

Shavings

Providing an environment that fosters the art and craft of woodturning

May & June 2013

2013 Turn-a-thon

Nothing says picnic like chain sawing walnut, turning some bowls, good friends, and good food!



Events Calendar

Next Month Meeting:
September 8, 2013
2:00 PM to 4:00 PM

September 's Meeting:
Demonstration to be announced in August

2013
Shelby Twp. Fall Festival
September 14 & 15, 2013

Festival of the Senses
September 21 & 22, 2013

The "**Detroit Area Woodturners**" (DAW) is a local chapter of the **American Association of Woodturners (AAW)**. The AAW is an international, not-for-profit organization dedicated to the advancement of the woodturning craft. Our mission is to provide information, education, a meeting place, and an effective organization for all who are interested in turning wood.



<http://www.woodturner.org/>

A Publication of;

DETROIT AREA



WOODTURNERS

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

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In The News

DAW Receives Award At the National Symposium

The DAW received the following email this week;



"Congratulations! The AAW Membership and Chapters Committee is pleased to inform you that your Detroit Area Woodturners Newsletter submission has been awarded third place.

The Membership and Chapters Committee and the AAW Board of Directors wish to congratulate you on this prestigious award. As the third place winner your chapter has been inducted into AAW's Hall of fame, honored on our website. A plaque will be printed and presented at the AAW Tampa symposium. If you are unable to attend it will be mailed to you after the symposium."

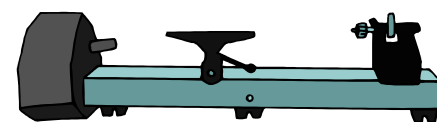
September Meeting

Our September meeting is scheduled for September 8, 2013 at 2:00 PM.

The demonstrator has not been decided as of this newsletter. A notice will go out prior to the meeting.

More details to follow.

Please plan to attend!



Tell us what you would like to see this coming season.

Upcoming Events

Upcoming Events

AAW 2013 Symposium - Tampa

June 28 - 30, 2013

DAW September meeting

Sunday, September 8, 2013 at 2:00 PM

Shelby Twp. Fall Festival

Saturday, Sept. 14, 2013 at 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM

Sunday, Sept. 15, 2013 at 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Festival of the Senses

Saturday, Sept. 21, 10:00am-5:00pm

Sunday, Sept. 22, 10:00am-5:00pm

Ohio Valley Woodturner Guild Symposium

October 11-13, 2013

DAW October meeting

Sunday, October 20, 2013 at 2:00 PM

The President's Corner

Congrats to Our Editor

Congratulations to our newsletter editor, Roger Meeker for receiving third-place in the AAW chapter newsletter contest. And thank you to Jack Parmenter for serving as the photographer for the DAW newsletter. And thank you to all of the members who submitted articles and/or in some way contributed to our success.

Russ Holmes
President



The President's Corner

A Special "Thank You"

A very big "thank you" to all the members that



attended the DAW 2013 Turn-a-thon and an extra big "thank you" to all of the members who lent a hand in some way with the Turn-a-thon. It was the biggest turnout we ever had in the history of the DAW Turn-a-thon/picnic.

Russ Holmes
President

Thank You for Helping!

The John Jordon presentation was a success, both in providing information and training, and in financially meeting our cost. Often times when we complete these events we forget what made them a success. So I'd like to thank all of the members who helped in setting up and breaking down before and after the demonstration at Shadbush and I would like to thank Ray Frase and Bob Daily for assisting in the hands-on portion of John's visit.

Russ Holmes
President

Need Your Help!

We need your help for covering these two events; Shelby Twp. Fall Festival & Festival of the Senses

See Page 23 for more info

DAW Meeting, May 19, 2013

Sunday, May 19, 2013



Russ Holmes opens the meeting with a warm welcome to everyone in attendance and also welcomes several visitors. Russ took a moment to welcome our new members.

Russ spoke of the successful John Jordon seminar and hands-on days, both attendance and financially.

Greater Rochester Heritage Days Festival

Gary Clay explained our 2013 participation in this annual festival. Explained how our turning



demonstrations will encourage new membership along with a providing the community at large with a better understanding of wood turning.

Upcoming Turn-a-thon

Chuck Labaito reminded everyone of the annual DAW Turn-a-thon on Sunday, June 2, 2013. This event will be held at Shadbush Nature Center from 12:00 PM to 4:00 PM.



