



**Volume 30
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The Monthly Newsletter of the Windy City Woodturners

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Our April demo will be given by Roberto Ferrer. Please see Page 6 for a full description of what we will see.





There comes a time when you know it's time to call it quits. Sometimes it's when a bowl is finished or when a pen is assembled. Other times you don't realize it was time to quit before it's too late and suddenly the inside diameter exceeds the outside diameter or when your bowl somehow becomes a funnel or when you can see the shiny brass tube where your pen blank used to be.

So also comes my time to call it quits as the president of Windy City at the end of the current year. I've already announced my intention to not run for a third term and so the start for the next president can begin. Even after a new president has been found and elected I will more than likely continue as advisor to the board in the role of past president.

What most of you didn't know is that up until fairly recently I had some serious concerns about the short-term and long-term prospects of my employment and that as a result of a potential layoff there was a very real possibility that I would have to move myself and my family as I might have to seek new employment. Thankfully those concerns have been addressed, prospects are strong again, and I no longer have a 2nd quarter 2019 separation date looming over my head.

Through the end of the year we plan to form a number of smaller sub-committees to run the various activities and support the efforts of the club. These include but are not limited to Audio/Video, Raffle, Events (picnic, holiday party), Outreach (Depot Days, Once Upon a Christmas), Library, etc. We'll be looking to firm up the list of sub-

(President's Message continued on Page 17)

committees and approach likely candidates to head these committees soon



Are you interested? Let us know

Saturday, April 13, 9:30am to 1:30pm .

At a recent WCWT meeting several of you expressed interest in an event that would demonstrate the method and techniques for turning this year's Heritage Society Ornament. Karl at Woodridge Woodcraft has generously offered their classroom on April 13 for that purpose.

This event is not intended for mass production of the ornaments. Just a way to help you get started with the process. But if, having watched a demonstration, you would like to try your hand at a couple pieces there will be several lathes and supervision available. If you plan to turn, you should bring the following sharp tools: roughing gouge, skew, 3/8" spindle gouge, parting tool and sand paper to 320 grit. If you have a 60 degree tail center (MT 2), please bring that also. Kits will be available to take home for those who want them.

We do still expect to do a video for the website, but this Woodcraft event will be available sooner and may be more appealing to some.

Please respond to Don Johnston at donsuej_2000@yahoo.com if you expect to attend. We would like to plan for the number of attendees. Keep in mind that not everyone needs to show up at 9:30 – we will be there all morning and until 1:30 for those who have a busy morning. Whether you come Saturday April 13 or not be sure to express your appreciation to Woodcraft staff the next time you're there.

Bringback Challenge

No, this is not a mistake. It seems that Marie and Don want to make it a regular thing to exchange each other's work. In February Marie presented Don with a bowl made from a mulberry tree in her back yard. In March it was Don who presented Marie with one of his great sphere creations after showing us all, during his demonstration for the evening, how to make one.



May Demo will be Andy Kuby demonstrating the inside/out method of turning



Club News (cont)

This Month's Demonstration

Roberto Ferrer

I call them “wall hangings” because I’m not really sure what category into which they fit. They *are* done on the lathe. But Roberto’s electric bill must be the lowest for any woodturner in the county because he never switches on the electricity! The lathe head is simply an indexing tool, turned manually, and used in conjunction with an ingenious holder that can raise or lower a right-angle grinder, mounted on the lathe bed ways.

To show us how his system works, Roberto started with a rectangular piece of hardwood, about 1-1/2 inches x 7 inches x 15 inches. He likes to use straight-grained hardwoods, like oak, walnut, or honey locust. His first step is to draw diagonal lines connecting opposite corners of the rectangle.

The point of intersection for the two lines becomes the center of his workpiece. At that center point, he takes his 2-inch Forstner bit and drills a circular depression, which will hold a custom-made glue block. The glue block is a short cylinder, turned to exactly a 2-inch outside diameter, and threaded on one end so that it can screw onto the threads of his headstock. The unthreaded end is glued into the workpiece with thin cyanoacrylate (CA) glue.



