

NORTHWESTERN MICHIGAN WOODTURNERS

newsletter

Volume 7, Number 6, June, 2023

Approximately 25 members and guests attended in person, plus 7 attending by Zoom; Norm Dill, Jason Olszewski, Abigail Olszewski, Vern Steinfort, Mike OB, Dan(?) and Lyle Jamieson.

Guests: Mark McCloskey, and returning member Bob Goff.

Next Meeting: July 8th, 8:30 for coffee and donuts. Career Tech Center Shop or Online.

The July demonstration will be Mike OB showing us his way of making a goblet.

The August meeting will feature Pete Meyer and Gary Perkins demonstrating different types of threading.

And the September meeting will feature an All Day onsite demonstration by national woodturner Matt Monaco. You AAW members, don't miss the AAW magazine article on Matt this month. It is really well done and will let you know Matt even before he gets here. **The all-day demonstration is free to members.**

Matt is also offering to stay around for 2 extra days to offer hands on mentoring as we have done in the past. This part costs members an out of pocket fee, which we believe will be \$100 per person, and will require advance sign-up. Get your names in to Gary ASAP, as there are so far only 5 slots per day.

Upcoming events: From the AAW Events Page –

Please go to <https://woodturner.org> for more information and to register for 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. It will give you a chance to see all the things that full membership can give you.

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 If there are events, they will be listed there.

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 May issue of Woodturning Fundamentals is out. Find it at www.woodturner.org Member or affiliate.

Business Meeting:

Well, the big news at the business meeting was the election of new Board members for a 3-year term.

The nominations committee submitted 3 names, and the Board forwarded them on to



the membership on Saturday. Nominations from the floor were also asked, but none were put forward.

The slate of candidates put to the membership were: Gary Perkins (re-election), Chuck McLaughlin, and Jim Scarsella.

A motion was made by Rich Foa, and supported by Pete Meyer, to elect these three members to the Board of Directors by vote of the members. The motion passed by acclamation.

As you may recall, the offices of President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary are elected annually by the Board, from the Board at the July Board Meeting.

Treasurer Jan Bachman reported on our account. As of June 4, with all bills paid, our balance stood at \$6,697.

Club historian Pete Meyer says that the documents, anecdotes, memories of members or projects past, that he has received, and dug out so far, are being scanned and posted in the members only page on our club website www.tcturners.com. If you have old photos, clippings, or memories of the club, please get in touch with Pete. (231)499-7935, or hammergrips@gmail.com

Student Mentoring – Ken Hunter, our student mentoring coordinator, reports that with the end of the school year, we have done very well meeting our commitment of mentoring students one day each week of the school year. 4 of our members, along with Ken have provided the bulk of mentoring this year. Many thanks to them, but we need more of you to step up in the coming school year. Give Ken a call **(231-499-9474)** to get more information, and get in the rotation.

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 Ferguson, dennis45th@gmail.com This is our ongoing continuing community action project, and we need to keep it going. Contact Dennis with your completed wig stands. (231)492-6475 or dennis45th@gmail.com. Dennis even brought in wig stand kits, ready to turn. They were rapidly claimed.

New Club Apparel – Gary showed one of the 2 hat styles that have been ordered. When they arrive, Gary and Marv will also take orders for coordinating shirts. T's \$15, long sleeve T's \$20, and swearshirts \$40.

Members of the club will be running a fundraiser at Left Foot Charlie's, turning bottle stoppers on July 1st from 1-4pm. Bottle stopper kits are coming from Niles Bottle Stoppers. Contact Kieran or Gary for more details and maybe volunteer to help.

Board of Directors – Your new Board of Directors for 2024 are:

Gary Perkins - 231-640-0377

Pete Meyer - 231-499-7935

Jan Bachman - 734-730-7038

Kris Roberts - 701-400-9160

Dennis Ferguson - 231-492-6475

Kieran Goodman - 812-298-5747

Marv Slee - 231-499-1719

Chuck McLaughlin - 231-668-1901

Jim Scarsella - 313-220-5077

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.

