

**February 2009**

# **Shavings**

*I Love  
Turning*



***DON'T MISS THE  
FEBRUARY MEETING  
"SEGMENTED TURNING 101"  
WITH GREG SMITH***

**A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER BY  
DETROIT AREA WOODTURNERS**



**DETROIT AREA  
WOODTURNERS**

# Presidents Message

Has anyone taken up my challenge to try something that was done from the last month's demo? I am looking forward to seeing some nicely buffed and polished pieces this month.

Speaking of looking for things, the club is still looking for a number of volunteers. Currently, we have a need for a Second Vice President, an additional person to help out with the AV, and someone to make coffee at the start of the monthly meetings. We also will soon need a treasurer. It was also announced by our Treasurer, John Fitzpatrick, that he will finish up this year, but would not be running for this position next year. So, now would be a great time to consider getting more involved with your club.

Be sure to join us at this month's meeting when Greg Smith will be doing a demo he is calling "*Segmented Turning 101*".

Your club president,

*Frank*



## February 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14 
15 DAW Meeting 2:00pm Shadbrush Nature Center	16  Presidents Day	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

## GREAT ARTICLES AND NEWS IN THIS ISSUE

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## Save the Date:

*March 15th*

DAW Monthly meeting -  
Shadbrush Nature Center - 2:00pm  
*Goblet or Pepper Mills*

*April 19th*

DAW Monthly meeting -  
Shadbrush Nature Center - 2:00pm  
*Finding a Bowl in a Log*

*May 17th*

DAW Monthly meeting -  
Shadbrush Nature Center - 2:00pm  
*Jigs and Fixtures*

# RECIPE FOR A GREAT CA FINISH

Having made over 600 pens, I have tried everything to get a great finish on a wood pen. I've tried several friction polishes, wipe on /spray on poly, spray lacquer, you name it. I have two finishes that I use, really, the others I have had returns on to redo the finish. On slim lines I use Deft brush on lacquer. The small size allows the lacquer to blend without streaking and it takes less time.

On my heftier, more expensive wood pens, I use CA (**cyanoacrylate**) and the process goes like this. After turning to its final shape, I put on boiled linseed oil, this is the most exciting part of making a pen (in my humble opinion). Watching the grain **pop**, as I usually use burls, is just awesome. Next I use the towel that has the BLO on it, hold it under the mandrel and lay a bead of thin CA over the blank and rub it in with the towel. I use a 1" strip of 400 grit sand paper and sand it 'til the shine is gone. It dries really fast anyway, but you don't want to use accelerator on thin CA as it will bead up, making it harder to sand off. Using the little bag the pen parts come in, I put another coat of thin CA over the barrel. I sand with 400 grit again (this fills in any little open spaces that may have been in the grain) until the shine is gone. This is repeated with medium CA for a third coat (I use accelerator with medium CA to speed things up). On the fourth and final coat, after accelerator and sanding with 400, I use 800 and 1200 grit. Now we take it to the Tripoli wheel and buff it out, followed by a coat of Renaissance wax.



I don't use the wax wheel, it doesn't shine as well as Renaissance.

It sounds like a long process, but once you get the steps down, you can get a great finish in ten to fifteen minutes. It is like a plastic finish, shiny and durable, and the great part about a CA finish is you can assemble and use it immediately after you're done.

**Tip:** *I use my dust collector to draw the fumes away while applying the CA. It can cause a eye and/or nose reaction due to the odor. You can also purchase the odorless kind, it's a bit more expensive, but if you don't have a way to move the fumes, it's worth it.*



*Glenn McCullough*

## TREADLE LATHE UPDATE:

The target date for completion of the treadle lathe, being made by DAW members, was set for spring '09. It looks as though that was a realistic goal and is likely going to happen. Word has it that we will see the fly wheel with hardware, as well as the bed and legs to the treadle lathe at the February meeting.

So far, Vince, David, Loel, Russ and John have been most busy doing their part and are preparing to pass the ball into the court of Chet, Mark, Matt and Glenn for the final phases, including the pedal, headstock, tail stock and tool rest. Keep an eye out for more progress and show some appreciation as these guys are adding a unique turning opportunity for their fellow members.

# Member Profile:

## Bob Daily



There is an age-old argument about the difference between a craftsman and a true artist.

Some will argue that one cannot be a true artist unless he is first a

craftsman. Or, a craftsman creates art merely by exercising great skill.

However, the true artist must not only be a clever and competent craftsman, but his work must inspire a complex spectrum of beauty and wonder from the beholder.

