

NORTHWESTERN MICHIGAN WOODTURNERS

newsletter

Volume 1, Number 1, January , 2023

We had a good attendance of 33 at the school, and 5 members joining us by Zoom. In addition to 4 students, we had 2 guests at the meeting. Jo Jaczkowski of Traverse City, and Paul (sorry Paul, I didn't write down your last name), a friend of Norm Dill, who encouraged him to join us.

**Next Meeting: February 11, 2023.
8:30 for coffee and donuts. Career
Tech Center Shop or Online by
Zoom.**

**Our demonstrator will be Mike OB.
Mike will be demonstrating collars
and pedestals.**

Our March demonstrator will be Rich Foa, turning a square bowl, and Jim Scarsella will be demonstrating in April.

**Upcoming events:
The Woodturners Worldwide Online
Symposium is back again in 2023.
February 24-26, Friday to Sunday.
Woodturners Worldwide Online
Symposium 2023** This is their 3rd.
If you didn't get your ticket by
Christmas Day, the cost is now \$89.00
This year, they are going back to the Acccel
Events provider, so there shouldn't be the
problems of 2022.

Demonstrators, among others, include: Glenn Lucas, Mike Mahoney, Richard Findley, Barbara Dill, Kirs DeHeer, Carl Jacobson, Mark Dryer, Scott Hampton, Jessica Edwards, and many others. If it is like past events, there will also be vendors, and vendor sponsored demonstrations running before, during, and after, with discounts.

If you didn't get your ticket by Christmas Day to enjoy the early bird discount, go to:

<https://www.accelevents.com/e/woodturners-worldwide-online-symposium-2023>

From the AAW Events Page –
Please go to <https://woodturner.org> for more information and to register for these events. You will need to be an AAW member, or new affiliate member to access the information.

Free 3 month AAW Affiliate Membership
for first time non-members, will give you a chance to see all the things that full membership can give you.

**February 18, Saturday, 2:00PM eastern.
Stewart Fruini – Shape and Color:
Turning and Coloring a Wide-Rim Bowl**
All skill levels. All aspects of bowl turning and embellishment with color.

Cost is \$10 for AAW members, including trial members, and \$15 for non-AAW members. Register at www.woodturner.org Events page.

**February 18, Saturday, 3:00PM eastern.
Lyle Jamieson – Turning a thin-Walled
Goblet.**

All skill levels. Tools, tool control, spindle turning, hollowing, and laser measuring. Cost is \$10 for AAW members, including trial members, and \$15 for non-AAW members. Register at www.woodturner.org Events page.

**March 4, Saturday, 4:00PM eastern.
WIT Presents – 2023 Artist Showcase:
Nicole McDonald and Elizabeth Werber.**

More information and registration coming soon, and cost is most likely FREE.

**2023 AAW International Woodturning
Symposium, June 1-4, Louisville,
Kentucky.**

Kentucky Exposition Center

**Symposium registration is now open.
Hotel Reservations are open too, from the
AAW Events page. Hotel is the Crowne
Plaza Louisville Airport Expo Center, and
room block rates are \$149/night.**

Turning to the Future – is sponsored by the AAW to encourage and support students and instructors in reaching for and attaining the highest levels of skill in the use of the lathe. The contest is open to eligible students across North America. This event will be held in 2023, and offers 4 cash prizes.

Watch the AAW Events Page, Turning to the future for details and entry forms.

If you are an AAW member of affiliate member, watch your email for the weekly “Toolbox E-Newsletter: and the bimonthly “Keep Turning E-Newsletter. Or go to the AAW website, Resources Page

www.woodturner.org

And don't miss the AAW Member-Moderated Forum on the same page. This page also guides you to the other resources, including all issues of American Woodturner magazine, Woodturning Fundamentals and others.

