

Next Meeting—Sat., June 17 2006, 9:00 AM—at the B&B Studio, La Crosse, Wi.

Blinded by the light ???

CRW member, Ansel Heram, will demonstrate how to turn a lamp on your lathe. As always, Ansel seems to come up with new and interesting ideas. This should prove enlightening. Also check out Rich Egan's article on page 7 for some pictures of some great looking table lamps that you could make on your lathe.

PrezSez: June, the start of summer. This brings to mind a very critical question, is your shop air conditioned or do you rely on Mother Nature (read here fresh air, wind, etc) to keep you cool while you are in the shop? My shop now has air conditioning. Up until about 2 years ago, it did not. Then one, hot sweltering summer afternoon as I was trying to avoid putting drops of sweat on a freshly finished piece, I thought I can do better than this. The next week, Menards had a window air conditioner on sale, just the size I was looking for. So I got one and installed it. Don't get me wrong, I love turning in the fresh air with a nice breeze. What I don't like is sweat dripping on your lathe and causing rust spots (forget green wood, how about a hot summer's day).

Speaking of needed shop accessories, the first time we met at Gary Friemann's he showed us the little built in refrigerator he had put in the shop. I thought what a cool idea. Then Bill Gautsch had one put in his shop. This last fall, my wife was going to garage sales, looking for some furniture for one of our girls. She asked me if I needed anything while she was visiting garage sales. I said yes, if she found a small dorm sized refrigerator for about \$25 -\$40 to pick it up. She looked at me like I was crazy and asked what I was going to do with that. I said for the shop. I can put cans of coke and water in it and that way I wouldn't have to drag saw dust into the house from the shop or dirt/mud from the back yard when I wanted a drink. She still looked at me funny but said OK. Well, lo and behold she came back a couple of hours later with one that she only paid \$25 for. She told me my refrigerator was in the car and I had to get it out. Well, I have stocked my new accessory with some cokes, lots of bottled water and have it in the shop, close to my table saw. You know what's funny, she has used it more than I have!

As I write this disjointed article, I am actually sitting in Colorado. The temperature is 95, the humidity is 30% and am sitting outside, in the shade, writing this on my computer. Isn't technology great!!!! I guess I had better put down my glass of Colorado KoolAid and write something about the club.

We had a great meeting a Pam's place in May. The weather cooperated and we had a beautiful day. The arrangements of vases and spring flowers was truly outstanding. I heard a comment from one member as he was trying to decide on which one to vote for, "You mean we have to vote for only one for each category? This is going to be tough". Well it was tough. That just shows the quality of workmanship that has evolved in the club. The quality of the challenge pieces has really improved. Denis Falch and Aaron Gesicki took top honors with their Best of Show entry. Congrats Denis and Aaron.

Pam also gave a great demo on how she makes her beautiful boxes. I was able to video tape the demo and it will be on DVD, in the library and ready for check out at the June meeting. We will also have the Bill Grumbine demo and the Jamie Donaldson demos on DVD and ready for check out at the June meeting. To top it all off, Pam gave a select few of us a demo and test run on the Powercrafter. I have since ordered mine and it arrived just before I left for Colorado. I haven't tried it yet, but am itching to try it (or is that the poison ivy?)

The order for club apparel was placed on May 31. Nearly \$1600 worth! I am hoping the stuff will be ready by the next meeting, but no guarantees.

I guess I had better sign off for now, there's meat grilling on the Barbie, tunes on the radio and my Colorado Koolaid is getting warm. Hope to see you at the next meeting. Until then, keep your tools sharp and the chips flying. Above all, be safe out there.



Open Shop Nights:

Open Shop Night for the month of June are scheduled for Thursday, June 15 and Thursday, June 29. Open Shop night is hosted by Duane Hill, at his shop in Onalaska (808 Quincy) from 7-9 PM.

It is very much an open forum and almost any topic (it helps if it is related to woodturning) is accepted.

The Votes Are In!!

Thanks to all who submitted votes for the professional demonstrators for 2007, we now have two big names to go after to dazzle and entertain us next year. The names who received the most votes are Stuart Batty and John Jordan. Here is how the votes fell:

Stuart Batty - 19

John Jordan - 14

Nick Cook - 10

Don Derry - 8

Alan Lacer - 7

Bob Rosand - 5

Greg Haugen is already in contact with Stuart Batty, and we're aiming for April/May 2007 for him, which means we'll start working on John Jordan for fall 2007.

Here is how the votes fell for the format:

One day demo - 15

One day demo/one day hands on - 10

Two day demo - 6

The Program Committee will do it's best to work with the demonstrators to optimize the format and cost to fit what you selected. Thank you to all who participated.

Are You Ready For Some Mentoring?

We are looking to see if there is interest in a mentoring program from the club. Greg Haugen was at The Chicago club's meeting and was impressed by their mentoring program. The CRW Officers would like to know if you would be interested in being a mentor or in being mentored. We haven't worked out the details yet, but want to first see who would be willing to be a mentor and if there was interest from the club. Contact one of the Officers if you would like to be a mentor or would be interested in attending mentoring sessions.

Upcoming Events

June 15 Open Shop night at Duane Hill's shop

June 17 CRW member Ansel Hiram will demo making lamps. Location is B&B studio in La Crosse.

June 29 Open Shop night at Duane Hill's shop

July 15 Professional turner Brian Simmons will demo Architectural Turning. Location B&B Studios in La Crosse..

August 19 CRW member Ken Grunke will demo making Inside Out Petal Vases. Location Picnic at Shorty's

August 26 & 27 The Great River Folk Festival

September 16 Fundamentals—Mini Lathe Hands on session. Location Dennis Snider's Shop.

