

Shavings

Providing an environment that fosters the art and craft of woodturning

November 2012



The Newest Masterpiece by;
Jim Scarsella



Events Calendar

Next Month Meeting:
December 16, 2012
2:00 PM to 4:00 PM

December's Meeting:
Annual Gift Exchange
Judging Turning Challenge

2013
John Jordon Demo
Saturday, April 27, 2013
Details to Follow

The "**Detroit Area Woodturners**" (DAW) is a local chapter of the **American Association of Woodturners (AAW)**. The AAW is an international, not-for-profit organization dedicated to the advancement of the woodturning craft. Our mission is to provide information, education, a meeting place, and an effective organization for all who are interested in turning wood.



<http://www.woodturner.org/>

A Publication of;

DETROIT AREA



WOODTURNERS

<http://www.detroitarea-woodturners.com/>

Board Members

President:	Russell Holmes
1st Vice	Dennis Montville
President:	
2nd Vice	
President:	
Treasurer:	John Sabina
Secretary:	Roger LaRose

Committee Members

Asset Manager:	Ron Sztumerski
Librarian:	Gary Clay
Member Chair:	Greg Smith
Mentor Program:	Ray Frase
Newsletter:	Roger Meeker
Photo:	Jack Parmenter
Video:	
Audio:	Sam Failla
Resale chair:	Ron Black
Web Site:	Matt Harber

In The News

The Club Needs You!

Your help is needed for the club, we need to fill the following position;

- **Camera/Video Operator**

See any officer if interested and/or if you have any questions regarding the requirements and duties of the position.

Please take a moment and give consideration to this position, the amount of time required is very little with respect to the benefits gained.

Thank you for your consideration!

Membership Renewal

You will be receiving your membership renewal form in the mail during the month of November. Please return a check along with the membership form, this will allow for updates of member records. Thank you!

December Meeting

Our December meeting, scheduled for December 16, 2012 will consist of our "**Annual Gift Exchange**" along with the DAW contest "**2012 Turning Challenge**".

DAW Chapter Elections will also be held during this meeting, please make every effort to attend.

2012 Turning Challenge

The 2012 DAW Turning Challenge will kick off at the October meeting.

The ground-rules are as follows.

1. Buy a 3" by 6" by 6" blank for \$5, 30 will be available.
2. Turn categories;
 - a. Bowl/Platter
 - b. Vessel
 - c. Lidded Box
 - d. Craft items that use a kit or external parts like pepper mills, letter openers, duck calls etc.
3. \$10 gift certificate for all entries.
4. Vote for the best in each category. \$20 Gift Certificate based on
 - a. First impressions – visual impact
 - b. Innovation, ingenuity, originality
 - c. Design, proportion, balance and use of material
 - d. Turning techniques and skill level
 - e. Suitability and quality of finish
5. Vote for best overall, \$40 Gift Cert.
6. Bring to the December judging meeting. (December 16, 2012)

Rules:

- A. Can only use wood from the blank
- B. Can use veneer if segmenting or staved work
- C. Embellishing by burning, carving, gilding, painting, surface treatment, inlaid or crushed stone.

The President's Corner

A special **"Thank You"** to the DAW Member Gary Clay for his demonstration of turning holiday ornaments.

Another **"Thank You"** to Jack Parmenter for arranging the sale of the Tamboti wood at our



November meeting and also to Alfred Schembri for assisting Jack in picking up and transporting the wood.

Ross Holmes
President

Around Town

One of our DAW members took 1st place in the **"2012 Holiday Ornament Contest"** held by the AAW. The ornaments will be featured in the



December issue of the *American Woodturner*. Congratulations' to Roger Meeker!

DAW Meeting, November 2012

Sunday, November 18, 2012



Russ Holmes opens the meeting with a welcome to everyone and also welcomes two visitors.

2012 DAW Board Nominations and Elections

Russ accepted nominations for board members; Philip Stevens for Treasurer and Chuck Lobaito for the 1st VP. All board member positions will be voted on at our December meeting.