For Sale:

Supplies: CA Glue and Anchor Seal Wood Sealer.

Joe Breech, who has been the keeper of the 55 gallon drum of Anchor Seal, tells me that the barrel is nearly empty. There is 2 gallon jugs of it at the school, and Joe is going to bring any remaining jugs he can fill to the next meeting. We will **not be ordering another 55 gallons. **If you need some, get it at the next meeting before it's gone. Cost is \$10.00/gallon. After that, we will be on our own. The Anchor Seal website,****

<https://ucoatings.com/shop/product/anchorseal/> lists their product for sale either online, or the nearest retailer, which is Woodcraft of Grand Rapids. It is offered in sizes quart, gallon, or 5 gallon. **Joe suggests that you could get a 5 gallon pail of it and share it out with others. That option is by far the least expensive on a per gallon basis.**

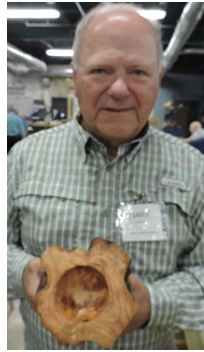
CA Glue – Glue will now be stored at the Career Tech Center, Club storage box, and sold at meetings.

Wanted:

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

Bring Back Raffle:

\$1 per ticket. If you win, you “bring back” a turned prize for the next month.



The Bring Back Prize this month was brought back by Gary Perkins, and was won by Chuck McLaughlin.

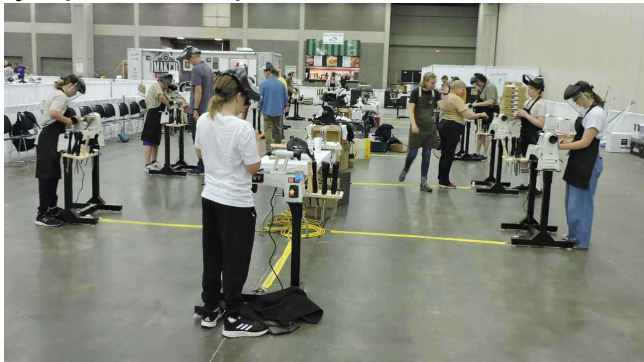


News from the AAW Symposium in Louisville, Kentucky, June 1-4.

I think most of you know that the AAW Symposium concluded with a really good attendance. Did you know that our club was pretty darn well represented there too? Firstly, to blow my own horn, and explain why I don't know who all went, in January, I was appointed as the National Lead Volunteer for the Youth and Learn to Turn Room. DiAnn and I arrived Tuesday evening and spent Wednesday working with other volunteers to set up the room and the 15 lathes and tools donated by Jet,



Crown Tools, Easy Wood Tools, and Tekna Tools. The rest of the Symposium kept DiAnn and I at the



Youth area, including tear down and pack up on Sunday. Here are a couple photos of the Youth Mentoring Area.

However, I did see that Joe Breech, Chuck McLaughlin, Dennis Ferguson, and Pete Meyer were there. Mike OB, Lyle and Dorie were there as vendors. Did I miss any of you? I think that's a pretty good showing for our club.

Show and Share:

Do you know what happens when you wear too many hats? Hopefully you have never been in that situation, but for those of you that have, you know that things sometimes go wonky. Well, this time things went a little wonky with the Show and Share. First, neither Gary or I remembered to ask Lyle and Mike OB to record the meeting. They were running the Zoom program from Lyle's shop. And therefore, I do not have the recording to grab shots and details to share from. Second, my camera is having some issues with auto focus this week so some of the photos I took (before I noticed the problem) are a little blurry. I clean up and enhance photos as much as possible, but..... And, I was too busy with the AV to take notes.

