

NORTH COAST WOOD TURNERS NEWSLETTER

October, 2014 - NCWT's 28th Year as an AAW Chapter

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Cindy Drozda Demo

Today's long awaited demonstrator was Cindy Drozda. Cindy showed us how to make a small lidded box with one of her signature finials. She also showed us how she sharpens her tools using a CBN wheel on our grinder. More about that later.

Cindy started out by showing us how to make various cuts with several different tools. All these cuts would be used in making the lidded box. She went into great detail on design elements and had some nice drawings to reinforce what she talked about. Many of the design elements are related to scale, basic shapes, and some common sense.

I am not going to try and write a step-by-step article about her demo. There was simply too much information she conveyed. I'll try and hit some of the high points along with pictures so you get the general idea.

Cindy turned the finial section of the box first. After some initial shaping, she started at the very top of the finial and worked her way down. The top is the thinnest part, and once you turn a section down that far, you don't go back. So take your time, be sure you are in control of your tool, and think before you cut.

Cindy broke down the finial into sections and showed us how to shape each one. She would finish each detail before moving on.

After Cindy parted off the finial, she took a small block of cocobolo to use as an insert which would become

a contrasting detail to the inside of the opening to the lidded box. It is the red piece shown in the drawing here. The small base on the bottom of the drawing is also taken out of the same



piece of cocobolo. Nothing is wasted. Several steps later, this is what the insert is starting to look like.



Using some specially ground tools, Cindy has the insert almost to final shape. The fine edge shown here is what will surround the finial when



the piece is finished. She makes it look very easy.



Next it was time to start shaping the box itself. This didn't really take too long at all. When dealing with small turnings, it is a good



idea to have all your steps in the proper order and think 3 or 4 steps ahead.



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Cindy Drozda Demo (con't.)



Cindy reversed the piece at this point and used a jamb chuck to hold it in place. After removing some waste from the bottom, she started shaping the leftover piece of cocobolo from the insert. A little final sanding and here's the finished product. Very nice.



overheat the tool. They are available in different grits and are supposed to last a very long time before they wear down. Cindy has these available for sale on her website, which is listed below. I was very impressed with how sharp and smooth a finish the CBN wheel left on the tool. She made it look very quick and simple to do. But suffice to say, she has had plenty of practice.

Cindy put on a very good demo, if you missed it, try and catch her some time at one of the symposiums. She really knows her tools and turning techniques, and is a fine instructor also.

Website address:

Cindydrozda.com



Here's a picture of the CBN grinding wheel that Cindy used to sharpen her tools. They come in a number of different grits, this one happened to be 180. After setting the initial angle of the tool rest, she did everything else freehand. These CBN wheels are very intriguing. They are machined from steel, so they run true and are balanced. They tend to absorb any heat from the sharpening process so as not to

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President's Turn

An Opportunity to Experience a Symposium



The 2015 AAW Annual International Symposium will be held in Pittsburgh next June. It will begin Thursday, June

25th and close Sunday the 28th and will be my first experience at a woodturning symposium. I've heard through several of our club members that these events are not to be missed, but I haven't even made it to a regional one such as the Ohio Guild's near Cincinnati, or the Totally Turning event in Sarasota Springs, New York. Next year it will be different.

For our members who are new to the club, and possibly even new to turning, the main attractions are the international professional woodturners who demonstrate, the galleries of turned objects displayed to view or to purchase, and the vendors, some of whom will demonstrate in their own booth. The pros turn in rotations through the weekend and you choose who you will watch and when. In between demos, you can check out the galleries, exhibitions, showcases, and the vendor areas.

Since Pittsburgh is relatively close, and it will be an opportunity

for me to see more well-known professional turners during one weekend than I normally see in a year, I'm planning on going. I don't know what the exact cost of this adventure will be, and the pro turners who will demo are to be named later, but I'll start saving some funds and look forward to seeing at least a couple of my fantasy league turners. One of our guys is planning on going to three symposia next year, so I should be able to justify going to one of them, right?

I'll have another bit of incentive to attend next year, and so will you. Since the AAW considers clubs within a couple hundred miles or so to be something akin to "local hosts", we will be asked to help make the 2015 event a success. Not just by attending, but by volunteering to help with the several dozen different functions that are part of an international symposium. Think of the logistics involved in bringing a slew of pro turners and vendors into a convention hall to meet with several thousand woodturning enthusiasts and maybe family and friends. It sounds like quite an effort.

