



Volume 29
Issue 9
October
2018

The Monthly Newsletter of the Windy City Woodturners

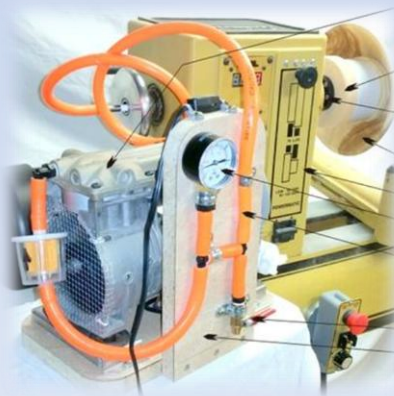
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Our demo for our October meeting will be given by Bob Leonard. Bob will be demonstrating the capabilities of his Frugal Vacuum System

In general, the primary use for vacuum chucking is to finish turn the bottom of an almost finished piece. The vacuum system is used to hold the piece firmly towards the headstock while you turn away the remnants of the foot. A vacuum system can also be used to turn platters top and bottom.



President's Message

What's your favorite wood? I get this question frequently from people I talk to. I don't know that I have a single favorite wood, but I do have a few that immediately come to mind when asked.

I love turning Myrtle, it's a beautiful wood, it's fun to turn, and as a bonus it has a fantastic smells something like a cross between mild Vick's VapoRub and black pepper.

I also love turning Olive wood. I used to get Olive regularly when I lived in Phoenix. Like Myrtle it's fun to turn, it has amazing color and grain pattern, and it also has a very pleasant smell. My wife and I ordered a pizza one night and I was working out in the garage turning some Olive with the garage door open waiting for it to be delivered. When the pizza delivery woman arrived, she commented on how my garage was the best smelling garage she'd ever smelled.

Desert Ironwood is another favorite, there may not be a more beautiful wood in the world but it's beauty is offset by the smell and the hardness. It's hard to describe the smell, it's pungent at best and can smell like rotten meat at the worst. There are woods all over the world that are referred to as "ironwood" as they are the hardest wood in that region but there's only one Desert Ironwood.

For the stuff I'm making the last few years Zebrawood is tough to beat. Not because of the way it turns (it's actually fairly nasty stuff) or the way it smells (sometimes like the floor of a horse stall in a barn), but because of the striping that gives it its name.



President's Message (cont)

Of course, I love turning burls of all types, regardless of species. I've been fortunate enough over the years to turn large quantities of burl. A whole Box Elder tree trunk that was solid burl from the ground up to about 20 feet. A big leaf maple burl that I sourced off Ebay that was 40" X 40" X 40" and close to half a ton.

Favorite woods have to be offset by least favorites. I'm not a huge fan of Poplar. It's too soft and too plain for my liking. I do use it for some jigs and other things because it's very cheap but it's definitely not my first choice. I'm also not very fond of Walnut or Ash.

I also now realize how spoiled I was when I lived in Phoenix. The variety of woods available locally in Arizona was incredible. Beyond the more common woods like Mesquite and Acacia we had several varieties of Eucalyptus, plus Desert Ironwood, African Sumac, Carob, Olive, Citrus trees, Pecan, Pistachio, and a true Rosewood called Sissoo that was grown as a shade tree in yards and parking lots. What we didn't have is what is common in Illinois. Maple, Walnut, Ash, Cherry, and Oak.

No matter where you live, odds are that the wood you have the easiest and cheapest access to is what grows locally. But I can tell you people living in other places would happily trade you some of their local woods that are plentiful for some of your local woods that are plentiful. It seems odd to essentially ship what locally may be considered little more than firewood half way across the country in return for more firewood but it happens more often than you might think.

Ultimately, my favorite piece of wood is the one that I'm working on right now. I may have had it on my shelf for a week or for a decade. It may have been sourced locally with my own labor or been shipped half way across the country. It may have been given to me as a gift or I may have purchased it at retail. It may be soaking wet or absolutely bone dry. No matter what I'm going to give it a spin.

