

GREEN WOOD

May 17—9am—Onalaska Community Center

At the May meeting, I plan to discuss and demonstrate some options we have when turning “green” wood. I’ll cover some of the species of wood to use or avoid, some design considerations, advantages and disadvantages of using green wood, tool choices, and some of the finishing options we have. If time permits, I’ll try to turn both a vase and a bowl from green wood. It should be good for a few laughs, and we might even learn something.

Green wood turning fits well with my preferred design style. Most of my pieces tend toward a more rustic or primitive look instead of a formal, precise configuration. I like some natural edge, a little warping and twisting (fits well with my mental outlook), and emphasis on the natural color of the wood itself. It also lets you quickly start on some pieces of the latest “free wood windfall” you may have come across.

— *Lee Goehring* —

PrezSez: This has been a long winter; we still have not had many warm days. I am just going to cut my grass for the first time this year and it is May already, so much for the Global Warming Theory. The weather will probably go from heating to air-conditioning without much in between.

The last meeting with John Jordan was really great. He gave us many insights to how wood reacts by where we cut the wood from the log. He approached cutting and forming the pieces different from other professional demonstrators. I sure enjoyed his humor and quick wit; he was very at ease in front of a large crowd. I would rate him as one of our better professional turners that the club has brought in.

We should thank our past and present Program Committee Coordinators for bringing in such great demonstrators. I have belonged to other professional groups, but these never brought in any really great people like our club has. I was looking at the number of people that have signed Bill Gautsch’s lathe and could not help thinking of how fortunate our club has been to see all these highly regarded turners. To see these people in our own little club is great. You do not get many opportunities in life to see the best and at a very reasonable cost. Watching and learning from these people will save much learning time for the members of our club that are seriously trying to improve their work.

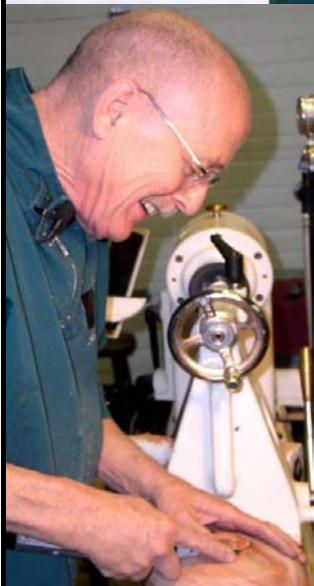
Our club is about to embark on a new chapter, having a meeting in a new facility that will be our semi-permanent location. This will give us many advantages for the future and we have much work to do to make this a good transitional change. We still have to modify this facility to provide a place for our library and future equipment to save on moving the lathe in and out constantly. We need to consider purchasing a large lathe for the club and modify some of the present tools. To make this work we will need volunteers to help set up for each demo and people to help clean up after each event. Not every one realizes all the work that goes on to get things ready for each demo, like getting the coffee pot ready and started so everyone has warm coffee and all the setup required to have the equipment in place ready to go.

Sorry I will not be at this first meeting but I will be out of town on a special trip.

See you in June and happy turning.

— *John Fisher* —

April Meeting



Volunteers needed!

The Program Committee needs some additional members. Currently Aaron Gesicki, Lee Goehring, and Rich Egan comprise the committee, and they could use some additional input from a few volunteers. As you can see elsewhere in the newsletter, the demonstration program for the next year is almost complete. But to keep this yearlong lead-time, as well as coordinating the monthly meeting, will be easier if Programming can get some additional help.

Most of the time the interaction is via emails and occasionally by telephone, so it doesn't require much if any travel. Please consider joining. It's not a permanent thing, so if you try it for a few months and then need to withdraw that won't be a problem. Any additional input, even for a short time, is welcomed and appreciated.