Chuck gave us a few of the highlights for this event;

- Turning Demonstrations
- A Group Turning Project
- Tool and Material Swap
- Gallery/Show and Tell
- Great food courtesy of Chef LaRose and Mrs. Holmes

- Our club is providing hamburgers, hotdogs, soft drinks, potato salad, and coleslaw.

We are requesting that everyone brings a dish to pass around.

This is the time of year we get together to have fun and show off our talents. Please bring your family to this great event.

Chuck distributed flyers regarding this year's turn-a-thon. For more information and to volunteer please contact Chuck Labaito at; log2lumber@gmail.com or 248-535-5035.

Woodturning Smocks

29 DAW members ordered smocks. Ken Kiernicki distributed most of smocks at the May meeting and the remaining at the Turn-a-thon. Thank you for participating.

May 19, 2013 "Show & Tell"



Ray Frase



Tom Bogrette



John Vekovius



Alfred Schembri



May 19, 2013 "Show & Tell" (cont'd)



Craig Drozd



Jerry Bufalini



Joe Zalac



Jeff Walters

May 19, 2013 "Show & Tell" (cont'd)



May 19, 2013 Demonstration by Ray Frase

Our demonstration was on tips and techniques for spindle repair and placement by Ray Frase. The demonstration was packed full of information and was enjoyable to watch. Ray started the demonstration with an explanation of the steps required to determine whether replacement or repair is needed. Ray offered jigs, templates, and know-how for repairing or replacing different spindles.

Ray Frase serves as our mentoring chairperson and has more enthusiasm toward wood turning and teaching wood turning than anyone in our club.

Thank you Ray for the day demonstration and a job well done in mentoring.



May 19, 2013 Faces in the Crowd



Benefits of joining the AAW, American Association of Woodturners

- Six issues of American Woodturner annually
- Automatic participation in periodic drawings for prizes
- Access to all past issues of American Woodturner, viewable online through the website Members Area.
- Access to machine-readable American Woodturner issues for those members who are visually impaired and utilize screen-reading software - contact the webmaster if this applies to you.
- Marketing opportunities on our website for artists, collectors, galleries, and museums.
- Group rates for individual and chapter insurance.
- Savings of up to 50% on AAW merchandise, including project books, DVDs, logo apparel, and more.
- Eligibility to apply for AAW Educational Opportunity Grants.
- AAW Forum and member-only access to articles and resources on our website.
- Eligibility to vote in AAW board elections if a member before the end of August in that year.
- Eligibility to apply for membership in the Professional Outreach Program (POP).
- Access to POP Fellowship grants.
- Exhibit opportunities - AAW members may enter work for the annual juried member exhibit featured at the Symposium, the Gallery of Wood Art in St. Paul, and other venues.
- Annual International AAW Woodturning symposium.
- Demonstration opportunities at AAW symposiums.
- AAW "Resource Directory" that contains a complete listing of contact information for members, local chapters, demonstrators, and other woodturning resources. Updated listings are available to members through the AAW website.
- More than 300 AAW local chapters that offer workshops, camaraderie, opportunities to share ideas and techniques, and access to lending libraries, discounts, and volume purchases.

Russ Holmes wants you for breakfast



There is a breakfast get together every Tuesday Morning at 8:00am, held at the **Avenue Restaurant** on Woodward Ave at 13 Mile Rd.

All are welcome.



Uncle Russ want you!

June 2, 2013 DAW 2013 Turn-a-thon



June 2, 2013 DAW 2013 Turn-a-thon (cont'd)



June 2, 2013 DAW 2013 Turn-a-thon (cont'd)



June 2, 2013 DAW 2013 Turn-a-thon (cont'd)



June 2, 2013 DAW 2013 Turn-a-thon (cont'd)





Shop Visits

A Pictorial Trip to a DAW Member's Workshop
Our seventh trip is to the shop of Jim Scarsella

By Roger Meeker

Photography by
Jack Parmenter

Jim Scarsella and his wife Flavia have been married for 25 years. They have 2 daughters, Grace and Kate. One daughter has one more year at MSU and the other will begin her 1st year at Kendall College of Art and Design this fall.

Jim is a nurse anesthetist by trade with a little twist. He is a partner in an Anastasia staffing group, contracting services to multiple hospitals throughout Michigan. Jim handles most of the business operations. This answers the question of "why does a nurse anesthetist have an MBA"?

