

Feeling disjointed? Coming unglued? Falling to pieces?

Our February demonstrator, CRW Charter Member Aaron Gesicki, will be discussing the fundamentals of segmented turning, from design to finish turning. You'll learn about what makes a good simple design, how to choose and prepare the lumber, how to cut segments with the best combinations of results and cost, how to prepare and glue segments and with what and how to prepare and glue rings. Finally, he'll turn one of his simple but elegant 3-tier bowls so you can see what works and what doesn't right on the lathe. Finally, he's agreed to donate this demonstration bowl to the club as a raffle prize. For \$2 a ticket you may get to take this one home with you once it's completed and finished, but you have to be present to win.

Remember to bring your chair.

PrezSez:

Our club is growing which is a good thing. But with that, we must face the fact that we will need a permanent location. We are growing out of our ability to meet in members garages and workshops. We can still do this on occasions, but it would be most beneficial to have all our equipment and supplies in one central area. At our next meeting, I would encourage everyone to come, just to look at the building and facilities because we have an opportunity to have this as a permanent location if we want it. Aaron knows the manager of the Boys and Girls club in Sparta and we have the chance to see how this location will fit our needs. This does not have to be our permanent location, but it may be worth having this place to use for the winter months and at times when we have difficulty finding a good location due to weather or other obligations. The officers would like to take the time to get the opinions of the membership at this time. We have been looking for a place to meet and this is closer than the Tomah location (20 minutes east of La Crosse).

The officers are also looking for a couple of men/ladies to volunteer to be on a committee to help us find a permanent site. This is going to be a heated topic for the group and this will be needed if we plan to keep growing or just be a breakfast type club. Having a site will enable the group to meet at other times with the more experienced turners to help develop other skills by having classes and many other uses.

This has been a fairly cold winter, but a normal winter from what I remember as a kid. You have to be careful at intersections where the piles of snow makes it difficult to see other cars. I bet many members in our club remember the bright balls people would have on their car's antennae to help see each other at intersections. I hope people have had time to do some woodturning time between all the shoveling of snow.

The last meeting on sharpening tools is an important step for beginning turners because a person will struggle and get frustrated if their tools are not sharp. A person cannot learn the proper cutting techniques if your tools are not sharpened properly. We did not have enough time to cover this subject well and we can repeat it if requested. Ask about it at one of the other meetings and some of the more experienced members will help you with sharpening. That is what is so great about our club, everyone is willing to help others.

Remember to bring your pieces for the Maple Burl Challenge, and whatever other items you want to bring for the club to see. —John Fisher—

January Meeting



Didn't get a newsletter ??

I try to get the newsletters published about 10 days before the next meeting. If you haven't received the newsletter and it's 1 week before the meeting, then send me an email (ustby@charter.net) or call me (608-781-0914) and I will make sure you receive the newsletter. *Art Ustby*

CRW Mission Statement: *To promote, to educate, and to inspire ourselves and others in the fine art of turned wood.*

