

One Good Turn

Coulee Region Woodturners Chapter of American Association of Woodturners

Next Meeting—Saturday, & Sunday, 9 & 10 April 2005, 9:00 AM ☺ — at Falch Studio in Winona, MN

PROFESSIONAL TURNER—ALAN LACER

This two-day session features transplanted Wisconsinite Alan Lacer. Well known to almost all, Alan is a prolific author as well as turner. Over the course of these two days of lecture and demo [no hands-on either day], Alan will show you everything from taming the skew to using a hook tool to homemade finishes used on the lathe. One fee of \$35 covers all your costs for both days. Attendees are also on their own for lunch both days.

Prez Sez

Well I hope all of you got dug out from the snowstorm just before the last meeting. Approximately 20 people braved the snow to meet at Denis Falch's and to watch Ken Grunke demonstrate his eccentric chuck. A very interesting demo. Thanks Ken!

Congratulations to Aaron Gesicki, Ansel Heram, Carroll Sipes and Ken Grunke for having their pieces chosen to represent CRW at the AAW Northern Reflections show. There were some excellent pieces and the judging was very tight. Thanks to all who submitted pieces.

Terry Snowden informs me that we will have another balloon mobile ready to go by the April meeting. This one is scheduled to go to the north side branch of the La Crosse library. I have heard some really good feedback from the main and Southside branches on the balloon mobiles there. Also, give Tom Mruz a hearty thanks for the job he did in setting up the Onalaska Gunderson Clinic display. A very nice job Tom!!!

I have finally finished my long stint at Alma, Wisconsin. Because of this, I will be starting the open shop night on Thursday, April 7. I will have an open shop twice a month, on Thursday nights from 7 pm until 9 pm. The second date for April is the 21st. The initial format will be whatever those in attendance

want. We will see how that works out. I will have the garage door open, weather permitting. If the weather doesn't permit, come through the side gate and into the shop from the back yard. Try not to ring the door bell, as it will drive my dog nuts.

I sent out two e-mails that I received from AAW. The first was concerning AAW declaring the month of June to be "youth month". The second was concerning a separate insurance policy AAW was coming out with. I would encourage you to read both. Especially think about the youth month and what we can do to help the youth of our region discover woodturning. We have a good start with Steve Jennings at Holmen High School. But, what else can we do? I urge you to think about it and forward any and all ideas to the officers.

I think we have an excellent opportunity coming up with Alan Lacer. I am going to propose to the officers that we allow youth (Steve Jennings' classes and others) to attend one day of the Alan Lacer demos for free, similar to what we did with David Ellsworth.

I am looking forward to Alan Lacer's demo in April. Hope to see you all there. Until then, keep the wood spinning, the chips flying and safety foremost in your mind.

From Duane Hill -

The deadline for the 2x4 challenge has been extended to the May meeting. All participants have been given an "official" 2x4. Participants are expected to turn something from the 2x4. No other woods may be used in conjunction with the 2x4.



More Publicity—

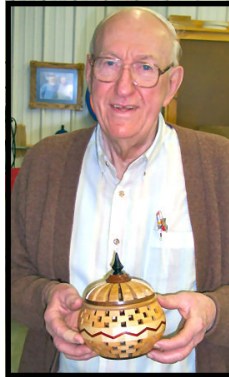
Tom Mruz has set up a display at the La Crosse Public Library in May. Tom would like to have pieces brought to the April meeting and he will get them into the display in May. Also, Tom has taken down the Gunderson Clinic display. Give him a call to pick up your pieces. We will also have another Gunderson display next February.

Meeting Review

As everyone knows, we had to start the last meeting at 1:00 in deference to the Storm of the Century. Attendance was still good and we certainly enjoyed Ken's off-center style coupled with the occasional flinching when the avalanches occurred [you had to be there]. Kudos to the hosts, Denis and Doug Falch, for their yeoman efforts in getting two feet of snowfall out of the way so we could easily drive and park around their shop.

A jury of experts agonized over the field of entries vying for Northern Reflections inclusion, and came up with four winners [from left to right below]—a dainty translucent maple bowl by Aaron Gesicki, a segmented lidded vessel by Ansel Heram, a cherry burl bowl by Carroll Sipes, and a lidded box by Ken Grunke. Congratulations to all, and we look forward to seeing your stuff at the Landmark Center.

Winners



The News

April 7 Duane Hill, at his shop. Thursday evening, from 7:00 to 9:00. First meeting focuses on sharpening. Bring your problems for this open and informal problem-solving session.