Jim's woodworking background, like most of ours, dates back to working with our fathers while growing up. He began acquiring woodworking machinery and putting together a woodworkers shop 25 years ago. His primary interest was that of making fine furniture. With the intent of constructing a William and Mary Highboy turned legs would be required, and the rest is history. Jim never started the Highboy which started it all, (his wood turning adventure).

Approximately 11 years ago Jim and his family

moved into their current home and began many renovations, one of which included construction of a two-car garage (which has never seen a vehicle parked inside) to become a standalone woodworking shop.

Like many of my shop visits, I become so enthralled with the workshop that I don't adequately document the pictorial visit. Having the attention span of a gnat is truly a hindrance. But, let's give it a try anyway.



When you first enter a large cabinet table saw is immediately to your left.

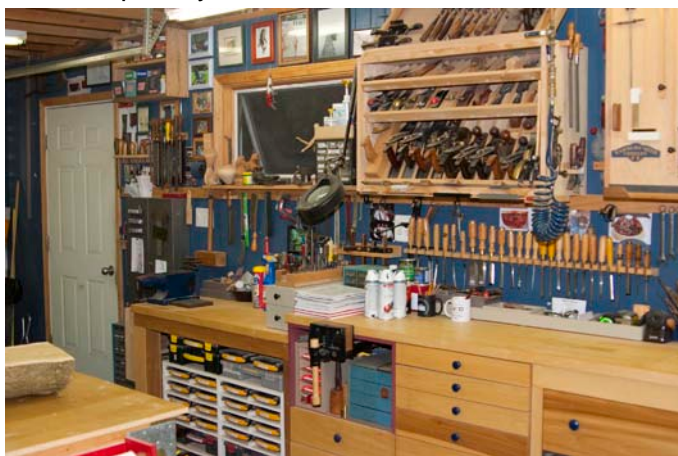
Straight ahead and to your right is a miter box saw and workstation. Additionally there is a dedicated border same machine and a router table.



A vital machine for woodturners is the band saw.



He has a 16 inch Laguna band saw with a 12 inch resaw capability.



On the same wall where the entrance is located are many of the hand tools and storage areas along with a generous work surface. He has 2 windows offering a generous amount of natural light and fresh air. The next photo is the same wall only farther to the rear of his shop.

Jim has built all of the cabinetry within his shop, and as you will notice he provides a large number of



drawers for storage. And as we all know, you can never have too many tools or too much storage! As we get closer to the lathe you will notice a woodworkers workbench. Again, you'll notice an



ample amount of storage. Directly behind the workbench in on the rear wall of his shop is his drill press and clamp area.



And finally, Jim's wood turning area. Here is the home of Jim's Robust American Beauty, a 3 hp, 24 inch swing



monster of a lathe. If it weren't for the fact that Jim has carefully bolted this lathe into the concrete floor, I may have considered borrowing it for maybe 10 or 20 years. We did a little spindle work, this lathe is rock solid.



A pivoting arm dust collection system allows the collection hood to be positioned in close proximity to the sanding.



All of the tools are connected to the dust collection system

in the far corner of the workshop.

Looking past the gooseneck lights for easy positioning on the lathe, and directly opposite the lathe work area is a dual sharpening station.



Jim has employed two Wolverines systems and 2 Delta slow speed grinders; that gives him 4 separate stations, scrapers, skewers, bowl gouges, and detail gouges. This makes it easier to sharpen more often and sharper tools means better results.

There are also 2 separate mobile carts, one on each side of the lathe which hold the tools he most often works with on any given project.



Jim has made changes to the layout within his workshop over the past 10 years, but these changes are primarily for convenience and efficiency. I believe these changes allow Jim's creative side to flourish.

In the next photo on the following page you can see the wall (if you're working on the lathe directly to your right) where the bulk of his wood turning tools are located.



Including his regular chucks and vacuum chucks.

If you were wondering where Jim does some of this carving and wood burning, did I mentioned that this workshop has a 2nd floor. There are two primary work areas; one for carving and wood burning and a 2nd work area for painting.



This photo shows some of the hand chisels Jim has collected and uses for his work. This cabinet folds closed and for the most part remains shut. A few



sample pieces that Jim will use to demonstrate some of his processes.

On the right side of this work area you'll notice the wood-burning units Jim has acquired over the



years. The rotary tools are to the left in this photo, they include micro motors, a Freedom, and a NSK. Most of the bits and cutters are kept with the pyrography tools.