—Aaron Gesicki—

[April Gallery](#)



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

CRW OFFICERS

President:

John Fisher

(608) 526-4692
minnow1974@charter.net



Vice President:

Dennis Snider

(608) 779-1294
dsnider@centurytel.net



Treasurer:

Pam Reilly

(507) 876-1195
gpreilly@embarqmail.com



**Secretary
 Newsletter Editor:**

Art Ustby

(608) 781-0914
ustby@charter.net



BOARD MEMBERS

Librarian:

Jim Frank

(608) 781-8092
jhfbear@centurytel.net



Tool Czar:

Jim Cox

(608) 786-2327
cswoodworking@charter.net



Webmaster:

Ken Grunke

(608) 625-2412
kengrunke@gmail.com



Program Director:

Aaron Gesicki

(608) 269-7559
amysaaron@centurytel.net



CRW Club Mentors

Aaron Gesicki All areas of turning. Heat treating
 Sparta, WI. and tool making. Tool steel and
 (608) 269-7559 tool metallurgy
amysaaron@centurytel.net

Shannon Storkel Fundamentals
 Tomah, WI.
 (608) 374-2242
stork1@centurytel.net

Pam Reilly Boxes & surface enhancement
 Elgin, MN.
 (507) 876-1195
gpreilly@embarqmail.com

Bob Patros Fundamentals
 La Crosse, WI.
 (608) 788-6839
rjpatros@gundluth.org

Ken Grunke Experimental techniques,
 La Farge, WI. tool making, and metalworking
 (608) 625-2412
kengrunke@gmail.com

John Fisher Spindle turning
 Holmen, WI.
 (608) 526-4692
minnow1974@charter.net

Duane Hill All areas of turning and
 Onalaska, WI. finishing.
 (608) 783-0883
dlh@dairynet.com

Greg Haugen Turning fundamentals
 Chaseburg, WI.
 (608) 483-2988
ghaugen@live.com

John Jordan Demonstration Thank You!

We thank you all for not using equipment tables and storage shelves for drink and food repositories. (We had some pretty funky surprises in the past!) Next is a thank you to those who came on Thursday after their work day and Friday much of the day to move equipment out of sight and do the wiring set up for the audio-visual needs. And then to those who not only stayed and helped with the general clean up, but graciously helped put all the shop equipment back into respective positions, hooked up to dust collection and power.

THANK YOU - ALL!

We have had some questions about our future direction with the club and our retirement. We are taking a break to summarize and prioritize what we wish to accomplish while we have good health and the capacity to travel. We are traveling soon and will miss the first meeting at the Community Center. It's a great opportunity for a consistent and reliable meeting center centrally located for the membership. We are looking forward to enjoying future meetings, turning projects and demonstrations with the club and its great membership.

— *Bill & Brigitta* —

For Sale:

As I am going about the process of reorganizing my shop and garage, I have come to the conclusion that I have waaaay too much wood. I have free turning wood available to any and all comers. Take as much as you like (as long as I don't want to keep it). I have several species available, in various stages of drying. The cost is you haul it.

Also, for you segmented turners out there, I have some special stuff for you. I have several walnut and butternut boards that are taking up space. The walnut is rough cut, in various sizes and widths. Cost is \$50. The butternut is various sizes. Cost is \$25.

Finally, I have a small utility trailer, 4' x4', with side boards. Great for hauling wood, lawnmowers, snow-blower, etc. Cost is \$150. Two 4' shop lights, \$5 gets you both of them. I also have a box of free goodies. Either stop by or give me a call (Duane Hill 608-783-0883).

May Open Shop Night

Open Shop Nights will be Tuesday, May 13 and May 27. Open Shop Night is open for all turners who have questions about woodturning, want to try something new or just want to talk woodturning. The place is Duane Hill's shop (808 Quincy in Onalaska). Time is 7 PM to 9 PM.

Mayonnaise

Most people don't know that back in 1912, Hellmann's mayonnaise was manufactured in England. In fact, the Titanic was carrying 12,000 jars of the condiment scheduled for delivery in Vera Cruz, Mexico, which was to be the next port of call for the great ship after its stop in New York.