So, the upshot of my self-chastisement is that I have photos, some a bit blurry, and none the usual details on wood species or finishes. Other clubs have had this problem too, and come up with novel ways to handle it. **How about you share some ideas with the Board as to how to make this better.**

Abigail, Jason, Vern, and Dan out in Zoom Land, apologies. Without the recording, I have no photos of your pens, Abigail, or your box, Jason. Please load photos of your work onto the Club's Facebook Page. If you haven't already joined the NWMichiganWoodturners FB page, contact Gary Perkins, and he will get you set up.

So, here we go with what I have.

Chuck McLaughlin, featuring the One Eyed, One Horn, Flying Purple People Eater.



And the companion pieces.



Dennis Ferguson, ducked out of posing with his pieces.



Dave Rife and the other pieces he shared.

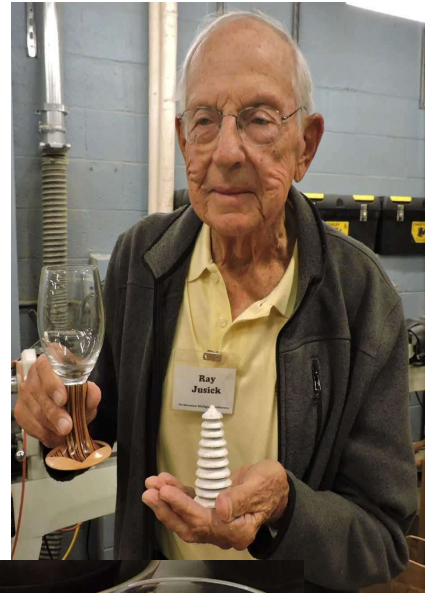


Gary Perkins

Glad I had Gary for scale. Here is his 3 pieces together.



Ray Jusick



Kieran Goodman



Jo Jaczkowski turned 100 mushrooms for friends



Mark McCloskey (guest) showed a spalted maple spindle roughing gouge handle he turned.

If this isn't you Mark, my apologies



Joe Breech, as mentioned, was at the AAW Symposium with his wife, and took advantage of the Pen Turning Room, which was new to AAW this



year. Anyone purchasing a pen kit from the vendors could go to the Pen Turning Room, be given a turning blank from the Louisville Slugger company (same wood as the Pro's bats are made from), make their own pens, and step over to the "Makers Trailer" and have it laser engraved.



Another thing about Joe that led to another possible role for him to

pursue. Joe has, over (and after) his career, had extensive experience working with non-profit organizations. When he was visiting with some folks there from AAW, he learned that non-profit experience is greatly needed in AAW's Board of Directors, and was encouraged to put his name in the hat as a candidate for election to the Board. He has accepted the challenge.

As AAW members, look for the candidate lists coming out in August and remember to vote when the voting opens.

Club Demonstration – Lyle Jamieson – Controlling Catches

In order to get the proper camera angles to show us how to avoid catches, Lyle provided this club demonstration from his shop through Zoom presentation. As stated in the show and share, Gary and I forgot to ask Lyle and Mike to record for later review.

Therefore, where are no photos in this write-up of the demo.

I have done a fairly extensive search of Lyle's YouTube videos, and did not find one **specifically** on preventing catches.

However, we all know that Lyle never misses a trick in his teaching, so watch his YouTube videos on the basics and types of cuts and I am sure that almost everything he talked about with us will be there. Also, on his website www.lylejamieson.com, on the "Store" drop down tab, page 3, Lyle offers a DVD, or Digital Download of his 4+ hour "Bowl Basics – the Easy Way". It's all there.

The first thing Lyle did was go through a list of basics in avoiding catches that Stuart Batty has put out in his talks on the issue.

- Grain Orientation
- Chucking Techniques
- Sharp Tools
- Tool Rest Placement to the work
- Lathe Speed
- Turner Stance
- Tool Use Techniques

While each of these topics are full discussions in their own right, they all have to do with avoiding catches. And all these topics have **rules** that need to be followed to make turning SAFE AND FUN. And Lyle's underlying, and overlying philosophy is that, **"if you obey the rules, you won't get catches"**.