Club meetings: 3rd 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

Our October meeting will be October 16, 2018

Club Officers

At Your Service

President

Jason Clark

jclark58@gmail.com

Vice-President

Dawn Herndon-Charles

dcharlesster@gmail.com

Treasurer

Nick Page

nicklpage@sbcglobal.net

Secretary / Editor

Bruce Kamp

bruce.kamp@sbcglobal.net

Current Membership 79

Additionally, the following
people

Serve in these important
roles:

Promotions

Rich Nye

Videography

Bob Bergstrom

Tom Waicecuskas

Photography

Dave Burk

Librarian

Rich Hall-Reppen

Club News

Depot Days

We had beautiful weather for both Depot Days this year. Thanks to Rich Rohrback, Paul Shotola, Don Johnston, Rich Nye, Nick Page, and Jason Clark, Windy City was able to provide support for the event in the "Lathe Museum". Participation in museum events is in perfect alignment with our club mission of promoting woodturning. In addition, your club Board has long sought to give back to our landlord and our host community. Windy City support of these events is our obligation on both counts.

Mark your calendar for Once Upon a Christmas on December 1 and 2 to take advantage of the next chance to participate at the Museums at Lisle Station Park. You'll have a chance to sign up at our October meeting.

Club Logo Wear

With winter not far away you may want to consider ordering a long sleeve club logo shirt. Go to:

<https://business.landsend.com/store/wcwt/>

Club News

Garage Sale!

At our regular September 18th meeting we held our annual Garage Sale. This year was somewhat of a disappointment compared to other years. The club made a few dollars largely thanks to Dawn's contribution. However, it appears that not many had items that they wanted to sell. We will work on this for next year and see if we can come up with ideas that will make this, once again, a successful club event.



Club News

If you have not had your mugshot taken yet please do so at our Oct meeting



Member Picture Directory

We have nearly completed our Member Picture Directory. We are missing only a couple dozen members. Once completed we will distribute a copy to every member. It can be used as your reference in identifying and contacting fellow members.

Please Note: It is the intent of the album and information to ONLY be distributed our members. If you do not wish to be included you can skip the picture portion. However, please also state your preference on the available list.

As you arrive please see Dave Burk near the back where he is normally found taking pictures of the gallery entries. He will take your picture. After, we ask that you verify your phone number and email on the sheet located nearby.

Bringback Challenge



Mark Hubl was the the winner of a Roy Lindley uniquely turned piece in August. Mark does some great work also. Below is the piece that he brought in for the September meeting.



Bill Aitchison was the lucky winner of this piece by Mark. I know we are all excited to see what Bill will surprise us with in October





Windy City Woodturners Annual Picnic August 26, 2018



The weather was warm but there was a nice breeze for our annual picnic. There was some great food options contributed by members plus some burgers, dogs, and brats.

Thanks to Rich Rohrback and his wife Jill along with MC Paul Pyrcik and Nick Page who helped set things up.





Nathan gets a prize



Paul, always a great MC



**Mark has something
to work on now**



**Nick gets a nice piece
of wood**



Tony asks "What is this?"



Bruce gets a new toolbox



**We expect to see
something nice out of
this Bert**

August Gallery



Ray Luckhaupt

Andy Kuby



Tony Leto



August Gallery

Bruce Kamp



Jason Clark



Don Childs



Nathan Wick

August Gallery

Clint Stevens
&

Scott Barrett

Paul Shotola



Peter D'Attomo



August Gallery

Paul Pyrcik



Dave Leach



Marie Anderson



Mark McCleary

August Gallery



August Gallery



August Gallery

**This one deserves a page of its own.
Next time you see Bill Aitchison ask him
to tell you the story behind this piece.
You will certainly enjoy it.**



September Gallery



Jason Clark



Jason Clark



Bill Aitchison



Bert LeLoup



Rich Hall-Reppen

September Gallery



Dawn Herndon-Charles



Rich Nye



Rich Nye



Nye/Anderson/Herndon-Charles



Jeff Walsma

Library Review by Rich Hall-Reppen

Bob Leonard is demonstrating the various vacuum chucks he has developed and sells ranging from basic plans to an out of the box vacuum chuck for your lathe. The Windy City Woodturners library includes a copy of Ernie Conover's book "The Frugal Woodturner".

