



**Volume 28**  
**Issue 3**  
**March**  
**2018**

## **The Monthly Newsletter of the Windy City Woodturners**

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**Our March demo will be Bob Bergstrom showing us how to design and turn a natural edge bowl. He will demo selecting wood, setting up the blank for balanced edges and grain pattern in the bottom of the bowl, cutting the wood cleanly, and keeping the bark on. Also tricks using cadaver bark for missing pieces.**

# President's Message From Jason Clark

When talking to new turners I get asked 3 questions most often. 1) How the \*heck\* do you do that? 2) How long does that take? 3) Carbide or traditional tools? This month I would like address the third question.

To be fair my answer may be a bit biased. I learned to use traditional gouges. Today's ubiquitous carbide tools simply didn't exist 15 years ago. I also have limited experience with carbide tools, primarily used only during public demos. Having said that my answer may be a bit surprising.

Before I answer the question I would first like to write about the first time I saw someone else turn in person. I had been turning for about 2 years at that point, struggling on my own in my garage with just books, magazines, message boards, and limited internet videos (this was prior to the popularity of Youtube). I learned that a local turner was doing a series of demonstrations at Rockler in Phoenix in the lead-up to Christmas. I took an afternoon off work and parked myself in front of his lathe for essentially a free 4 hour lesson.

What I saw that afternoon forever changed my life. He made a bowl and a Christmas ornament, possibly also a lidded box, all pretty standard stuff. Nothing too fancy or over the top. Just solid basic woodturning. But what he did with a bowl gouge blew my mind. He did things with ease that I knew were physically impossible. I had tried and failed to do those types of cuts numerous times often with disastrous results. He also made me aware of the local woodturning club. The rest is history.

## President's Message(cont.)

The answer to the question 'Carbide or traditional tools?' isn't an easy one. Personally I don't own any carbide tools with the exception of one small hollowing tip for my hollowing system that I still haven't gotten the hang of. I don't own any in part because of the expense. I turn more than most other people which means I would go through more carbide tips than the normal person, probably at least 1 per month. At \$15-20 each that expense adds up. Compare that to a \$125 bowl gouge that lasts me 5 years. \$15 per month or \$25 per year is easy math to me. Yes, there are expenses related to grinders and sharpening jigs for traditional tools so the costs for traditional tools is front loaded but the break even point for me would be about 12-18 months.

I also admit that carbide tools are significantly easier to use. There's much less worrying about angles and technique. The tools are generally presented flat on the tool rest and simply pushed into the wood so they're very attractive for beginners and can leave a nice surface finish. They also don't have to be sharpened which can be intimidating for someone just getting into woodturning.

All things considered here's my answer: While I don't use them and while I don't believe them to be the perfect solution that their manufacturers make them out to be, if using carbide tools is what allows you to get into and enjoy woodturning then by all means use carbide tools. If you want learn using traditional tools that's fine too. If you're in my shop or one of my classes you'll use traditional gouges. A new turners involvement in and enjoyment of woodturning is far more important to me than which type of tool they use.

**Club meetings:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month

**Meeting Time:** 7:00 pm

**Location:** Lisle Park District  
1925 Ohio St., Lisle, IL

Attendance at meetings is free. Guests and visitors are always welcome

**Please note change in date of March meeting to March 27 .**

## Club News

### Library News

Rich Hall-Reppen has agreed to manage our library for the upcoming year. Rich will be reviewing our library content and helping to produce an updated catalog of what we have. You can find the most recent list through a link on our website. He will be available alongside the library cart near the back of the room at each meeting. We have a collection of books and recorded material available for members to check out. Take some time to look at what we have. You may be surprised.

Each month Rich will produce a review of one or more elements of the collection. His contribution for March can be found on Page 12

### YouTube Library News

Bob Bergstrom produces and maintains a YouTube library of instructional videos under the heading of Windy City Woodturners. This is actually a collection of demonstration videos from three Chicago area clubs, Windy City Woodturners, Illiana Woodturners, and Chicago Woodturners.