2012 DAW Turning Challenge

Russ reminded everyone of the upcoming contest "thinking out of the block". Giving people ideas of what they may want to turn, it doesn't always have to be in the shape of a basic bowl. Russ additionally clarified what the categories are;

1. Bowl/Platter
2. Vessel
3. Lidded Box
4. Craft items that use a kit or external parts like pepper mills, letter openers, duck calls etc.

And please remember, all entries are due at the December meeting.

Annual Gift Exchange

The December meeting is when members can bring in a wrapped gift. A random drawing will distribute a gift to all members participating. Gifts are usually something you've turned or built out of a nice piece of wood or a purchased item, but for the most part it's nice to give something "turned".

Our Website

Russ announced that our club now has a new website. It was approved at a board meeting after the resignation of Matt Harber from the position of webmaster. Russ explains how this will be a more timely and complete record of the DAW.

DAW Club Website

We have started to revamp our website. First thing you'll notice is that it has a new address.

It is now located at:

<http://www.detroitareawoodturners.com>

It was .org but for a couple of reasons we decided to make the move to .com.

Second, there is now a link to the current newsletter on the home page, just click and you'll have the newsletter. It will still have all the features of the old one, with all the old newsletters,

resources, handouts and galleries it contained. It will be up-to-date. Gone are the links that don't work, the for sale ads that have been sold for years and no longer valid resource pages. We will continue to offer the personal ads. If you have something to sale, send your facts and a picture to garyc@woway.com and they'll get put up. Let us know when it's sold and the ad will come down. We'll remove it after 6 months, regardless. If you have woodturning info such as plans, jigs, tips, resources or links that you think the club would like, send them to the same address and they'll go in the newsletter.

Please be patient as I work to convert all the files and get it all in, but I'll get it done. After I've gotten all the files off the old site, we'll make it a redirect to the new site, at least until the old name registration runs out.

Gary Clay - Webmaster



Members "Show & Tell"



Roger Meeker



Paul Newburger



Alfred Schembri



Philip Stevens



Jim Scarsella



Loel Gnadt

Members "Show & Tell" (cont'd)



Ray Frase



Jack Parmenter

Reasons to join AAW

Benefits for all AAW members and membership types:

- Six issues of American Woodturner annually
- Access to all past issues of American Woodturner, online through the website Members Area.
- Marketing opportunities on our website for artists, collectors, galleries and museums
- Group rates for health and life insurance (US members only)
- Group rates for commercial business insurance (US members only)
- AAW members receive bodily injury insurance for chapter-affiliated demonstrations or events under the liability insurance that AAW provides to local chapters
- Eligibility to apply for AAW Educational Opportunity Grants
- AAW Forum and member-only access to articles and resources on our website

Russ Holmes wants you for breakfast



There is a breakfast get together Every Tuesday Morning at 8:00am, held at the Avenue Restaurant on Woodward Ave at 13 Mile Rd.

All are welcome.

There is a breakfast get together on the fourth Thursday Morning at 9:00am, held at The Corner Clock Restaurant on Hays & 23 Mile Rd.

All are welcome.

Holiday Ornament Demonstration

Gary Clay demonstrates turning holiday ornaments, a one piece ornament and a 3 piece ornament.



Gary Clay begins his holiday ornament demonstration smoothing out a block of wood 7" x 2 1/2" at about 2000 RPM.



Gary initially started with the one piece ornament and began turning a finial to desired length and shape.



The demo began with a brief description of the tools used for the turning different areas on the ornaments.



After a spindle minor break Gary makes an adjustment to the length and size of the ornament and continues on with confidence.

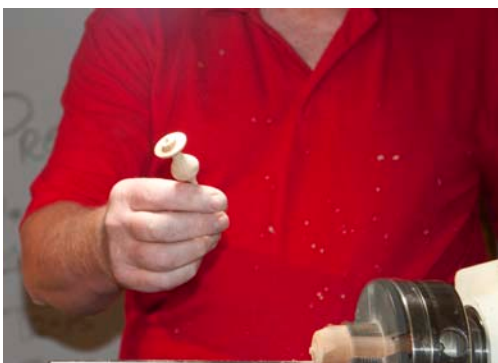


Gary completes the first ornament and passes it to the audience for inspection.