The November issue of “Woodturning Fundamentals” is still the most current. Find it at www.woodturner.org

Business Meeting:

President Gary opened our January meeting with a short business meeting. He first introduced Clay Mass of Clay Space TC. Clay is the Collections Chair for the upcoming **Empty Bowls** event



on April 30, being sponsored this year by the Northwest Food Coalition, to raise funds for the Food Rescue Program. Clay talked about the event and his part in coordinating the donation of items for the event and the silent auction to be held concurrently. A question was raised, and NO, bowls are not the only thing that can be donated. Any turned or flat item we make can be donated. Also, if you particularly want an item you donate to be in the silent auction instead of on the ticket choice table, please put a very visible tag on the item when you bring it to the club.

Gary showed Clay the bowl challenge board, which really impressed him. Their donation goal number is 800, so if we make Gary's goal, our club will represent ½ of the donated items. **All bowls and items you are donating for this event will have to be delivered to the club between now and the meeting on April 8.**

In the January Board meeting, changing our current fiscal year policy to the calendar year was discussed, and it was decided to forward a motion to the full club for a vote. The motion was to change the by-laws which specify operation under a Fiscal Year (July to June) for Board elections and planning to a Calendar Year cycle (January to December). The motion was stated by Jan Bachman, and supported by Marv Slee. The question was put to the club, and the motion passed unanimously. Now we just have to re-write a portion of the by-laws and hold an acceptance vote for them again.

Gary also reminded the club that dues of \$40 for 2023 are due, and payable to Treasurer Jan Bachman. Secretary Kris reminded

everyone that the by-laws require that any member who is 2 years arrears in dues as of February 28th will be dropped from the club roster, removed from the club Facebook Group, will not get club notifications, and will not receive the club newsletter. He also stated that the Board has decided that to maintain membership, you **only have to pay the current 2023 dues**. By past Board decision, you are **NOT** required to pay any dues for years in arrears. None of that applies to Life/Honorary Members of course.

Gary reminded everyone of the next President's Challenge for April. Easter Theme. However you interpret that. Winner of the challenge will be chosen like we did in December, by multiple category club vote. Winner will receive a \$50.00 gift certificate.

Leon Darga, Chairman of the outside demonstration committee (IRDs), reported that Dr. Seri Robinson of (I believe) Oregon State University, and an expert in how, and how fast spalting of wood occurs, will be our IRD demonstrator for the May meeting. She is also an accomplished woodturner, and will be doing that as well as talking about spalting.

Treasurer Jan Bachman gave a report on the treasury. As of the December 28th, our checking account balance was \$6,065.69. This included our expenses of \$702.79, and income of \$484.00.

Student Mentoring – Ken Hunter, our student mentoring coordinator, needs a few more turners to rotate in the Thursday mentoring sessions at the school. And we get even more satisfaction out of mentoring a student than they get, so give Ken a call **(231-499-9474)** and get in the rotation.

Club Historian – Our club has been around for several decades now. We are looking for someone who enjoys digging out and putting together the history of our club. We have some information that was given to us by the

family of one or our deceased members, and our webmaster, Chuck Whetsel informs us that he has a lot of historical data in his possession. There is also a lot more that needs to be gathered from our older members and put together.

If this is something that interests you, please let Gary, Pete or Kris know so we can get you started before we lose any more of that history.

Wig Stands – Our project coordinator, **Dennis Ferguson**, says that we are in need of more wig stands for the cancer centers in TC and Kalkaska. If you don't have the plans for them, reach out to Dennis, dennis45th@gmail.com This is our ongoing community action project, and we need to keep it going. Contact Dennis with your completed wig stands.

Club Demonstrators – Please step up and do a demonstration for the club. We now have demonstrators scheduled through May. Every meeting after that is wide open. Club demonstrations are always about projects that the demonstrator chooses. We never ask you to demonstrate something that you don't know how to do. You know that you have some turning project you enjoy doing, so please step up and volunteer to show how to do that project at a club meeting. Talk to Gary, Pete, Kris, or Jan, and choose a month to show us what you enjoy doing.