Bob Daily is an artist. His work evokes a sense of elegant tranquility and serenity. Yet, it is disciplined, precise, meticulous, and imaginative.

He grew up on a farm (hay and corn) in western Pennsylvania where out of necessity many things had to be made by hand.



Bob's introduction to woodturning came at the age of 13 with inspiration from his father and a homemade motor-driven lathe that they had made together. A large quantity of walnut was stored in their barn from land that was cleared by his uncle some 40-years prior. The results of their combined efforts were four large

collection plates they made for their church.

In 2002, a fellow co-worker and DAW member, Dave Fischer, encouraged Bob to attend several DAW club meetings rekindling Bob's interest in woodturning. After the purchase of a Jet 1236 lathe, some early turning advice from both Dave and Greg Smith, the addiction began. In 2004, Bob retired as color marketing and design manager from DuPont

Automotive Finishes, which offered him more time to concentrate on this creative endeavor. Two years later, Bob began participating in art shows around Michigan and eventually began displaying his fine work in several galleries: Firebrick Gallery, Rochester; Studio 23, Bay City; and Orchard Lake Gallery, West Bloomfield.



Although largely self-taught, Bob has taken a number of high-powered turning classes at the Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts In Gatlinburg,

Tennessee. <http://www.arrowmont.org/>

Also, with such notaries from around the country such as **Mark St. Leger, Virginia:**

<http://markstleger.com/>

**Betty Scarpino, Indiana:** <http://www.bettyscarpino.com/>

**David Ellsworth, Pennsylvania:**

<http://www.ellsworthstudios.com/>

**Ray Key, England:**

[http://www.cascadewoodturners.com/ray\\_key.htm](http://www.cascadewoodturners.com/ray_key.htm)

Bob especially enjoys the challenges of turning hollow vessels and bowls with fluting as the result of taking a master class with Al Stirt from Vermont.

**Al Stirt, Vermont:** <http://www.alstirt.com>



He uses **General Finish** (Oil and Urethane) on most of his turnings.



Bob is hard-working and creative as evidenced by this bowl in which he filled in the worm holes with turquoise powder and epoxy.



And this cheese tray with a granite insert.



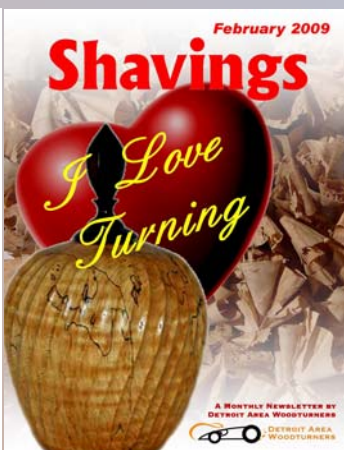
His advice to new turners: Nothing is impossible. Push yourself farther than you think you can go. Bob also suggests reading *Randy Pausch's* "The Last Lecture" (I also highly recommend this - even if you are not a wood turner. -Jerry Bufalini)

<http://www.cmu.edu/randyslecture/>

## A Gallery of Bob's Work:



*Bob's vessel is featured on the front cover of the newsletter this month.*



By: Jerry Bufalini

# AMBROSIA MAPLE

One of the great things about being in the lumber business is that customers keep you on your toes with their questions. Recently at the Sunapee Craft Fair a turner showed me a beautiful bowl that had some pinholes in it with accompanying attractive "stain patterns" around each hole. A friend had told him the wood was "Ambrosia Maple" and the turner wanted to know if this were correct. I answered that I had never heard of such a specie but that I thought the bowl was indeed Maple and that I had also heard of an Ambrosia Beetle. Maybe the stained holes were from this beetle and that's why his friend called it "Ambrosia Maple" ... Sometimes you guess right.

The Ambrosia Beetle causes pinholes 1/100 - 1/4" in diameter and attacks only recently killed/cut trees, logs, and green lumber. They usually bore into the sapwood of both hard and softwoods although sometimes they affect the heartwood. Interestingly, the beetle does not consume the wood; rather, when he excavates his "tunnel", he introduces two types of fungus.

The first grows on the walls of the "tunnel" and it is this fungus which is consumed by the beetle for nourishment. The fungus is called Ambrosia and the name was passed on to include the beetle.

The second fungus is a staining fungus which, if introduced, causes greenish-gray or bluish-black staining around the pinholes. Unless there are zillions of holes, the strength of the wood is not affected. The beetle loves Oak so much that a "sound wormy" grade has been created.