(Continued on Page 19)

Useful Information



<https://www.wood-database.com/>

By looking and learning about different woods, any woodworker or crafts-person can quickly and easily ascertain which woods to use for which projects—whether your selection criteria is based on color, grain pattern, strength, dimensional stability, durability, etc. The key lies simply in knowing how to interpret the data. If you've got a project, and you're looking for the right wood, or if you've got a stash of lumber, and you're looking for a suitable project, The Wood Database can help. If you're new to this site, I'd recommend viewing any wood profile, and clicking on any/all of the data field links (such as Modulus of Rupture, Janka Hardness, etc.) to get a more thorough definition of the terms that are used throughout the database. This will help you make sense of the data, and guide you into using the right wood for the right job—making your project a success!

March Gallery Review



Jason Clark



Dick Sing



Joel Lamplough

Roy Lindley



Dawn Herndon-Charles



Ron Bukowy

March Gallery Review (cont)



Bert Leloup



Bruce Kamp

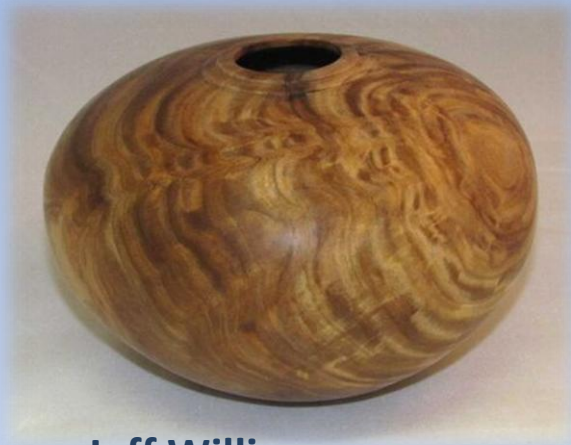


Tony Leto



Andy Kuby

March Gallery Review (cont)



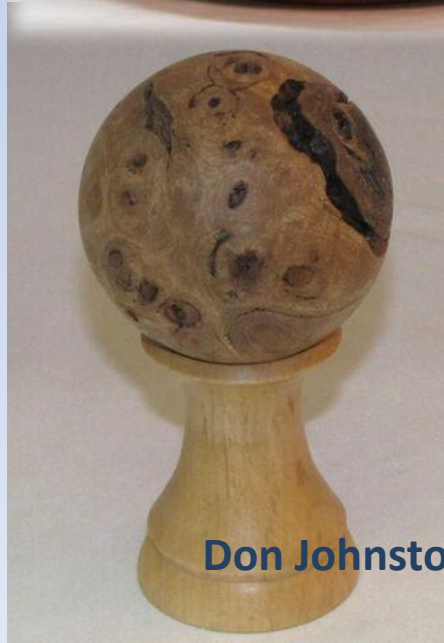
Jeff Williams

Derek Cadmus



Rich Nye

Rich Nye



Don Johnston



Marie Anderson¹⁰

Area Events

Chicago Woodturners 2019 Professional Demonstration Schedule

CWT has assembled an outstanding group of guest demonstrators for this year.

- Mike Jackofsky, April 13-16, 2019
- Graeme Priddle and Melissa Engler, June 1-4, 2019
- Max Brosi, July 20-23, 2019
- Jacques Vesery, September 7-10, 2019



▪ The Saturday demonstrations are 9 to 5, open to all and reasonably priced. The hands-on classes fill up quickly. Additional information is available at or by contacting Chicago Woodturners.

▪ <http://www.chicagowoodturners.com/professional-demonstrations/>

▪ The all day demonstrations are \$30 on the day of the demo (\$20 if you buy ahead of time). Demos are held at Christian Liberty Academy, 502 West Euclid, Arlington Heights, IL

▪ The hands on classes are \$125 per day (paid in advance) and are held at the Chicago School of Woodworking, 5680 N Northwest Highway, Chicago, IL



Area Events (cont)



Calling all Women In Turning!



Women in Turning (WIT) is the newest committee of the AAW, bringing together women worldwide who share a passion for woodturning. WIT is dedicated to encouraging and assisting women in their pursuit of turning, to sharing ideas and processes to further members' skills and creativity, and to increasing participation of women in the field of woodturning.

