotola

Three of Chicago's Own



Alan Carter

After 25 years as a painter and a decade designing furniture, Alan "turned" his attention to sculpture featuring turned elements. There's a ceremonial approach to much of his work, with non-turned supporting structures an integral part of the design. Thin finials and stems provide the contrast to the vessels and supporting elements.



Dick Sing

A "gentleman" turner and author who is well known for his nine books and various articles on woodturning, Dick is a frequent demonstrator at the Utah national symposium. He is known for his precision work, sharp clean lines, and simplicity of form. Dick combines the dexterity and skill required by his former work in tool-and-die and quality control, with the eye of an artist. Dick has travelled widely as a demonstrator and teacher in the United States, Australia, England and Norway.



Steve Sinner

Turn it thin, turn it deep, make it beautiful. Simple, yes? Steve will make it so with his rotations (pun intended). A paper-thin goblet with standard tools, a deep hollow vessel with efficient captured boring bar technique, and an in-depth presentation of surface treatments (including dyes, paint and gold leaf) are included in Steve's demonstrations.

Friday Evening Demonstrators

We're having a bit of a ladies night! In addition to Kurt Hertzog and Pens for Troops, the following demonstrators will present demos and classes that will be open to everyone, both attendees and spouses. Come get your hands (and feet!) wet while learning a new skill to enhance your turnings. Be sure to bring your spouse or significant other. Don't forget to join us in the Residence Hall Living Room between 7 – 11 for a Cash Bar. We are offering something for everyone!



Deb Fanelli

Deb Fanelli, married to Johannes Michelsen, is famous for her Metalwork jewelry as well as pyrosculpture and spoon making. But on Friday evening, she will hold a demonstration and hands-on class on her Foldforming Copper, metal worked jewelry. The session will start out with a short demo of techniques and samples, then immediately after, the artist will hold a hands-on class in metal worked jewelry. You can see her work and inspirations at (<http://pinterest.com/pin/1688918580100804/>). To sign up for her hands-on class (there is a small materials fee of \$35.00) contact Jan Shotola at jshotola@yahoo.com. Seats are limited to six for the class, although all can attend the demo. Sign up today!

Turn On! - Chicago 2012 Demonstrator Showcase

By: Paul Shotola



Carole Floate

On Friday evening, you will get an opportunity to explore the ancient art of marbling with Carole Floate. Carole is also in charge of the popular Instant Gallery, as she has been for the last six years. Marbling was originally used on paper, but Carole has developed simple, proven techniques for marbling on wood. Especially turned wood. Her artwork is in many collections (including Jan's and mine) and she is a frequent demonstrator at turning clubs and symposia. Plan on attending this free hands-on class to learn how you can put another tool in your kit. Carole will show you all the secrets



Cindy Sing

An interest in beading led to her current work in Art Clay Silver. Cindy (wife of Dick Sing) will demonstrate the techniques for working with Art Clay on Friday evening at 7:00 pm. This demonstration is open to all and free of charge. Later in the weekend, Cindy will be hosting a two hands-on session so you can actually try these techniques for yourself! The demonstration is free and open to all, but the hands-on classes are limited to six students each and have a \$60.00 materials fee. Contact Jan Shotola at jshotola@yahoo.com to reserve your spot in Cindy's class.

Susan Rosand

Bob Rosand (Susan's husband and a well-known teacher and turning demonstrator) tells a story about the time he and Susan were at a school for Bob to demonstrate. When they arrived, there was a large banner hanging from the ceiling that said: "WELCOME SUSAN ROSAND (and her husband Bob)." Talk about no respect! Bob is used to it though, and considers Susan a partner in their craft business. Susan's painting on Bob's turned ornaments and platters is an interesting surface element, and we are pleased to have Susan at TOC 2012 to show us how it's done. Friday evening August 3rd, Susan will host a demonstration of her painting techniques and answer all of your questions about painting on turned wood art.

