



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



The Monthly newsletter of the Chicago Woodturners

August 2013

Headline News

2013 Demo and Hands-on Classes

One more demonstration is scheduled for 2013. **Bonnie Klein November 9-12**
The all day Saturday demo will be held in our Christian Liberty meeting room. Sunday's one day class and the Monday/Tuesday 2 day class's are held at Normac. More details are on page 14.

2013 CWT Picnic

Its right around the corner!

From 12-5PM on Saturday September 14th on the scenic lakefront property's of Duane Painter an Bob Leonard. Plan to come for a day of fun in the sun, conversation with friends, competition, and good food. See page 5 for more details.



You can also contact Brenda Miotke for more information or to volunteer at brenda.miotke@hovservices.com 847-297-4877.

Mentoring

Bring your turning questions, problems, and dull tools to Tuesday's meeting and be prepared to get any questions you have answered. As always the mentoring session starts at 6:00PM. Lathe and grinding wheel is available.

Empty Bowl contributions are appreciated and accepted at each meeting.

2013 Meeting Agenda

Month	Gallery Review	Demonstration
Aug	Don McCloskey	Offset Turning—Clint Stevens
Sept	Bob Barbieri	Desk Clock/ Rose Engine—Paul Pycik
Oct	TBD	Open Segment Turning—Bill Robb
Nov	TBD	DIY Tools—Francisco Bauer
Dec	None	Christmas Party

Presidents Curls



**President
Scott Barrett**

The Chicago Woodturners Club has been fortunate over the years to have a strong membership. Our membership is made up of individuals new to woodturning as well as seasoned hobbyist and studio artists. We can boast that we have among us extraordinary talent. It constantly amazes me how the talent in our club month after month pushes the envelope of the craft we call "woodturning". In my seven short years with the club I have witnessed the progression of many members. Some of us can stand at the lathe hour after hour and at the end of 6 months all we've done is create a big pile of shavings. If lucky, we learned how to keep a piece of wood chucked, or prevent a blow out of an expensive piece of wood. In the next six months all the family members have been blessed with our "finest" turnings as gifts for any number of occasions. Fortunately they are well received and come with ooh's and ah's. This is all the encouragement necessary to get back to the shop and produce more "treasures".

In 2009 our February meeting was attended by Alan Carter. Alan was a quiet member with a keen interest in the "Art" of woodturning. His background in painting and furniture building set the stage for his new interest in the use of a wood lathe. In a very short time he was recognized as an emerging force in the world of turning. His creative art forms came naturally to Alan and again the sound of ooh' and ah's could be heard at the gallery table. It wasn't long before Alan was asked to critique the gallery and demonstrate at our club meeting. Who can forget his demo turning a thin goblet stem, or his reassembled "half bowl" pieces?

In just over 4 years Alan Carter has an international presence. He has demonstrated in New Zealand, the AAW National Symposium, Turn-On! Chicago, and several local club events. He will be teaching at Arrowmont this year, and is a guest demonstrator at the Ohio Valley

Woodturners Guild Symposium this October. In 2012 Alan chaired the TOC auction. His knowledge and hard work resulted in an \$11,000 plus addition to our education fund. Alan's wife Penny also contributed to TOC by coordinating the meals at the symposium.

I only wish we could have taken a bigger advantage of Alan and his talents. He has so much to teach us. Alan has a keen sense of form. He knows how to take a basic shape, cut it up, turn it inside out, and dazzle us with a new creation. He uses turning tools like Rembrandt used paint brushes. I have no doubt over the next 10 years Alan's name will be among the top Woodturners nationally and internationally. Unfortunately the next time we see Alan demonstrate it will be for a fee.