Lyle talked about, and showed, the 4 cuts that are possible with gouges. The **push cut, pull cut, scrape, and shear scrape**.

They each have their rules for safe use, and the first and most important is the ABCs.

Anchor – Bevel – Cut.

So what do those mean? For experienced turners, they are second nature, but for newer turners, they have to be learned properly.

Anchor – means keeping your tool solidly on the tool rest. That doesn't mean with a whole lot of pressure, just solidly in contact.

Bevel – This means ensuring bevel support for the tool BEFORE starting a cut.

Universally understood? - NO. It means finding the bevel support for the point on the tool where the cut will actually happen, and with gouges, that depends on how you are making the cut – Tip or wing. With skewers, whether you are using the toe or the heel of the tool, you still need to establish bevel support **1st**.

Cut – Again, this means AFTER you have established bevel support, not after the shavings start flying.

Okay – **Lyle's 4 Cuts** with gouges!!

Lyle breaks these down into 2 categories. Slicing cuts or scraping cuts.

Push Cut

Pull Cut – These need bevel support

Scrape

Shear Scrape – These use just the sharp edge of the tool, not the bevel and require that you follow the 90° rule.

No matter what bevel angle you choose for your gouges (Lyle uses 60° and straight wings), and there are pros and cons for each, **the Push Cut** is the primary cut all of us use. Determine where on the gouge your cut will

occur, and make sure you find that part of the bevel first. Then, ALWAYS cut downhill to the grain direction. You always want the bevel to support that part of the grain you are cutting.

Lyle holds the bowl gouge horizontal to the lathe for his **push cuts**, with the flute of the gouge at 45° to the wood surface.

Using the spindle gouge, Lyle keeps the handle low, and follows the bevel in the cut, whether cutting a bead or a cove. The spindle gouge is both rolled and the handle lifted or lowered depending on the cut.

Now, both of these explanations leave volumes of information out, but this is a newsletter, not a teaching text.

The Pull Cuts – For this, the handle is held low (bowl gouges and spindle gouges), with the support mainly on part of the wing bevel near the tip, and the cut made with **just the tip of the tool** while pulling the tool toward you during the cut. First find the bevel, then roll the tool until the tip of the tool begins to cut. Then pull the tool along the tool rest, maintaining a light cut. Getting too much of the wing into the pull cut will get too aggressive, and often result in a gouging of the work piece, tear out, and catch. Even done correctly, you will likely leave some tool marks to clean up.

Scraping with a Bowl Gouge – The handle is low or horizontal, the flute is rolled toward the work piece with the top wing of the gouge not quite touching the wood. The bottom wing of the tool does the scraping, and the angle of the cutting edge of the tool to the wood is always less than 90°. Do Not open the flute, or the bottom edge will dig in and you have a catch.

Sheer Scraping with a Bowl Gouge – In simplest terms, sheer scraping is scraping with the scraping edge of the tool on a steep

slope/angle. The handle of the gouge is very low in order to present the scraping edge to the work piece on a 45°. The tool is perpendicular to the tool rest. The flute, as in the scrape, is nearly completely closed. As in the scrape, the bottom edge of the tool is doing the scrape, and the top edge is very nearly, but not touching the work. This orientation produces a peeling action, cutting the grain much in the same way that a skew cuts in spindle turning. No pressure on the tool; slowly and very gently pull along the curve of the work piece. The shavings will be very fine, angle hair fine. As you follow the curve, you will have to adjust the tool rest to maintain the perpendicular angle of the tool on the rest.

Again, this cut, as in the scraping cut, requires that the scraping edge maintains an angle of the edge to the work piece of less than 90°.

Enough of my likely confusing prose.

Here is a list of videos that Lyle has out on the open www.YouTube.com. They are short and to the point, and very helpful to understand and review what he shown us.