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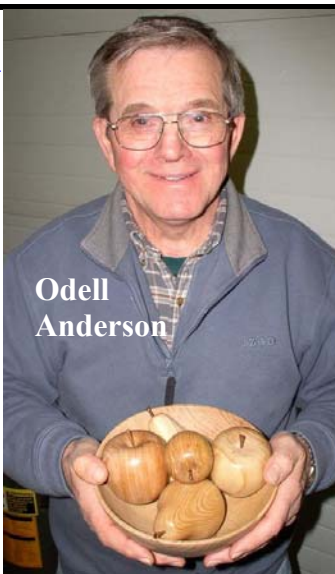
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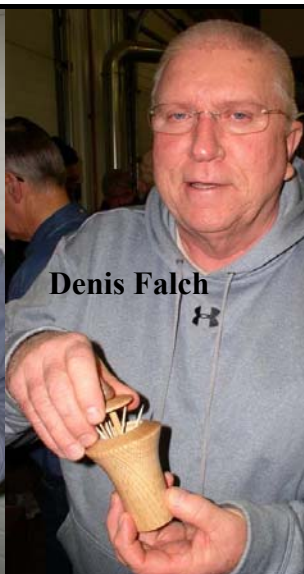
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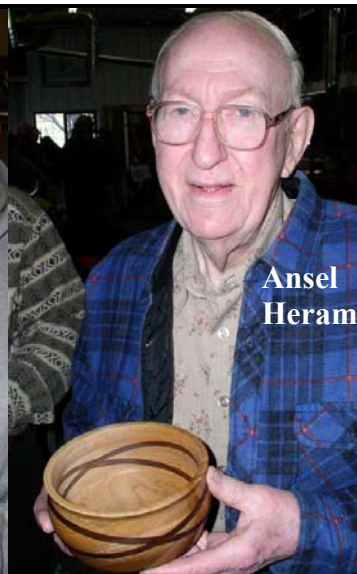
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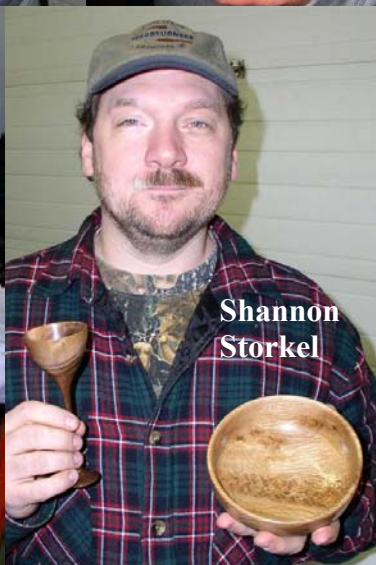
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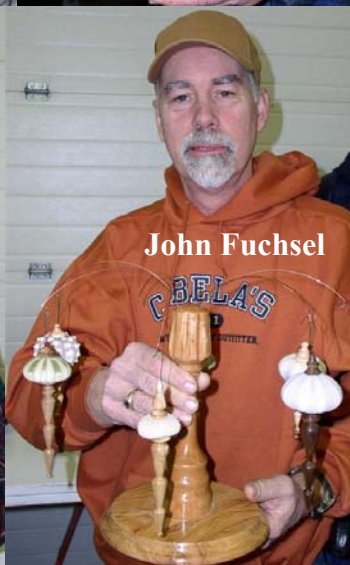
Steve Sevede



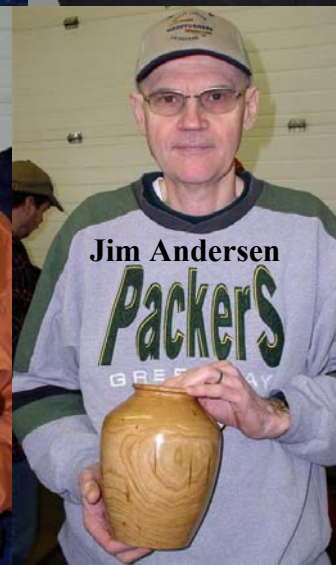
Duane Hill



Shannon
Storkel



John Fuchsel



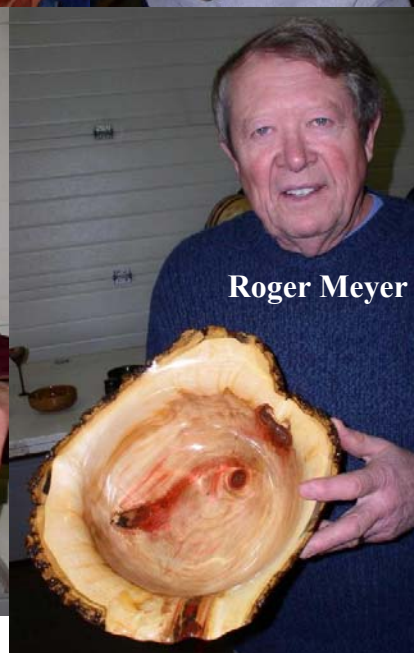
Jim Andersen



Jody Kronebusch



Rich Egan



Roger Meyer

Time to start planning your summer road trip:

Utah Woodworking Symposium:

The 2008 Utah Woodturning Symposium will be held May 22-24 at the Utah Valley State College in Orem, Utah. This is a change from previous years. Check their website for more details.

<http://www.utahwoodturning.com>

AAW Symposium:

The 2008 AAW Symposium will be held June 20-22 at the Greater Richmond Convention Center in Richmond, Virginia. Check their website for more details.

<http://www.woodturner.org/sym/sym2008>

Midwest Woodturning Symposium:

July 25, 26, 27 in Mundelein, IL

Guest demonstrators include: David Ellsworth, Alan Lacer, Binh Pho, Dick Sing, Steve Sinner, Curt Theobald, & Jacques Vesery. Rotation topics include: Basic Woodturning, Tool Handling, Sharpening, Hollow vessels, Natural-Edged Bowls, Platters, Thin-Walled Turning, Goblets, Segmenting, Surface Treatments, Jigs, and more. There will be something for everyone! Reservations start in February. Check the Chicago Woodturners website for more information.