Gary's next ornament consists of 3 pieces; the finial or icicle, hollowed globe, and a cap. He begins work on the lower section; icicle on a piece of wood 1.25" x 7"

Holiday Ornament Demonstration (cont'd)



Here Gary explains the tendon which will fit snugly into the hollowed globe.



Here Gary is parting off the globe which he did complete without breaking.



Work on the hollowed globe begins with boring a 1/2" hole completely through the top and bottom of the globe. The rough measurements of the globe are 2 1/2" x 6"



Next Gary begins turning the cap, which will complete the 3 parts for the ornament.

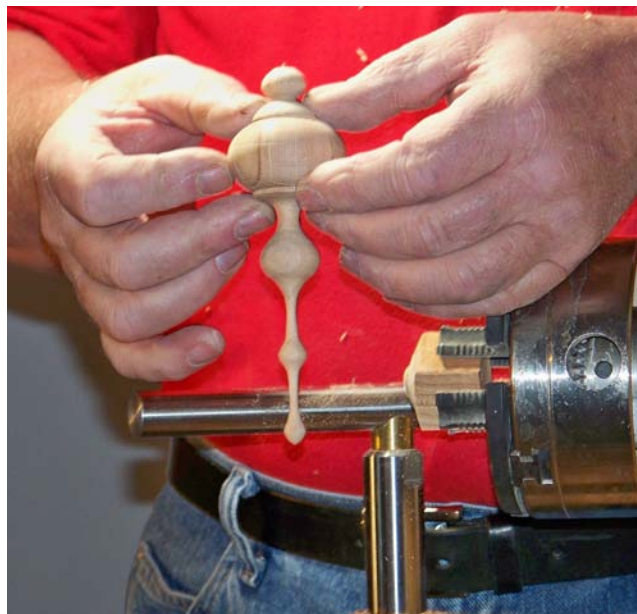


Next the hollowing begins. The piece of wood Gary chose contained a crack which made it very difficult to complete without breaking.



Final sanding on the cap

Holiday Ornament Demonstration (cont'd)



And "presto chango", Gary completes the three-part ornament and passes through the audience for inspection.

My First Club Demonstration

by Gary Clay

So, I was supposed to demonstrate making Christmas ornaments. No problem, I know how to, I'm used to speaking in front of people, I was not nervous or worried at all. Then, I was called up to the front of the room to start. Okay, I made a small joke about being new to this and proceeded to start. I got the blank set in the chuck, brought up the tailstock and went to work, no problem. Soon as I removed the tailstock, boom, I shoved the blank right out of the chuck! Got it back, took a deep breath, told myself, okay, you're going too fast and trying too hard. Slow down, ease up and do it. A minute later, did it again. So, after I got it back, I brought the tailstock back up and started again, no more fly off's. However, when I tried to thin down my icicle, I broke it, because I didn't remove the tailstock before I tried to get really thin. So, I made it quite a bit shorter and tried again. This time I managed to make a reasonable shape out of what was left and finished it off.

So, I moved on to the next one, a three piece one. I started with the icicle. Chucked it up, rounded it with the tailstock in place. I then removed the tailstock and proceeded to make the icicle. I actually finished this with no trouble. I then started the main ball. I reached behind me and grabbed a chunk of wood, chucked it and went to work. Unfortunately, I had grabbed a chunk of oak. It was one of those pieces that looked good until I started turning it. Then cracks appeared all through it. I rounded it off and went on to drill a hole through it. So far, so good. Hollowing it, no problem. I messed up slightly when fitting the icicle to the ball, but it was okay. I finished it off and went to part it and of course, I stuck my parting tool into the ball!

Most important, I'll remember that it is woodturning, so mistakes happen, especially in front of others, but that's okay, they've all happened to everyone

My First Club Demonstration (cont'd)

by Gary Clay

there and we all understand. Ignored that, sanded it down and went on to the top piece, using the same wood I had made the icicle out of. This went fine, then, I went to part it off and couldn't find my parting knife! But I got it done well enough that I think everyone understood the process and how I did it, which was the important part.