Lyle on Woodturning Push Cut

Lyle on Woodturning Pull Cut Definition

Lyle on a Pull Cut for Woodturning

Lyle on Rough Turning a Bowl

Lyle on Scraping with a Bowl Gouge for Woodturning

Lyle on Grain Supported Cuts for Woodturning

Lyle on Spindle Turning-Beads

Lyle on Sheer Scraping with Bowl Gouge for Woodturning

Lyle on Preventing Torn Out Grain in Bowl Turning

Lyle on Rough Turning a Bowl

Lyle on Turning the Outside of Bowls

Subscribe to his channel and get a lot more.

Scraping with a Scraper – regular grind or negative rake.

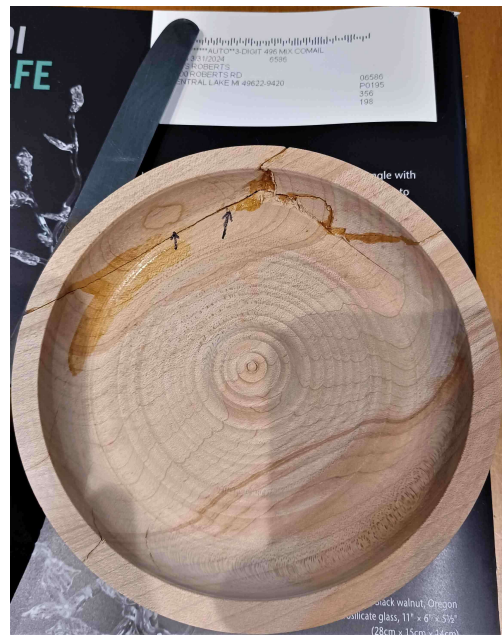
Because Lyle doesn't use a regular scraping tool much, if at all, he was pretty brief on this, but did talk about it because a lot of us do use scrapers to clean up tool marks. Well, if you are using carbide tools, it is usually more than cleaning tool marks 😊.

When using scrapers, the 90° rule is absolutely critical. In order to prevent getting a catch, the edge of the tool must meet the work at **LESS THAN 90°**. So how do you make sure this happens? First is the tool rest height. Raise the tool rest so that your tool, held horizontally, is above center. Second, your tool handle is always held higher than the tool rest (in other words, the handle is always higher than the scraping edge). This ensures that the contact between the wood and the tool edge is less than 90°. This way you can't get a catch.

Did I really say that? Well, Lyle does, but then he talked about a special case that I had shown him (and folks in the room). It was the blown out results of a scraper catch.

This catch happened when cleaning tool marks at along the inner sweep of a platter rim. The rim was not in-swept quite, but the transition was somewhat tight. I was sure that I hadn't violated the 90° rule, and was taking very light passes. Regardless, a catch happened with a BANG, and I had to search for all the pieces.

So first, to take loose mounting vibration out of the equation, the platter was about 5½", and was on a glue block mounted on a face plate. The speed was fast, as it should be for scraping. Here is a photo of the result, put back together to see why it happened.



A little bit closer?

Here is the detail of the catch.



Behind the small arrow, you can see the tool marks I was trying to clean up. AT the small arrow is the first indication that something was going wrong. The large arrow points to where the scraper really dug in and blew the platter apart, and less than ½" later the BANG happened.

So what happened? Lyle's interpretation is one of 2 things that can cause a catch with a scraper.

- 1) Most likely, I lost just a little bit of concentration, and let the handle drop, and violated the 90° rule.
- 2) And what I would like to think happened. When scraping with the tip of the scraper at the transition between the bottom and the rim, it is possible that the side of the scraper caught in the climbing part of the rim and instantly canted the scraper causing the tip to

raise past the 90° angle and dig in (self-feed, is the technical term).

You decide which is most likely.

Respectfully submitted,
Kris Roberts, Secretary

PS. I will, of necessity, be returning to Arizona this weekend to continue overseeing the repair of water damage to our condo. I won't be at the July meeting, so everyone please help Marv Slee pull things together for the July newsletter.