



# AS THE WOOD TURNS

*The Newsletter of the Chicago  
Woodturners Club*  
[www.chicagewoodturners.com](http://www.chicagewoodturners.com)



Volume 6, Issue 9

September 2006

## Dick Sing

### All day Demonstration Saturday September 9



#### *Special points of interest:*

- August 8th Meeting
- Demonstrator Schedule
- Expanded members gallery Pages 2,3
- Rich fitch Demonstrator pg 5
- Sanding and Gloss Finish pg 7
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CWT Meeting 7 PM  
2nd Tuesday  
Woodcraft Supply Store  
1280 E. Dundee Rd,  
Palatine IL  
(847)774-1186

## Phil Brooks

### Lathe Safety September 12th meeting

**CWT  
Annual Picnic  
September 23 @ Raders Ranch  
See Page 6 for Information and Directions**

## Gallery Table

**Bring a turning and lets fill  
The table.**

## As The Wood Turns

*The official newsletter of the Chicago Woodturners Club (CWTC) is published monthly by and for its membership. Membership in the AAW is encouraged but not mandatory. Dues in the AAW are \$40 per year for an individual. Dues in the CWTC are \$20 per year per individual.*

## Member's Gallery



Josh Connan critiques the members' gallery.



Bill Brown  
Redwood Bowl



Bill Brown  
Walnut Platter



Grant Barlow  
Ambrosia Maple Bowl



Grant Barlow  
Cedar of Lebanon Bowl



Bob Barbiari  
Segmented Layered Maple  
Walnut Vase



Bob Barbiari  
Segmented Layered Maple  
Walnut Vase



Don Johnston  
3 Bowls Layered  
Figured Popular



David Bray  
Maple Pepper Grinder



Jerry Howard  
Big Leaf Maple Bowl



Jerry Howard  
Bleached Edge Walnut  
Platter



Grant Barlow  
Sycamore Bowl



Jim Wickersham  
Segmented Layered  
Walnut, Maple, Paduk, Bowl

## Member's Gallery



Chuck Young  
Pierced, Burned Ash Vase



Chuck Young  
Curly Eucalyptus Bowl



Tom Jesionowski  
Elm Bowl



Tom Jesionowski  
Decorated Ash Bowl



Clint Stevens  
Kauri Bowl



John Eslinger  
Black Walnut Vase



John Eslinger  
Cherry Bowl



John Eslinger  
Black Walnut Vessel



Paul Shotola  
Kingwood Goblets



Paul Shotola  
Bloodwood Goblet



Lee Clarbour  
Maple Segmented Bowl



Scott Barrett  
Spanish Cedar Corian  
Lamp



Rich Fitch  
Prairie Grass Vase



Dick Sing  
Maple Bowl



Dick Sing  
Walnut Platter



Josh Connan  
Walnut Ball



Francisco Bauer  
Maple, Walnut, Mahog-  
any, Cherry Platter

## Membership 196

Andy Kuby

We had 70 members at the August meeting

Curls from the President's Platter

September 2006

Good news, fellow wood turners. According to the most recent issue of *Sculptural Pursuit*, we are sculptors. We're artists. We're legit. All this time, we thought we were just making shavings in the shop, or rather the wood turning studio, and then catching it for tracking those shavings into the house. Well, now we have, as they (they being a little younger than your faithful scribe) would say: "Street Cred". Why do I say this? The cover of *Sculptural Pursuit* has a stunning photo of a Jacques Vesery piece.



*Sculptural Pursuit* is a magazine that features sculptors, their work, their philosophy, and surprisingly, their techniques. Art-type publications rarely venture into the nuts and bolts of the craft, but this one does. Jacques' work is on the cover because he was selected as the 1<sup>st</sup> place winner in a contest sponsored by the magazine. Typically, the emphasis would have been on stone, bronze or clay works. Actually, Jacques is on the cover because his work deserves it. A combination of aesthetics and craftsmanship made the difference, and the material, wood, turned wood, was secondary.

Fine, you say, Vesery is different, he's not like me, he's an artist, and he's a sculptor. I'm a wood turner, and I've only been turning for (insert your answer here) 3 months, 3 years, 3 decades. Ah, but here's the really good news: Jacques is just like you, just like me, and just like everyone on the planet who strives to make things of beauty and fine craftsmanship. He's just a little more focused, a little more intense about this art and craft known as wood turning.

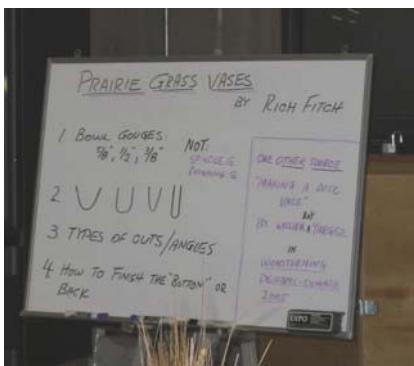
What are your goals? Do you want to be on the cover of a magazine? Do you want to make your living with your art? Maybe you just want to be able to make things that people enjoy having in their homes. Your personal goal doesn't matter, as long as you have the desire to improve, to better express your personal feelings, to have pride in your craftsmanship. Membership in your club is a great start, and attendance at the demonstrations is the next step. Utilizing the club library, bringing your work to the monthly gallery review, and developing a critical eye for form and proportion will put you on the fast track to your own first place winner, magazine cover feature, rave reviews, and most importantly, your most personally fulfilling wood turning yet.