The Pittsburgh AAW chapter, Turners Anonymous, is already working on this since their club meets only a mile away from the David L. Lawrence Convention Center where all the action will take place. As a matter of fact, one of their members will visit us on Octo-

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President's Turn

ber 4th to help get the ball rolling. David Dudney, the Symposium Liaison Chairman, will make a short presentation to us, explain what has to be accomplished, answer our questions, and of course, enlist our help. He attended the 2014 Phoenix Symposium so he will be up to date on how the AAW currently handles this huge event.

Dave told me that they will need about 250 volunteers. As you can imagine, they'll need people to stuff and hand out informational packets, help with registration, AAW product sales, the Instant and Auction Galleries, the demonstration rooms, the areas for teaching young turners, and entertaining our spouses. There will also be openings for us to assist with the video systems, equipment and tool functions, grinder set-up, local wood procurement, and demonstrator and vendor assistance.

I've seen a PowerPoint presentation that describes all of the various functions in more detail and addresses the timing requirements. For example, people who help with the handling of inbound shipments or room set-up may even be asked to start on Wednesday the 24th. Dave will no doubt share all of the information he has, and will answer your questions on the particulars. If you'd like, I can email the PPP to you.

From what little I know, the Instant Gallery is a chance for every

registered attendee to bring a few pieces to the show that would be displayed, photographed, and possibly sold! There are other opportunities including a silent auction, several exhibitions or showcases, and numerous chances to learn or win something. They will need volunteers to staff these functions, so maybe you can see them from both sides.

So for those of you who will also jump at the opportunity to see some world class turners, several galleries filled with incredible pieces, and vendors that you haven't been able to see easily (read Robust lathes, CBN wheels, and out-of-state wood sources), now is the chance to start planning and saving for it. For those who have gone to multiple symposia, it would be great if in the months to come, you would share your thoughts with our members who might need a push toward Pittsburgh. Let's do it!

Happy and safe turning,
Rick Weinbrenner

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Meeting Minutes

By Ken Nuzum

President, Rick Weinbrenner

called the meeting to order at 9:30 and made the following general announcements:

Rick welcomed guests and indicated that there was a fee of \$25 for visitors today since there was a professional demonstrator. He pointed out Don Wilhelm and the visitor sign-up sheet.

Rick reminded members of the upcoming McCardel equipment, tool, and wood tag sale. An email will be sent with information and a map. Rick encouraged members to consider running for one of the open board positions, Vice President, Newsletter Editor, and at-large board member. The club officer and board positions will be open for nominations in October and elections to be held in November.

Vice President, Dan Maloney reported on upcoming demos and activities. October meeting will be mini demonstrations including finishing, spindle turning, and butterfly patches.

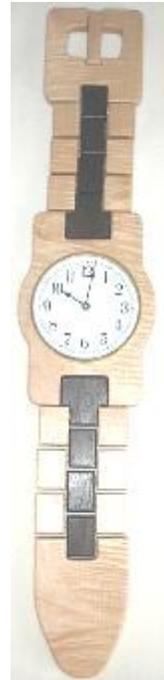
Newsletter Editor, Mike Hawkins acknowledged members who have made Beads of Courage boxes. He also announced that demonstrators are needed for the November 15th Woodcraft demo day from noon until four.

There were no secretary or treasurer reports.

Treasurer did indicate that the following people were added to the roster: Bob Stone, Megan Caine, Carl Kudrna, Greg James, John Ryan, Jim Shuster, Penni Shuster, and Joe Smith.

The abbreviated business meeting was adjourned. Dan Maloney introduced the professional turner, Cindy Drozda who demonstrated turning a finial box with insert.

Name Tag and the Show and Tell drawing winners were drawn at the midmorning break



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Meeting Minutes (con't.)



The Sunshine Guy

John Dilling is the Club's Sunshine person. If you know of a club member who is ill or needs some cheering up, call John and he will be happy to send a nice card on the Club's behalf. John's number and email are:

(330)-887-1227

jdilling@neo.rr.com

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Turn & Learn

There was no Turn & Learn contest today.

The Show & Tell raffle winner

I didn't get the Show and Tell winner, sorry.

The Show & Tell unusual piece award

was given to Mohammed Youseffi. Mo turned a vessel with a nicely carved exterior. Nice work Mo.

TURN & LEARN PROJECT FOR September-

The Turn & Learn project for October is a Cheese Platter and knife based on the Brian Becker demo. Platter can be any type of wood.



Nametag Winner: The winner of the nametag drawing was Tom Sasalar. Tom won a nice blank donated by King Heiple.

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Cindy Drozda Sunday Class

Looks like everyone was busy in Cindy's class on Sunday.