## **Club Officers**

At Your Service

### **President**

Jason Clark

[jclark58@gmail.com](mailto:jclark58@gmail.com)

### **Vice-President**

Dawn Herndon-Charles

[dcharlesster@gmail.com](mailto:dcharlesster@gmail.com)

### **Treasurer**

Nick Page

[nicklpage@sbcglobal.net](mailto:nicklpage@sbcglobal.net)

### **Secretary / Editor**

Bruce Kamp

[bruce.kamp@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bruce.kamp@sbcglobal.net)

**Current Membership 81**

**Additionally, the following people**

**Serve in these important roles:**

Promotions

Rich Nye

Videography

Bob Bergstrom

Tom Waicecuskas

Photography

Dave Burk

Librarian

Rich Hall-Reppen

## **YouTube Library News (cont.)**

There are sixteen videos from the three turning clubs. Over 33,000 views and 535 subscribers. From our own WCWT we have Mark Dreyer, who has over 16,000 views of his “20 Years of Turning Pens”. Bob himself has over 11,000 views of “Turning a Natural Edge Bowl Cleanly”. Others contributors from our club are Jason Clark, Dick Sing, Al Miotke, and Ray Luckhaupt. We all see Bob recording the demos each meeting. He then edits them and produces to YouTube the ones he thinks others would be interested in. If you know someone who may be interested in our club pointing them to this YouTube channel might be a good way to see a sample of what we do.

## **Club Logowear**

As we discussed last meeting we will be setting up a facility with Lands End to supply us with shirts, and possibly other things, with our WCWT logo applied. Our logo, as you see it at the head of this newsletter, has been approved and set up at Lands End. During the next month, or so, we will be creating a website, dedicated to our club, that can be used to order approved items and have our logo applied. Each member, or guest, will be able to access the site, select the item of their choice, in the size they choose, and have the logo, and monogram, applied.

We are currently in the process of finalizing the selection options and hope to have the details ready to present at the April meeting.

## **Bringback Challenge**

For January Al Miotke was the winner and took home a piece turned by Jason Clark. In turn he brought his contribution to the February meeting.



This great piece by Al was then taken home by Pete D'Attomo. Pete will now create a piece for the March meeting that will go to the person who takes up the challenge next.

## **First Quarter Challenge**

Jason Clark will be judging the entries.

- Present your best finish straight off the tool.
- If a bowl of hollow form you can elect to leave the tenon in place so that the piece can be sanded and finished later if desired.
- Challenge entries due at the March meeting (3/27).
- Entries will receive a ticket which will be used to award prizes at the Holiday party in December.
- One ticket per person.

## **Estate Sale**

Bob Bergstrom has informed us that he is managing the sale of tools and materials from the estate of our member, John Meyer, who passed away last year. John was an active member of the club and had accumulated a large volume of good quality tools and materials over the years.

Bob plans to have some of these available for purchase at our March 27th meeting. He will accept cash and checks only. Not all that is available for sale will be there. Attached to the email sending out the newsletter you will find a few pictures of a small portion of the complete inventory. Bob will be presenting more information during the meeting. If you are interested in exploring purchases please contact Bob directly at 708-754-1058 or email him at [bbergst@comcast.net](mailto:bbergst@comcast.net).

## **Member Contributions**

Occasionally we all run across an article relative to woodworking that we would like to share with other members. If space permits this newsletter can be a good way to do that. In addition, if you have a personal story about your experiences in woodturning that you would like to share feel free to submit them. Maybe something about how you got started turning, or an unusual story about a great find, or turning experience.

Paul Shotola has submitted a couple of interesting items that you will enjoy. You will find them on Page 17 (Pink Ivory) and Pages 18-19(Change Your Lathe Bearings)



## Gallery Review

Each month, an experienced member reviews members' current work in a gallery forum. We will have two tables set up, one for review items and a second table to show your work without a review. Current work is featured in this newsletter. All members are encouraged to bring their work to the tables. **Do not be shy. This is an opportunity for members of all skill levels to gain some insight from others on their work. We all learn from this.**

Members bringing work for review receive a raffle ticket for a gift card, so you could actually win a prize merely for doing something you actually love to do!

