

One Good Turn

Coulee Region Woodturners



Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners

July 2023

www.crwoodturner.com

Volume 23, Issue 07

Next Meeting Saturday—July 15—9:00 AM

We are meeting at Luther High School in Onalaska. With shop enlargement construction underway, use entrances towards the front. We'll probably be meeting in the Cafeteria atrium. Look for signs on the doors.

CRW Activities Schedule

July 15	Wendell Ziegler Club Challenge	Tops and other small things. 2X4X4 Challenge
Aug. 19	Lyndal Anthony	Deep hollowing green wood with new tool.
Sep. 16	Rich Egan Club Challenge	Offset Turning Whimsical Item
Oct. 21	Jay Johnson	Penmaking
Nov. 11	Mark Palma Club Challenge	TBD (Remember, second weekend) Piece with moving parts
Dec. 16	Round Robin	Christmas Party Potluck

2023 Exhibitions

AAW's Gallery of Wood Art, Landmark Center, Saint Paul

**July 1–December 31, 2023: Out of the Woods (AAW's 2023 member exhibition)
Ongoing: Touch This! Around the Hus—Turning in Scandinavian Domestic Life**

Vintage and historic lathes — Turned items—Exhibits and For Sale

Visit <https://www.galleryofwoodart.org/>

FOUND IN THE WOOD CHIPS UNDER MY LATHE - from John Griffiths

Hello members. I'm hoping you had a happy July 4th Holiday, and the fireworks didn't cause too much sleep loss. (Wow, I sound like a grumpy old man. Well, I will admit to being sorta old but usually am not terribly grumpy.)

A member sent me this tidbit about burning lines on your wood turnings without burning down your shop. It seemed worth passing on to others, so here it is:

HEALTH & SAFETY

When scorching detail lines, especially with a wire held on the wood, considerable heat is generated to produce the scorching.

This can result in small embers, so ensure the lathe bed and surrounding work area is cleared of all shavings prior to commencing the task. Having an appropriate fire extinguisher or fire blanket on hand is a sensible precaution to take. It is advisable not to run a local dust extractor, as this could result in live embers being drawn into the dust collection sack, which presents an obvious danger.

It is also worth keeping in mind that the wire will be very hot after use, and will burn skin on contact. Place the wire somewhere safe to cool down.

39 Once you are satisfied with the turning on all three legs, begin sanding. Start with about 120 grit and run through the grits to about 400.



I am hoping all of you have filled out the survey about club meetings. The board wants to make them more attuned to the reason we gather on those Saturday mornings and watch wood chips being made. One question was about meeting order. At the June meeting we began with the Instant Gallery, then had the Demonstration and after those were complete, we held the Business Meeting. We want to organize the order of the meetings to best meet the desires of the members and to advance wood turning as an art and a craft.

We have some interesting activities coming up at our meetings. At our July meeting Wendell Ziegler will demonstrate making tops and other small things. And

most of us recall Wendell's interesting demos.

Remember also we will have the 2x4 Challenge at the July meeting. The rules are simple, start with a construction grade two-by-four that is four feet long maximum. Or you can get fancy and start with a purple heart or cocobolo one if you want. Then cut, glue, turn; and then cut glue and turn again, it that is what your project calls for. Just keep at it until it is done and bring it on in. Everyone who brings a challenge piece qualifies for an extra cup of Jay Johnson's fine coffee and an extra sweet if you choose.

[cont'd on P.3]

FOUND IN THE WOOD CHIPS UNDER MY LATHE - from John Griffiths [cont'd]

Our August meeting will be a dandy. If hollowing is your thing, you won't want to miss that meeting. Lyndal Anthony will be demonstrating the use of his new hollowing tool, designed for deep hollowing end grain vessels. It has a carbide cutter and is billed as easy to use. And the good news for getting a nice interior finish right off the tool, it cuts rather than scrapes the wood away. Mr. Anthony has demonstrated for our club before, and he will put on a great demo. He is from the club in Platteville WI. Bring your checkbook, credit card, or cash, as he will be selling his tool. Creating hollow forms is always fun and produces wonderful pieces.

Because of the construction going on at Luther High School, we will be using the commons so park toward the front of the building. And come closer to 8-AM if you can help with the set up.

Against the Grain

Welcome to July and the beginning to the latter half of the year. Hopefully it finds everyone doing well and enjoying the warmer weather, and making ships now and again.

Luther has begun their expansion of the shop space, with an estimated return of Dec. So, we will be meeting in the Commons (Cafeteria) space until further notice.

I want to thank everyone for their input on the survey. Your input will help the club in many aspects going forward.

Speaking of the school, the new school year is approaching. With that we will start up with the open shop night, which is our half of the agreement with the school for use of the space. We are planning to adjust the start time after the observations of last year's event. I ask everyone that is willing to teach a concept..any concept in and around woodturning.. please volunteer. We will work with the school administration to bring more flexibility to the event to allow for more volunteers and participants.

Remember, your energy to the club helps drive it forward.

In service

Jim Bloomer

From a fellow Member:

Wham Bam, but.....