Board of Directors – Your Board of Directors for 2023 are:

President – Gary Perkins - 231-640-0377
Vice-President – Pete Meyer - 231-499-7935
Treasurer – Jan Bachman - 734-730-7038
Secretary – Kris Roberts - 701-400-9160

Other Board members:

Past President Jim McKimmy - 231-631-0425
Dennis Ferguson - 231-492-6475
Kieran Goodman - 812-298-5747
Mike Lynskey - 313-220-5077
Marv Slee - 231-499-1719
Weldon Rutledge - 517-775-8973

Our Board members are here to serve the club. If you have a need, concern, or suggestion, please get in touch with one of us. The Board meets the first Thursday of the month at 7:00pm virtually by Zoom. All members are welcome to attend by contacting me, your secretary, before a meeting so I can send you the Zoom invitation.

Bring Back Raffle:

Past President Jim McKimmy won the Bring Back raffle last month, and brought back a winged bowl of ambrosia maple. It was won by Chuck McLaughlin.



For Sale:

Tom Sensabaugh, Construction Trades Instructor has a side business in Gaylord where he slices up big logs for book matched slabs. He has spalted beech right now, and is asking if any one would be interested in buying turning blanks from the waste wood. These can range up to 12x12x12 blocks, or smaller, and longer ones for things like pepper mills. He is asking in the range of \$5 to \$10. If you are interested, please call Gary Perkins who will be the contact.

Supplies: CA Glue and Anchor Seal Wood Sealer.

Joe Breech is the keeper of the 55 gallon drum of Anchor Seal. If you need some, please call him at 231-218-1021. Either make arrangements to pick it up from him, or have him bring what you need to the next meeting. Cost is \$10.00/gallon.

CA Glue – Glue will now be stored at the Career Tech Center, Club storage box. If you need glue between meetings, please call President Gary 231-640-0377 or Treasurer Jan 734-730-7038. One or the other might have a few extra bottles on hand.

Wanted:

If there is something you are looking for, send an email or text to me, and I will post it here.

Show and Share:

Well turners, generally I try to get both photos of the pieces you bring in, and at a photo of you holding at least one of you items. And I also would give a few words about each piece. This month, however, I was behind the computer, and operating one of the camcorders. We had wonderful items shared, and great comments from their makers. And it was all recorded. I had planned to watch the recording and pick up on what the wood and finish of each piece was, as usual, but I asked Pete to edit out parts of the recording to make it shorter and more focused on Dave's demonstration and edit out the business meeting and the coffee break. What I didn't make clear was that we also needed the show and share segment to stay in. 🤨

So, here are the usual photos, but without any explanations. Hope to have it all back together next month, but if you like it this way better, let me know.

Pete Meyer



Steve Bujalski



Kieran Goodman



Mark Andrus



Chuck McLaughlin



Lyle Jamieson



Dennis Ferguson



Joe Breech



Abigail Olszewski, I am so sorry that I didn't get a photo of you or your turning. I thought I had everyone before the meeting started, but missed you somehow, and as you can see, our whole Show and Share recording segment got deleted. Please bring it and your next turning to Feb 11 meeting, and we'll get you in the next newsletter for sure.

Gary Perkins



Dave Rife



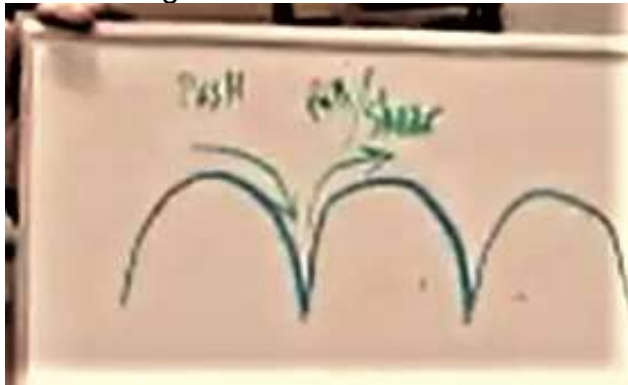
Club Demonstration – Dave Rife – Continuous Beads and Top Cutting/Back Hollowing