**If possible, please prepare a card, for pieces on both tables, in advance that includes your name and any important facts about your piece. Include such things as wood, finish, unusual technique applied, etc.**

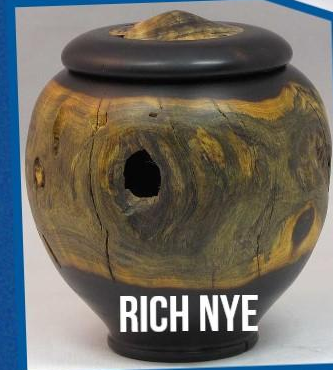
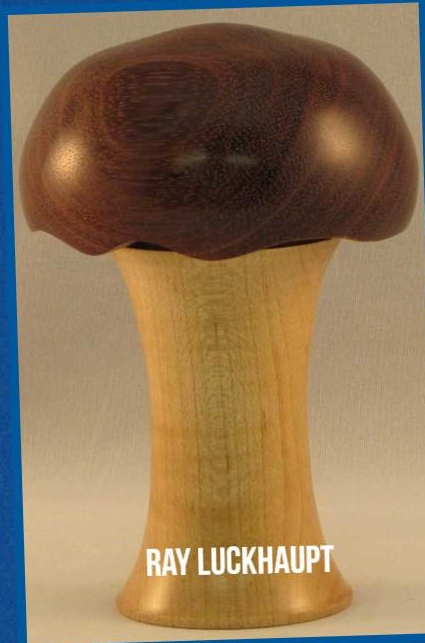
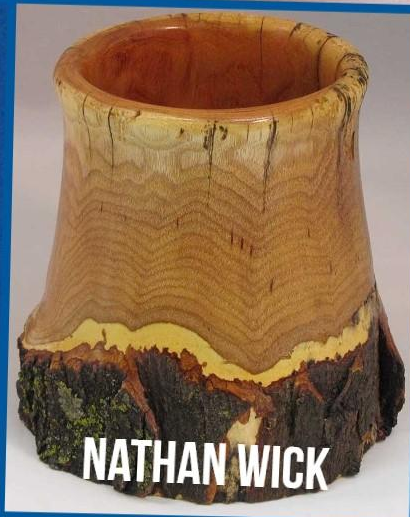
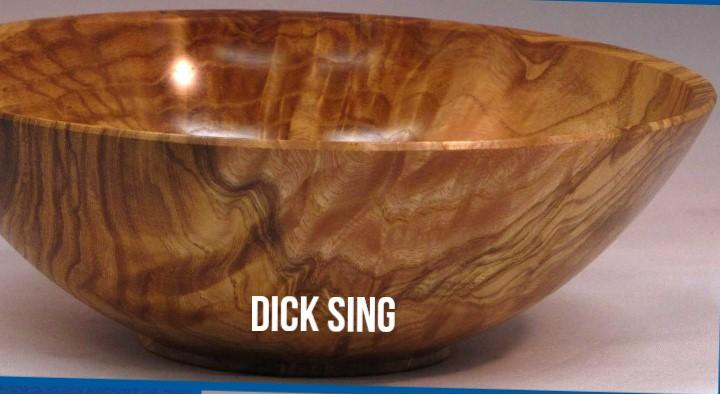
Paul Shotola will be doing the March Gallery Review