A point I want to make about the experience, I realized everyone had all had these same things happen at home and everyone understood that it happens. I kept going and the audience stayed with me.

Observations: I threw the wood out of the chuck and broke my icicle because I was going too fast. I started reminding myself to slow down and be careful.

I was thrown off by the club's lathe. I didn't take the time ahead of time to make sure I knew where the

buttons were and how they worked and didn't find out until too late the headstock grip slid around and didn't work to snug my chuck against it.

So, would I do it again? Yep!

I'll tell you, after a bit, when you get started you don't notice the audience you're watching and, besides, they're on your side!

I'll remember how the lathe works, and I'll try to figure out a way to keep my tools in order and ready when I need them.

I'll remember wood is wood and that it's not always perfect, bring several spares and start again when I hit a bad one.

Thank you for your support,
Gary Clay

Commentary on "My First Club Demonstration"

by Roger Meeker, Newsletter Editor

Fortunately or unfortunately your newsletter editor is a simple person.

It's easy for me to see how successful the holiday ornament demonstration was by the number of people that now plan on making holiday ornaments. The other thing I look at is the finished product. This was the 1st ornament you turned, it looks great. Simple and clean in appearance, and you completed it after having the icicle break.



Your 2nd ornament, the one consisting of 3 distinct parts, I think looks terrific. You turned a hollow form globe out of the cracked piece of wood. You did a great job.

The constant is "we all love wood turning"! The inconsistencies within a piece of wood makes things interesting, almost in a way it is a challenge to overcome.

As Bob Daly once told me "you can't over prepare for a demo".



Let's party!



Bring cookies to our next DAW meeting, December 16, 2012, 2:00 PM.



Wood of the Month - Paper Birch

Paper Birch



Common Name(s): Paper Birch

Scientific Name: Betula papyrifera

Distribution: Northern and central North America

Tree Size: 65-100 ft (20-30 m) tall, 2-3 ft (.6-1.0 m) trunk diameter

Average Dried Weight: 40 lbs/ft³ (640 kg/m³)

Basic Specific Gravity: .48

Hardness: 910 lbf (4,050 N)

Rupture Strength: 12,300 lbf/in² (84,830 kPa)

Elastic Strength: 1,590,000 lbf/in² (10,970 MPa)

Crushing Strength: 5,690 lbf/in² (39.2 MPa)

Shrinkage: Radial: 6.3%, Tangential: 8.6%, Volumetric: 16.2%, T/R Ratio: 1.4

Paper Birch (B. alleghaniensis pictured)

Color/Appearance: Heartwood tends to be a light reddish brown, with nearly white sapwood. Occasionally figured pieces are available with a wide, shallow curl similar to the curl found in Cherry. There is virtually no color distinction between annual growth rings, giving Birch a somewhat dull, uniform appearance.

Grain/Pore: Grain is generally straight or slightly wavy. Pores are closed, with a fine, even texture

Durability: Birch is perishable, and will readily rot and decay if exposed to the elements. The wood is also susceptible to insect attack.

Workability: Generally easy to work with hand and machine tools, though boards with wild grain can cause grain tearout during machining operations. Turns, glues, and finishes well.

Scent: There is no characteristic odor associated with this wood species.

Safety: Birch in the Betula genus has been reported as a sensitizer. Usually most common reactions simply include skin and respiratory irritation. See the articles Wood Allergies and Toxicity and Wood Dust Safety for more information.

Price/Availability: Likely to be rather economical in most instances. Figured boards can be more expensive, but normally plain birch lumber is in the same price range as maple or oak.

Comments: Birch is one of the most widely used woods for veneer and plywood worldwide. Besides regular sheets of plywood, Birch veneer is also used for doors, furniture, and paneling.

Some other common uses for Birch include: boxes, crates, turned objects, interior trim, and other small specialty wood items.