If you remember Dave's last demonstration in March, you will recognize this first part of his demonstration this month – cutting continuous beads. In March, he promised to do another demo showing exactly how he cut continuous beads in his beehive boxes, as well as how he quickly hollows those small boxes with a back hollowing cut. Well, this is the promise being honored. The demo this month is a very technical look at both continuous bead cutting without lifting the spindle gouge from the cut, and exactly how the back hollowing/top cutting is done.

As this was a very technical look at the methods, his demonstration did not have a product end point in mind, just the techniques and how to do them. So what photos that are included are from grabbing screenshots from the Zoom recording of the meeting.

Before he went to the lathe, Dave used the white board to show how we all learned to do beads (from the top of the bead, cutting down on both sides), and then how he has developed a method to cut them on a continuous cut going down, then up and over and down again.



Dave uses a spindle gouge to do this. The cut is a complicated set of back hand movements. The hand at the tool rest just

guides, as in any other cut, but the back hand must rotate the tool, raise the handle, rotate the tool back and lower the handle, all in one continuous motion. If you remember Keith Gotschall's IRD a while back, he talked about tool rotation from the back hand, starting from an uncomfortably bent wrist and rotating to a neutral, or comfortable wrist position. He taught that as a starting position, the uncomfortable bent wrist is the best position, as moving through the cut brings the wrist into that comfortable/neutral position. He also taught us that making a cut with the spindle gouge is all about raising or lowering the back hand.

Dave uses the same technique. He stresses that it is a choice each of us can make, but **he** starts with the handle low, and the wrist bent to the uncomfortable position, either right or left.



To make the cut, he then raises the handle, causing the wrist to rotate into the neutral, or comfortable position. This takes the cutting edge of the gouge from the top of the cut to the bottom of the bead. He then rotates the



wrist back to the uncomfortable position as he lowers the handle, making the pull/shear cut back to the top of the next bead.



Now repeat, as many beads as you want.



The direction of the bead cuts (headstock to tailstock, or tailstock to headstock) depends both on which way you are most comfortable working, and the wood itself. He stressed that some woods will cut well in one direction, and some will cooperate better in the other. Developing the ability to work in either direction by switching hands is optimal.

A question was raised, whether this method can be used for turning beads on a bowl. Yes, **on the outside**, which he demonstrated. But NOT on the inside, as he showed with a diagram. On the inside, trying to use this method would produce a CATCH on the up cut of every bead. Plus, to do the method, your handle would be very far across the bed, and you would have no body control (the lathe dance).

And before we go any further, I asked Dave about the spindle gouge he used. It is a 3/8" spindle gouge (whether European or American measure I am not sure, but from the recording it looks like the European) with a 50 degree grind.

European you ask? For those that haven't been initiated into the weeds of tool tech, in British and European manufacture, the size of the gouge, whether spindle or bowl gouge, is measured across the top edges of the flute (that's the valley of the gouge if you haven't heard the term). American manufactured gouges measure the shank diameter (the part that goes into the handle). So if you are buying a new tool, make sure you get what you want by looking close at the specs. Some catalogs, when selling European manufactured tools, will give the size, and then a little farther will say, "the overall diameter of the tool is slightly larger than the tool specification" or something like that.

So, now, as Dave says, practice, practice, practice. Wrist flix, elbow flex, and body motion all have to come together to make this continuous bead cutting work.