# February Gallery





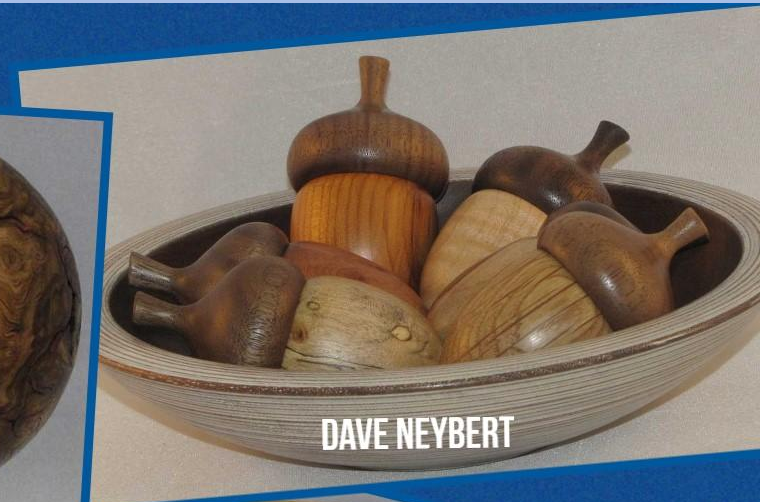
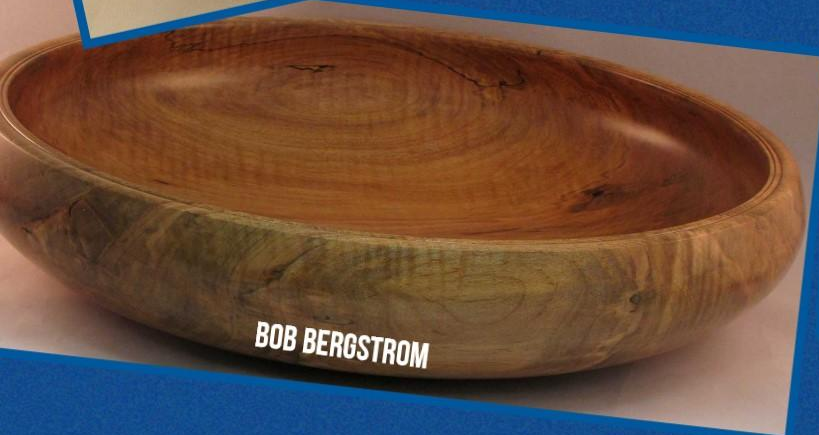
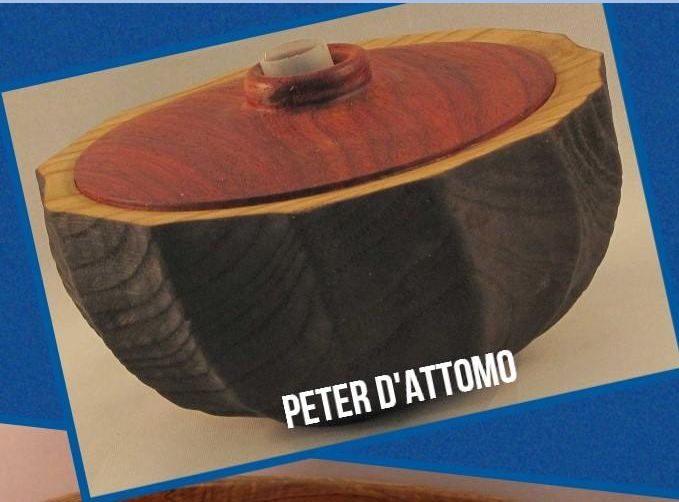
# February Gallery (cont.)



PICCOLLAGE



# February Gallery (cont.)



PICCOLLAGE



# February Gallery (cont.)



# WCWT Library Review

## Rich Hall-Reppen

In honor of Dick's demo last month, I thought I would highlight the four books we have by Dick in the Club's library. We currently have "Dick Sing Turns Miniature Birdhouses", "Turning Ornaments and Eggs", "Projects for the Mini Lathe" and "Turning Bowls" in the library. Easter Egg hunts are arriving quickly so our featured book for the month is "Turning Ornaments and Eggs". Rather than trying to write a review, I'll just reprint some of the back cover overview of the book:

Dick Sing shares his techniques for creating awe-inspiring wooden ornaments and eggs. Step-by-step instructions and color photos guide you through the process of turning and hollowing out a globe for the incredibly light ornament, crafting a delicate "icicle" for the spindle -- even adding a captive ring for that special finishing touch. Dick provides helpful tips for selecting the appropriate woods, using your tools to their best advantage, and fashioning some new tools from surprisingly ordinary materials. Next he shows how to turn a wooden egg that will look like Mother Nature smiled upon it. One of nature's most perfect forms, the egg is also one of the most challenging, and Dick has spent many years perfecting his techniques for getting an egg to look like an egg. Here he outlines his methods for laying out the egg with a template, making a special chuck so you can finish both ends of the egg in the lathe, and using a homemade mandrel to create an egg that is also a kaleidoscope. Now you can attain eggs you are proud of!

See me at our next meeting (March 27, 2018) if you want to check out Turning Ornaments and Eggs or one of the other books by Dick. I'll be sitting in the back by the library cart.

# AAW Information



With the largest portfolio of woodturning-related material in the world, AAW is the **go-to source** for woodturners of all skill levels. A membership with the AAW can help you learn and thrive in your woodturning experience, as well as connect with others who share your passion.