September 28 The Seven Rivers Region Innovations Fair. Location Onalaska Wi.

October 21-22 Professional turner Russ Fairfield. Location is B&B studio in La Crosse.

November 18 CRW member Greg Haugen will demo setting up a vacuum system. Location TBD.

December 16 CRW member John Fisher will demo plant stands. Location TBD

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

Eccentric Turning With Ken Grunke

On Saturday, May 13, Dennis Snider opened his shop for an eccentric turning class with Ken Grunke. About 6-8 people showed up for a fun filled morning and afternoon of learning to use Ken's eccentric turning chuck. Dennis Snider was a very gracious host, having cleaned his shop, moved stuff around for us to fit 6-8 mini lathes in and then fed us with a very good lunch of barbeques and the fixings. The turning was fun also. Ken's chuck is easy to use, just drill a 3/8" hole in the bottom of a spindle and turn away. Ken's chuck is designed to work in conjunction with your 4 jawed chuck. A set screw provides for graduated eccentric turning. Adjusting Ken's chuck in the jaws of your chuck adds for even more off set. The process is fun, a little scary (especially on a mini lathe) but a lot of fun. See the pictures below for a pictorial essay. Thanks to Ken for the class and to Dennis for hosting. Check out: <http://www.token.crwoodturner.com/ecc/>



WANTED....

Anyone who is going to be at the AAW symposium in Louisville or Utah symposium in Provo — please consider sharing your experiences with others in the club. Please send me your pictures or experiences for me to use in the July newsletter for others to enjoy.

Going to be in the Twin Cities in the next few months ???

Well then, check out the Contemporary American Woodturning Exhibit at the AAW Gallery (Landmark Center). Our own, Pam Reilly has one of turnings on display there. The exhibit runs through August 4, 2006. Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 11-4, Thursday 11-7 & Sundays Noon to 3pm. There is no admission fee, donations accepted. Phone—651-484-9094. Check out the AAW web site for more details (www.woodturner.org).

Tip of the Month—Bowl turning, the glamour, the glory, THE SHAVINGS!!!!!!

Have you ever got started turning a few bowls and then realized your shop is buried in shavings? How do you get rid of them? What do you put them in? I may have a few answers to that. A friend of mine who raises chickens once asked me for shavings. Which is fine, but I didn't know how to get them to his house. We didn't have extra garbage cans or a lot of bags. He brought over a few 55 gallon white plastic barrels. The plastic on these was about a 1/4" thick. These barrels were heavy duty and extremely sturdy. Boy, the barrels were nice but they had to be expensive. I found out they were not at all. In fact, they were the "best price of all." FREE. What they were was the soap barrels from carwashes, mainly Ship Shape Carwash in La Crosse. The soap is biodegradable so there isn't a fear of harmful chemicals. The next day I went to the carwash to get a few barrels. Once I got down there I found out a few things. The barrels are free. Since they are so heavy duty they can't throw them away. The owners have a warehouse just to store these empty barrels. They are very gracious to give them away to people.

I loaded two in the truck and journeyed home. I got home and got out my sawzall. The top of the barrels are fused together so cutting it off is essential. I cut off the top, from top of the barrel, not the side of the top. This way it leaves the top thickened plastic rim for more structural support. So in other words, the barrel doesn't get shorter; the inside of the top gets cut out. By leaving the rim on top it creates another point to grab on to. After that is cut out, I drilled a 1/2" hole on opposite sides of the top to thread a rope loop through to tie it off on the inside of the barrel to create nice carrying handles. A simple rinse of the barrel with the outdoor hose and you're done. Now you have the cheapest (free), largest container I have found to remove shavings. These would also make an excellent HUGE garbage can. Make a home made wood lid from plywood and you're set.

Happy Turning, Greg Haugen

Here is a list of area clubs and their websites.

Check them out for upcoming events and demonstrations.
Minnesota Woodturners Association
www.mnwoodturners.com

Zumbro Valley Woodturners
www.zvwoodturners.org

Badger Woodturners
www.badgerwoodturners.org

Check out CRW's web site for more photos and information.

<http://www.crwoodturner.com>

If you would like to host a monthly meeting at your shop ??? Just let the officers

know

May Club Challenge—Spring Flowers

John Fisher and Duane Hill won Best Technical, Ansel Heram and Bob Patros won Most Artistic, Rich Egan and Art Ustby won Most Lifelike & Arron Gesicki and Denis Falch won Best of Show.



[Road Trip to Chicago—Rich Egan](#)

My recent visit to the Art Institute in downtown Chicago I found some Windsor chairs there, with nice turnings in their construction, and clay vessels from the Ancient American gallery, with authentic southwestern decoration. I'm always looking for pleasing shapes and forms to follow in my projects. I am told there are more furniture items at the Field Museum, but that will have to wait for a future trip. I also made a stop at the furniture department in Marshall Fields, where I photographed a few wooden lamps on the sales floor. Lots of ideas there, but way too expensive for my budget.



JULY MEETING: Professional turner Brian Simmons will demo Architectural Turning—July 15. Location B&B Studios in La Crosse.

Check out the July issue of Woodcraft Magazine for a beginners article on pen turning. See page 14 for a step by step article (with pictures) that will get you started.



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"A Turn For the Better"

**Next Meeting – At the Brigitta & Bill Gautsch Studio in Onalaska.
9:00 AM ☀ Saturday, June 17 , 2006**

Directions to N4671 Old Hickory Drive in Onalaska.

I90 to Wisconsin Highway 16 to County Road OS [Main St.]. This is the Woodman's intersection. OS west to Meadow Wood to Old Hickory, then to the end at the top of the hill. Look for the pink driveway.

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 (608) 783-7171 before the meeting for help or directions.

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