Related Species:

- Alaska Paper Birch
- Alder-leaf Birch
- Downy Birch
- Gray Birch
- River Birch
- Silver Birch
- Sweet Birch
- Yellow Birch
- Masur Birch

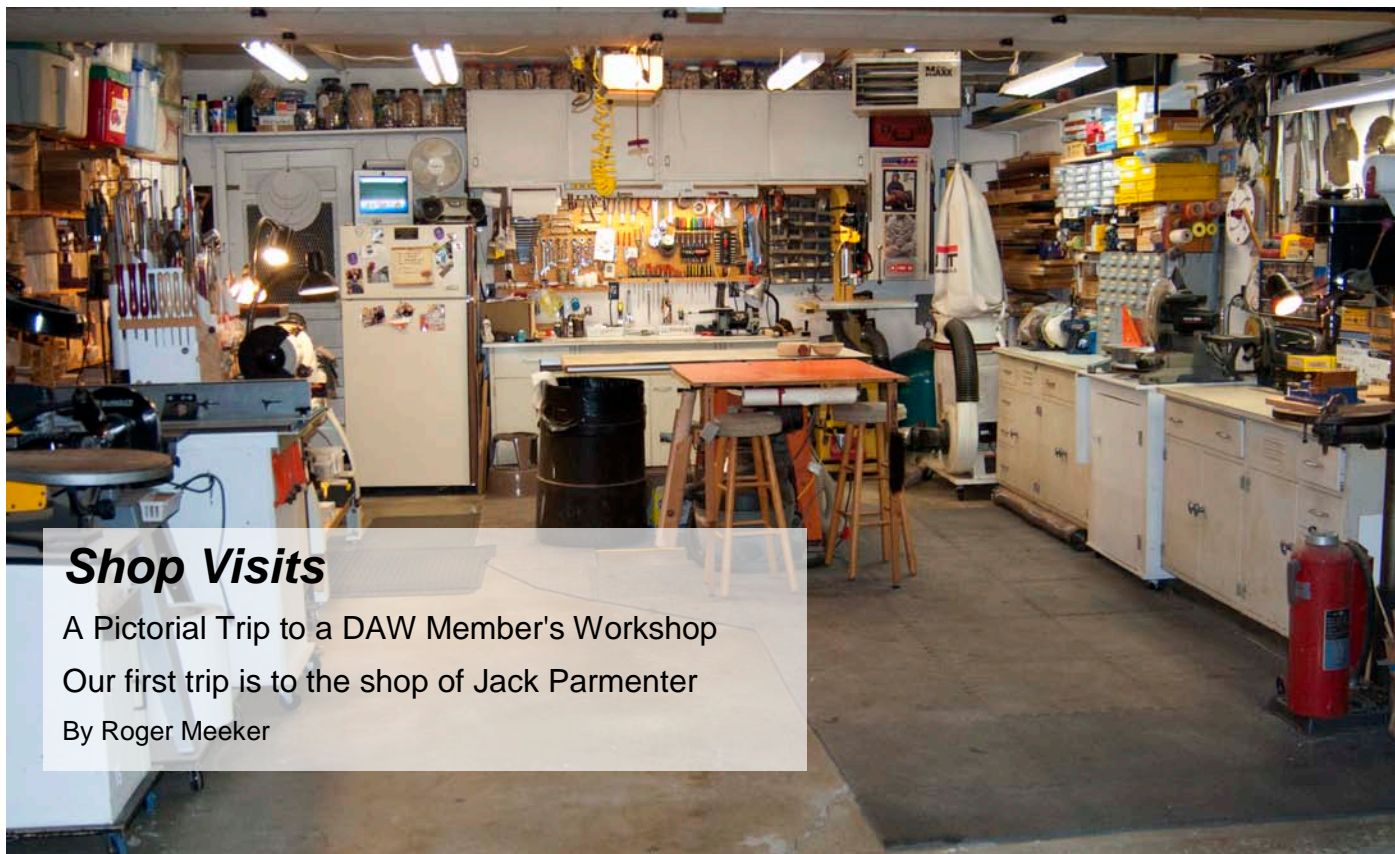
Scans/Pictures: There are currently no pictures of this exact wood species, but a similar species within the Betula genus is being substituted (B. alleghaniensis).