In this photo you'll see the work area with 3 separate movable light sources and an exhaust hood for dust, smoke, and odor. The final work area on the 2nd floor is a painting and finishing station.



When I mentally review my visit, I need to remember that Jim was an accomplished furniture maker/woodworker prior to any his wood turning. He has been a wood turner for less than 5 years, he feels he has quite a ways to go with his wood turning learning curve. He's attended many seminars, symposiums, and hands-on classes. He enjoys making lidded boxes, some bowls, and of course his signature pieces.

It wouldn't be right without showing a few of Jim's signature pieces.



"Consumed"

Yes, you guessed it, recognized as turning of the week by the AAW.

I've admired Jim's work for a few years now and this visit to his shop was much anticipated. Like many of the shop visits I'm so interested in how and why things are set up (I'm so easily distracted), I don't always do justice to the photography and article.

Jim has agreed to do some type of demo for the DAW. It's difficult to perform a demonstration in just over an hour when your work is so intricate. But Jim is willing to present and demonstrate for the DAW this coming season.

I would like to thank Jim and his wife for the opportunity to visit his shop and home, it was interesting, educational, and fun!

It was interesting for me to talk with Jim about his wood turning, I think of his signature pieces when I think of his work, but Jim thinks about the lidded boxes, bowls, and carvings as his wood turning. He consciously works at trying to improve his overall wood turning skills.

Thanks again for your hospitality!

Watch for the next installment of "**Shop Visits**"!



"A big pile of leaves"

Recognized as turning of the week by the AAW.



"A pot filled with fall"

Also recognized as turning of the week by the AAW.

Shop Talk and Tool Tips

Golden Ratio Calipers

as presented on Craig Drozd's website <http://studioturning.com/?p=311>

The Golden Ratio is represented as a ratio of 1 : 1.618.... In art and architecture the Golden Ratio is frequently used in the form of the Golden Rectangle. Because this ratio is widely considered to be aesthetically pleasing it has also been used by woodworkers for a long time. The dimensions of dressers, book cases, tables and other furniture often contain aspects of the Golden Rectangle.

In woodturning I frequently use this ratio as a guide during the design process to develop the height and width of my turnings. As an example, if the block of wood allows for a 6 inch wide vase then using the golden ratio calculation the target height should be approximately 9.75 inches high.

The other day I found instructions for making Golden Ratio Calipers. Anything that allows me to spend more time turning and less time doing math calculations gets my approval. So I decided to make a set and see how they work.

The instructions are located on the Woodturners Unlimited site at:
<http://www.woodturnersunlimited.com/index.php/tools/29-golden-ratio-calipers-fibonacci-gauge>

Take the jump over there and check out the directions. They are very straight forward. Then come back and I'll tell you what I did differently and what I would change if I made another set.



Golden Ratio Calipers

The first decision to make is what size I want the calipers to be. To keep it easy I used the same dimensions that the author used. These seemed like they would fit the size turnings I frequently make.

I decided to make my calipers out of a spare Lyptus board I had on the wood rack. Lyptus is a Brazilian grown plantation wood that was developed from several Eucalyptus species. The tree grows quickly with long straight trunks. Being a very straight grain wood means the calipers will not easily warp.

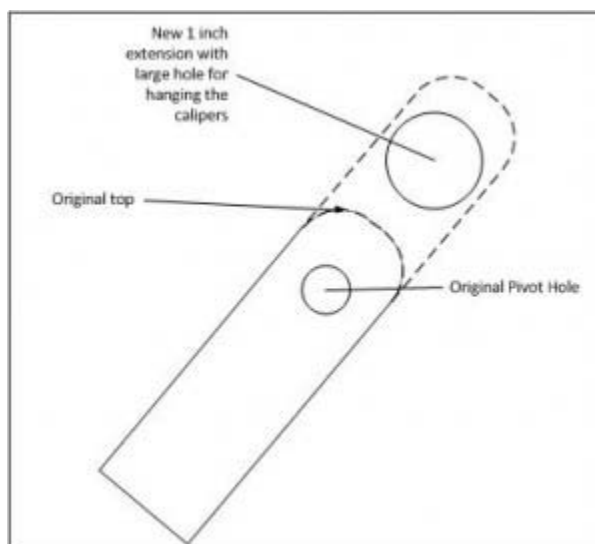
Shop Talk and Tool Tips

The instructions call for 4 quarter inch binding posts from Lowes. I don't have a Lowes close by but finding binding posts elsewhere should not be that hard. At least that's what I thought. I searched two local hardware stores where I've always been able to purchase any size nut and bolt but came up empty. I then tried Home Depot and again could not find them. So I ended up taking a trip to Lowes and found the parts.