Apr. 9,10 Professional turner Alan Lacer at Falch Studio in Winona. Fee required.

April 21 Duane Hill, at his shop. Thursday evening, from 7:00 to 9:00. Another open and informal problem-solving session.

May 21 Visit to the Dr. Larry Severeid Walnut/Chestnut farm in West Salem. Ed Holz has details. Also the judging for the 2x4 Challenge. We'll have four winners [3 experience categories plus a grand prize].

June 16-18 Utah Woodturning Symposium at BYU in Provo.

June 18 Visit to member Bob Allen and his woods. We'll show you how to identify trees and wood.

July 16 Picnic. No tool day. Details to come.

July 22-24 AAW Symposium in Kansas City. Some of us are already making our arrangements. Car pools and shared rooms really reduce the costs, so start your planning early.

Aug 20 TBA.

Sep 17 TBA.

October 15 Tentative guest demonstrator will be Jamie Donaldson, from Kentucky. He will be working on long bowls, square bowls, and photographing your work. We need advance registration to assure adequate attendance and costs versus revenue.

Want Ads/Sale Ads If it's pertinent to woodworking or woodturning, get it to Aaron and he'll publish it in the newsletter.



Volunteers —

The crew for helping to set up before and/or clean up after [check with the host for what is needed and when] for the April meeting is:

- Dennis Nelson
- Shorty Mueller
- Ed Miller
- Perry Liljander

The understanding is that you get your replacement if you're unable to attend.



From The Neighbors -

The Minnesota Woodturners will be hosting Mark St. Leger on Saturday, April 16. The event will be held at the Minneapolis College of Art and Design Auditorium, 2501 Stevens Ave S in Minneapolis (directly south of the Institute of Art). Cost is \$30 at the door. Free parking on the east side of MCAD. Mark will be making four projects; a bias rocking box, a fly house, a tippy top and a spiked sphere. He's a great teacher and humorous demonstrator, so you'll enjoy a session with him.



Got Questions —

Some of you are probably interested in attending the Symposia in Provo or Kansas City [see the Calendar above]. Art Ustby has volunteered to be the Chapter coordinator and all-around answer man for us. If you want to know anything about this, from housing to recommended night spots to car pool options—call Art at ☎ (608) 781-0914 or email him at austby@charter.net



Reminder

Some Library items are past due for return. Don't make us call Guido and give him your address. [Ed: You've been warned.]



Notice —

The 2x4 Challenge is due at the May meeting, not April.

We've heard there's been some research already, so expectations for design and ingenuity are already being raised.

Remember, the only wood allowable is from the furnished board. What you're able to do with that wood is a matter of creative genius.



Reminder

The meeting is the 2nd Saturday this month.

What wood is that?

By Jeff Luedloff



Have you ever finished turning a beautiful project only to be asked what wood is that? Did you have a good answer? Or did you (like most of us usually do) answer with “I don’t know I got it from my neighbors firewood pile”, or “it was scrap wood I got from work”. If you’re like most of us turners you have lots of stories about where that special wood came from but your not sure what wood it actually is. You think its maple but someone at the club said it looks like birch but could it be hackberry? Will you ever know for sure? There is a place just down the road that knows what wood it is.

The Center for Wood Anatomy Research in Madison, Wisconsin can help. The research center is expert at identifying wood related questions. The research center is part of the U.S. Forest Services Forest Products Laboratory and was created in 1914 and houses the worlds largest research wood collection with more than 115,000 wood species samples. Among the centers collection is the “Jesup Collection”, Philanthropist Morris K. Jesup’s

effort to collect every known species of American wood from 1881-1884. Many of the samples he collected are extremely rare. Maybe your next turning project can be made from “Yucca Baccatin”, “Hogs Haw” or “Farckleberry” if you can find it! The Center routinely analyzes wood from many different sources, ranging from museums trying to determine the origin of wooden artifacts in their collection, to the home owner disputing responsibility for a clogged sewer line. Is that your maple tree or your neighbors ash tree growing into the sewer lines?

The center gets all kinds of requests to investigate wood related cases. Take the case involving dolphins in the Pacific Ocean. Large amounts of wood began appearing in the Pacific Ocean off South America, creating a natural reef (shelter) for small fish and naturally tuna and dolphins soon followed. Where there’s tuna there’s sure to be fishermen and their nets and dolphins getting caught in those nets. Scientists tried to eliminate this problem but couldn’t figure out where the wood in the ocean was coming from. The Center for Wood Anatomy Research investigation found wood from Asia, which is unusual in the South Pacific, and determined the wood was being discarded from shipping materials off of ocean freightliners.