Until October, picture your work on the cover of a magazine. A few shavings tracked into the house can't compete with that! Next, make the effort to get there, and please turn safely.

Paul Shotola

Visit [www.sculpturalpursuit.com](http://www.sculpturalpursuit.com) for more inspiration.

## Rich Fitch Prairie Grass Vases



Thank You Rich Fitch for the Demonstration on Prairie Grass Vase Turning CWT

## Chicago Woodturners Annual Picnic



Marlene and Darrell Rader have a little bit of heaven for themselves, surrounded by the things they love: a rural setting, room to garden, barns and sheds full of interesting and useful things. This year, they are again opening their home to the CWT for our annual picnic on September 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Last year, seventy-plus members shared a day of turning, camaraderie, roast pork, homemade food, entertainment and stories. We enjoyed a chainsaw carving demonstration, hand built calliope, a tour of Darrell's newly remodeled studio (it's graduated from a shop to a studio), a swap meet, and mostly, the company of our friends, family and fellow club members, and all of you are invited for this year's picnic.

Marty Jesski has again agreed to be the head chef, promising us a delicious meal of smoked pork, and Jan Shotola will dig into her recipe box and concoct a special BBQ sauce just for this occasion. That means she won't make her sauce for her husband, but she will for you. Bring a dish to pass, and we'll have a complete feast. A refrigerator, freezer and outlets for Crock pots are available. Lunch will be served at 1:00 sharp. For an extra desert treat, Darrell promises to fire up the antique John Deere ice cream maker, so those with a sweet tooth may be indulged.

This years picnic will be on September 23, from 10:00 am till the late afternoon. Festivities will include a swap meet, a golfing competition (no long drives, but a short game skill challenge using the wedge), and an opportunity to show off your non-woodturning interests. Play a musical instrument? Write stories? Build model airplanes? Enquiring minds want to know about your other hobbies and skills. Share your interests at this years picnic. Darrell's antique cars will be on display, along with an antique pump organ, a band saw bigger than any of us need, and enough open space and "escape from the city" to satisfy every need.

A tool swap meet will be held, so load up all of those treasures that you can now live without, and swap and sell with your fellow tool pack rats. Excess goods can be donated to the Marc Adams School in Indiana for distribution to vocational schools in Nicaragua and to Native American vocational programs here in the States. Paul Shotola will arrange for transport of your donations.

We will have some lathes set up to play on, possibly some mentor/ student interaction, and an opportunity to do a little show and tell on the lathe. Bring your basic tools, some throw-away wood, and we'll make some chips. Perhaps an egg cup turning competition will be held. How fast can you turn an egg cup? The record (according to legend) is Richard Raffan's eight (yes, 8) seconds. Can you beat that?

Rader's address is: 10703 Allendale Rd. Woodstock, IL 60098. Both Google Maps and Streets and Trips can find the Rancho, so you can, too. We hope to see you there. Join us for a relaxed, family friendly day in the country. Their phone is 815 648 2197.

### Sanding Questions Answered

First the 3M Power Visor is not the final answer to the dangers of dust. But it is a lot better than the paper dust masks. The best answer I think, would be a good dust collector and a respirator mask with an O.S.H.A. approved filter. The reason I recommend 3M is that it is in a price range that most people can afford and it is comfortable to wear.

As most of you saw at the demo sanding to 600 can make a big difference. This may sound like it will take a lot of extra effort. In reality it will only take about 10 minutes longer than stopping at 320. If you want a gallery quality finish you must get rid of the radial sanding marks. This is done by sanding at an angle to these marks.

This can be done by stopping the lathe and sanding by hand or by power sanding. To make your job easier only sand until you have removed the previous marks, sanding or tool. You can check to see if the mark you are trying to remove is from the previous grade of paper or one that you just made. Lightly sand across the mark. If it goes away it is from the paper you are using. If it is still there keep sanding. I have also found that you don't have to worry about the radial marks until you get to about 220, from there on if you don't take care of the marks at each grit you will have to go back. At first you will have trouble seeing the marks but with practice you will see marks that you never knew were there. Keep trying and I think you will find the effort will be very rewarding. I will cover the finishing part of my demo next month. If you have more questions see me at the next meeting or post them on the club discussion group.

### GLOSS FINISH

To obtain a gallery quality gloss finish is a procedure, not just a finish.