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Something to think about...

By Ken Nuzum

If any of you have ever had to be an executor of an estate or handle disposal of the possessions of a family member, you will understand what I have experienced in the last couple of years. After handling all the legal hassles comes the real hassle: figuring how to dispose of that deceased person's possessions. I think my experiences are typical; no idea of what promises may have been made to other relatives and no idea what might be the value of many of the items. You realize that no matter how well you thought you knew the wishes of that relative, you know only that you are guessing too much about what that relative would really want you to do.

With this recent experience still clearly in my mind, my wife and I both decided we wanted to direct the disposal of our assets and make it easier on my son who would be our executor. We are both heavily involved in craft hobbies - a lot of material and tools that would need to be disposed. We just didn't like the idea of strangers "pawing through our stuff" at some auction or garage sale. What we would most want is for our things to go to people who would treasure them just like we had. We simply wrote our son a directive. First, let our close relatives take what they want, and then give the remainder to our craft organization to sell or use as they see fit.

It is so much easier on our son to know that as he does his job as executor he is making decisions with which

we would be pleased. And it is comforting for us to imagine the tools or wood that I loved will continue to bring enjoyment to fellow woodturners.

I guess the primary reason I am writing this is the hope that others will have also thought what they want to happen and communicate those wishes to whomever will handle your estate. Write down your specific wishes and then give those instructions to your executor. Our organization is able and willing to assist your executor as long as there is no restriction on the disposition other than that the benefit will go to North Coast Woodturners. Believe me, your executor will appreciate your preparedness and thoughtfulness.



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Show & Tell



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Show & Tell (con't.)



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Club Updates

Woodcraft Demo Day

This year's demo day at Woodcraft will be Saturday, November 15th. Time will be from Noon- 4 pm. We have room for 6 turners with 3 spots spoken for so far. We also need at least one person to act as a host to talk to people that are watching the demos and get their contact information if they wish to be further contacted. I have one volunteer for the host position, but we always use more help.

We will have food and pop on hand both for us and the Woodcraft employees, so no one will go away hungry.

Items to turn do not have to be anything really complicated. In fact, something on the simpler side that observers can see take shape are probably better suited for an event like this.

This is a fun and important day for the Club, as we usually attract some new members each time.

Please contact me either by email or phone to sign up to be there. My email is:

firehawkmp@gmail.com

Phone numbers are:

(330) 467-8640 home

(216) 496-0180 cell

City Hall Showcase

I am starting to get some response for revamping the display case at Brecksville City hall. We need about two dozen items to fill the showcase. They needn't be very large, in fact 12" and under height or diameter is ideal. If you would like to have an item or two on display, please let me know and bring your piece to an upcoming meeting. I would like to get this exchange done before the year is up. The items that are currently on display will be returned to their rightful owners at the next meeting after the exchange. Thanks in advance.

Woodcarver's Show

There is a woodcarver's show at Sauder Village in Archbold, OH on October 25 and October 26, 2014. Many artists will be showcasing their crafted items including Tom Olechiw. For more information go to www.SauderVillage.org

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Club Updates (con't.)

Beads of Courage

Lidded boxes for the Beads of Courage project will be collected each month. See Mike Hawkins at any of the meetings. Boxes should be around 5-6" in diameter and about 4" tall with an easy-to-grab finial on top. The Beads of Courage beads are available through the club. See Ron Sieloff for those. Please only take them as needed. These beads are purchased through the Beads of Courage website.

Please Note: Boxes can be larger than 5-6" in diameter, in fact larger is probably better. When I went to look at some articles on their site, a lot of these kids acquire numerous strings of beads and could really use a little larger box to store them in.

One more thing that may make this project easier is to use dried flat stock lumber for your blank. Cut a number of squares for layers and glue them together. This way you'll have a dry blank that shouldn't be subject to movement, and it's usually less expensive to use flat stock lumber.

If you have any questions, feel free to call me. (Mike Hawkins)

These two boxes, a nicely matched set by the way, were made by Don Wilhelm. Nice work Don.



These next two boxes with some really nice inlays were made by Roger Walker.



Nice job Roger.

Last but not least, this box with cocobolo inlays was made by Len Widmer. Thanks Len.



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Beginner's Corner

“Why I like Woodturning...”

I figured out the other day why I like woodturning so much. A little while back, I got the foolish idea to build some Adirondack chairs, out of real wood no less. While the chairs are turning out to be very nice, the project itself kept getting bigger and bigger.