Ernie explains how to get setup in woodturning and make easy to build and use jigs and other accessories. The book is well organized with sections on choosing the correct lathe, finding good tools without breaking the bank, sharpening those good tools, and finding inexpensive wood. The book finishes with good woodturning setups depending on your budget: Tight Budget / Basic Setup; Medium Budget / All Around Setup; Large Budget / Upscale Setup. As the back cover of the book states: Spend Less and Have More Fun Turning!

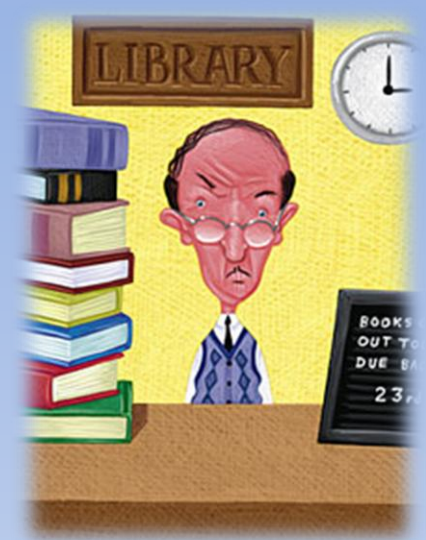
I'll be in the back with the Club's library. We have some new additions to the library. Check out the Frugal Woodturner or any of our other books and DVD's.

Getting To Know Us

Will return in the November newsletter. If you would entertain the idea of contributing an article about your background and your interest in our wonderful hobby please drop me an email at Bruce.kamp@sbcglobal.net.

Do not be shy. This is not about bragging, boasting, etc. It is about us getting to know a little about our fellow members. One of the reasons we join clubs like ours is to meet others with similar interests and to learn from each other.

Reading a little about each other in a short article each month helps us accomplish that.



Using our hobby to help others

Most of you have been aware of the Hobson Oak project, www.hobsonoak.com. This was a 250 year old burr oak that lived on Hobson Road near the Eastern border of Naperville. The Naperville Park Foundation took control of the tree when it was cut down in November 2016. Volunteers were asked to use the wood to create art pieces that would be auctioned off for charity. I was lucky enough to be chosen and turned somewhere between thirty and forty pieces, including bowls, bottle stoppers, plates. Other pieces of the tree were given to various artists for them to create pieces also. The first auction of the works was held by Loaves & Fishes, the local Naperville food bank. It was held at a formal event on August 25th, 2018 at the Hyatt Lodge in Oakbrook. Six of the turned pieces, as well as some tables made by others, were auctioned off that night. The six pieces raised over \$4,000 that night. You can see the pieces at:

<https://www.loaves-fishes.org/events/night-to-end-hunger/hobson-oak-auction-items/>

Most of the turned pieces have been displayed in our gallery at one time or another. There will be other auctions.

There is no misconceptions about the fact that much of the allure, in this case, was the fact that the pieces were made from the wood of The Hobson Oak. That tree meant a lot to many people and they were willing to pay to have a piece of it. However, there was the satisfaction of knowing that the results of my efforts were able to help raise a fairly large sum of money for charity.

Using our hobby to help others (cont)

Many of us do not sell our pieces. We make them for friends, etc. I have, however, made some pieces for others who have wanted to pay. In these cases they are asked to donate an amount, that they think is reasonable to pay for the piece, to a charity. That way they get to make someone happy and help a charity at the same time.