<http://www.chicagowoodturners.com/index.htm>

Upcoming A-Line Demos:

February 23—8am to noon—Simple Vases & Bowls—Duane Hill

March 8—9am to 11:30am—Routers/Tables/Bits & Blades

Annual Spring Show—March 21-22 10am to 6pm

Upcoming CRW Meetings:

February— Program: Aaron Gesicki will demonstrate the basics of segmented work. Location: Sparta Boys & Girls Club.

March - Program: Business Meeting—Discussion and Direction of the Club's Future. Location: Days Inn in La Crosse

April – Program: John Jordan. Location: B&B studio

May – Program: TBD. Location: TBD

June – Program: TBD. Location: TBD

July – Program: TBD. Location: TBD

August – Program TBD. Location: tentatively at Shorty's in Alma.

September – Program TBD. Location: Reilly's in Elgin, MN.

October – Program: Duane Hill will make Xmas ornaments and Tom Mruz - Music boxes. Location TBD.

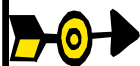
November – Program: TBD. Location: TBD

December – Program: TBD. Location: TBD

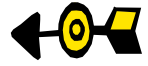
Program Leaders:

February— Dennis Snider

Wanted: People to be leaders for upcoming CRW meetings. Also looking hosts for 2008 meetings. If this interests you talk to one our board members.



FOR SALE



- 10" Delta contractor table saw with extension table, mobile base, uni-fence, 2hp motor, one years old. I would like \$800.00.

- Compound miter saw with stand \$150.00

- Looking for a 60's model Dewalt radial arm saw and floor standing drill press

Paul Woelper 507 895-1036

Area club websites.

Minnesota Woodturners Assoc.

www.mnwoodturners.com

Zumbro Valley Woodturners

www.zvwoodturners.org

Northwood Woodturners

www.northwoodturners.com

Chicago Woodturners

www.chicagowoodturners.com

REMINDER: LAST CALL FOR DUES!!!

Membership for 2008 will be \$35 for the year. Please make your check payable to "CRW," or cash is acceptable also. You may pay at the February meeting or mail your dues to:
Pam Reilly / CRW Treasurer
720 Riverwood Court
Elgin, MN 55932

New for this year – family members of paid members may join for \$15. For example, a member and their spouse would have a total annual membership fee of \$50.



*******THIS WILL BE YOUR LAST NEWSLETTER IF YOUR DUES ARE NOT PAID BY 2/29/08. All nonpaid members as of 2/29/08 will be removed from the current membership roster and from the emailed newsletter, unless they have made prior arrangements with the Treasurer either via email at gpreilly@embarqmail.com or by phone at (507) 876-1195.*******

Don't forget

Maple Burl Challenge is coming up. All pieces in the Challenge will be due at the February meeting. There will be four categories; Most Unique, Most Artistic, Most Functional and Best of Show.

March meeting:

will be held at the Days Inn on French Island (near the La Crosse Airport). This will primarily be a business meeting to discuss location possibilities and club direction.

February Open Shop Night

Open Shop Nights: Tuesday - Feb 12 & Feb 19. Open Shop Night is held on selected Tuesday evenings from 7 PM-9 PM at Duane Hill's shop (808 Quincy in Onalaska). The topic is whatever you wish to discuss or try, providing it is woodturning related.

Location Committee:

We are looking to establish a Location Committee which will be looking for a permanent meeting location. We are looking for 3-4 members to volunteer for this committee and one member to chair. If you are interested, talk to one of the officers.

Some guidelines for the "ideal" location are:

- Size 30' x 50' (Gautsch's is 30x60; Falch's is 36x36)
- Will accommodate at least 50 people
- Parking available for 50-60 cars
- 220 and 110 V service available
- Bathroom Facilities
- Lighting
- Storage space to lock up tools
- One level with open access (garage door or similar)
- Centrally located for club (La Crosse, Onalaska, La Crescent, Holmen)

Time To Watch A Video:

Watch this demo by Jean-Francois Escoulen, he is from France, I met him at one of the AAW Symposium's. It is a very interesting video and also gives us another tool that could be used to improve our woodturning skills.

Escoulen makes and sells an eccentric Chuck System that I have seen him demonstrate.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bMDPE8i4LiQ&NR=1>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l3Fvo4smGZk&NR=1>

— *Lyle Solem* —

John Jordan is Coming!

The April meeting will be replaced with a two-day session with John Jordan, one of the biggest names in woodturning. He'll be demonstrating on Saturday and Sunday, April 19 & 20, 2008, at the B&B Studios in Onalaska. Here is his bio, verbatim from his website.