Yellow Birch (sanded)



Yellow Birch (sealed)





Shop Visits

A Pictorial Trip to a DAW Member's Workshop

Our first trip is to the shop of Jack Parmenter

By Roger Meeker

Jack Parmenter is a retired Wayne County Deputy Sheriff. Jack and his wife have been married for 40 years and have 2 children and currently 2 grandchildren. He and his wife have lived in Plymouth Michigan in their current home for 30 years.



Jack first tried his hand at wood turning while in high school when taking a wood shop class. He tells me he was one of the better turners in his class. When he was first married to supplement their income Jack began taking on side jobs in woodworking, primarily flat work. As time went on he did more and more woodworking for neighbors and stores and eventually began doing craft shows. The most interesting part is that all of the equipment Jack has in the shop was purchased through earnings gained by his woodworking. So everything was paid for through the side jobs and crafts shows.

About 5 or 6 years ago Jack had a desire to try wood turning again. That's when he purchased his Jet lathe, a 16 x 42.



Now that I've covered enough of the background information I'll give you my point of view of Jack's very special workshop and man cave. The way Jack organizes and maintains the shop is fairly unique to me. I only wish I was capable of organizing my workspace as well as Jack has arranged his shop. Everything in his shop has a home, and Jack knows where that 1/4 x 20 and 1/4 x 24 bolt and nut reside. Most are labeled and compartmentalized in such a manner that even I could locate them.

This is Jack's grinder stand and tool caddy for his lathe, you'll notice that his grinder is well lit and



easily accessible. His tools are organized and categorized by type, different viscosity CA glues have a home directly behind the grinder. Probably the most noticeable item in Jack's shop is that virtually all of his tools are movable, there on locking casters. And where a stand is required, he's built a functional cabinet in the base of the stands.



On a recent wood turning visit there were 4 of us working in the shop, since it was a nice day outside he rolled out the scroll saw cabinet,

sanding cabinet, and router table to position just outside the main door. This freed up an area for the 3 of us to place our tools and workpieces.

The centerpiece of his shop is a table saw with an out-feed table. There is a piece of laminate covering the top of the table saw and serves as a worktop.



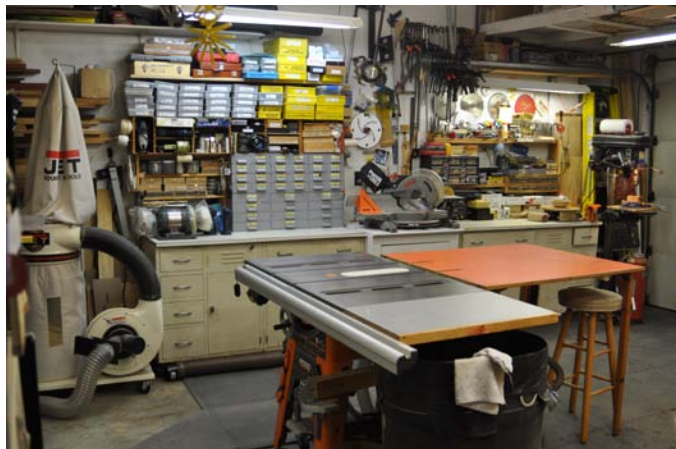
This is a great area for finishing, carving, coloring, and any decoration being applied. It's also a great place for doughnuts in the morning.

Alongside the handsome male model you notice two Rotary grinders hanging from a hospital IV stand and



beyond that a Powermatic 14" band saw, a Jet dust collection system, and I believe an air compressor. It must have taken Jack a couple days to clean up after having Alfred, Ron, and myself over for the day.

The next photo is taken from a different angle showing a floor drill press, chop saw, and even more



storage cabinets. A tighter and shot (below) really shows some of the drawers and organizer trays that Jack uses in his shop.



This level of organization and the sheer size of the accumulation of items Jack needs to organize has taken him years. And when it comes to organizing turning blanks, I'm not quite sure if there's anyone better than Jack.



All of the wood sits on inside shelf labeled by name and date, easy to see easy to find.

