



Newsletter December 2017

We are a chapter of the American Association of Woodturners (AAW)

Club Officers

President – Joe Wertner
(wertnerjc@hotmail.com)

1st Vice President – Nelson Zullinger
(nelsonzullinger@comcast.net)

2nd Vice President – Jim Stottlemeyer
(jim.stottlemeyer@yahoo.com)

Secretary – Beeler Caldwell
(bmconthego@comcast.net)

Treasurer – Rod Stabler
(wickstab@yahoo.com)

Chairpersons

Photographer – Bill Krofft

Newsletter – Beeler Caldwell,
Pam Caldwell

Library Manager – Ken Walker

Audio Visual – Lee Burkholder,
Colby Benedict, Carson Benedict

Raffle – Rod Stabler, Ken Walker

Win-One Turn-One – Rod Stabler

Club Tours – Jim Stottlemeyer

Christmas Toys – Lloyd Benedict,
Rod Stabler

Auction – Lester Dice

Greeter – Nelson Zullinger

November's Club Meeting

The club met on November 2, 2017 at 1773 Warm Spring Rd. Chambersburg, PA, 17202. The social began at 6:30pm, and the meeting started at 7:00pm.

President Joe Wertner opened the meeting with a few announcements that have been incorporated throughout the newsletter.

Joe talked a little about the Samuel Avelino demonstration held at Bob Robinson's shop on the 26th of October. He called on Bart Hogan, who has been a friend of Samuel for many years, to share some background information and some additional comments about the demonstration. Pictures were taken during the event which has been posted on the club's website.

Jim Stottlemeyer shared some highlights of the Mountain Fest in Sabillasville MD, and recognized members who participated in this very successful event. He stated that pen kits have been purchased to support additional events. He also mentioned that we need to drill holes and install barrels in pen blanks. Jim would like to get some volunteers to accomplish this prior to our next event in Gettysburg in December.

Bob Robinson announced that the Breast Cancer Race was a success and fifty-two ice cream scoops were given as prizes. The club received a nice letter from the Breast Cancer Race organizers thanking us for providing prizes for the race winners.

Bob also mentioned that the club will be supporting the Gingerbread Fest in Gettysburg on the 1st and 2nd of December. Volunteers are needed to help with this event; emphasizing Jim's request for help putting together pen blanks.

Elections were held for the 2018 Officers. Nelson Zullinger will move to the president's position. Joe Wertner will move to the 2nd Vice President position and Rod Stabler will continue as the Club Treasurer. Jim Stottlemeyer was nominated and voted in as Vice President. The Secretary position is still open.

The monthly raffle was held and several prizes were won. The club also auctioned two pieces of wood and a sander. A big "Thank You" goes out to our high bidders, and the folks who donated the wood and sander. Thanks to their donations, the club was able to add \$75.00 to the club funds.

The demonstration for the night was presented by Joe Wertner. Joe demonstrated “A Simple Whistle”. He had a lot of samples using different methods of turning a whistle. This is a fun project, and something you can make many different ways.

The demo will be posted on Lee’s channel shortly. As a reminder, we encourage everyone to subscribe to Lee’s channel. You can [click here](#) to view Lee’s channel.

Show and Tell

Our challenges are geared to take our members out of their comfort zone by having them turn a designated item, or perform a certain task. ***The Challenge for November was to turn a “Threaded Box”.***

We also enjoy projects that members are willing to share with the club. This gives other members ideas on what they may want to turn.

Turnings are photographed at the club meetings, and are usually posted on the club’s website for all to see. ***To see these and other great turnings please [click here](#).***

The challenge for January is to turn a “Simple Whistle”.

Christmas Toys

If you have made Christmas toys for the kids, please bring them to the Christmas Party or make arrangements with Lloyd or Rod to collect them. It sounds like this may be the best year yet for the toy program.

Christmas Party

Our annual Christmas Party will be held on December 7, 2017 at the **Fellowship Hall at the Greencastle Church of God, 4480 Buchanan Trail West, Greencastle PA, 17225**. Doors will open at 5:30 p.m. and meal will be at 6:00 p.m.