First you have to have the piece sanded to at least 600 grit with all of the sanding marks removed. The finish is a mixture of MINWAX-HELMAN-SPAR URETHANE-CLEAR GLOSS and PARKS-PAINT THINNER (this is the green can not the blue one). The Parks and Minwax are mixed 50/50. Mix in a bottle that is about 10 oz. size and leave a small air gap at the top. The air gap will help with the mixing. Before you start applying the finish remove all of the sawdust from the piece. Start by applying a heavy coat of finish, this coat will soon start to soak in. Keep applying finish until you stop seeing dull spots. During this procedure keep the piece turning on the lathe at a slow speed. Let the piece dry overnight and repeat the procedure. After the piece stops soaking up the finish you are ready to start obtaining a gloss finish.

If you are doing hollow forms be sure to do this to the inside of the piece. The easy way to do this is to pour the finish inside and coat the entire surface. Next sand the surface with 1500 grit. You are only trying to level the finish not sand the piece. Keep applying coats until all defects in the finish are gone. The best way to apply the finish is with a paper towel. Bounty paper towels are the best for this procedure because they leave no lint. Fold the towel into a small pad and soak with finish, unfold the towel and use like a chamois on the hood of a car. Between coats sand with 1500 wet or dry lubricated with mineral spirits. When you are ready to apply the final coat you need to clean the work area. This is important to keep dust from settling on the wet finish. The procedure described here was not worked out by me but by Steve Sinner. Steve developed this procedure by much trial and error and is still refining it.

## Minutes of the Chicago Woodturners Club Meeting on August 8, 2006

President Paul Shotola opened the meeting at 7:00 pm. The usual house and safety rules were explained.

Next guest demonstrators: Binh Pho on August 19  
Dick Sing will replace Bonnie Klein here on 9/9.

**Library News: Grant Barlow is moving, so we 2 new Librarians. Any Volunteers?**  
Thanks, Grant for digitizing and organizing the Library.

**Membership:** Currently we have 195 members. 4 visitors came to this meeting.

Wood Workers Show on Oct 6-8. CWT will have a booth so volunteers are needed. See Phil Brooks to sign up.

**Collaborative Challenge for 2007:** Google South pointer for one idea. Other ideas encouraged – send them to Paul Shotola.

The raffle this week included wood veneer, a cherry block, tools, and Briwax.

**For your Calendar:** The CWT picnic is on 9/23/06 at the Rader Ranch. Come one, come all. Bring a dish to share. More to come.

The gallery was reviewed by Josh Connan. Good insight from an relatively new turner.

The demonstration was by Rich Fitch. Rich explained the techniques for turning prairie grass vases in a clear and thorough manner. Nicely done and very informative.

Respectfully submitted,  
Paul Cavanagh

## Dick Sing September 9th all Day Demonstrator September 10th Hands-On-Class

Dick Sing will be demonstrating for the CWT on September 9, 2006 at Woodcraft. Dick is known for his precise tool techniques, imaginative turnings and skill as a demonstrator. Dick is the author of several woodturning books and has demonstrated around the world. This demonstration will cover tools, techniques and projects that can be made on smaller lathes. Turners of all levels will enjoy this demonstration. The fee is only \$25.00, and may be the best money you spend on your turning education this year. Turners of every level, from beginner to advanced will all benefit from this demo. Mark your calendar now, and enjoy a day with one of the great wood turning teachers.

Dick will also be hosting a hands-on class at Woodcraft on Sunday, September 10. To register, contact Jan Shotola at 847-412-9781 or p.shotola@comcast.net.

## Demonstrator for July-August 2006

### Meeting Demonstrators

Sept 12th TBA  
Oct 10th Lloyd Beckman **Turning Miniature Hats**  
**See Phil Brooks to sign up to be a demonstrator.**

### WEEKEND MASTER TURNER DEMO SCHEDULE

September 9 Dick Sing Ornaments, Bird Houses sing  
September 10 One day hands-on class, Class fee

To register for Hands-on Classes contact Jan Shotola at 847-412-9781 or p.shotola@comcast.net

CLEAN-UP VOLUNTEERS FOR SEPTEMBER
Mariano Martinez
Dan Anderson
Marie Anderson

### Have You Moved?

Have you moved? Changed your phone or email address? If so, contact your Membership Chairman for updates: Andy Kuby.

It's important that we keep our information up to date.

The CWT occasionally makes our mailing list available to companies that contribute to our raffle. These companies have agreed not to resell or redistribute this information. If you do NOT wish to be included on this mailing list, just let Andy know, and your information will not be sent out to Raffle contributors. We all value our privacy, and the CWT will respect yours.

## **CLASSIFIEDS**

**For Sale:** Delta 14 inch bench drill press - \$75

Milwaukee 7 inch electric sander/grinder (old & heavy, but should last forever) -\$25

RGT Handler (for holding small and odd shaped pieces for routing) - \$10

Dremel routing attachments for two different size Dremels) -\$10 for both

Tacking iron (for transferring copier or laser printing to wood objects)- \$10

Contact Bin Pho for purchasing.

Darrel Rader can bring small items, but drill press must be picked up at the Rader farm.

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## ***AS THE WOOD TURNS***

Chicago Woodturners

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