Everything organize, everything on wheels, and for the grand finale, his shop is in his two-car garage and when the weather is pleasant he opens the garage door. Not only does he gain a great deal of fresh air and somewhere to blow his sawdust, oftentimes neighbor children come by because Jack always has time to stop working and explain his current project to the kids. He not only teaches his two grandsons turning and woodworking, but yes he does teach the neighbor kids.

And occasionally, a few of the neighbor wives come by just for the purpose of talking to Jack and watching him work. I can only assume this is why Jack is smiling in the final photo (below).



Such is the life of a DAW woodturner member, Jack Parmenter.

Watch for the next installment of "**Shop Visits**"!

I've been to Jack's shop many times and to a few other shops, I've never seen so much of everything in such a tight space and yet have so much room.

Links - Suppliers



Hartville Tool

<http://www.hartvilletool.com>

800-345-2396

Woodturning Supplies

Craft Supply

<http://www.woodturnerscatalog.com>

800-551-8876

Woodturning Supplies

Packard

<http://www.packardwoodworks.com>

800-683-8876

Woodturning Supplies



Klingspor

<http://www.woodworkingshop.com>

800-228-0000

Abrasives and woodturning supplies

2Sand.com

<http://www.2Sand.com>

877-644-7445

Sanding Supplies



When ordering be sure to inform the store of your Detroit Area Woodturners membership (**Discounts may apply - usually 10%**)



Landfill Lumber

www.landfilllumber.com

586-563-0441

Victor Lewandowski - Wood, Turning Stock

Richard Lauwers

810-724-2263

Kiln dried oak and maple



Rockler

<http://www.rockler.com>

800-279-4441

Woodworking and Hardware

Woodcraft

<http://www.woodcraft.com>

800-225-1153

Woodworking and Hardware

The Sanding Glove

<http://www.thesandingglove.com>

800-995-9328

Sanding Supplies

Links - Woodturning Information

AAW - National Organization

[American Association of Woodturners](http://www.American Association of Woodturners)

Detroit Area Woodturners (Shelby Twp, MI)

Web Site: <http://www.Detroitareawoodturners.org>

Grand River Woodturners Guild (Grand Rapids, MI)

Web Site: <http://www.grandriverwoodturners.org>

Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts

Web Site: <http://www.arrowmont.org/>

John C. Campbell Folk School

Web Site: <http://www.folkschool.org>

Al Stirt: Woodturner, Artist and Teacher

Web Site: <http://www.alstirt.com>

Michigan Association of Woodturners (Holly, MI)

Web Site: <http://www.michiganwoodturner.org>

Blue Water Area Woodturners (Richmond, MI)

Web Site: <http://www.bluewaterareawoodturner.org>

Ohio Valley Woodturners Guild (Cincinnati, OH)

Web Site: <http://www.ovwg.org>

Marc Adams School of Woodworking

Web Site: <http://www.marcadams.com/>

Woodcraft of Sterling Heights

(586) 268-1919 <http://www.woodcraft.com>

Need Your Help

From the Editor

Articles are due at the monthly meeting, for example submit at or before the October meeting for the October Newsletter and should be submitted to Roger Meeker at rmeeker26@gmail.com.

Member Projects

If you have a woodturning project that you would like to showcase to our club members, you can send me detailed information about your project with pictures.

Articles on New Woodturning Techniques and Tools

If you come across an article or wish to write an article on a new wood turning technique or if you care to write a review or forward on review of a new wood turning tool. Any photos would be helpful.

Shop Talk

Everyone has a different way of doing things in their shop and everyone's shop is different in many ways; whether it's size, location, or physical layout you are probably doing something that would be helpful for others to see.

Members Questions & Answers

Members are asked to submit woodturning, finishing and tool questions to our resident experts to answer. There are no dumb questions, someone else in the club may have had the same questions.

Classified Ads

Ads for woodturning and woodworking related items are free to members. Send detailed information with pictures.

Wood to Turn

Do you have wood, need wood or know about wood that is available for turning? Let me know and I'll pass it along

From the Editor, Again

Let's make this newsletter something interesting, if you send it, we'll publish it.

Footnote

If possible, please send a digital file (I don't type very well). Thank you!