The damage can be avoided or reduced by converting to lumber and drying ASAP. Of course, there are also some chemicals out there which could be used. If you wanted to store logs, a mill pond would be fine. However, if the log is not totally submerged, any exposed area is fair game to the critter.

*This article has been reproduced with written permission by David Mather.*

*This article was written By David Mather from Lyme, NH.*

*He has been a forester for over 30 years and writes a column that is*

*Posted on Wood Central called "Splendid Splinters".*

*They are very informative a good resource to gain more knowledge about the wood we turn.*

*Article submitted by Mike Foydel*



## JANUARY MEETING RE-CAP

At the January meeting, the topic was The Beall Buffing System. John Sabina demonstrated the system and explained how this process could add beauty to your project by applying a high gloss finish.

The system consisted of three separate cloth buffing wheels that use three different wheel dressings.

- ▶ The first step is Tripoli dressing used on a wheel made of linen.
- ▶ The second step is a White Diamond dressing on a wheel made of linen and cotton.
- ▶ The last step is Carnauba Wax used with a cotton wheel.



# You Know You're A Woodworker When...

You cut yourself with a chisel and you're more concerned about not getting blood on your workpiece than you are about the laceration.

You inexplicably find sawdust in your drawers. And I'm not talking about furniture.

You can say "crotchwood" with a straight face.

It has caused you great pain to pay money for furniture that was poorly made.

You have dropped to your knees and looked beneath a table in a museum, a gallery, an historic home, or a friend's house.

You know the difference between a tendon and a tenon but you sometimes use the words interchangeably.

You cannot resist the temptation to lift the lid on a wooden box.

You secretly think "measuring tape" suspenders are pretty cool.

You can talk to your partner/spouse/significant other for HOURS about woodworking despite the glazed over look in his/her eyes.

You have wondered what it would be like to own a woodworking business.

You can spend an entire day in your shop, accomplish little if anything, and thoroughly enjoy it.

You know exactly where everything is in your shop....except for a pencil.

You have said these words: "I can build that in two weeks."

You have built more projects in your head than in actuality.

Your spouse/partner/loved ones/pets know not to bother you, and sometimes choose to run for cover, when you are gluing up a project.

Even if you don't work with it, you love the smell of fresh cut pine.

You either love or hate the smell of fresh cut walnut. There is no in-between.

You remove more splinters from your hands in a month than most people do in a lifetime.

You can correctly pronounce Padauk and Lignum Vitae.

Kari Hultman

The Village Carpenter

<http://villagecarpenter.blogspot.com/>

## I KNOW WHAT I'M DOING

Sometimes the more experience you have at something the more risk you take.

Take time and review your turning habits.

Face shields, tools, respirators, dust collectors are all replaceable.

***lungs, eyes, fingers  
and other body parts are not!***

## WANTED

**DID YOU MISS LAST MONTH'S MEETING  
AND WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE  
BEALL BUFFING SYSTEM?**

**CHECK OUT THE CD IN THE LIBRARY  
ALONG WITH OTHER GREAT TURNING  
VIDEOS, DVD'S AND BOOKS.**

# ROLLING PINS

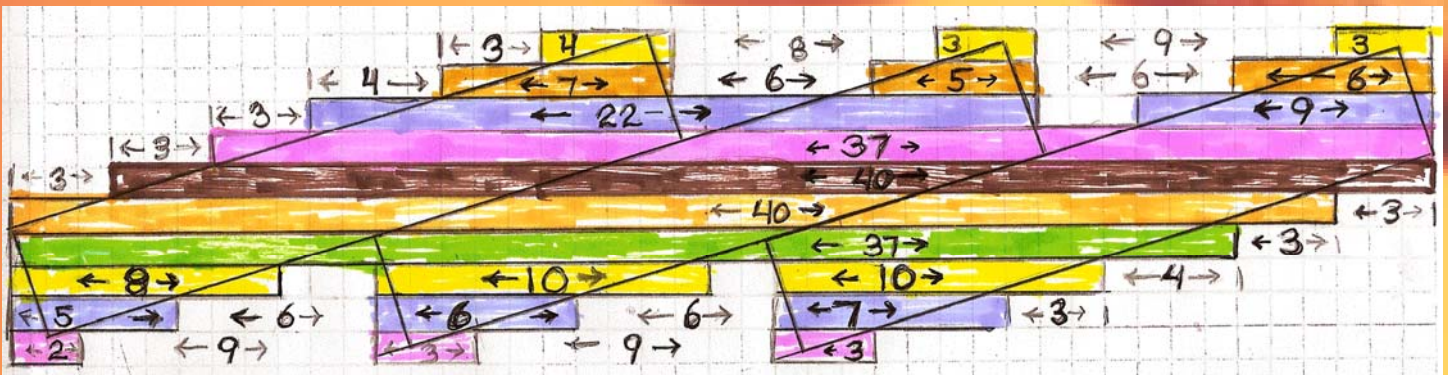
There are plenty of articles out there on how to turn a rolling pin. The trouble I was having is that I didn't want to glue up a bunch of wood for one rolling pin. I've always liked the look of the pins with several different woods that are all cut on an angle. So I made up a sketch several months back of a way to get 3 pins out of a glue up and have very little waste left. In the materials list you can see that some of the pieces used are quite small. So I have been saving all the cut-offs and I think I finally have enough for my project. I will bring one of the pins to a future meeting if it all works out. By the way, if anyone in the club has come up with another way I would be very interested in seeing it and we could post it in a future issue of shavings.