It all started one day while visiting the local Woodcraft store. I happened to talk to Mike Novak to get his opinion on what would be a good specie of wood to use for outdoor furniture. I didn't want soft woods like cedar or redwood. I was initially thinking cypress until I looked at the price. Mike told me that white oak is an excellent rot resistant wood to use. And to top it off, he just so happened to have a delivery due in the next few days that was going to be half price. That settled it. I patiently sat at home and awaited the call that the shipment had arrived.

A few short days later, there I was, picking through the pile with another fellow. We each took about 100 board feet. I also bought a set of plans that had paper templates for making a single chair and also a double chair with a small table in between. The double chair was all one unit when done.

First step was to swipe a good pair of my wife's scissors, luckily she wasn't home at the time. It took me a couple of hours to carefully cut out all the patterns. Next I looked around the shop and found some leftover pieces of 1/2" furniture grade plywood to trace the patterns onto. I spent the rest of the afternoon cutting out all the wooden templates on

the bandsaw. When I was finished cutting, I fine tuned them on a disc sander and some hand sanding. That was the easy part.



As I started laying out the templates on the white oak, I soon realized that most of the pieces needed to be cut from 1 1/2" thick stock. I ended up at Doll Lumber, where Eric Doll fixed me up with over 100 board feet of 8/4 white oak that was rough sawn. I took it home and spent an afternoon running it all through my planer. It took about 24 passes per board to get it down to 1 1/2". An added benefit was I ended up with over four heaping lawn cart loads of sawdust.



Okay, so now I had enough lumber. Onto some cutting. I made a cut list after analyzing all the templates. Most of the pieces were cut on the bandsaw about an 1/8" oversize. When I had everything cut, I mounted a flush trim bit in my router table and used double-stick tape to fasten the templates to the oak pieces. You have to be careful with your initial approach to the router bit. I had a few catches (yes,

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Beginner's Corner (con't.)

"Why I like Woodturning..."

router tables are related to the skew) and quickly destroyed my light duty flush trim bit.

So back up to Woodcraft. I bought a White brand, 1/2" shank, heavy duty bit this time. Carefully, I was able to trim all the pieces. However this left sharp edges on everything. Back to the router table. Using a 1/4" rounding over bit on the thick stock, and an 1/8" rounding over bit on the 3/4" stock, I put a nice radius on all the edges.

But wait, they're not ready to go together yet. I sanded all the piece with my orbital sander with 100 grit discs. I know that sounds rough, but it was like sanding granite. A disc would last for 4 or 5 pieces. I went through 20 discs before I thought I was done.



Finally it was assembly time. I used the extension table on my table saw for a work plat-

form, as it is nice and flat, and I don't have to bend over. This is when I discovered how poorly written the small instruction pamphlet was. So as I made my way through it, using many clamps, double checking measurements, even pulling out my Starrett square to make sure everything was the proper angle, I got the first chair together.

This is when I discovered that I didn't make enough parts for the second chair. So I took inventory of all the

pieces once again, marking templates with a piece of blue tape with the quantity needed. So it was back to square one and using every machine in the shop once again.

As I was assembling the first chair, I forgot to mention that I bought all stainless steel hardware from a local wholesale company. The screws have self drilling tips, but all the laws of physics cease to exist with white oak. I had to use three different drill bits for each screw I put in. If I didn't, they would snap off before seating themselves. I decided to countersink them also. So back up to Woodcraft to buy some tapered plugs to fill the holes. I decided on walnut, for a nice contrast. There's almost a hundred holes in each chair, so I took the two hundred they had, and ordered another two hundred. Gluing them in and sanding off the remainder sticking up went pretty quick. Orbital sander worked well here.



There were a couple of turned items on each chair. I had to turn a 1" x 19" long dowel for each. The backs of the chairs are



adjustable and needed the dowel for that part. Turning a piece that long and the same dimension is good

practice. I used a parting tool to cut a di-

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Beginner's Corner (con't.)

"Why I like Woodturning..."

ameter every two inches that was about a 1/16" bigger than finish size. I then took very fine cuts to get down to 1". I was able to get within 1/64" all the way across. When I installed the dowels, I drilled through the mounting piece at each end and partially into the dowel. Then I turned some small dowels out of ebony that I glued in and sanded off flush.

As I type this, I have the two single chairs assembled awaiting a finish. I am going to make one of the double units. I have all the pieces cut out and just about ready for assembly. The single chairs are too heavy to lift by myself. I am guessing about 150+ pounds each. I think they are going to stay in my shop. I may turn a pair of wheels for each to mount on the rear support arms to make them easy to move. The double unit will stay up on the deck in the good weather with a cover on it. In the fall I'll bring it in, probably have to arrange for a fork lift then.