I also purchased 4 nylon washers. I placed these between the pieces of wood on each binding post. I thought this would be just as effective and simpler than making my own out of acetate as the instructions indicate.

During assembly I used blue thread locker on the binding post screws instead of CA glue. If the need to disassemble the calipers occurs the thread locker will be easier than trying to break the CA glue bond.

If I make another set, one design change will be to add the ability to hang the calipers from a peg. I would do this by extending one of the long legs an additional inch above the top pivot point to accommodate a peg hole.



The following two pictures shows a vase I'm turning and how the calipers where used to guide me in sizing and shaping the vase.



Help Needed

The club has reserved a booth for a wood turning demonstration at **The Festival of the Senses** in Clinton Township, September 20th and 21st.

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!!!!, to man the booth. We would like at least three people per time slot. There will be two lathes there and we need turners and people to just talk to people. We will be turning small things like tops, boxes and bowls and giving them away to the crowd.

This is a large event and there will be lots of kids there. We never fail to get at least a big smile from whomever we give them to and it's a lot of fun! This is a huge event, with lots going on, last year around 15,000 people attended and I personally sold \$1,000 a day in mine and Lynne's wares.

As a plus, while volunteering at the club booth, you will be able to have items for sale in the booth. If you've never tried selling your projects, this is a great way to get started and finding out how interesting it is to offer your craft for sale!

The volunteer slots are Saturday from 9 to 1 and 1 to 5 and Sunday from 10 to 2 and 2 to 6.

To volunteer or for more info write me at garyc@wowway.com

For more info on the festival itself go to: www.ctfestivalofthesenses.com

We would appreciate your help!

Help Needed

Every year the DAW participates in the **Shelby Township Fall Festival** by providing a booth for a wood turning demonstration, located at the Shadbush Nature Center.

As in past years, we need volunteers to man our booth and to demonstrate wood turning. It's a lot of fun to interact with the people at the festival and it helps promote our club and wood turning.

Saturday, Sept. 14, 2013 at 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM

The volunteer slots are Saturday from 9 to 1:30 and 1:30 to 6

Sunday, Sept. 15, 2013 at 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM

The volunteer slots are Sunday from 10 to 1:30 and 1:30 to 6.

To volunteer or for more info write me at garyc@wowway.com

We appreciate your help!

Wood of the Month - Mulberry

Mulberry



Common Name(s): Mulberry
Scientific Name: Morus spp. (Morus alba, M. nigra, M. rubra, etc.)
Distribution: Red Mulberry is native to Southeastern United States, other species are found worldwide
Tree Size: 30-50 ft (10-15 m) tall, 1-1.5 ft (.3-.5 m) trunk diameter
Average Dried Weight: 43 lbs/ft³ (690 kg/m³)
Specific Gravity (Basic, 12% MC): .55, .69
Janka Hardness: 1,680 lbf (7,470 N)
Modulus of Rupture: 11,680 lbf/in² (80.6 MPa)
Crushing Strength: 6,990 lbf/in² (48.2 MPa)
Shrinkage: Radial: 3.3%, Tangential: 6.6%, Volumetric: 10.3%, T/R Ratio: 2.0

Color/Appearance: Heartwood is a golden brown, darkening to a medium/reddish brown with age. Sapwood is a pale yellowish white. Overall appearance is very similar to Osage Orange.

Grain/Texture: Grain is straight, with a uniform medium texture. Good natural luster.

Endgrain: Ring-porous; large earlywood pores 2-5 rows wide, small latewood pores in clusters and tangential bands; tyloses and other gum deposits common; parenchyma vasicentric, aliform, and confluent; medium to wide rays, spacing normal.

Rot Resistance: Rated as very durable, with good insect resistance and weathering properties.

Workability: Responds well to both hand and machine tools. Turns, glues, and finishes well.

Odor: No characteristic odor.

Allergies/Toxicity: There have been no adverse health effects associated with Mulberry.

Pricing/Availability: Due to its small size and scattered distribution, Mulberry is seldom if ever harvested commercially for lumber. Smaller pieces are sometimes available locally throughout the tree's natural range. Expect prices to be high for a domestic hardwood.