John Jordan is a woodturner from Cane Ridge (Nashville), Tennessee. Known primarily for his textured and carved hollow vessels, John has been featured in nearly every major turning exhibition the past twenty years. His work has received numerous awards, can be found in many corporate and private collections, and is in the permanent collections of over twenty museums, including the Renwick Gallery of the Smithsonian in Washington, DC, the High Museum of Art in Atlanta, the Museum of Art and Design in New York City, the Hunter Museum of Art in Chattanooga, the White House in Washington, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, the Mint Museum of Craft + Design in Charlotte, the Fine Arts Museum, Boston, the Detroit Institute of the Arts.

John is in great demand as a demonstrator/teacher, traveling extensively teaching at universities, craft schools, turning groups and trade shows throughout the US, Canada, the UK, France, Japan, New Zealand and Australia, including an annual week or two at world famous Arrowmont school of Arts and Crafts and Anderson Ranch in Snowmass Village, CO. His work, along with articles he has written, is frequently seen in publications in several countries, and can be found in numerous books on woodturning and craft. He has also produced three instructional woodturning videos, which are very popular.

John's pieces are initially turned on the lathe, from fresh, green logs, using a number of techniques and tools that have evolved over the years. Each piece is then hand carved and textured, using a variety of different hand and small powered tools. This texturing process is very labor intensive, and can take as much as several days to weeks to complete. There is little room for error during this carving- one small slip can ruin the piece. A light lacquer finish is applied to most pieces, including the dyed work.

These two days with John will cost you \$70 and includes a sumptuous meal in the middle of each day. To assure that you get a place in the audience, early registration will be necessary. Because of logistics, we will limit attendance, so don't delay your commitment. In addition, early registration will be limited to paid members of CRW. There will not be any one-day attendance options.

There will not be a formal, club-organized 3rd day for hands-on training with John. If, however, anyone or any group wishes to do this privately, they are welcome to do so. Please contact Aaron Gesicki who will so advise John. Aaron will facilitate the coordination of this especially since it involves travel and accommodations. The deadline for finalizing this 3rd-day arrangement will be March 1. On March 2 John will make his travel arrangements and advise us of his costs for this event.



Rumor has it.....

You can see club member, Roger Meyer, at the Chanhassen Dinner Theater in the Twin Cities on Feb 16. Not acting, but enjoying his 70th birthday with his wife, Congratulations Roger, many more to come !!!

Let's get to know our trees

The Mighty White Oak

Quercus alba, of the Beech family.

This grand tree is valued by many people and woodland animals. They will typically grow a straight trunk with a broad crown growing in lower elevations. They will normally grow 50-70 feet tall and sometimes reach 100 feet while crowning out to 50-80 feet wide. The tallest known White Oak being 144 feet high. If it is grown in an open area it will develop into a massive broad topped tree with limbs that grow at odd angles.



The leaves of the white oak are gray or silver to pink when new, dark green on top and pale green on bottom in summer, brown/dark red/gold in fall and are 4-8 inches long and up to 5 inches wide. They are alternately attached with 5 to 9 rounded lobes.



The bark of a white oak is light gray broken into scales.

Its flowers are green catkin 1 to 3 inches long and 1/8 inch wide, composed of many small flowers. They appear when the leaves are 1/3 grown. These are the male flowers and will appear in May or early June. The female flowers are not noticeable to the naked eye.

The tap root will grow first and then it will sprout on top of the ground. This makes them very difficult to transplant. The tap root can be 4 feet long and there may only be 6 inches of growth above the ground. This tap root will disappear with age.

I have found that there is some question as to what zones they will grow in. I have found them advertised as zone 5-9 and also 3-9. They will grow in light shade to full sun in moist, wet or dry soils, in sandy soil or loam and in a wide pH range (3.7-7.3). White oaks are a long lived tree 150-250 years with some over 600 years. They are salt tolerant but susceptible to oak wilt causing gradual death. But unlike the red oaks, they can be treated.

The best time to prune your white oak is in winter or early spring.

“White Oak” is a specific tree, but it is also a general grouping of trees that includes: bur oak, chestnut oak, Oregon white oak, swamp white oak, overcup oak, swamp chestnut oak, chinquapin oak, and post oak.

There are two main reasons that the White oaks are so valued. One is the wood (discussed later) and the other is their acorns. There are a whole host of critters in the woods that love to eat the acorns. People love the acorns as an attractant to hunt and photograph the animals that come to eat and store them. The acorns are green turning brown in the fall and will be 1/2 to 1 1/2 inches long with a cap covering the top 1/3 of the nut. They are edible after the tannin is removed. This can be a time consuming task and is rarely done anymore. The tannin is what makes an acorn taste bitter. The white oaks are less bitter than the red oaks due to less tannin in them.

