



Many Good Turns

A CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN
ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS

DECEMBER 2019

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

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Letter from the President

Fellow COW Members:

As we are approaching the holidays, I going to write a brief letter for this month's publication. I've already seen members posting photos online of their holiday gifts and I hope they use them safely. I also saw many of you purchasing from Doug Thompson at our December meeting! I'm glad he was able to come and I think many of you were able to complement your turning tools with some excellent pieces.

But more important than what we receive is what we give. I didn't have a chance last month to take a picture of the donations we made to the food pantry and I don't have the total of money collected. I do know, however, that once again, we as a club, made a significant contribution and for that I thank you. This is the true meaning of the holiday spirit. I recall a story where a son was asking his father about the existence of Santa Claus. To make a long story short, Santa Claus exists in each one of us - it is the goodness of our hearts.

In closing, I hope you all have meaningful holidays. I look forward to meeting again next month.

Happy Holidays, Happy New Year and Be Safe,
Scott



January Meeting

January 14th is the date for our next get-together. Meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month in the basement of Holy Spirit Church on the corner of E. Broad St. and Yearling Avenue.

6:00 to 7:00 pm: Meet and Greet.

If you have any tools or wood to sell/swap bring them then.
You can also help get things set up or socialize.

7:00 pm: Regular meeting.

Short business meeting.
Gentle Critique and Show & Tell.

Turner's Corner: — A roundtable of five demonstrations.

Leslie Nielsen — Women in Turning
Ron Tomasch — Sanding
Bruce Kerns — Beginner's Corner
Max Kackstetter — Lidded Boxes
Devon Palmer — Sharpening



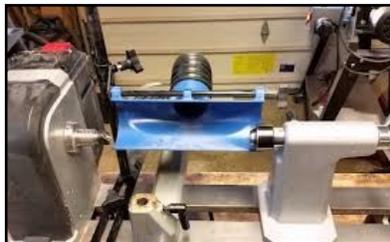
Dust collection at the lathe: Protect your lungs!



Large commercially made dust hood hooked up to a dust collection hose.



Homemade version of the hood shown to the left.



Spindle dust collector. Can also be made in any length by cutting a PVC pipe in half.



Attaching a hose to the bed of the lathe with a large magnet.

Shop Tip: First Cuts: ABC's

Every woodturner should remember the A B C's:

Anchor – **B**evel – **C**ut



Anchor: Set the tool firmly on the tool rest. The forces of the cut must be taken by the tool rest in as direct a manner as possible.

Bevel: Always begin with the handle low, so that the bevel is the first part of the tool steel that contacts the spinning wood.

Cut: Slowly raise the handle until the edge engages that wood and begins to cut a shaving. Keep the handle as low as is possible while still producing a shaving

Book Review

by Tom Robbins

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Betty Scarpino will be presenting about the artistic side of turning at our evening meeting on March 10th, and will also lead a smaller group discussion in the afternoon, inviting members to bring their own work for discussion.

Her recommended reading for March is: **Art & Fear: Observations On The Perils (and Rewards) of ARTMAKING*** by David Bayles & Ted Orland

Bayles and Orland say that so many people seem to believe that CRAFT can be taught, while ART is some sort of magical gift bestowed only by the gods. Not so! they say. "ARTMAKING INVOLVES SKILLS THAT CAN BE LEARNED."

It's a small book and the authors don't define art... nor do they define craft, or the differences between the two, but instead they talk about avoiding the pitfalls, barriers, and fears that one collides with when trying to become a maker, or artist. They discuss how to hang in there and learn to get better while not giving in to the fears.

(The difference between art and craft is barely touched upon in the book, and there is no universally accepted definition of either one, let alone in how they differ. So I think this book will be of interest whether you're trying consciously to make art, or to be a great craftsman, or if you simply enjoy turning wood.)

The authors maintain that "...becoming an artist is about learning to accept yourself, which makes your work personal, and in following your own voice, which makes your work distinctive," and that talent really means "...perseverance and lots of hard work."

They do explore the barriers and fears that makers encounter in the journey toward mastering their craft, or art: Virtually everyone, they indicate, spends a great deal of time doing work that no one else cares all that much about, and it can be a bit lonely. Consequently, they suggest as their "Operating Manual for Not Quitting" that the first step is "Make friends with others who make art, and share your in-progress work with each other frequently." (*Check! As in groups like ours! C.O.W!*)

They discuss how makers often visualize the "perfect piece" with great anticipation and excitement, but find that the final form may bear little resemblance the great expectations. That, and other such happenings lead to self-doubt along the journey. The truth is, they point out, the same thing happens to masters of the arts and crafts as well as beginners and the in-between. We all keep on learning.

Along the way, Bayles and Orland explore not only the common fears from within, and fears about the acceptance, or non-acceptance, of others, problems from the outside world, and learning from others.

In the end, they lead the reader back to finding one's own direction, about learning new ideas, learning from others, and learning from ourselves.

** Available in the C.O.W. library (limited copies,) at Barnes & Noble, Amazon, Target, E-Bay & elsewhere from \$1.99 to around \$8.00.*



Wood for Turning

Scientific Name

Acer Negundo

Description

Box Elder is technically considered a maple tree (*Acer* genus). Its lumber is softer, weaker, and lighter than almost all other species of maple, and Box Elder's overall strength, as well as its strength-to-weight ratio are poor. The red stain is produced by the tree's natural defenses when wounded. It is thought this compound is meant to inhibit the growth of fungus that commonly colonizes the tree. Much of the reddish coloring (sometimes called "flame" by retailers) becomes a more subdued pink or brown/gray upon drying, or exposure to light.

Habitat

North America. Most common in the central and eastern United States

Common Uses

Turned objects and small ornamental objects.

Box Elder (also known as Manitoba Maple, and Ash-Leaved Maple)



Box Elder blank



Bowl turned with pith on ends



Natural edge Box Elder burl



Hollow form

Source: The Wood database

FEBRUARY: Matt Monaco — Matt's skew demo is very dynamic. He will alleviate the fear of the tool while teaching finesse, tool control, and body mechanics. The presentation builds up and leads into a spinning top with a captive ring, and is lots of fun as well as technical. Matt will also be teaching two hands-on classes (more info to follow later).

Check out his website at: <https://www.monacobowls.com/>

MARCH:

- **Betty Scarpino** — Internationally known contemporary artist, wood sculptor, woodturner, and woodcut printmaker.
- **Woodworking Show** at the Ohio Expo Center, March 13-15.

APRIL: Rich Colvin — Ornamental rose engine lathe. Very unique decorations on woodturned objects.



Central Ohio Woodturners

Meeting Location

Holy Spirit Church
4383 East Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43213

Membership Chair

Chris Hachet
9345 Wingate Place
Orient, Ohio 43146

The Central Ohio Woodturners (COW) is dedicated to promoting the art and craft of woodturning. We are open to anyone with an interest in woodturning — both beginners and experienced turners.

Club members also have the opportunity to serve the community by mentoring youth turners, making pens to thank military members and veterans, and turning bowls and other objects to help charitable fundraising projects.