Registration for the 2019 WIT eXchange is now open and filling up quickly. If you have not yet registered for the WIT eXchange at Arrowmont this coming September 5-7 get to your computer and sign up today! This event is specifically for the ladies (sorry guys). It is 3 days of intensive FUN, FUN, FUN! You will get pushed to your creative limit, learn from some of the most innovative women in the world, forge new friendships, strengthen your skills, possibly meet a bear, definitely ache from laughing too much and you get to work in the newly remodeled wood studio at Arrowmont. This is a low pressure, inclusive environment that stresses relationship building along with skill building. You will come away from this experience wanting more of it all! Registration is open on the AAW website and is only \$300 which includes meals and materials. Housing and travel not included.

If you know someone who might be interested or is on the fence about attending, please take a few minutes to chat with Dawn Herndon-Charles or Marie Anderson. Both attended the eXchange last year and will be attending again in September.

Area Events (cont)

Ladies' Night at Rockler on International Women's Day



On March 8th, at the Rockler Woodworking & Hardware store in Bolingbrook, 25 women (and briefly one man - initials MM) attended the first ever Ladies' Night on International Women's Day. The program included 6 women presenters - Shaun Devine from the Chicago School of Woodworking; Dawn Herndon-Charles & Marie Anderson discussing the AAW, WIT and demonstrating woodturning; Sheryl Clarke spoke about DIY cabinet making; Alma Villalobos, social media sensation spoke on "A Makers Experience" and getting your brand known using social media and finally Michele Fenton discussed finishing. The event was scheduled from 5:30-8pm. Women arrived early so we did an impromptu mentoring session for several women who were specifically interested in woodturning. The program started about 5:45 once all the presenters arrived and even though the even ran long, all but 3 of the women stayed to the end. When asked if they would like to attend future events like this it was a resounding YES! The decision was made to hold another event at Rockler every quarter and the dates will be announced as soon as they are finalized. Hopefully we will see some of these ladies at future meetings. Thank you to Mark Hubl for putting this event together and being such a gracious host. Thanks also to all the presenters for their time and efforts.

Marie Anderson

Area Events (cont)

Midwest Pen Turners (www.midwestpenturnersgathering.com)



The History:

Those who have "been around" long enough will remember Cozee (Greg Cozad) starting the Midwest Penturners Gathering (MPG) about a decade ago in Urbana, Illinois. After four years, Low48 (Rich Coers) continued the tradition in a super-human single-handed presentation for another four years. Then, the Ohio IAP contingent volunteered and the event was moved to Wadsworth, Ohio for the last four years. The event has seen tremendous growth over all these years. From a few hours at a union hall to a three day event in a fantastic hotel. Great demonstrations, vendors, and new activities. Most importantly great friendships, conversations, and sharing of ideas.

2019 Midwest Penturners Gathering Schaumburg, Illinois - April 26 and 27

Demonstrators:

Dick Sing - Keynote and Adding Delicacy To Your Pens

John Underhill – Clear Casting

Mark James –Segmenting

Greg Bonier – Color Casting

Ed Brown – ExoticBlanks – Marketing and Selling Your Work

Fred Wissen – Bullet Casings

Melanie Rollens - Self-taught Polymer clay millefiori cane artist

Rob Nelson – Kitless Pen Making

Mark Dreyer – From Beginner To Pro in 50 Minutes

The American Association of Woodturners
33rd Annual International Symposium
Raleigh, North Carolina
July 11-14, 2019



Raleigh 2019

AAW | AMERICAN ASSOCIATION
OF WOODTURNERS



For a nice video summary of the event navigate to this link:
<https://www.woodturner.org/page/2019RaleighMain>

AAW Information



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

President's message

(cont)

Through the end of the year we plan to form a number of smaller sub-committees to run the various activities and support the efforts of the club. These include but are not limited to Audio/Video, Raffle, Events (picnic, holiday party), Outreach (Depot Days, Once Upon a Christmas), Library, etc. We'll be looking to firm up the list of sub-committees and approach likely candidates to head those committees soon.

The sub-committee with the biggest impact on the club on a month to month basis is almost certainly Audio/Video. We've already started experimenting with potential improvements and ideas, including projecting onto a screen rather than the wall, potentially replacing our current sound system with a larger and more capable system (we've borrowed a system from the Dupage County a couple of times and have seen a marked improvement in sound quality). Last month Bob Bergstrom's absence forced us to scramble and throw together a make-shift video system using a pair of webcams and while it wasn't perfect I think it did quite well on short notice and I'd like to credit Mark Jundanian for pulling it all together. Bob has been instrumental on our videography and he will continue to be a key asset moving forward.