This would have been the largest single shipment of mayonnaise ever delivered to Mexico. But as we know, the great ship did not make it to New York. The ship hit an iceberg and sank, and the cargo was forever lost.

The people of Mexico, who were crazy about mayonnaise, and were eagerly awaiting its delivery, were disconsolate at the loss. Their anguish was so great, that they declared a National Day of Mourning, which they still observe to this day.

The National Day of Mourning occurs each year on May 5th and is known, of course, as Sinko De Mayo.

Tip for the Month

For safety, when turning a piece in cross grain orientation (bowl), use the following formula for lathe speed guidelines: $6000 \geq \text{Diameter (in inches)} \times \text{Speed (in rpm)} \geq 9000$; 6000 for roughing, 9000 for finishing.

Example, 10" diameter bowl should be turned between 600 & 900 rpm.
Or, as Bill Grumbine says, if the lathe is moving, you're going too fast.

Time to start planning your summer road trips:**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 CRW Meetings:

May 17 – Program: Green to Completion by Lee Goehring. Location: Onalaska. Meeting Leader: Mike Henderson

June 21 – Program: Turning Corian & Finishing Bowl Bases. Location: Onalaska. Meeting Leader: TDB

July 19 – Program: Inside-Out Turning by Denis Falch. Location: Falch Shop—Winona. Meeting Leader: Lyle Solem

Aug 16 – Program: Turned Door Stops by Greg Haugen. Location: Shorty's in Alma. Meeting Leader: Duane Hill

Sept 20 – Program: Xmas Ornaments by Duane Hill. Location: Onalaska. Meeting Leader: Lyle Solem

Oct 18&19 – Program: Pro Demo—Boxes by Mike Stafford. Location: Onalaska. Meeting Leader: TDB

Nov 15 – Program: Specialty Tools by Aaron Gesicki & Greg Haugen. Location: Onalaska. Meeting Leader: TDB

Dec 13 – Program: Complex Segmented with Veneer by Aaron Gesicki & Ansel Hiram. Location: Onalaska. Meeting Leader: Duane Hill

Jan 17 – Program: Pepper Mills by Greg Haugen. Location: Onalaska. Meeting Leader: TDB

Feb 09 – Program: Large Hollowing. Location: Onalaska. Meeting Leader: TDB. Meeting Leader: TDB

Mar 09 – Program: Pro Demo –Calabash. by Stuart Batty. Location: B&B studio. Meeting Leader: TDB

Apr 09 – Program: Multi-Center Work. Location: Onalaska. Meeting Leader: TDB

May 09 – Program: Tool-making by Aaron Gesicki. Location: Onalaska. Meeting Leader: TDB

Jun 09 – Program: Thin to translucence. Location: Onalaska. Meeting Leader: TDB

Butternut
Juglans cinerea

General Description

Butternut (also called “white walnut” or “oilnut”) is a species of walnut native to the eastern United States and southeast Canada. It is a deciduous tree growing from 40 to 60 feet in height and 12 to 24 inches in diameter with a 30 to 50 feet spread. A large mature tree will rarely reach a height of more than 100 feet and a diameter of 36 inches. This small to medium-sized tree is short lived, seldom reaching the age of 75 years. Butternut is generally considered to be more winter-hardy than black walnut. Butternut grows quickly, but is rather short-lived for a tree, rarely living longer than 75 years. Butternut is very susceptible to fire damage, and although the species is generally wind firm, it is subject to frequent storm damage. The bark is light gray.



Leaves

The leaves of butternut are alternate and pinnately compound. They are composed of 11 to 19 leaflets, each being 2 to 5 inches long. The midvein of the leaf (where the leaflets attach) is hairy. Black walnut leaves generally have more leaflets (15-23) compared to butternut (11-19). The leaflet size of black walnut is typically smaller than butternut. Also butternut leaves are hairy on their midvein, while black walnut is hairless. The whole leaf is downy-pubescent, and a somewhat brighter, yellower green than many other tree leaves.

