

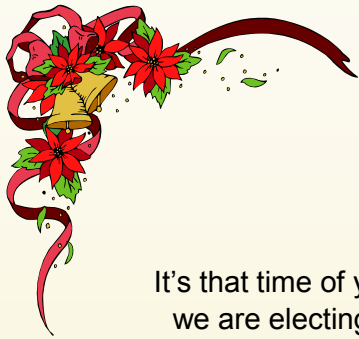


26 years of Art,
Craft, Technology,
and Tradition.



The Monthly newsletter of the Chicago Woodturners

December 2012



Don't Miss the December Meeting and Holiday Party



It's that time of year again. The December meeting will be short but important since we are electing our next Vice President and Treasurer. Following the meeting we will share appetizers' and get to know our fellow members and their spouses or guests just a little bit better. This years meeting will have a slightly different format than past years. We will meet in our normal meeting room, the club will provide soft drinks and coffee. We are just asking that you bring one of your favorite appetizers or desserts to share, then spend some time in good conversation.

As we have done in past years, bring one of your special pieces. It can be something you made, purchased, or received from a special turner. Put it on the gallery table and let the rest of us see your prized possession.

Also, consider bringing a small turned "toy" that our club could present to children at the Lurie Children's Hospital in Chicago, or Lutheran General Children's Ward. 40-60 gifts will make a big impact on youngsters this time of year.

Sometime during the evening we will also have a little musical entertainment specially tailored to woodturners. Come and see what's in store.

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Happy Holidays



President

Scott Barrett

The Year in Review

We became a 501 (c)3

A successful TOC 2012

A fun filled picnic

Great Saturday demo's

Community Service

Empty Bowls

Pens for Troops

Pen Pals for Paul

Presidents Curls

As we approach the end to 2012 it's a good time to reflect on the status of the Chicago Woodturners Club. This year our club accomplishments rank us in the top tier of woodturning clubs across the nation. We all should be proud of our contribution to our community, and feel good that we made a difference.

We started out this year by being granted IRS 501(c)3 status. As a not for profit charity organization, we can accept donations and the donor can take advantage of a tax deduction for their generosity. I would encourage our members to utilize this option by increasing their dues payment by \$25 per year. The added payment then becomes tax deductible in the year it is made. These increased funds could be used to further our educational programs, or add to our facility fund.

2012 was a "symposium year". Our members worked hard to stage another one of a kind event. We had world class demonstrators, lodging, and fine food, all in one location. This would not have been possible without "world class volunteers". Our symposium is unique, as all of this was available at the same cost as in 2010! The success of the symposium is measured both by the experience provided to the attendees, and the funds raised through the auction to support our education program. By all accounts, both categories received an "A". The "Pen Pals for Paul" fundraiser held during the symposium and organized by Paul Pycik is a testament to the generosity and support of our members and our symposium guests.

The summer of 2012 was one of the warmest and driest on record. Even though we scheduled the one rainy day for our annual summer picnic, the weather couldn't dampen spirits. The Leonard's, Painters's and Pagura's along with a host of volunteers organized the picnic like professionals. Lunch was served under the "big top" and those in attendance were treated to a good time.

No year-end summary would be complete without recognizing the work of Don McCloskey. Don tirelessly worked on both the "Pens for Troops" project and "Empty Bowls for Food". He managed to collect nearly 1800 pens and 65 turnings for these two projects. This is an ambitious showing from our members in support of these two outstanding causes.

In addition to these noteworthy accomplishments, our education committee provided the needed spark to see that we continued to enrich not only our membership, but the community at large. Free attendance at a Saturday Demo, pre-meeting and Saturday mentoring sessions, and educational grants combined to give us all a better understanding of our craft.

Our members also donated numerous Saturday's to man the lathes at the Woodcraft and Rockler stores. Numerous club members demonstrated to willing store patrons, all with the hope of generating an interest in woodturning.

So as 2012 draws closer to the end I would like to personally thank each member of the Chicago Woodturners Club for their support of me and of our club. It has been a great year made possible by more people than I could possibly mention in this space. Let me close with one parting thought. If each of us could contribute a fraction of the strength, determination, and will to succeed as our former president, Paul Shotola has shown, there would be no project we couldn't accomplish. For me personally, when I think of the year 2012, it will forever be remembered as "The Year Paul Walked Again".

Woodturning with a Flash

Paul Rosen

For our November meeting, Lars Stole treated us to a show-stopper. The audience was mesmerized. He showed us how to build and use a synchronized stroboscope for less than \$100.00.



Synchronized, in the sense that the flash goes off with each revolution of the lathe shaft. The illusion, which works best at lathe speeds of 800 to 1000 rpm, tricks the eye into seeing the rotating object as if it were stopped—much like the timing light that automobile mechanics once used to time the ignition on your car's engine. Why build one? Lars gave us four reasons.