Sustainability: This wood species is not listed in the CITES Appendices or on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species.

Common Uses: Fence posts, furniture, and turned objects.

Comments: Mulberry is perhaps better known for its fruit; the tree's leaves are also the sole food source for the silkworm, which is used to produce silk. The wood itself looks very similar to Osage Orange, though Mulberry tends to be significantly lighter.

Scans/Pictures:

Mulberry (sanded)



Mulberry (sealed)



Mulberry (endgrain)



Mulberry (endgrain 10x)



Links - Suppliers

 **Hartville Tool**

<http://www.hartvilletool.com>

800-345-2396

Woodturning Supplies

Craft Supply

<http://www.woodturnerscatalog.com>

800-551-8876

Woodturning Supplies

Packard

<http://www.packardwoodworks.com>

800-683-8876

Woodturning Supplies

 **Klingspor**

<http://www.woodworkingshop.com>

800-228-0000

Abrasives and woodturning supplies

2Sand.com

<http://www.2Sand.com>

877-644-7445

Sanding Supplies

 **Choice Woods**

<http://www.choice-woods.com>

888-895-7779 or 502-637-1190

Wood, Turning Stock, supplies

New



When ordering be sure to inform the store of your Detroit Area Woodturners membership
(Discounts may apply - usually 10% or Club Credit)

 **Landfill Lumber**

www.landfilllumber.com

586-563-0441

Victor Lewandowski - Wood, Turning Stock

Richard Lauwers

810-724-2263

Kiln dried oak and maple

 **Rockler**

<http://www.rockler.com>

800-279-4441

Woodworking and Hardware

Woodcraft

<http://www.woodcraft.com>

800-225-1153

Woodworking and Hardware

The Sanding Glove

<http://www.thesandingglove.com>

800-995-9328

Sanding Supplies

Log 2 Lumber - Chuck Lobaito

www.log2lumber.com

248-535-5035

log2lumber@gmail.com

Portable Saw Mill

Links - Woodturning Information

AAW - National Organization

[American Association of Woodturners](http://www.americanassociationofwoodturners.com)

Detroit Area Woodturners (Shelby Twp, MI)

Web Site: <http://www.detroitareawoodturners.com/>

Grand River Woodturners Guild (Grand Rapids, MI)

Web Site: <http://www.grandriverwoodturners.org>

Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts

Web Site: <http://www.arrowmont.org/>

John C. Campbell Folk School

Web Site: <http://www.folkschool.org>

Al Stirt: Woodturner, Artist and Teacher

Web Site: <http://www.alstirt.com>

Michigan Association of Woodturners (Holly, MI)

Web Site: <http://www.michiganwoodturner.org>

Blue Water Area Woodturners (Richmond, MI)

Web Site: <http://www.bluewaterareawoodturner.org>

Ohio Valley Woodturners Guild (Cincinnati, OH)

Web Site: <http://www.ovwg.org>

Marc Adams School of Woodworking

Web Site: <http://www.marcadams.com/>

Woodcraft of Sterling Heights (586) 268-1919

Web Site: <http://www.woodcraft.com>

John Jordan Woodturner

Web Site: <http://www.johnjordanwoodturning.com>

Need Your Help

From the Editor

Articles are due at the monthly meeting (for example submit at or before the October meeting for the October Newsletter) and should be submitted to Roger Meeker at rmeeker26@gmail.com .

Member Projects

If you have a woodturning project that you would like to showcase to our club members, you can send me detailed information about your project with pictures.

Articles on New Woodturning Techniques and Tools

If you come across an article, wish to write an article on a new wood turning technique, care to write a review or want to forward on a review of a new wood turning tool, please feel free to do so. Any photos will be helpful.

Shop Talk

Everyone has a different way of doing things in their shop and everyone's shop is different in many ways; whether it's size, location, or physical layout you are probably doing something that would be helpful for others to see.

Members Questions & Answers

Members are asked to submit woodturning, finishing and tool questions to our resident experts to answer. There are no dumb questions; someone else in the club may have had the same questions.

Classified Ads

Ads for woodturning and woodworking related items are free to members. Send detailed information with pictures.

Wood to Turn

Do you have wood, need wood or know about wood that is available for turning? Let me know and I'll pass it along

From the Editor, Again

Let's make this newsletter something interesting, if you send it, we'll publish it.

Footnote

If possible, please send a digital file (I don't type very well). Thank you!