We all would be interested in hearing stories along these lines. How have you used your hobby to help others? As a group, we have done things like Depot Days, Christmas ornaments, Empty Bowls, etc. but it would be interesting to hear what we have done as individuals. Sharing your activity may inspire others and provide some great ideas. Please consider contributing your story.

Bruce Kamp



Club Events

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Ornament Demonstration at Woodcraft-
November 11, 10am to 3pm
- Lisle Once Upon a Christmas- December 1, 3pm to 8pm and December 2, noon to 5pm.
- Club Christmas Party- December 18 at Bohemian Crystal

Area Events

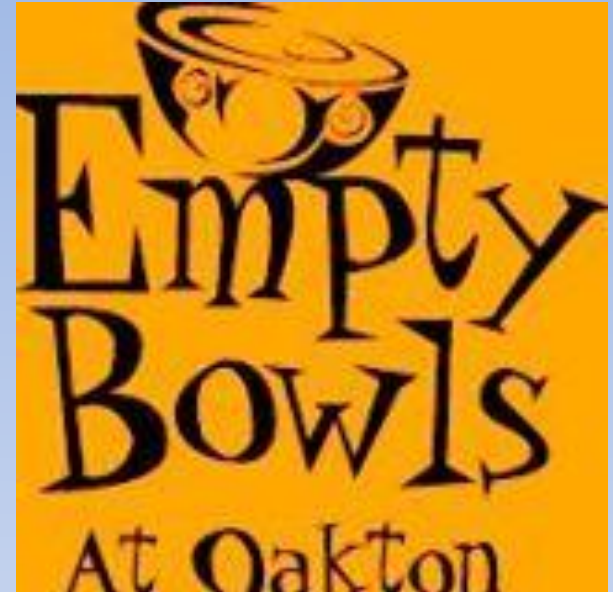
- December 19
 - IAP (Chicagoland International Association of Penturners)
 - Bi-Monthly Meeting at Rockler Bolingbrook 10:00am-1:00 pm



Area Events (cont)

Empty Bowls

- Coordinated with Chicago Woodturners
- Oakton Community College Des Plaines
- 1st weekend in December
- Any donations accepted
- Target price range should be \$15-20
- Proceeds go to various Northern IL foodbanks
- Volunteers welcome



Empty Bowls is a non-profit global movement which has raised millions of dollars for food banks, soup kitchens and other meal programs around the world. Rhonda Fried and the Ceramics Club at Oakton Community College, brought this event to Oakton in 2006. Professional and student potters from the Chicago area contribute hundreds of beautiful and unique bowls for this annual fund raising event.

For a donation of \$15 participants select a unique handcrafted bowl which is theirs to keep and receive a simple meal of soup and bread as a reminder that “someone’s bowl is always empty.” The event includes a raffle drawing for unique ceramic art works, along with individual pieces including pottery, sculpture, and jewelry ranging from 20, 30, 40 and 50 dollars. 100 % of the proceeds go to local food charities.



Segmented Woodturning Symposium

October 11-14, 2018

Marriott Saint Louis West Hotel

www.segmentedwoodturning.org

**Major
Event**

This biennial symposium includes an incredible slate of demonstrators doing over 45 demonstrations in 5 classrooms during the 10 rotations. You will see topics for all experience levels and interests. It's an excellent opportunity to learn how to properly do segmenting or learn advanced techniques. This year's demonstrators include:

Robin Costelle, Mark Hosulak, Lloyd Johnson, Tom Lohman, Al Miotke, Curt Theobald, Malcolm Tibbetts. Bob Behnke, Martha Collins, Jim Driskel, Pete Marken, Jim Rodgers

In addition to this exciting group of demonstrators, the event includes a tradeshow, instant gallery, Saturday banquet with a Lifetime Achievement award, gallery critique, optional turning exchange, raffle, and an opportunity to rub shoulders with the best in our craft!

Visit www.segmentedwoodturners.org to learn all about the symposium and to register.

If you have any questions, contact Al Miotke at abmiotke@comcast.net.

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