Alan and Penny are moving on. By the end of August they will call Asheville, North Carolina home. Asheville has quickly become the hotbed of the art world. Woodturning is just one of many mediums that can be found there. They will find themselves at home in a world that Alan has learned to negotiate with ease and grace. Our club has been made better by his membership, and the loss of him to Asheville will be hard to accept. Thank you, Alan for all you have done to expand the scope, vision, and skill of those fortunate to sit through your well thought out demos and gallery reviews. I know I speak for the membership when I say, Thank you for sharing your time with us, and we wish you and Penny only the best as you start a new chapter of your life.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Scott Barrett". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

July Meeting Minutes

Clint Stevens

President Scott Barrett began the July 9th CWT meeting at 7:00 pm. Scott recapped the demonstration Hans Weisflogg conducted over the previous few days. Richard Nye received well earned kudos for his dedicated efforts in bringing great demonstrators in this year.

Judy Kavathas visited from the North Suburban Carvers to announce their "Artistry in Wood 2013." This year the artistic competition will include woodturnings. Anyone wishing to compete should submit an application available from northsuburbancarvers.org. The exhibit will be held October 19th and 20th at the Odeum Sports and Exposition center in Villa Park.

Al and Brenda Miotke announced the CWT Summer Picnic will be held September 14th starting about noon. Bob Leonard Duane Painter are hosting the picnic once again at their adjoining properties on Fox Lake. Volunteers will be needed so call Brenda and offer your help.

Jason Swanson announced that he will be demonstrating at two symposia this year. The first will be Oct 11-13th at the Ohio Valley Woodturning Symposium in West Harrison, Indiana (OVWG.ORG). The second will be Oct 26-27th at the Wisconsin Woodturners Expo in Eau Claire, Wisconsin (witurnersexpo.org.) If you would like to master Jason's great segmented peppermill this is your chance.

Tom Waicekawkas has a pair of Alan Lacer style hook tools made by members of the Illiana Woodturners available for \$25 apiece.

Don McCloskey is unfortunately absent tonight. Let's keep those bowls coming for the Empty Bowls event in December. Let's give Don one more thing to smile about when he returns.

Don Jovag wrote the club promoting his new book, "Segmented Bowls for the Beginning Turner." Published by Schiffer Books it is well reviewed and available on Amazon.

Andy Kuby announced Turn On Chicago 2014 to be held August 14-17th. These are world class symposiums that require the participation of the



entire club. Broom your schedule and be a part of this stellar event. Featured turners will be announced in September.

Roger Basrak announced 57 members attending the July meeting. There are a total of 180 members.

Marie Anderson held the raffle for great prizes. Great for woodturners for sure.

For those who haven't heard, Lars Stole won "Best of Show" honors at the AAW Symposium in Tampa. Congratulations Lars, none of us are surprised.

Dawn Herndo gave an insightful reviewed the gallery.

Hans Weisflogg presented a jaw dropping power point demonstration on the wizardry involved in his work.

CWT News

July Membership report

Julie Basrak

Chicago Woodturners now has 181 paid members for 2013.

We had 57 members and 2 new members at the July meeting. Our newest members are Timothy Olson from Winfield (who joined at the demo on July 6) and Tom Diamond from Des Plaines. Doug Fuson from Evanston (who had mailed his Membership Application in May) was able to attend his first CWT meeting since moving from Wisconsin. He had previously belonged to Badger Woodturners for several years.

When you arrive at the August meeting, please remember to let Roger & Julie know if you would be willing to greet visitors or new members, help them to feel comfortable and welcome, and answer any questions they might have. Thanks!

July Raffle

Chuck Svazas

July Raffle Winners

Roberto Ferrer—Osage orange blank

Paul Pyrcik—Osage orange ben blanks

Joe O-Malley—Cocobolo pen blanks

Andy Kuby—Cherry blanks

Robert Schultz—Ash blank

Rich Nye—bring back item

Don Johnston—CA Glue (donated by Darrell Rader)

Total Raffle collection \$113



Chicago Woodturners Anual

September 14
Noon to 5PM

Picnic

Food!
Hot dogs, Burgers, Corn on the Cob,
Italian sausage, and drinks provided by CWT

Where:

25670 Lehmann Blvd,
Lake Villa, IL 60046

Swap meet

Swap some of
those tools you don't use



Bring something to share,
Appetizers, Sides,
Desserts, etc welcome.