The club is going to provide ham and chicken, and we are asking each family to bring a covered dish to complement the meat, or a dessert.

As done in the past, we would like members to turn an ornament and bring it to the Christmas Party. Please remember that these ornaments will be used as prizes at the Christmas Party.

Membership Drive for 2018

During the November club meeting we started our membership drive for 2018. Thanks to everyone for your support in the start of getting dues collected. For those who still need to update your membership, we will continue collecting dues in January. We are not going to be collecting dues during the Christmas Party. Please remember to bring funds (check or cash) to the January club meeting to pay for your membership. The cost is \$40.00 for single membership, and \$50.00 for family membership. Kids are free up to the age of 17. Kids under the age of 12 must be accompanied by an adult club member.

Win-One, Turn One

The lucky winner of the Win-One, Turn-One drawing during November's meeting was Carson Benedict. Carson was presented with a turning made by Larry Miller.



Stepping Down

Well after the first two years in the job as secretary, I was ready for someone else to take over the secretary position for the club. I believe officer positions should be rotated to keep fresh ideas going. No one volunteered, so I agreed to continue for another year. Then the following year the same thing happened, no volunteers. So with this being my fifth year of holding this position, I decided I'm not going to continue into 2018. Hopefully someone will step up to take over as secretary, if not the club will have to move on without one.

That being said, this may be the last newsletter. The newsletter was created to help get the word out. It also filled the secretary requirement for recording meeting minutes. Hopefully when we do get a secretary he/she will see the value of the newsletter and continue it. Of course this isn't a requirement for the secretary position. The secretary keeps the minutes of the club's monthly officer meeting, and the general membership meeting. The secretary also sends out any notices to the members about any activities deemed necessary. The secretary is also responsible for the maintenance and coordination of the website. The website is a challenge to maintain, but I agreed to continue doing this part of the secretary's responsibility. Unless of course the

new secretary would like to maintain it. This is a big enough job in itself. Please keep in mind, officers get their AAW membership fee paid, so volunteering could save you some money.

In closing, I hope everyone got some use out of the newsletter, and I would like to thank Jim Stottlemeyer, and my wife Pam Caldwell, for their support each month in helping with the newsletter.

Five Essential Woodturning Tools Every Beginner Should Own – *Courtesy of Alex Harris*

Woodworking is a hobby that can lead to a lifetime of study and new experiences, as well as interesting connections with other folks who like to work with their hands. A lathe is an ideal tool for woodworkers that are ready to start working fine carpentry. With a bit of study, you can even build a lathe on which you can turn spindles and bowls.

Once you have a lathe, there are some essential woodturning tools that you'll need to purchase, as well as learning to use, sharpen and maintain them safely. Storing your woodturning tools is also critical; without a good edge, a gouge becomes a bludgeon and will be rough to handle, tearing away wood rather than chiseling it.

#1 Spindle Roughing Gouge, 7/8

Once you've a square of wood clamped into your turning lathe, you'll need to get it to a uniform roundness before you can begin fine carving. Note that this is a spindle gouge; it's not safe to use this tool for bowl or faceplate projects.

Your goal with the spindle roughing gouge is simply to remove enough material to turn a square into a circle. A [7/8" spindle gouge](#) is a good size for starting out. Your surface will be rough, but round. Additional turning tools will smooth out the surface.

#2 Spindle Gouge

Once the square is a rough circle, a smaller [spindle gouge](#) can be used to make detailed cuts, coves or beads. The tip of your spindle gouge should be ground back until the sharpest part of the edge is in the shape of a curved fingernail, also called a lady finger grind.

Spindle gouges come in different sizes. Extremely small or shallow fluted spindle gouges are often referred to as detail gouges. No matter what the gouge is called, you'll want to keep a good edge on your tool for smooth removal of material. Dull gouges can result in torn wood on your turning, leaving you with an unsalvageable rough spot that you can't sand away. Poorly sharpened tools can also be dangerous for the user.

There's no way to start slow on a lathe. The piece has to be turning at the optimum speed for your gouges to have an impact. However, some lathes come with a foot brake. Should you find that your gouge is chattering, it may be getting ready to bind. This can result in painful pressure on your hands and wrists, or may even throw the tool. Immediately step back from your lathe if you notice chatter.