Nice pictures, and if you have experience, maybe it's enough. But there is nothing like actually seeing him do it. So, with kudos to VP Pete Meyer for finding a way. Go to our website, www.tcturners.com and click on 'videos' at the top of the page. This is now a 'members only' page, so you will have to log in with your user name and password the same as you do if wanting to get to the club directory. Once you do, a recording of Dave's full demonstration (only) is there waiting for you to view.

~~~~~  
If you haven't been to our website in the last couple years, you may not know that getting to the member directory isn't just putting "lathe" in the password box anymore. Our webmaster ran into too many limitations using the old web server, and had to change to GoDaddy. That move, however, made it impossible to just have a single club-wide password to get to members only pages, and we also had to change the website URL from ".org" to ".com" So, if you haven't registered already, to see the directory or the recording, you will have to register (below the sign in box and 'reset password') Currently it says "Not a member? Create account". You are a member, so click on it anyway. That will let you put in you email address and choose a password. Then you can get in.  
~~~~~

On to the next part. **Top Cutting/Back Hollowing. Again, this is in the recording just referred to.**

So, most of us know at least some about hollowing. Keep cutting edge of the tool above center, work with the handle on the opposite side of the bed. And unless you are using Lyle's boring system or one like it, keep a secure grip. And for the most part, you are using scraping/hollowing tools.

Well, here is another way. Some of us have seen this technique used by the likes of Richard Raffin, and some European turners. Dave has taken all that he has seen and read and developed a hollowing technique exclusively using a spindle gouge, using shear and push cuts on the top half of the interior.

Now that the video recording is available to us on the website, this discription is going to be very light.

There are a couple things that are CRITICAL. The first is the ABCs. Anchor, Bevel, Cut. Generally, we all refer to Anchor as being the solid connection of the tool on the tool rest. For top cutting/back hollowing, there is a 2nd anchor point, at least for doing small hollow forms. That is, anchoring the shaft of the tool against the side of the hollow form opening closest to you, and keeping it there solidly.

Between the cut and the additional, rubbing anchor, Dave cautions that the tool will get pretty darn warm, so you may need to take cool down breaks.

The spindle gouge? Dave uses a 3/8" spindle gouge, discussed in the first half. I talked with Dave about it, and where a spindle gouge with a lower 30-40 degree grind will work fine for continuous beading, For top cutting/back hollowing, Dave finds that these "shallower" grinds become too 'catchy', so he is sticking with the 50 degree grind, and will also be trying a 60 degree grind, much the same as Lyle's favorite bowl gouge grind.

Well folks, most things turning I know enough about to at least write a high altitude narrative. No so here. I watched Dave's demonstration, and I've watched the recording. I see the technique, but I don't know how to describe it. I can tell you that Dave says this technique, with a spindle gouge is fast for small items he is turning for production. It is a combination of a shear cut and a push cut, and that it leaves a clean surface. Dave does only some outside shaping previous to the hollowing (about half or less of the planned depth of hollowing), because he needs the support strength of wood toward the headstock.

Does it work on bowls? We've seen Richard Raffin and some others do it, but.....
That is a future learning curve for Dave and the rest of us.

So, now, to prevent you from seeing my ignorance of the technique graphically displayed before you eyes, I am referring you to the recording of Dave's demonstration on the club website. Again, it is www.tcturner.com and click on 'videos' at the top of the page. As a member, log in, and view the demonstration direct as many times as you need to.

~~~~~  
And before you leave the website, take a look around. Chuck Whetsel and Pete Meyer have put a lot of work into making our website more than a quick stop to see where and when the next meeting is. And it's only going to get better.

Oh, and before I close. Please know, and thank, Pete Meyer, Joe Breech, and new member Steve Bujalski for stepping forward to help with the Live Streaming of our meetings.  
And many thanks also need to be expressed to Mike Lynskey and Mike OB for getting us started in streaming our meetings and IRDs out to members who cannot be present at our meetings.

See you at the February 11<sup>th</sup> meeting.  
Kris Roberts, Secretary and Newsletter