First, you can see the effect of tool presentation angle and learn subtleties of tool control. This can help in dealing with problematic regions where tear-out is a challenge. And you don't have to turn the lathe on-and-off repeatedly to see the results of your changes—you see the results in real time. *Second*, if you're dealing with natural edge bowls or interrupted cuts, as with winged bowls, sometimes it's hard to get a good starting cut, or to maintain a clean cut along the surface. With the strobe effect, you can "see" exactly where the tool begins to cut the interrupted surface, rather than having to guess where it is. It just makes this type of turning much easier, if not safer. *Third*, you can use the strobe for making duplicate spindles. Precise duplicates. This technique is a little convoluted, in that it requires you to make a half-template of the shape you want to duplicate. Lars used a small vase template. The completed template is taped (double-sided tape) to a special, custom-made platform you must build for your lathe. The platform must be parallel to the plane of the lathe bed, and the platform must be height-adjustable. And you must also make a special jig to house/secure a trim router with a 1/4" diameter carbide-tipped bit, maybe 1-3/4" to 2" in length. The tip of the bit must line up (vertically) with the tip of a cylindrical brass rod filed at a 45-degree angle at its tip and mounted to the base of the jig supporting the router. You turn the spindle to a perfect cylinder and then adjust the platform height so that the router bit is at the center-point of the cylinder, in a plane parallel to the lathe bed. Then you turn on the trim router and let the brass rod follow the profile of the template, as you cut an indentation along the length of the spindle. Remove

the router jig and the platform that supported it during the cut. At this point, you can select a large scraper, turn on the lathe and the strobe, and simply pare away the wood until the apparently stationary "line" cut by the router bit disappears. Ingenious! And if you follow the template accurately, every finished piece should have the same dimensions. Lars also showed us a picture of five vases in his online handout. Vases #2 and #4 were negative images of vases #1, 3, and 5. Try doing that one by eye. You probably won't come anywhere near as close to the near-perfect positive/negative profiles achieved with Lars' technique. *Fourth* [and this one blew me away], you can hollow out the inside of rectangular wooden blocks using the strobe. First, you need to make the positive image of the outside of, say, a small vase. Then you transfer the external profile to a piece of paper glued to the surface of a rectangular block slightly longer than the vase. Once you mount the block in a chuck, adjust the strobe so that it goes off to "freeze" the drawn image in a horizontal position, in a plane parallel to that of the lathe bed. Then you can use a laser-guided boring bar to hollow out the inside of the rectangular block, making a negative space that matches the outside dimensions of the small vase. Once the hollowing-out is completed, you can take the rectangular block to your band saw and bisect it into two halves. All that's left is to use your imagination as to how you want to display the positive and paired negative images of your labors. [I thought this was really clever because, for the life of me, I couldn't figure out how Stole did what he did when he showed photos of some of the positive/negative pieces he had produced.]

Making the Strobe

So how do you go about making a synchronized strobe? The parts required are shown in the table at the end of the article.

Follow the wiring instructions in Lars' hand-out, and mount the Magnetic Sensor in a small block of oak, 3/4" square by 1-inch long. Route a notch



Lars must have something interesting to say

(Continued on page 4)

Woodturning with a Flash

Paul Rosen

(Continued from page 3)

along one corner of the block, and (later) glue in the Hall Effect transistor so that its tip is even with the end of the block. But first, with a Forstner bit, drill a shallow hole to accommodate one of the button magnets, glued flush to the surface of the wood block opposite the side that will house the glued-in Magnetic Sensor. The magnet will help you to mount the trigger assembly to the frame of your lathe. Finally, take the second button magnet and mount it on the rotating shaft of the lathe, with the “South” side of the magnet facing away from the center of the shaft. Plug in your 9-volt power supply and strobe power supply, and manually rotate the lathe shaft with attached button magnet to see if it successfully triggers the strobe. If it doesn’t, flip the button magnet to the opposite side, and make sure you plugged in the AC for the 75-watt strobe. Also, consider adjusting the space between the tip of the trigger and the button magnet mounted on the lathe shaft.

strobe to not more than say, two minutes. With experience, you will learn how long you can tolerate the surreal flashing environment. Always remember: the spinning object will appear frozen in space, but it’s still turning at near 1000 rpm. And make sure that your strobe wires and power supply wires are routed away from the lathe shaft. Stay alert. Pay attention. And enjoy! And thanks to Lars Stole for a terrific presentation.