#3 Diamond Shaped Parting Tool

For the finest detail work and to separate parts of a turning into individual pieces. A [diamond tip parting tool](#) is extremely helpful. This gouge doesn't have a flute or channel tip as you'll find on a spindle gouge. Instead, this tool comes to a fine diamond shaped pointed tip.

A good sharp edge is again critical to using this tool effectively and safely. The process of lathe turning requires the user to slowly work tools into a piece of wood that's turning toward you so you carefully remove wood up and into the cut. If your tools are banging against each other in a drawer or subject to abuse, you're not going to enjoy the cutting process, won't get a good product and may be at risk of injury.

Consider setting up a separate [shelf](#) for your tools where they can lie flat and not get bounced around. The vinyl coating on the shelf in the illustration further reduces the risk of metal to metal contact, [keeping your tools sharp](#) and safe.

#4 Skew Chisel

The skew chisel, per experts with the Woodworker's Institute, functions as the plane of the lathe. Skew chisels are flat like a wood chisel at the end, rather than curved like a fingernail or half-moon. Woodworking authority Brendan Stemp recommends holding your skew chisel at a [45 degree angle](#) to the spinning block of wood so that only half of the blade is coming in contact with the wood as it spins. This limited contact will

- reduce chatter
- cut away the wood, rather than shredding it or tearing it
- give the wood shavings a path to clear the lathe
- reduce the risk of gouge "catch", when the tool catches in the wood and pushes out of the user's hand or knocks the wood out of the lathe

Skew chisels take some practice, so keep an eye on your angle and the depth of your contact as you become accustomed to how much wood this versatile tool will actually remove. Stay at 45 degrees or smaller and you'll be amazed at how quickly you can shape your raw wood into beautiful spindles and columns.

#5 Bowl Gouge

Woodturning experts with Canadian Woodworking recommend a 1/2 inch bowl gouge for your starter turning kit. It's important to note that a bowl gouge is sharpened at a much steeper angle than many turning gouges; this is to help you get to the bottom of the inside of the bowl. In addition to your bowl gouge, you may need a flatter bowl gouge for deep inside the base.

Bowl gouges come in a variety of cutting depths and angles. For best cutting edge and most efficient removal, work with a deeper gouging tool. Shallower gouging tools, used on a bowl cutting project, will wear, dull and take far too long.

Conclusion

Woodturning is endlessly fascinating. No matter how much you learn, there's always another tool or a different cutting pattern to tempt you into [another project](#). This is a great hobby that will keep you studying and maintaining mental and physical agility for year. How's your woodshop coming along? Let us know if you found these tips helpful!

Author Bio

Alex is a firewood cutting fan and a chainsaw expert. He owns a ranch in Montana where he lives with his wife and son. He is a tech cowboy who enjoys writing his blog ElectroSawHQ.com.

Please don't forget to check-out the club's web site.

<http://www.cumberlandvalleywoodturners.com>

***The club's website** has a lot of good information for your viewing pleasure. Please take time to check it out. If you have something you would like to post on the site, send your request to <mailto:secretary@cumberlandvalleywoodturners.com>

***The library** is for your use, please take advantage of it. If you're not sure what we have to offer, you can check our website, or talk to Ken Walker. If you have some videos, or other material that you would like to loan or donate to the library, that would be appreciated as well.

"Tool Sign Out" is available for our members. This is a way to try out some tools that you don't have.

***The newsletter** is here for you. If you would like to post something to share with others, please send your information to:

bmconthego@comcast.net

"Hats and Shirts" – We still have hats at \$12.00 ea. and shirts at \$30.00 ea. See Jim Stottlemeyer if you're interested.

Officer's Meeting

The next officer's meeting will be December 18, at 1200. The location will be at Brothers Pizza restaurant in Greencastle, PA. All members are welcome, and encouraged to attend.

Next Club Meeting

- December 7, 2017 – Christmas Party
- Please bring a dish to share
- Please bring an ornament (Used for Prizes)
- If you have Christmas toys for Lloyd and Rod, bring those as well