

The News

Tool Crib The Tool Tsar has posted a video inventory of our group's tools on the website. Check it out and "take a test drive".

Future Meetings Here is a list of what is planned for the regular monthly meetings. If you have any comments or questions, please air them at the next regular meeting or at the Board Meeting, which you are free to attend. We always need you input.

May 22 The regular meeting will be on the 4th Saturday [NOT the usual 3rd], May 22, and will feature the newest investment by Bill Gautsch, a Bandsaw Mill. We will be making bowl blanks from logs and selling them for a very modest price. Meeting will be at B&B Studios in Onalaska

June 19 At the Falch Studio in Winona, we'll be learning about various remounting methods as well as vacuum chucking. I have been assured that this meeting will really suck.

July 17 Tool day. What would you like this year? We aren't going to be quite so ambitious this year, but we will still be doing grinding and heat treating. Get those requests in early if you feel you have a need for some low-cost tooling.

August 21 We've been very spoiled the last few years by Shorty Mueller and Perry Liljander hosting this meeting at the Alma Aerie. We'll see if Shorty still has plenty of charcoal and chicken. Ken Grunke will demonstrate the making of one of his trumpet vases.

September 11, 12 Bob Rosand, a big name turner from Bloomsburg, PA will be here for two days, September 11 & 12, at B&B Studios. Note that this is not the regular 3rd weekend. Like Dick Sing, Bob is a big guy who makes small stuff, but makes it very well. Plus, he can help those of you who need to improve your ambidexterity, because Bob is left-handed and has a lot of insight into the unique problems lefties encounter when using conventional lathes.

October 16 Ed Holz will be hosting at his shop in Sparta and Duane Hill will be demonstrating some of his mistakes and how he fixes them. So if you want to learn more about mistakes be sure to drive down to the shores of Perch Lake and come to the meeting.

November 20 Gary Friemann will again be hosting at his shop in Spring Grove, MN. No program yet. Volunteers or suggestions, please. The editor did overhear the cranky turner mention that he'd like to hear Aaron talk about those classes he's been teaching and what he's learned from that experience. That sounds a little dry, though. Maybe he could spice it up a little, like showing us how he makes those basidiomycetes.

December 18 In Winona at Falch Studios, we'll have a demonstration of coring systems.

Woodworking School Prairie River Woodworking, in Merrill, WI [actually just south of Merrill, WI at Exit 205—the Hwy Q Exit of I-39] is going to be open for business in May. Mark Duginske and his staff [names like Toshio Odate, Linda Surowiec, Wayne Barton and others will be holding classes in this brand new facility with students learning everything from the bandsaw to the lathe with a few dovetails thrown in with the carving. For information surf to <http://www.prairieriverwoodworking.com>

Nonprofit Status We'll review this in detail at the April meeting. It's an option chosen by many chapters, and it opens some doors for the future, particularly if we become more community active. Private, state, and federal funds are available to "Support the Arts", but almost exclusively to nonprofit groups. Aaron is in favor of this, and has an expert available [pro bono] to assist us in creating the proper legal documents. It's long term planning, most easily done now when both our budget and our membership is small.

Wood Trading Woodturners in Phoenix will be trading wood with CRW. We supply some of our common species and they do the same. If this is of interest to you, be sure to talk to Duane Hill before the next meeting because your wood needs to come to the Saturday meeting or to the shipping dock at Gautsch Transit on Sunday.

Mobiles We still need volunteers to make balloons. Terry Snowden will coordinate and Ansel Heram has volunteered to make the baskets. It's for a good cause.

Nuptials Rich Egan will be married in October. The following comes from fiancée Sally: "Duane—I was wondering if the Wood Turners would be willing to create 20 - 25 turned bowls. ..." There have been some volunteers. See Rich or Duane Hill for info.

Treasurer Report Our cash balance of ~\$2600 gives us some flexibility for future events as well as an opportunity to add to our library. Suggestions are solicited.

Bargains There is an Antiques store on Caledonia Street in La Crosse where some keen eyed members have found tools at attractive prices. If you're in a shopping mood...

Bargains II The light duty face plates will be available at the next meeting for those who ordered [Aaron knows who you are] and for those who want to take advantage of the overflow. \$7 each.

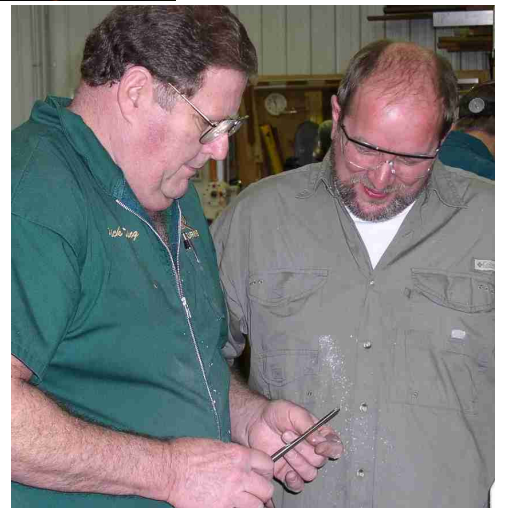
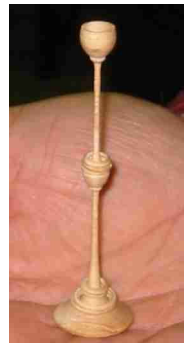
Bargains III Finkat sandpaper—any interest in a group buy? This is the stuff Dick Sing extolled during his demo.

Mentoring There is renewed interest. As a group we need input on how and when and where. Bring your ideas and suggestion to the floor at the next meeting. I'm sure all of us want to improve our skills and this is one of the best ways to do it at virtually no cost.

About the Egg Challenge

Don't forget to return your finished eggs. It's the end of another collaborative challenge. Look for some interesting techniques with these.

Meeting Review The last meeting was held 20 March 04, at B&B in Onalaska. It was part of a two day session with Dick Sing, a consummate professional. Simply put, the time with Dick was very well spent. He's an accomplished artist and a gifted teacher. There is an extensive photo review on the website. Here are some pics to whet your interest.



Coulee Region Woodturners Chapter of American Association of Woodturners

Stamp goes here.

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"A Turn For the Better"

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Next Meeting—At the Carroll Sipes Studio in the Sparta foothills. 9:00 AM Saturday, March 20, 2004.

Here's a map to help those who aren't sure where we will meet.

6855 Icecake Avenue in Sparta. I90 to Hwy 27 South to Icon Ave west to Icebox Ave south to Icecake Ave west. Look for the signs.

We'll start the program promptly, so you'll need to be a little early just to get one of the Uecker Seats. Remember—you have to bring your own chair to have a place to sit.

If you get lost or delayed, call Aaron (608) 343-1538 before the meeting for help or directions.

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