Fun and Games!



3rd Annual Turned Boat Race!

Make a boat- Turning must be part of the
design- Enter it in the race. No other rules,
just have fun.

Hans Weissflog Slideshow

Paul Rosen

Don Johnson was the scheduled demonstrator for the July, 2013 meeting, where he was going to show us how to turn a wand. But a snafu with equipment prevented him from performing. So Hans Weissflog, who had just presented a free demonstration on Saturday, July 6th, and had taught both single-day and two-day classes out at Normac, agreed to step in with a PowerPoint presentation on his turned boxes and bowls.



We were fortunate, as Hans routinely carries images of his turnings on a flash drive. Ah, the wonders of the computer world. Hans was born in 1954, which makes him about 58 years of age. He was born in Honnersum, Germany, but speaks both German and English fluently. He spent two years studying mechanical engineering, studied design, and then began an apprenticeship in Woodturning under Professor Bockelmann. Hans is perhaps best known for turned boxes and bowls that bear his signature design: a series of thin beads turned on both surfaces of the wood on multiple axes, so that spaces of light penetrate between the circular arcs. The style is so distinctive that you recognize it immediately as a Hans Weissflog turning. That style has put Hans in demand as a traveling demonstrator in the U.S., Australia, and all of Europe. His pieces can be found in museums, art galleries, and in the hands of private collectors.

Hans started by showing images of some of his ball box prototypes. Ironically in his home country, Hans is not noted for his ball boxes. Instead, his Saturn boxes are more widely recognized. He showed us examples, including an 8" diameter Saturn box, along with a myriad of other box designs in various wood species. He likes to use African blackwood inlaid with ivory or bone. (Did you know that African blackwood trees become hollow inside as they get old?) He also uses inlays of



petrified coral, cactus root, palm seeds, palm fruits, and beetlenuts. The latter have a unique fragrance, and you can only buy them in an Indian area of Los Angeles called Little Bombay.

I was amazed at the breadth of different boxes Hans can make. Aside from the pedestrian lidded box, he makes a square box that is turned in two different directions, a triangle rocking box, a "drunken" box, a ball box, a Saturn box, "tape measure" boxes, a Napoleon's hat box, and a standard lens box with a Chinese hat on top, turned on two axes, both on-center. He candidly confided, "I don't wear a wrist watch in my workshop. I don't want to know how long it takes me to make a piece. So some items are very expensive. Others not." After he completes a series of boxes, he sends out photo-postcards to his customers. One customer has a collection of 250 Weissflog boxes! Hans likes to rough-turn his boxes and then set them down to dry for two to three months. I've heard that same advice from other box turners, including our own Dan Anderson, who will sometimes wait as long as six months after rough-turning a box. Wood has a tendency to move as it dries, so a quarantine period after rough-turning is in order.



Toward the end of the presentation, I reflected upon how hard Weissflog must work. Not only is there endless creativity, but the turner must stand at the lathe hours upon end in order to produce his product. Take a day off? Sure. But there's no paycheck for that day. Want to feed your family? Then you've got to stand at the lathe and produce masterpieces. I guess the only good part is that when you approach the zenith of your career, and your reputation soars, you can charge higher prices for your work. And then there are lessons learned along the way. For example, cocobolo is popular among turners because it turns well and has a beautiful appearance. But the dust is toxic. Hans had a headache for two days and didn't turn cocobolo again for 15 years. His advice for

(Continued on page 7)

Hans Weissflog Slideshow

Paul Rosen

(Continued from page 6)

cocobolo: wear a mask, and use an active sawdust vacuum system when turning. Hans showed us a photo of the wood stash in his shop, including a piece of cocobolo about 24-inches in diameter—the largest he has ever seen.