The blast, the sound, the pain, what, where did they go, everyone okay? Maybe you've been there? If not, hopefully this won't happen to you.

A hard maple 10" x 6" bowl weighing almost 2.6 pounds almost complete with one coat of finish on. The bottom tenon still needed removal. Easy as pie, right?

I brought my bowl, (going to donate to the Holmen Teachers Empty Bowls fundraiser) to Jim for some advice on removing the tenon, not intending to work on then. A rather nice bowl, wood sourced and roughed out by Jim a year or 2 previous. Had some fissures, holes, and a few other anomalies and some areas with bark still on. I packed the holes with epoxy mixed with coffee grounds, the fissures packed with medium super glue, and thin super glue to secure the bark. A solid bowl now, not with any apparent defects causing safety issues. All in all, making for an interesting piece. Hold on, I'm getting to the good stuff!

After a short discussion, Jim suggested to put it on his lathe, and secure with a vacuum (V) chuck to remove the bottom. A 5-minute job. Easy as pie, right? For me, nothing happens in 5 minutes!

We placed the bowl on the V chuck head, inside of bowl facing the drive spindle, tuned on pump, but no vacuum. Replaced seal on V chuck head, placed bowl on chuck again, brought up live center to ensure concentricity resulting with good centering of the bowl. Okay now we had vacuum, maybe 30" of Hg (vacuum pressure measured in inches of mercury). Good enough to hold almost anything. I backed away from the live center. In retrospect, why? And, we had not yet put our facemasks on as still testing the setup. Any red flags here?

Jim was standing at the lathe's headstock end, in the line of fire. I was standing near the tail stock end, probably about 3-4 feet away from Jim. The next thing is a blur as I tried to replay the about to happen incident back in my head repeatedly. Jim turned the lathe spindle on at a speed which was meant to be around 50 rpm, but apparently, the speed control became inadvertently or accidentally moved to a much higher speed. It seemed to me the spindle was traveling too fast, Jim thought maybe around 750 rpm. I'm thinking 1,000-2,000 rpm, but who knows. Be aware, it does not take very long for that 3 horse to ramp up.

In an instant, the sound, the pain! Thank God Jim turned the lathe off so quickly or more mayhem would have resulted. Holy sh_t, we look around, what just happened. Bowl parts had been flying everywhere; with lots of small and several large pieces, most with many sharp edges. Slow motion camera action would have made an interesting movie. I think some of you get the idea or can see that movie in your mind.

We got our wits together, assessed our wounds, cleaned up a bit. Jim's right hand, wrist, forearm bloodied, my left forearm bloodied. No facial injuries, so lucky! Kris and her dog were okay, luckily not in the line of fire. But where is the line of fire?

Thank you, Kris for rendering First Aid. Jim said he needed to visit Urgent Care, I drove. I'm thinking the medical center would say "Oh, not again" Surely, the banter would begin! Jim's injury was a small fracture at base of index finger, requiring a splint and nasty open hand and forearm skin wounds requiring antibiotics and steri-strips for the skin wounds. Looking to 6 weeks for healing. Bob, superficial forearm skin wounds and bruising, one lucky guy!

So, what do we learn by this real-life story? In my view, some suggestions are listed.

Turn off TV, radio, other loud sound source, or at least mute sound - it's difficult to concentrate with potential distractions. It's extremely important to be able to hear the sound of tool interactions with your turning object and the sight and sound of the turning object.

Wear safety glasses while in the shop, even when doing set-up work. Put face shield (ANSI Z87+) on before any application of power to the lathe.

Always start lathe with spindle speed turned down. With a variable speed lathe, one can ramp up speed to a desired and safe speed prior to applying any turning or other tool to the project. If you have a slow/soft start lathe spindle, that would help.

Probably good idea when turning off the lathe to turn down spindle speed control to off as a matter of practice.

Spin project by hand when using V chuck head, faceplate or 4 jaw chuck to insure the project does not fall off and is concentric.

If using V chuck head, turn on vacuum pump, adjust vacuum level to the object being held, grab project by hand to assess if project is sufficiently held. In general, larger surface area objects may require lower vacuum pressure. Smaller surface area objects may require higher vacuum pressure.

When removing the tenon on the bowl bottom, bring the live center up to and engage your turning bowl. Turn the object at a safe slower speed, removing the live center only when necessary to remove the last small knob left at the bottom.

When bowl turning, stay out of the “danger zone” or “firing zone”. This area is directly behind and in front of the workpiece, the area most likely for a piece to travel into as it comes off the lathe. Stand slightly off to the side when turning. Keep your hand on the switch in case you need to turn the machine off when initially turning on the machine.

When observing someone else turn, stay out of this zone.

Sleeves- short sleeves insure clothing will not get caught in the turning piece, my usual attire is short sleeves or long sleeves rolled up tightly, with a turning smock worn. Cotton material may tear if caught in the turning object, nylon or polyester may not. If you must wear long sleeves, insure they are tight around your arms and wrist.

However, I know my long sleeves (2 layers) protected my skin from worse lacerations for this accident.