Do you remember the kidnapping of the Lindbergh baby? What does that have to do with wood you ask? Well, in 1933, Arthur Koehler, head of the research center, was able to prove the ladder used in the kidnapping was made from wood

found in Bruno Hauptmanns home. The wood in the attic floor boards were an exact match to the wood used to make the ladder, leading investigators to the exact tools used to plane the wood in the garage.

Some wood can be deceiving, like the time the center received a very heavy white wood from a shipping crate. The wood was actually Ebony. White Ebony!? Turns out ebony’s white sapwood is unwanted and so occasionally is used for packing crates. After all, who wants white ebony.

The Center for Wood Anatomy Research will identify a maximum of five wood samples per calendar year as a free public service to U.S. citizens.

Visit the Centers web site for more great facts and how you can use their invaluable services:
<http://www2.fpl.fs.fed.us/WoodID/woodid.html>

Send your samples to:

Alex Wiedenhoeft, Botanist
Center for Wood Anatomy Research
USDA Forest Service, Forest Products Laboratory;
One Gifford Pinchot Dr.;
Madison, WI 53726-2398

Special thanks to Regis B. Miller, Project leader for The Center for Wood Anatomy Research for his help with the information used in this story

[From the Editor: This article came to us from the author through the Minnesota Woodturners. We are publishing it with the author’s permission.]



From The Neighbors II -

The **Rochester Art Center** is organizing a contemporary woodturning exhibition from Jan 28, 2006 through March 19, 2006. The exhibition will have two galleries. The first gallery will be an invitational exhibit of nationally recognized woodturning artists. The second gallery is a juried gallery of woodturning works from Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, Illinois, and North and South Dakota. All participants must be 18 years old and all works must be original and completed within the last two years. No works over 3ft x 3ft x 3ft will be accepted. \$500 in cash awards will be given. Dates for submitting work are January 5-10, 2006. Judging will take place on January 12, 2006. Judges for this exhibition are Alana Lacer, Mel Turcanik, and Dean Wilson. If you need more information, contact one of the CRW officers.



From Alan Lacer -

Here is the syllabus for the two day demo. This can help you choose which day or hour you want to attend if you have to abbreviate your presence.

Saturday:

- Shaping, sharpening, refining, and honing basic tools (about 2 hours).
- The skew as pleasure tool. Working with this sometimes friendly tool. [into PM]
- End-grain projects (such as goblets, lidded, boxes, end-grain bowls, etc.). A look at the problems encountered in working such grain. Use hook and ring tools to show their applications.
- Making a hook tool.
- Conclude by making a lidded box.

Sunday:

- Finishing for the woodturner. Discussion and examples of types of finish (film and oil type finishes).
- Guidelines for choosing a finish, pros and cons of different types of finishes, and the making of several types of finishes.
- Demonstrate a few finishes that are used on the lathe.



From The Public -

We received a nice letter from Kelly Krieg-Sigman, Director, La Crosse Public Library.
 “Thank you for your recent donation of a mobile of three wooden hot air balloons, by Ansel Heram, et.al. This beautiful piece of artwork has been installed in the children’s area at South Community Library and is a most welcomed addition.”



A Plea From The Editor -


We need contributing authors and reporters for the newsletter. Forward any contributions you want published to aaron@crwoodturner.com and you’ll see your byline in print [Remember: “Power of the Press; Power of the Press; Power of the Press; ...]



Reminder

The Tool Czar wants to remind everyone the crib has lathes, chucks, tools, and other hardware for member use. The inventory list is here <http://www.crwoodturner.com/gallery/crwtools>

Just let him know what you want and make arrangements for pickup. Call the Czar at

 (608) 781-0914

or email him at austby@charter.net

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Print this last page from the Single Page Mail Merge Document.

"A Turn For the Better"

Mail Merge goes here.

Next Meeting—Venue Change!
We meet at the Denis Falch Studio.
9:00 Saturday & Sunday
9 & 10 Apr 2005.

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

There are two streets for the same location. 1763 Gilmore Valley Road (formerly County Road 21), in Winona, sort of.

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 Denis at (507) 454-0403 before the meeting for help or commiseration.

We'll have coffee, so donuts are ALWAYS welcome. And maybe something chocolate for that special person.



Falch Studio & Residence
1763 Gilmore Valley Rd (formerly County road 21)