Thoughts About Safety

A flashing strobe is distracting. It can cause eye strain and make you feel dizzy. It can trigger an epileptic seizure in susceptible individuals. Don’t use the strobe unless you are alert. Don’t use if you are taking sedative medications or are sedated by holiday imbibing. Limit your exposure to the

Parts List

Parts	Cost
Chauvet Techno Strobe 2000S (75 watts)	\$40 to \$50 (amazon.com)
“Hall Effect” transistor, aka the trigger, aka, the Magnetic Sensor: the “Tol-O-Matic Magnetic Solid State Switch Sensor, PNP” (3.8 to 25 volts DC and 100 to 400 milliamps)	\$9.90 (eBay) Buy two.
Power Supply: 9-volt, 300 mA, e.g., cordless phone charger	About \$10.00 (Radio Shack?)
Neodymium Button Magnets (2)	\$5.00

CWT News

Rockler Demo Day

Marie Anderson

Don McCloskey and Marie Anderson were lucky enough to work off some of the Turkey indulgence by demonstrating at Rockler on Saturday November 24th. The folks at Rockler were very helpful and appreciative hosts. We turned very fuzzy reddish brown stuff, fuzzy black stuff and wonderfully smelling stuff (that's Banksia pods, black palm and yellow pine for those of you who are wondering)...an interesting combination of shavings & fuzz!

The best part was sharing some of the fun with some of our fellow members as they took advantage of the beautiful sunshiny (but cold) day to get out of the house. As demonstrators we got to share some stories and encourage others to give the lathe a try. Thanks to those of you who dropped in.

Remember the folks at Rockler as you are looking for stocking stuffers this month. For the record, there were a couple of nice "Black Friday Weekend" deals that you will see showing up in an upcoming raffle too!



These guys spent a few hours at one of last month's mentoring sessions...note the smiles! This could be you in January! Just ask!

CWT News

Membership report

Julie Basrak

During the month of November, nine new members joined Chicago Woodturners. They are as follows:
Michele Hart from Algonquin (who you might recognize from the Libertyville WoodCraft store)
Robert Wersching from Hoffman Estates
Tom Boerjan from Rock Falls (also a member of the Quad Cities club)
Andy Bartoli from Arlington Heights
Wayne & Jecca Zinder from Chicago
Bob Bruss from Huntley
Donald Steklac from Huntley
Amy Hughes from Chicago
Be sure to give them a warm CWT welcome when you see them at a meeting!

There were also 3 guests at the November meeting, including
Robin Fraser from Clinton, Iowa (president of the Quad Cities club)
Cathie Lenegar from Racine, Wisconsin (who will be getting married to Jason Swanson in December)
and Tom Roberts from Elk Grove

70 members attended the November meeting.

**Beat the long lines in January,
Pay your 2013 dues in December**



Get ready for a Great Year of Demo's

Paul Shotola

It seems like only yesterday we were planning our biennial symposium, Turn-On Chicago. 2013 is not an even-numbered year, so it's time to plan for the year's demonstrations and classes. Each year, the CWT invites world-class wood turners to demonstrate for us. These turners are selected for their skills, teaching ability and entertainment value. These are the people who demo for the AAW at the national level, write for the major magazines in our field, produce and star in how-to videos, and have exciting techniques that will set your turning apart and help raise you from Hobbyist to Pro. These demos are darned fun, too.



Mike Hosaluk

Held in our fully-equipped meeting space at Christian Liberty Academy in Arlington Heights, these demos last a full day, generally from 9:00am till 4:00pm (check the schedule for exact times of each demo). The public is invited, so bring your spouse or neighbor so they can find out why wood turning is all you talk about. Admission to most demos is only \$30, but CWT members can save 50% by signing up at meetings leading up to the demo. Early registration fees are not refundable but can be transferred to another person before the demo. In addition, just like last year, one demo in 2013 will be a no-charge admission event. Such a deal! The idea behind a free admission is to get you off the couch and into



John Jordan



Jimmy Clewes

you off the couch and into

CLA for a demo. It's free, entertaining and educational. Besides, for most of the year, there are no NFL games scheduled. You are running out of excuses.



Steve Hatcher

The demonstrators include both the famous Masters and new, up-and-coming artists from all over the world. In the past, we've hosted folks from England, New Zealand, Australia (known to the Kiwis as "The Big Island") and other parts of the world, including exotic locales such as Saskatchewan, CA and Bettendorf, IA. The CWT pays a travel expense and the demonstrator's daily fee for the demo. The club does not expect to profit from these demos, but the less we lose on each demo, the further club funds can go. So you should be there!



Graham Priddle

In addition to all-day presentations, some demonstrators host small (6-7 students) turning classes while they are in town. Classes are held at our classroom facility in Geneva, IL at NORMAC on club-owned and maintained lathes. In most cases, all you need to bring is your basic turning tools and personal safety gear. Tuition is based on the demonstrator's daily fee and the CWT does not profit from these classes. This is easily the best bargain in wood turning education to be found. Check the



Gary Gardner

(Continued on page 8)

Get ready for a Great Year of Demo's

Paul Shotola

(Continued from page 7)

January newsletter for dates and instructors. Now, what more can I tell you? You won't need to bring anything to the demos besides yourself and maybe a notepad and camera. Be prepared to ask questions and have them answered, as our demonstrators, while world-class, will take the time to patiently explain their tools, tips and techniques because "It's true!" These demonstrators really will show you their trademark techniques at the demos and classes. You don't even need to travel to Tennessee or Colorado to experience it. Check the calendar and reserve your spot at our demos and classes. See you there! We'll have a great 2013!