In addition to those images which accompany this article, you can go to Facebook and find a generous collection of images of Hans' turnings. Visit <https://facebook.com/hans.weissflog>. Hans and his son, Jakob, opened their woodturning studio in 1982. And within a decade, word of his unique style and turnings had spread to the point where Hans was in demand as an international woodturning artist. If you go to www.youtube.com, and search under "woodturner Hans Weissflog," you will see a brief video showing Hans with spindle gouge in hand, back-hollowing the inside of a sphere. CWT's own Paul Shotola was the one who posted the video, which is about a minute long, and Hans makes it look like anybody could do it. He makes it look sooo easy. I can tell you from personal experience, it's not. Years of standing at the lathe have perfected his technique to the point where almost every move is perfect. Granted, it's not *always* perfect. Hans admitted during his slide presentation that occasionally he does lose a piece while turning. I found that comforting to learn. Because I've lost a few pieces, too. But when Weissflog loses a piece, it's probably due to a flaw in the wood, not his technique. When I lose a piece, well, let's just say I'm not gonna blame it on the wood.

Once the applause had died down after his PowerPoint demo, I walked up to Weissflog and asked him if he had a book on his turnings. I asked because every single image he had shown looked, at least to my eyes, as if it had been photographed professionally. Surely there must be a book. "No," he said, "I had a friend lined up to do the book, but the deal fell through." Hans wants a ghost writer because he feels his English isn't good enough. We assured him that his English is flawless. He was quick to point out that his conversational English was good, but he was

not confident about putting the words on paper. So we have published books on turned boxes by Chris Stott, Ray Key, and other big-name turners, but none by Weissflog. Yet. Let's hope he finds a collaborator. I'll be first in line to buy that book. Meanwhile, we'll have to be content with viewing examples of Weissflog's work on www.facebook.com.



A Day with Matthew Hill

Al Miotke



In July I had the opportunity to attend the Mark Adams School of Woodworking to see Mathew Hill give a one day demonstration on the coloring techniques that he is so well known for. The first part of the day focused on the use of Milk Paint. Walking into this demonstration I had never used Milk Paint but I have since made a trip to Woodcraft to pick up a selection of colors. These paints have excellent earth tones and are very easy to apply. The paint comes in powder form. Just create a 50/50 mix of the powder and water. Stir well and let sit for about 10 minutes to make sure all the granules are dissolved. Using cheese cloth or a piece of nylon is also a good idea to strain out any lumps.

The paint will dry it less than 30 minutes to a hard finish that is easy to sand. Mathew's technique involves applying multiple coats of different colors on top of a textured finish then carefully sanding through the top lay of color in certain places to expose the different colors beneath. The resulting boxes are very elegant looking.

In the afternoon session Matt showed us a second technique that he often uses on the tops of his boxes. It involves applying a dye stain as a basecoat then a glaze on top of the dye stain. Matt makes his own glaze in the small quantities he needs by combining 2-3 parts turpentine, 1 part linseed oil, 10% Japan dryer, and about 1/4" of an oil based artists paint from a tube. Matt recommends artist quality ingredients, not the stuff you get at a hardware store. The glaze is very slow drying so you have the ability to work it for a long period of time but be careful, it's a dust magnet so place it in a clean place to dry. You can get a lot of interesting looks with this glaze. Texture it by dry brushing, create swirling patterns using a brush on the lathe, spatter additional colors into the glaze or spatter turpentine to create interesting circular patterns in the glaze. There are lots of options so experimentation is suggested. To see these techniques up close check out Matt's website at matthewhillstudio.com . He also recommends the book *Art of the Faux* by Pierre Finkelstein.



Marc Adams School of Woodworking

If you have never had an opportunity to visit or take a class at Marc Adams School of Woodworking (Yes, and woodturning) in Franklin, Indiana here are a few pictures of three of the shop areas for students to use while in a class. It's a large, clean facility with top of the line equipment and great instructors.