Flowers

Yellow-green catkins will be produced in spring at the same time as the new leaves appear. Butternut flowers from April to June, depending upon location. The species is monoecious; male flowers are slender catkins that develop from auxiliary buds and female flowers are short terminal spikes borne on current year's shoots. Flowers of both sexes do not usually mature simultaneously on any individual tree.

Nuts

The fruit is an oblong-ovoid pointed nut 1.5 to 2.2 inches long, that matures in September and October of the year of pollination. Nuts occur singly or in clusters of from 2 to 5. The kernel or seed of the nut is sweet, oily, and edible. The nut is enclosed by an indehiscent husk that contains a glandular pubescence (covered with sticky hairs) on the surface. The fruit usually remains on the tree until after leaf fall. Commercial seed-bearing age begins at about 20 years and is optimum from age 30 to 60 years. Good crops can be expected every 2 to 3 years, with light crops during intervening years. Thrifty trees may yield 9 to 0.25 to 1 bushel of cleaned seeds. A high percentage of mature seeds are sound, but high premature seed losses in butternut have been reported. Possible causes include consumption by insects, birds, and rodents as well as natural pollination failures. Upon ripening, seeds are dispersed by gravity and by squirrels and other rodents. At this time, the seeds are dormant.

Continued on next page

Cold stratification for 90 to 120 days at temperatures of 68° to 86° F overcomes dormancy. Squirrels and other rodents are aggressive consumers of butternut seed, and frost, anthracnose leaf spot, insects, and lack of pollination can reduce yields of viable seeds.



Rooting Habit

On favorable sites the root system is deep, but it also may be wide spreading.

Growing

Although young trees may withstand competition from the side, butternut does not survive under shade from above. It must be in the overstory to thrive and, therefore, is classed as intolerant of shade and competition. The minimum size opening needed to establish and promote early development is about 2 to 3 times the height of the surrounding dominant trees. Competing vegetation must be controlled when planting seeds or seedlings to maintain vigorous growth. Seeds of butternut usually germinate in the spring following seed fall and a cold period (34-41° F) of 90 to 120 days to break dormancy. Stumps of young butternut trees and saplings are capable of sprouting. Also, butternut can be propagated by grafting, although the techniques have not yet been perfected. Butternut produces a substance called juglone, a naphthoquinone that is selectively toxic to associated vegetation. Greatest concentrations of juglone are in root tissue and fruit husks with lesser amounts in leaves, catkins, buds, and inner bark. This juglone will help with devegetating the area and minimize the competition for growth. Butternut grows rapidly on well-drained soils of hillsides and stream banks in mixed hardwood forests. Butternut is found most frequently in coves, on stream benches and terraces, on slopes, in the talus of rock ledges, and on other sites with good drainage. Butternut is easily grown but must be transplanted early because of the quickly developing root system.

Currently no butternut selections are available that have known canker resistance. A few healthy butternut trees have been found growing among diseased and dying trees and may be resistant to the disease. Seedlings planted in areas with diseased trees will probably become infected. Healthy seedlings planted where the disease is not present likely will survive.

Butternut is closely related to black walnut so many of the recommendations for seed collection, storage and for planting are similar for both species.

Suggested Tree Retention Guidelines

Butternut is a relatively short-lived tree, and stress from old age and competition often leads to root diseases, decays, infection by other fungi, and invasion by wood-boring insects, resulting in tree death unrelated to butternut canker. If butternut canker is responsible for the loss of crown volume, there is almost always evidence of stem canker. Vigor of individual trees in managed woodlots, urban, or other high-value landscape settings may be increased by proper pruning and tree care. To try and conserve any potentially canker resistant trees:

- 1) Retain trees with more than 70 percent live crown and with less than 20 percent of the combined circumference of the stem and root flares affected by cankers.
- 2) Harvest dead or declining trees to salvage the quality and value of the wood, or maintain the trees in the forest for their wildlife value.
- 3) Retain trees free of cankers with at least 50 percent live crown and growing among diseased trees. These trees may be resistant and have value for propagation by grafting or for future breeding. Efforts are underway to locate potentially resistant trees in native forest stands. You can contact the USDA Forest Service North Central Forest Experiment Station in St. Paul, MN, for further information if you find a healthy butternut.