Lyle Jamieson



Nick Cook

All photos represent past CWT demonstrators

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—Phil Brooks	Rich Nye—Carved Channels on turned vessels
June	Roger Basrak	Tom Waicekauskas—Photographing your work
July	Francisco Bauer	Donn Hamm—Stunning Hollow Ornaments
August	Darrell Rader	Bob Lenard and Phil Brooks—Making a great vacuum chuck system for \$75
September	Marie Anderson	Thomas Stegall—Thin wall turning
October	Andy Kuby	Mark Dwyer—Summary of Jimmy Clewes hands on Class.
November	Don McCloskey	Lars Sole— Using a strobe light in turning
December	none	Holiday Party



Pics from the Itasca Library Display

November Photos



Getting ready for the big show



Can anybody spare \$1



Get me out of Here

AAW "Photo's of the Week" in November



Week of Nov 5



Week of November 19



Week of November 12



Week of
November 26

Chicago Woodturners Board of Directors and Committee Chairs 2012

President,	Scott Barrett	847-562-9121	dr@bdental.net	46 Bridlewood Lane	Northbrook, IL 60062
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WebMaster	Mark Dreyer	630-406-9360	mg_dreyer@yahoo.com	1070 Sonoma Lane	Aurora, IL 60502
Raffle	Chuck Svazas	708-482-3866	csvazas@sbcglobal.net	707 Bransdale Rd	LaGrange Park, IL 60526
Tools & Equipment	Don McCloskey	847-420-6978	mccloskey@ameritech.net	2028 Gilboa Ave.	Zion, IL 60099
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

Member's Gallery



Jason Swanson

November Meeting



Bob Schultz
Walnut, Maple



Don McCloskey
Walnut, Maple



Ken Staggs



Ken Staggs



Dawn Herndon Charles
Cherry

Member's Gallery



Bill Brown
Black Walnut

November Meeting



Larry Fabian
Walnut



Paul Pyrcik



Mark Johansen
Aspen



Roger Basrak
Boxelder

Member's Gallery



Francisco Bauer
Maple, Mesquite

November Meeting



Mark Johansen
Bansia, Maple



Paul Pycik



Don McCloskey
Walnut, Maple



Tom Boerjan
Maple, Purpleheart Walnut

Member's Gallery



Charles Scheffel
Walnut



Donald Steklac
Ambrosia Maple



Robin Fraser
Cherry

November Meeting

Editor's Choice



Robin Fraser



Charles Scheffel
Maple

Editor's Choice

This piece immediately caught my attention because it is not the typical bowl or vase form. Then you look longer and you start noticing the offset turning construction, the use of alternative materials, finally I started thinking about the meaning of the piece. Good art invokes these layers of thought that keeps you coming back. For all these reasons I think this is a successful design

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



DRH
Ash, Walnut



Mark Johansen
Hickory



Francisco Bauer
Pear

Francisco Bauer
Maple, Panga Panga

November Meeting



Unknown



Earl Webber
Oak, Mahogany, Maple



For Sale, Trade, or Wanted

Contact the Editor to post your items



For sale: Oneway chucks, jaws, Elbo hollowing tool

Oneway talon chuck (insert 1-1/4"x8TPI), w/ standard jaws: \$120

Oneway stronghold chuck (insert 1-1/4"x8TPI), w/ standard jaws: \$140

Oneway stronghold No. 3 profiled jaws: \$30 (\$20 if you buy stronghold chuck)

Elbo articulated hollowing tool with laser guide and laser attachment (originally \$294) for \$125.

Contact: Lars Stole Phone: 773 732 2330

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

Thanks from the Editor!

Its hard to believe that this is my 33rd issue as the CWT newsletter editor. 2012 was another great year with lots of interesting news to publish thanks to everyone that volunteered to write an article. Although I can't possibly list everyone that contributed to the newsletter's success this year, I want to give a special thanks to those that made regular contributions:

President Scott Barrett for his insightful Curls each month.

Paul Rosen who is writing the monthly demo reviews in an informative but light hearted style.

Marie Anderson who keeps us informed about educational events.

Paul Shotola who returned this summer with his same witty but educational articles about club activities.

Of course my wife, Brenda to reviews the photos every month and edits the work of the editor.

Anyone with an idea to share, an event to report on, or a video to review is welcome to send me an email, Its not only welcomed its appreciated.

Al Miotke

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