A graphic with a yellow, parchment-like background. The text "President's message" is written in a black, cursive font. A fountain pen with a purple and gold barrel is positioned diagonally across the bottom right of the graphic.

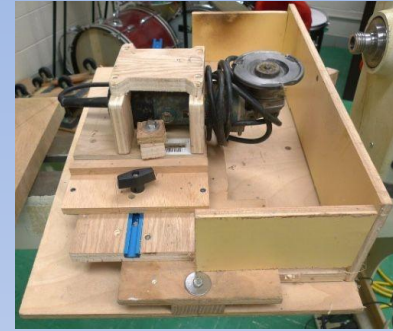
President's message

(cont)

Ultimately improvements to audio/video will allow our members to have a more enjoyable and educational experience at our meetings. A secondary benefit is that with improved audio/video capabilities we can start to seriously explore the possibilities of remote video demonstrations by professional woodturners, something that I believe no other club in the area can offer.

I hope to have one or more candidates identified for all of the officer positions no later than the end of the 3rd quarter in preparation for the election in November. If you are interested in running for one of the officer positions or have someone that you would like to recommend, please reach out to one of the current officers. I'm confident that whoever is ultimately elected as the next president as well as the other club officers will serve the club well.

Roberto has a 3-inch Arbortech wheel on his angle grinder. That wheel has three carbide teeth in it, which will carve a groove in the workpiece, about 3/16-inch wide. Roberto had started out holding the grinder by hand, but his fingers got really tired, trying to manipulate the tool. So he built a jig. The jig holds the grinder. But it also lets him lower or raise the height of the jig (y-axis), as well as move deeper or shallower in relation to the workpiece (x-axis). In addition, the jig lets him move the grinder in and out, in relation to the lathe bed (z-axis).



With all that grinding, the carbide tips need to be periodically refreshed. So Roberto has devised a clever holder for the carbide tips that lets him hone the tip of each cutter with a diamond hone on his electric drill. What makes his system even more innovative is a pair of rosettes he uses in conjunction with the grinder-holding jig. One rosette has six lobes equally spaced on a 6-inch diameter disk that fits over the threads on his headstock. A second rosette has only two lobes, but the concept is similar. The lobes on the rosette contact a pin that sticks out of the left side of his grinder-holding jig. So when he turns on the grinder, he rotates the headstock wheel manually with his left hand, while exerting pressure toward the headstock with his right hand. This way, the pin follows the lobes on the rosette. You can call it a poor man's Rose engine if you like, but it produces magnificent results.



Club News (cont)

This Month's Demonstration

Roberto has used different cutters in his grinder, other than the Arbortech. He's also used diamond cutters from Harbor Freight with success. You can get them in three grades: coarse, medium, or fine. Final carvings on his pieces are done with a flat disk. He uses a speed regulator (again from Harbor Freight) to reduce surface RPM and get better edge control.

After finish sanding with the grinder, Roberto does hand sanding to eliminate swirl marks. He'll start with 60-grit sandpaper and go all the way down to 800-grit. He'll even use a speed regulator on his electric drill to do final machine touch-ups.

Finally, Roberto will use Swiss carving tools whose sharpness is maintained by white ceramic sharpening sticks, following manual sanding. Carving can take a day and a half for each piece. He'll also use a torch to burn on a finish. Roberto confessed that he doesn't own a commercial wood burner, but he does have a modified car battery charger (6 amp/10 amp/50 amp) to selectively apply wood burning to his pieces.



To add color, Roberto uses air brushes. He typically uses black ink, silver, or gold metallic paint. And to seal his work, he uses Velvet oil, usually three coats, but sometimes five or six. Some of the rectangles were jet black, dark red, or selectively dyed. He even had some circular pieces, about the size of a small pizza, with intricate flutes as well as carving marks. By the time he's finished, some of his pieces will have up to 30 hours of work in them.

Roberto does. It's individual. It's unique. And, it's well done!