Photos from the Tampa AAW National Symposium

Al Miotke

The instant Gallery



The Tampa Convention center



Just a few of the 100's of pieces on Display



Binh Pho Exhibition

Al Miotke

Part of Binh Pho's traveling exhibition was on display at the symposium. There was about 20 incredible pieces on display that shows the skill and variety of techniques this internationally known artist incorporates in his work. It was a real pleasure so see so much of his work on display in one place.



AAW "Photo's of the Week" in July



Week of July 8 Juniper



Week of July 23



Week of July 13 Blackwood



Week of July 30

Chicago Woodturners Board of Directors and Committee Chairs 2013

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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
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Demonstrations	Rich Nye	630-406-1855	nyewoodturning@earthlink.net	40W257 Seavey Road	Batavia, IL 60510

Member's Gallery

July Gallery



Bill Brown—Maple



Roberto Ferrer—Gum tree



Timothy Olson—Oak, Readheart



Scott Barrett—Acrylic



Don Johnston—Ambrosia Maple



Marie Anderson

Member's Gallery

July Gallery



Francisco Bauer—cherry,
paduak, walnut



Jason Swanson—Honey Locust



Marie Anderson—Maple



Bill Brown—cherry



Roberto Ferrer—Oak

Member's Gallery



Paul Pyrcik—African Blackwood

July Gallery

Editor's Choice



Ken Staggs—Ash

Editor's Choice

So often a new idea is the result of a practical need. That is the case for Ken's yarn holder. A clever idea that could be the next big hit on the craft show circuit. Ease of use was clearly part of the design process with the slit in the top so you can quickly replace a spool of yarn. The use of heartwood and sapwood as a contrast is also a nice touch.



Ray Key demo Piece—Cherry



Mark Dryer—Acrylic

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

2013 Demonstrations and Hands-On Classes

Demonstrator	Demo (CLA)	One-Day Class (NORMAC)	Two-Day class (NORMAC)
Michael Hosaluk	Saturday, April 13	Sunday, April 14	Mon-Tue, April 15-16
Alan Lacer	Saturday, June 1	Sunday, June 2	Mon-Tue, June 3-4
Hans Wiesflog	Saturday , July 6	Sunday, 7	Mon-Tue, July 8-9
Bonnie Klein	Saturday, November 9	Sunday, Nov 10	Mon-Tue, Nov 11-12

One or two more demos and classes may be added in 2013.

Contact Rich Nye or Rosemary Pagura for details

Richard Nye, Demonstrations Chairman
 40W257 Seavey Road, Batavia, IL 60510
 630-865-7938
nyewoodturning@earthlink.net

Rosemary Pagura, Treasurer
 944 Wisconsin Lane, Elk Grove Village, IL 60007
 630-816-1019
rosepagu@gmail.com

Sign-up and tuition payment can be made at any CWT Meeting *prior to the event.*

Checks for classes may also be mailed to Rosemary Pagura once you have confirmed your slot in the class with her.

Prepaid demo admission fees and class tuition are not refundable, but may be transferred to another turner. Demonstration admission is \$30 at the door, but a 50% discount (\$15) is available to all CWT members signing up and paying their admission fees at any CWT meeting prior to the demo. Join CWT for \$25 per year and take advantage of the discount.

Tuition for Michael Hosaluk is \$120 for the one-day class and \$240 for the two-day class. Tuition for all other classes will be \$125 for one-day and \$250 for two-day. Tuition must be paid in advance to register for a class and guarantees the student's reservation.

All demonstrations will be held at
 Christian Liberty Academy (CLA)
 502 W. Euclid, Arlington Heights, IL 60005.
 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.

All classes will be held at
 NORMAC Manufacturing
 2570 Kaneville Court, Geneva, IL 60134.
 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.

For Sale, Trade, or Wanted

Contact the Editor to post your items

No Notices this month



**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**

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

www.woodturner.org

Events

Ohio Valley Woodturners Guild Turning 2013 October 11-13,
<http://www.ovwg.org/2013-symposium-2/2013-symposium>

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