## AAW Membership Trial

AAW's newest membership promotion is currently available and is a perfect opportunity for you to give it a try, especially for those who have been on the fence about joining. This new introductory membership enables chapter members who have never been AAW members to test the waters of a full AAW membership for THREE MONTHS FOR JUST \$20. If they wish to continue their AAW membership, introductory members will be automatically renewed one time for an additional NINE MONTHS FOR JUST \$40. Individuals who have never been AAW members may sign up for a three-month introductory AAW membership using a credit card at <http://www.woodturner.org/?page=ITM2040>.

AAW offers numerous benefits. Take a second and use the following link to explore what AAW has to offer.

**<http://www.woodturner.org/?page=MemberBenefits>**

As an example of what is offered check out:

**<http://www.woodturner.org/?page=FUNDamentals>**

**Visit**  
**[www.woodturner.org](http://www.woodturner.org)**



## Turn-On-Chicago Symposium Aug 3-5 Mundelein, IL

Registration open at [www.turnonchicago.com](http://www.turnonchicago.com)

Demonstrators as of March: Kip Christensen, John Beaver, Rudy Lopez, Betty Scarpino, Jennifer Shirley, Harvey Meyer, Jason Clark, Mark Dreyer, Al Miotke, John Jordan, Vince Welch, Bob Leonard, Rob Wallace

**Major  
Event**

## Symposium FUN Facts

13 demonstrators doing over 50 rotations

Tradeshow

Instant Gallery with a peoples choice award

Instant Gallery Critique

9 meals plus a Saturday evening banquet is included

Soft Drinks and snacks included

Raffle

Friday evening Pen turning event

Auction on Saturday evening.

World of Woodturners exchange and Women in Turning meeting

Event cost for all of the above is \$315

CWT Early registration discounted fee of \$295 until March 31.



**Major  
Event**

## **Marriott St. Louis West hotel on October 12-14, 2018**

A team of demonstrators will provide instruction and inspiration on a wide variety of segmenting topics. Selected rotations will cover skill levels from absolute beginners to highly advanced topics. In short, there will be something for everyone. There will be simultaneous rotations in five separate classrooms and as usual, some rotations will be presented multiple times.

Each month leading up to the 2018 Symposium, a demonstrator will be featured on the AAW Segmented Woodturners website that will discuss the content of their rotation(s).

This month's feature is on Bob Behnke. The vast majority of segmenters use Titebond glue in our every day work but do you really understand its properties, or the benefits of the various glues Titebond makes? There is probably no person better to answer all your questions than Bob.

**You can read the article at:**

**<http://segmentedwoodturners.org/2018/03/17/bob-behnke/>**

## OTHER EVENTS:

IAP (Chicagoland International Association of Penturners)  
Bi-Monthly Meeting at Rockler Bolingbrook 10:00am-1:00 pm  
April 21-August 18-October 20-December 19

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

AAW National Symposium 2018 Portland OR June 14-17



The American Association of Woodturners  
32nd Annual International Symposium  
Portland, Oregon  
June 14-17, 2018

*Visit Our Website*  
[www.windycitywoodturners.com](http://www.windycitywoodturners.com)

## Rare, Expensive, Beautiful, and Royal

# PINK IVORY

Native to Southern Africa, pink ivory (*berchemia zeyheri*) is a slow growing tree, taking many years to reach a harvestable size. It grows twisted, resulting in its small size, frequent and striking figure, and interlocked grain. Pink ivory grows in the rain forest requiring manual labor to harvest. Its rarity, slow growth, and difficulty in drying, all contribute to its high price.

When freshly cut, its color is a bright, sometimes neon pink, which slowly fades with exposure to air and sunlight. A finish that reduces UV can slow this color degradation.

The relative small size makes pink ivory available mostly as turning stock, with lumber both expensive and rare. Pink ivory turns well, and exhibits a tight, even grain that takes detail well. Known for blunting tools, frequent sharpening will reduce tearout.

Rumor, or perhaps legend, states that pink ivory was sacred to the Zulu tribes of southern Africa, and only Zulu kings were allowed to possess the rare and beautiful wood. Possession by other tribe members was prohibited, punishable by death. Whether this is true or not, the small size, rarity, beauty of pink ivory make it one of the world's most sought after woods.