Yep, as most woodturning magazines state, “woodturning is an inherently dangerous pursuit. Readers should not attempt the procedures described herein without seeking training and information on the safe use of tools and machines”.

Do you fill out the club’s insurance form when visiting each other’s shops to do stuff? Probably a good idea, huh?

As for that ill-fated bowl, its only wood- not a big deal. I’ll maybe reassemble the pieces, hang on the shop wall. I’m getting back on the horse to make another. My wife calls me the “safety boy”, possibly I’ll hang a safety reminder sign next to my lathe station. Stay tuned and keep turning my friends (safety first) of course as accidents can happen with blinding suddenness.

For more information on woodturning safety, consult the AAW’s website, see the section on Safety.

<https://www.woodturner.org/Woodturner/Woodturner/Resources/Safety-Materials/Safety.aspx?hkey=cdeaf206-8e2a-4b92-9efb-fd28922a10fe>

Bob Raasch

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

CRW Officers



President

Jim Bloomer

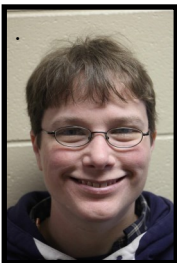
marine9096@gmail.co



Vice President

John Fisher

jdcrow1956@yahoo.com



Secretary

Kris Clough

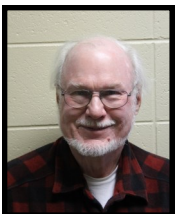
mogoldfish@yahoo.com



Treasurer

Jay Johnson

javejohnson099@centurytel.net



Program Director

John Griffiths

griff@mwt.net

Technical Advisors



Newsletter Editor

Aaron Gesicki

303-551-2450



Club photographer

Kevin Vossler

kvosslerwi@aol.com



Librarian

Jack Fitzpatrick



Webmaster

Ken Grunke

608-625-2412

kengrunke@gmail.com



Tool Czar

Bob Raasch

608-769-3833

raaschb@charter.net

CRW Club Mentors

All areas of turning and finishing. Duane Hill
Onalaska, WI. 608-397-9526

wisawdust@charter.net

Segmented Turning. Phil Miller La Crosse, WI.
792-1497 mpmopc@gmail.com

Experimentation, tool making, and metalworking.

Ken Grunke La Farge, WI 608-625-2412

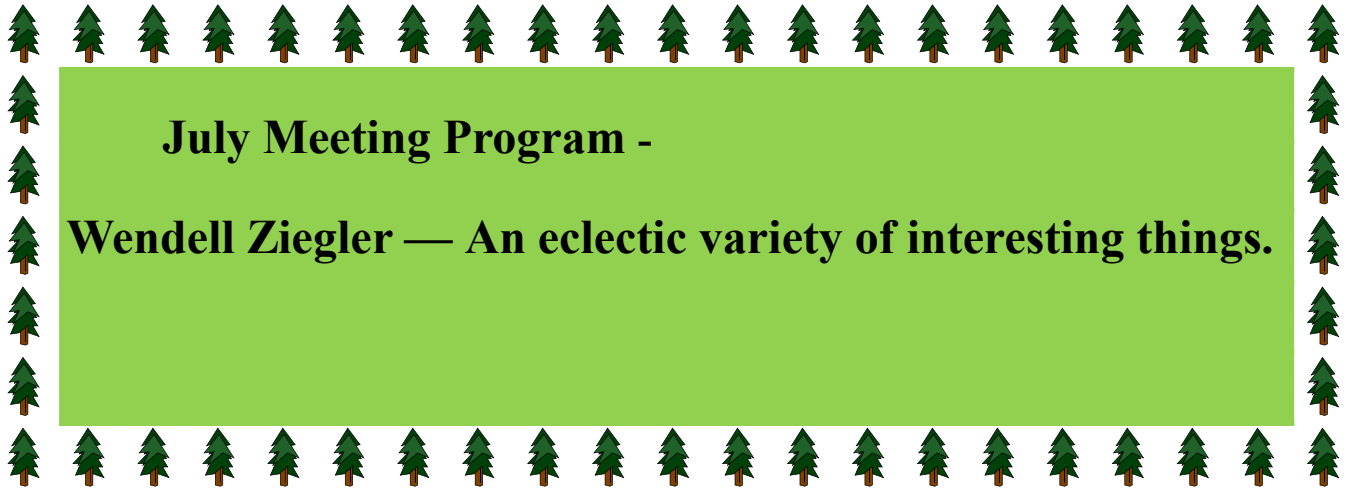
kengrunke@gmail.com

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



Aaron Gesicki / Editor
1317 Woodpark Road
Winona, MN 55987
Phone: 303-551-2450
Email: AaronAGesicki@Gmail.com

"A Turn For the Better"



Next Meeting

Saturday

July 15, 2023

Here's a map to help those who aren't sure where we meet. It's the Luther High School Shop. 1501 Wilson St, Onalaska, WI, 54650
608-783-5435

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

We'll have coffee, so Chocolate donuts are ALWAYS Welcomed.