*Mike Foydel*

## MATERIAL LIST:

2" - 1	8" - 1
3" - 4	9" - 1
4" - 1	10" - 2
5" - 2	22" - 1
6" - 2	37" - 2
7" - 2	40" - 2

**ALL PIECES ARE 3 1/2 INCHES WIDE AND AS CLOSE TO 1 INCH IN THICKNESS AS POSSIBLE**



# TAMBOTI

**Spirostachys africana**, Family: Euphorbiaceae

**Distribution:** South / South East Africa

### Characteristics:

The wood is hard, heavy, durable and close-grained. The sapwood is creamy white and the heartwood rich brown with a satin-like lustre. It is inclined to be oily and, when freshly worked, has a distinctive sweetish smell. Care should be taken when working with Tamboti – poisonous and causes extreme irritation to sensitive skin and can damage the eyes. The milky latex from the freshly cut tree is very poisonous and causes extreme irritation to sensitive skin and can damage the eyes.

When working care should be taken to keep sawdust out of the eyes. This wood is not suitable for fuel as the smoke will cause headaches and nausea. Africans are warned against this tree from an early age, their fear sometimes almost amounting to taboo which prevents them from damaging any living specimens.

**Uses:** Furniture, turnery, inlay work, cabinet-making and carving.







Russell Layle



Soozy Smith



Loel Gnadt



Mike Foydel



Marc Ruby



Soozy Smith



Soozy Smith



John Harrington



Gary Smith



Loel Gnadt

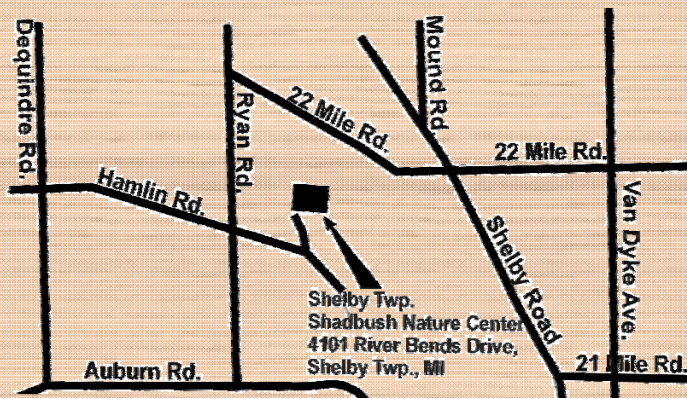


Bob Daly



# NEXT MEETING FEBRUARY 15, 2009

Detroit Area Woodturners meet at the  
Shelby River Bends Park,  
Shadbush Nature Center, Shelby Township, MI,  
from 2:00 to 4:00 PM.  
The Park is located on Ryan Road between 21 and  
22 Mile Roads opposite the Hamlin Road junction.



DAW Officers - Here to Help!! Don't Hesitate to Call		
President	Frank Marabate	586-246-0503
1st. Vice President	Russ Holmes	248-645-1970
2nd. Vice President	Frank Goettl	586-286-0831
Secretary	John Sabina	586-786-1967
Treasurer	John Fitzpatrick	248-608-6972
Membership	Greg Smith	248-649-3565
Shavings Newsletter mfoyd@mac.com	Mike Foydel	586-246-1900
Library	Glen Lieving	586-726-2856
Mentoring	Chet Bisno	586-254-7605
Club Logo apparel	Dave Earl	248-544-8947

**Detroit Area Woodturners**  
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of Woodturners**



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