Continued on next page

Uses

The nuts are usually used in baking and making candies, having an oily texture and pleasant flavor. The husks are also used to make a yellowish dye. The tree produces nuts for wildlife and is important for commercial nut production. Its wood is light in weight and takes polish well, is highly rot resistant, but is much softer than Black Walnut wood. Oiled, the grain of the wood usually shows much light. However it is more valued for its nuts than for lumber. The soft coarse-grained wood works, stains, and finishes well. Small amounts are used for cabinetwork, furniture, and novelties. It is a favorite of woodcarvers. Nuts are especially popular in New England for making maple-butternut candy.

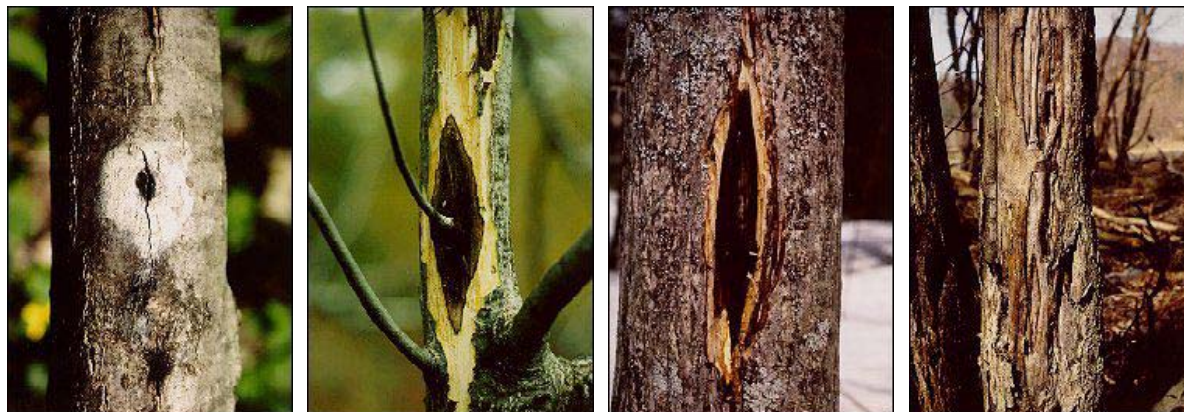
Disease

Butternut may be headed for the Endangered Species list. It is seriously threatened by an introduced canker disease, caused by the fungus *Sirococcus clavignenti-juglandacearum*. In some areas, 90% of the Butternut trees have been killed. Completely free-standing trees seem better able to withstand the fungus than those growing in dense stands or forest. The fungus is spread by a wide-ranging vector, so isolation of a tree offers no protection. It is also known to parasitize other members of the walnut family on occasion, and very rarely other related trees including hickories.

Pycnidiospores are released during rainy periods. When the spores make contact with wounds or broken branches, they germinate and penetrate deep into the tree to produce cankers. Later, the fungus will produce mycelial (the vegetative part of a fungus) mats of stroma (supportive framework) and mycelial pegs. Most cankers are covered with bark cracks and shredded bark above cankers in late stages. Breeding for resistance is important for fighting butternut canker. While standard practice has been that infected trees should be removed to prevent further spread, there is a growing opinion that the time for this is past. The disease has now been found in virtually all parts of the butternut range. Additionally, it is suggested that "removing diseased trees" is a guarantee that infected, but not dying trees, ie. those that are specifically "partially resistant" to the fungus, will be killed; eliminating any chance of increased resistance in progeny. Instances are known of long-term survival of pure butternuts infected by the canker. Recent reports have shown that the fungus can be internally seed-borne, so seeds should be subjected to intense quarantine protocols; most especially if destined for plantings where the disease is not already established.