The wood!

The wood of the white oak is used for many different things. It is used extensively in Japanese martial arts weapons because of its density, strength, resiliency and low chance of splintering if broken by an impact. To protect the tree in Japan from over harvest, it is illegal to cut down a white oak tree. Other uses are: lumber, furniture, flooring, whiskey barrels, crates, ships, railroad ties, timber bridges, dyes, wood fuel, truck beds, mining timbers, caskets, and more. A fast grown oak tree with wide rings, is heavy and stronger than slow grown oak. This is a coarse textured, heavy, straight grained, stiff and strong wood with a specific gravity of .6 (green) and .68 (dry). It has a closed cellular structure that does not allow water to pass making it great for ships and barrels. The lumber will shrink considerably while drying but is considered very resistant to decay, making it great for ships and barrels. The sapwood is white to very light brown, while the heart wood is light to dark brown.

“This heart wood is resistant to impregnation with preservatives.” I found this last statement interesting. If white Oak is considered “very decay resistant”, why would you want to add preservatives to it? I could not find an answer.

The wood machines, glues and holds fasteners well. It will tend to split when nailed unless it is pre drilled.

My favorite feature of white oak wood is the beautiful quarter sawn lumber.

— *Shannon Storkel* —

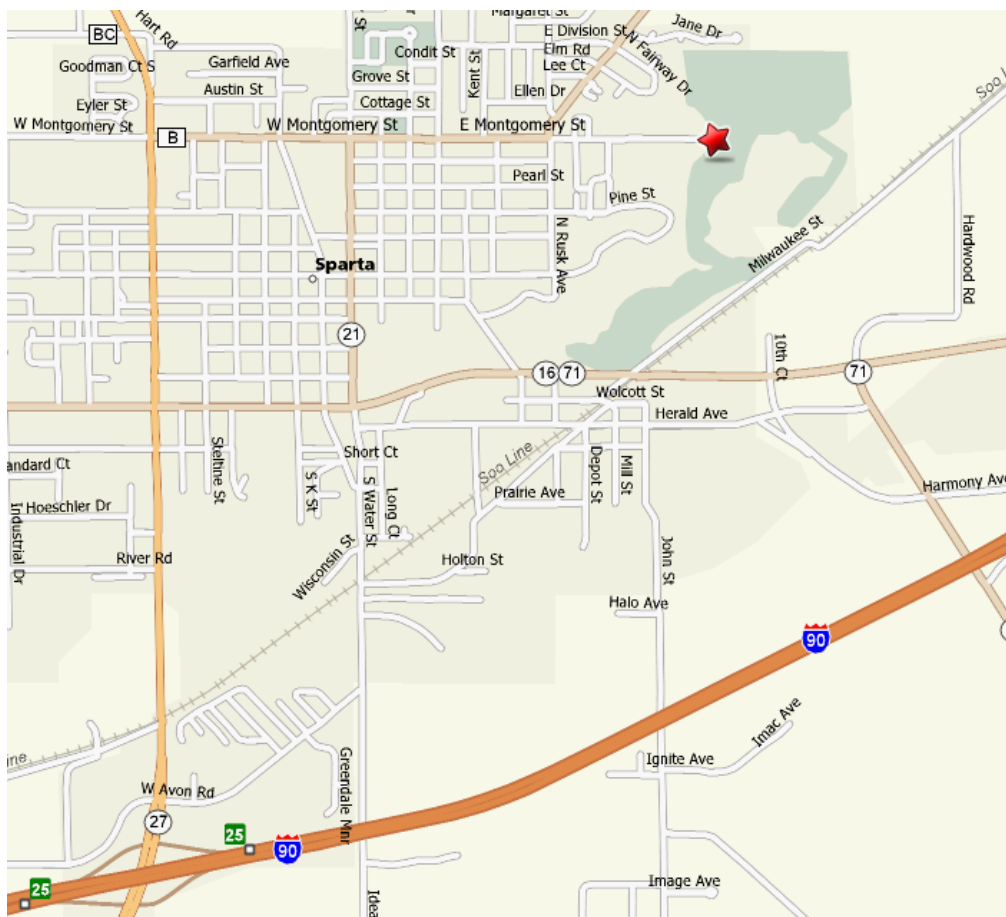




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"A Turn For the Better"



**Next Meeting —
February 23, 9am
Boys & Girls Club of
Sparta
1000 E Montgomery St
Sparta, WI 54656**

Remember to bring your chairs.