# Change Your Lathe Bearings

Cheap and Easy



Using these two easy-to-make tools, a soft mallet and a 3mm hex wrench, you can bring your Jet Midi Lathe back to life

Changing bearings on your lathe can seem intimidating, but the process is actually quite simple and surprisingly affordable. No hydraulic press or other metal working tools are needed. I'm showing a bearing change on the Jet 1221 and 1018 midi lathes. Other brands are probably similar.

Jet charges over \$30.00 for one bearing. Amazon sells them in 10 packs. I bought 10 large and 10 small for under \$40.00. At these prices and the ease of installation, there's no excuse to put replacement off. That lathe upgrade you were considering just may not be needed.

Before you begin, you will need a couple of easy-to-make tools, so don't start taking your lathe apart yet. The tools are just wooden spindles to tap the old bearings out. The tool for the front bearing (nose end) is 1.28" in diameter with a minimum length of 4.4". This is just a straight cylinder that will fit through the mounting hole for the rear bearing. The other tool is .93" diameter and again 4.4" long. The tools I made are nothing fancy, just made out of some scrap wood I had. The only critical dimension is the diameter. They need to be small enough to fit through the inner race of the front bearing and the mounting hole of the rear bearing. You'll see how this works from the pictures on the next page.

Once you have your new bearings in hand and the two tools made, you can start disassembling your lathe. Clean up the area, and if you need to replace the drive belt (260J micro V), have the new one handy. Remove the hand wheel (3 mm set screw). The hand wheel threads are reverse thread. Then loosen the pulley (3 mm set screw). The spindle should slide out. A gentle persuading with a soft mallet may be needed.

Once the spindle is removed, slide your smaller tool (.93" dia.) through the front bearing and tap with a mallet to remove the rear (smaller) bearing. Once the smaller bearing is removed, slide the larger tool (1.28" dia.) through the rear bearing mounting hole to tap out the front (larger) bearing.

Now begin reassembly. Partially insert the larger bearing in its mounting hole and slide the spindle through the front bearing. Slide the drive pulley onto the spindle, aligning the key on the spindle with the slot in the pulley. Slide the belt on and slip the spindle through the rear mounting hole and partially insert the rear bearing. Get your bearings loosely aligned with the holes in the headstock (they won't slide in if cocked) and tap on the spindle nose to seat the front (larger) bearing. Use the hand wheel to seat the smaller bearing. Align the spindle pulley with the motor pulley and tighten it down. Tighten down the hand wheel set screw, put the belt on the motor pulley and give it a spin. You're done! Note: When positioning the pulley, make sure it clears the index pin, if you have one. My 1221 does, my 1018 does not. Bearings on the Nova Comet look similar, but I haven't tried them. Other lathes may be similar.

The bearings for the Jets are 6004RS and 6005RS. The numbers refer to the size and dust shielding. These are common bearings used on a variety of machines, including snowmobiles. They aren't particularly heavy duty, but replacement is cheap and easy. Maybe someone more expert than me knows of an upgrade. I welcome your feedback and will pass any further information along.

Paul Skotola has been turning for over twenty years, and served as president of the Chicago Woodturners for three terms, and has served as the newsletter editor for both the Chicago Woodturners and the Windy City Woodturners. He considers turners to be the most interesting, imaginative and daring group of people to be found.





The hand wheel showing the locking 3 mm hex set screw.



The drive pulley showing the locking 3 mm hex set screw.



The spindle and drive pulley removed.



Tapping out the front bearing. Note that the tool fits through the mounting hole of the rear bearing to push against the front bearing.



Tapping out the rear bearing. Note that the tool fits through the inner race of the front bearing to push against the rear bearing.

# Cheap and Easy Bearing Change on Jet Midi Lathes

## Step By Step



Using the spindle to align the new bearings, loosely seated into their mounting holes (spindle pulley not shown)



Tapping the new front bearing into place using the spindle for alignment.



Before seating the rear bearing, slide the pulley onto the spindle. Align the notch in the pulley with the key on the spindle. Don't forget the drive belt!



Use the hand wheel to seat the rear bearing and tighten the set screw.