Member's Gallery

June Meeting



Alan Carter
Dyed maple



Bill Brown
Walnut



Doug Long
Cherry



Clint Stevens
Butternut, oak, walnut



Mark Johansen



Roy Lindley
Ebony

Member's Gallery



Al Miotke
Various woods



Bill Williams



Francisco Bauer

June Meeting

Editor's Choice



Lars Sole
Walnut, Holly



Dawn Herndo Charles

Editor's
Choice

Just when you think that you have seen it all, you find new found creativity from one of the members on the gallery table. Lars series falls into this category for me. The illusion of pressing a hollow form is intriguing. The contrast between the Holly form and the walnut press is excellent. Turning a negative form blind from a square block that perfectly matches the Holly vase to make the press is no easy task either.

I'll make my personal selection each month. You might agree or not, it's a democracy, but I'm the Editor.

Member's Gallery



Donn Hamm—Maple

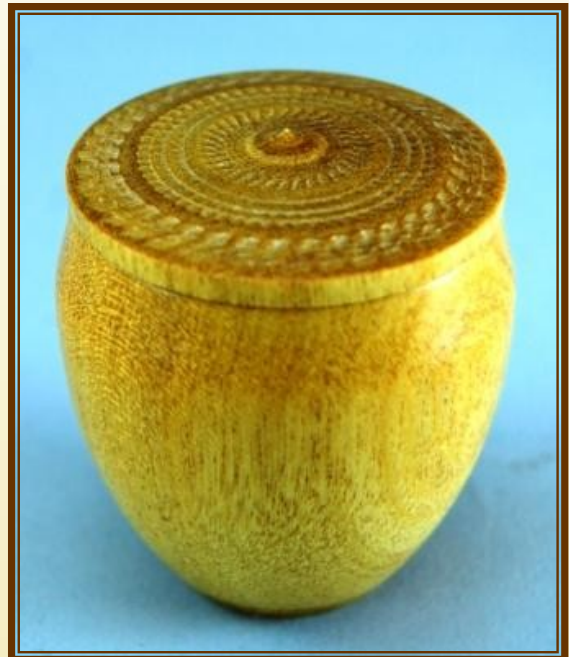
June Meeting



Doug Long—Maple



Doug Long
Maple



Ken Staggs
Yellowheart



Bob Leonard
Walnut



Francisco Bauer
Box Elder

Member's Gallery



Larry Fabian
Maple



Tom Eovaldi
Locust



Unknown



Ken stags
Fruitwood

June Meeting



Rich Nye
Maple



Jerry Kuffel
Maple

Member's Gallery

June Meeting



Bill Brown
Maple



Roy Lindley
Nested boxes



Don McCloskey
Walnut, Maple



Rich Nye
Cherry



Bob Leonard
Ash



Rich Nye
Cherry

For Sale, Trade, or Wanted

Contact the Editor to post your items

Metal Lathe for Sale. New was \$1500.00 - Would like to get \$750.00 for it. Cabinet needs some paint. Contact Greg Karr GMKarr431@aol.com, 630-513-1681



I have a large number of wood shop tools for sale. I have setup a webpage. Please visit for more detail info. <http://rockcreekgardens.com> Emil Bohach 18097 Covell Rd Morrison, IL 61270 815-441-9658.



**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.**

Visit our website
chicagowoodturners.com

**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**

**Items of interest to woodturners for sale, wanted, trade or free are welcome.
Non-commercial ads only, please. To place an ad, contact Al Miotke.
847-297-4877 or alan.miotke@chamberlain.com**

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

www.woodturner.org

For Sale, Trade, or Wanted

Symposiums

AAW 2012 symposium June 8-10, San Jose, CA

Turn-on!-Chicago Symposium August 3-5, 2012. The Convention Center of The University of St. Mary of the Lake, Mundelein, IL

3rd Segmenting Symposium, Lake Tahoe, CA Oct 18-21, 2012

Attention artists, teachers and demonstrators

If you are participating in a craft show, have a gallery exhibition, will be teaching or demonstrating your craft, or know of an event of interest to woodturners, please contact the Editor to add the event to the calendar.

A little self-promotion is a good thing. Your fellow woodturners want to know about your events.

To add events to the calendar, contact Al Miotke at 847-297-4877 or alan.miotke@chamberlain.com