Disease description

Young, annual cankers are elongated, sunken areas commonly originating at leaf scars and buds, often with an inky black center and whitish margin. Under the bark, the fungus forms pegs that break through the outer bark surface, exposing the spores. Peeling the bark away reveals the brown to black elliptical areas of killed cambium. Older, perennial branch and stem cankers are often found in bark fissures, or covered by bark and bordered by successive callus layers. Cankers develop throughout a tree, but commonly occur on the main stem, at the base of trees and on exposed roots. Butternut is the only natural host known to be killed by the fungus. The fungus can survive on dead trees for at least 2 years. It is spread by rain splashed spores, possibly by insects and birds, and perhaps by seeds.



—Shannon Storkel—

From one of our charter members:

Well, reluctantly I had to finally drop out of the Coulee Region Woodturning Club. It was a hard, hard decision because I have met so many fine people and developed some good friendships. The club means a lot to me because I was a charter member, met so many good people and learned a lot more about woodturning than I ever would have without the club. About the time I was looking for a club to join and finding none available, I received an e-mail from Duane Hill inviting me to a meeting at the La Crosse Library to talk about forming a club. I can't remember, but it seems we had 10 or less people show up. Our first meeting place was at the Woodcarving Club building in La Crosse. We soon outgrew it and continued to grow. One of my favorite things to do was to attend club meetings. Not just for what I learned but for the social aspect of it. I truly enjoyed talking to fellow members. In the Fall of 2004, I sold my home in Dover, Minnesota and moved to New Richmond, Wisconsin. I fully intended to continue my membership since I felt the trip would be doable once a month. What I did not take into account was that gasoline would become so expensive. I hated to give up and continued my membership until this year. It finally became obvious to me that I could not attend the meetings and made the decision to drop my membership. I won't name any names because there are just too many and I might miss someone but thank you all for a fantastic experience. My woodturning skills have increased tenfold because of the club and the members that shared their expertise with me. A big thank you to both Aaron and Art for doing the newsletter. I never realized the work and time it entails until I started to do the newsletter for my local Kiwanis Club. Thanks to Bill Gauth for being our Treasurer for so many years and a very special thanks to Duane for not only having the foresight and drive to get the club started but for serving as our President for about the first 5 years. Without Duane I don't think the club would exist. So, so long friends and I hope to be able to visit now and again.

— *Charlie Cadenhead* —

New Richmond, Wisconsin
cadnhead@frontiernet.net



Check out his turnings at: www.woodturner.etsy.com

Area club websites.

Minnesota Woodturners

www.mnwoodturners.com

Zumbro Valley Woodturners

www.zvwoodturners.org

Northwood Woodturners

www.northwoodturners.com

Chicago Woodturners

www.chicagowoodturners.com

Request for your tips and tricks...

Please send me any of your tips and tricks. I would like to add a new section to the newsletter containing shop tips and tricks. If you have any, just email or call me and I'll put them in the newsletter.