I bought a clear satin finish upon Mike Novak's recommendation. It is made by General Finishes and is a water born exterior finish. It can be sprayed, 2-3 coats being necessary. For renewing down the road, a light scuffing with a white scotch brite pad is all that's necessary before re-spraying. Most of the other finishes I look at including marine spar varnish, required sanding down to bare wood and starting all over again.

So, what does this have to do with why I like woodturning so much? I think you probably realize that this type of project I just described takes a lot of time, a lot of energy, a lot of lumber, a lot of machinery, and a lot of patience. Plus it hogs up a lot of valuable shop space. Woodturning on the other hand requires a small chunk of wood, a small space in the shop, many time just an

afternoon or evening, and not much cussing.

Sometimes I can be a glutton for punishment. What started out as a nice idea turned into a much bigger project than I had imagined. Oh, and I forgot to mention the handful of mistakes I found in the initial templates, as the paper ones were poorly drawn and far from accurate. I fixed my wooden templates as I discovered the mistakes. I had several friends and relatives ready to order a few chairs each until I told them I would have to charge about \$800 a piece, and even at that, I would probably be down to about \$5/hour labor. They cancelled their orders quickly. So very shortly, I can finally get back to some fun turning projects.....



NORTH COAST WOOD TURNERS

Meetings- First Saturday of the Month unless otherwise noted

Doors open 9:00 AM, Meeting begins 9:30 AM

Blossom Hill

4450 Oakes Road
Brecksville, OH 44141

President

Rick Weinbrenner
(440)808-8876
rickwein44@gmail.com

Vice-President

Dan Maloney
(440) 871-4129
maloneyd00@gmail.com

Secretary

Ken Nuzum
Kennuzum@gmail.com
(330) 466-3457

Treasurer

Ron Sieloff
Ron.Sieloff@averydennison.com

Member-At-Large

Jim Pugh
(440) 458-6224
jimpugh5@gmail.com

Member-At-Large

Tom Wisnieski
440-233-6486
tw121549@aol.com

Newsletter Editor

Mike Hawkins
330-467-8640
firehawkmp@gmail.com

Publicity and Community Relations Director

Tom Nero
(440) 526-4138

Date	Topic
January 4	Tom Olechiw smoking snowman demo, Show & Tell, Turn & Learn - Christmas tree ornament per Denny Watson demo, Wood Raffle, Nametag drawing
February 1	Spalted wood themed day, Video of Sara Robinson webinar, Show & Tell, Turn & Learn- turned piece using spalted wood, Wood Raffle, Nametag drawing
March 1	Pro Turner Brad Sears demo- Practical pieces, Hands-on Class Sunday, Show & Tell, Turn & Learn- Smoking snowman per Tom Olechiw demo, Nametag Drawing. NO wood raffle
April 5	Adam Alloway resin casting demo, Show & Tell, Turn & Learn- turning from a 2" x 6" x 12" construction grade, Wood Raffle, Nametag Drawing
April 6	Pro Turner Nick Agar, all day Sunday demo.
May 3	Pro Turner Kurt Hertzog all day demo on multiple topics, Hands-on Class Sunday, Show & Tell, Turn & Learn- pepper grinder or vase based on Brad Sears demo, Nametag Drawing, NO wood raffle
June 7	Mike Hawkins banksia pod candlestick demo, Show & Tell, Turn & Learn- Item based on resin casting per the Adam Alloway demo and/or an item based on the Nick Agar demo, Wood Raffle, Nametag Drawing, LET Class on turning banksias pods.
July 12	Tips & Tricks demo, Top spin off contest, Show & Tell, Turn & Learn-Item based on Kurt Hertzog demo , Wood Raffle, Nametag drawing.
August 2	Brian Becker cheese platter demo , Show & Tell, Turn & Learn-banksias pod turning, Wood Raffle, Nametag Drawing
September 6	Pro Turner Cindy Drozda all day demo, Hands-on Class Sunday, Show & Tell, Turn & Learn- TBA, Nametag Drawing
October 4	Club Member demo TBA, Show & Tell, Turn & Learn-cheese platter, Wood Raffle, Nametag Drawing
November 1	Officer Elections, Denny Watson hollow globe ornament demo, Show & Tell, Turn & Learn- Item based on Cindy Drozda demo, Wood Raffle, Nametag Drawing, LET class on hollow globe ornaments
December 6	Annual Auction