Thanks for your support. — *Art Ustby* —

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* —

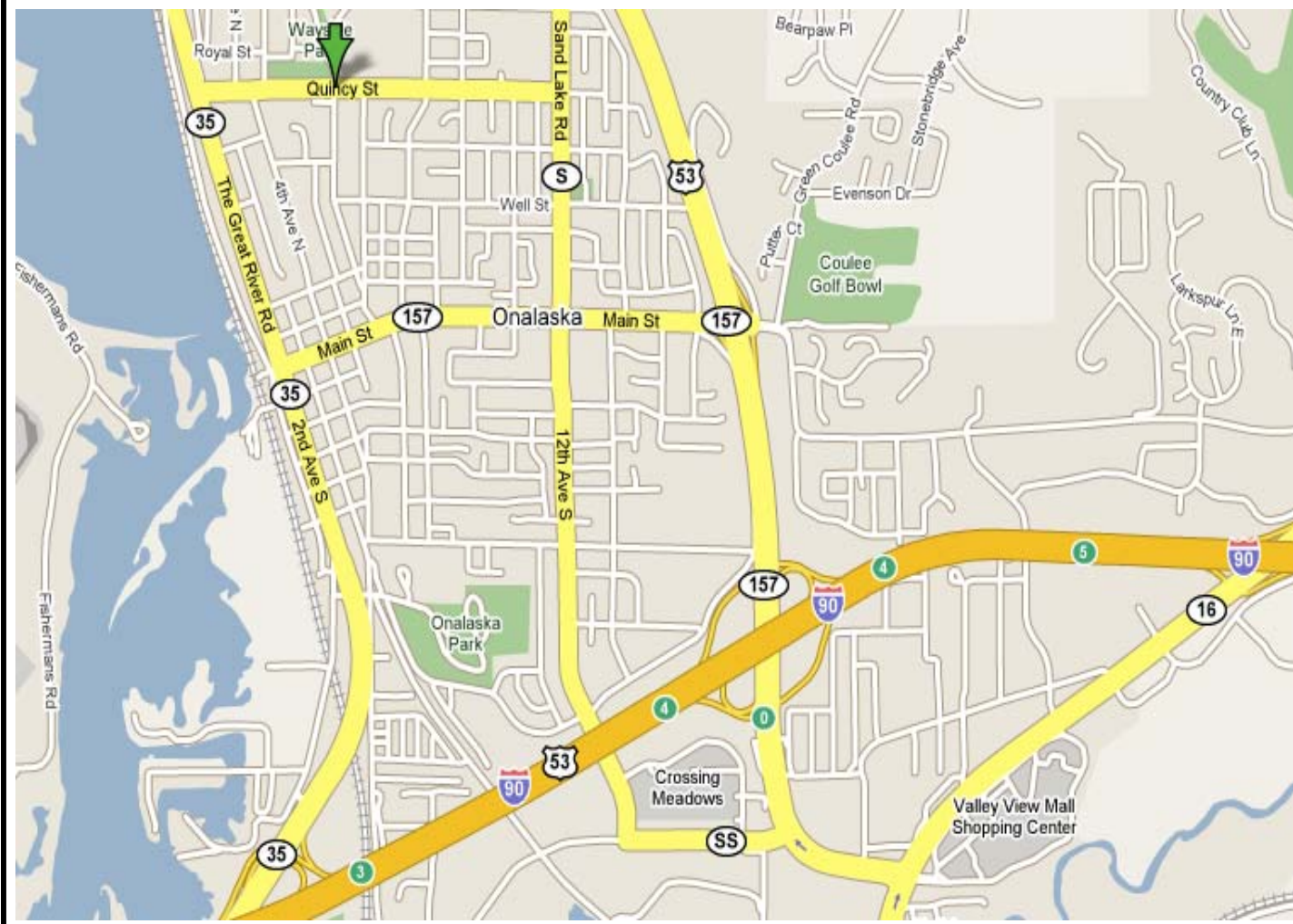
Check the website of one of our members

I have recently made my own website. I'm very proud of it. Check it out and let me know what you think.
www.greghaugenwoodturning.com

— *Greg Haugen* —



The club's new meeting location is at the Onalaska Community Center at the intersections of Quincy & 6th Ave North in Onalaska, Wi. There is a parking lot on the north side of the building. The entrance is on the north side also. **Chairs are provided.**





Art Ustby, Secretary / Editor
1923 Wood St.
La Crosse, WI 54603
Phone: 608-781-0914
Email: ustby@charter.net

"A Turn For the Better"

**Next Meeting—
Onalaska Community
Center on Saturday,
May 17, 2008 at 9am.**

Here's a map to help those who aren't sure where we meet. It's the Onalaska Community Center at the intersections of Quincy & 6th Ave North in Onalaska, Wisconsin.

We'll start the program promptly at 9am, so get there early to avoid getting a Uecker Seat.

Chairs are provided.

We'll have coffee, so donuts are ALWAYS welcome.

