

Finger Lakes Woodturners A Chapter of The American Association of Woodturners



From The Chair – February 2013



This month will mark our first National Speaker of the year when we host Peter Exton for a special Friday night meeting and Saturday demonstration.

Mr. Exton is well known for his multiaxis, inside-out turning methods using ganged piec-

Mark Mazzo FLWT President

es that are pre-cut to a diamond shape. He turns these pieces on the lathe and reassembles them into interesting sculptural forms with a good deal of intrigue. Peter will treat us to a general primer on inside-out turning during the Friday February 22nd meeting and in addition will open our eyes to the possibilities that these techniques have for further exploration in our own turning. On Saturday February 23rd, Peter will do a demonstration of the complete process that he follows from cutting the diamonds to turning a sculptural piece using his unique methods. This is a chance for turners of all levels to learn some new approaches to turning in a basic spindle orientation with the opportunity for quite radical and interesting results. I would encourage everyone to attend!

Last month we were fortunate to have our own Mike Brawley host a hands-on workshop on Spindle Turning. The turnout ended up being a bit lighter than expected Please note: FLWT will meet on Friday evening, February 22nd from 6:45 to 9:00 PM (pre-meeting Show and Share starts at 6:00 PM) Our meetings are held at the Isaac Heating and Air Conditioning University classroom, 180 Charlotte St, Rochester, 14607. For more information, go to <u>http://</u> fingerlakeswoodturners.com/.

Pg	Contents			
1	 From the Chair by Mark Mazzo 			
2	February Challenge ProjectRead All About It			
3	Hollowing without the Hassel			
5	I Was Doubtful-But I Was Wrong			
6	Spindle Turning Workshop			
7	Library News and Views"Ask Woodie"			
8	From the Publisher			
9	Steam Bending Wood			
11	How To Make A French Knitter			
13	Mentor ContactsFLWT 2012- 2013 Calendar of Events			
14	 Isaac Heating and Air Conditioning Rockler Season Sponsor FLWT Board of Directors 2012/2013 			
15	Local and National Woodturning EventsJanuaryShow and Share Photos			

due to some participant illnesses and that is a shame. However, it did allow Mike to spend a lot of individual time with those that did participate. From what I hear, there were rave reviews on the content and quality of Mike's teaching! Thanks, Mike for all of your efforts to coordinate and host the workshop.

(Continued on page 2)

From the Chair

(Continued from page 1)

I hope that everyone is getting some time in their shops and making an attempt at the challenge project of a two-piece hol-

by Mark Mazzo

low form. I look forward to seeing the results of those efforts at our next meeting. Until then, remember to keep turning and keep learning!

--Mark 🔶

The February Challenge Project

The February Challenge Project is to turn a hollow form. The article on page 7 by Bruce Impey covering Mark Mazzo's January demonstration on "Hollowing without the Hassel" is an excellent description on the "how to" for the this months challenge project. This project shows promise as a



Read All About It

Great news. Two of our own are published in the AAW Journal: Jim Echter, a professional turner and Patrick Dioguardi, a junior in high school and student member! Jim's article in the December 2012 issue describes in detail how to modify a low cost belt/disk sander as a lathe tool sharpening system for your shop. In the words of Jim, "This system was easy to build. It took longer driving to my local hardware stores to purchase the parts than the actual build time."¹ For the frugal at heart, this is for you. Don't miss it!

By Ralph Mosher Photos by Ralph Mosher

fun and exciting one. Put your imagination to the test! Chuck up your favorite green wood turning block and give it a whirl. No matter the outcome bring your work to show at our February meeting!

Here are a few examples of Mark's hollow forms for your inspiration! ◆



By Ralph Mosher

Patrick, our student member, wrote a memoir about pen making for the February, 2013 issue. Patrick talks about his interpretation of a pen as being something ordinary to a thing of beauty. He describes his first lesson on pen making with Mike Hachey to completing the first pen on his own. Patrick ends his essay with how an ordinary pen has the potential to become a lasting treasure with a very special meaning. A must read for everyone! ◆

1 Jim Echter. "Belt Sharpening System". <u>American</u> <u>Woodturner. December 2012</u>. 20.

Finger Lakes Woodturners <u>http://fingerlakeswoodturners.org/</u>

Hollowing without the Hassel...Mark Mazzo

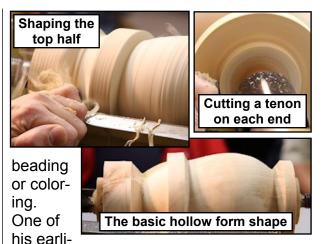
By Bruce Impey Photos by Ralph Mosher

Mark Mazzo gave a presentation at the FLWT January meeting on his techniques



Mark Mazzo

for creating a two piece hollow form turning. I found this a fascinating alternative to the tedious hollowing out of a large vessel through a small hole. Mark's technique makes hollowing more of a



er pieces, a black pot, was inspired by Mark Gardner.



Hollow turning is the creation of a closed or semi-closed form through a small hole. Scraping or cutting techniques can be used, though "cutting" presents a chal-

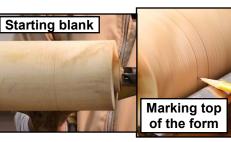
Refining the shape lenge in the removal of those long curly shavings through a small hole. Either way we understand that it is tedious. Watching David Ellsworth do this early in his career pretty much dissuaded me





(Continued on page 4)

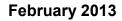






bowl turning project than a deep mining through the eye of a needle exercise. The work is done in two pieces, hollowed open face and then

rejoined. As seen in the pieces Mark passed around, the joint is invisible, tucked beneath the embellished band. The band can be textured with carving,



Hollowing without the Hassel...Mark Mazzo

By Bruce Impey Photos by Ralph Mosher

(Continued from page 3) from attempting such labors of love.





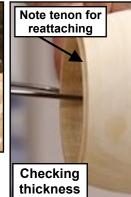


Maple log, trimmed and turned to a cylinder. Step by step in-

structions with illustration were outlined in a slide show which followed by demonstration on the lathe. One could not hope for more, other than to watch it twice.

The process is very simple, though with many steps. The cylinder is turned with tenons at both ends. The lower half is turned with a chucking shoulder. The top is roughed out with some extra material left for the chuck and maybe some for a

Not a problem with Mark's approach, the work is open when hollowing and the chips fall away. Green or dry wood can be used. With green wood, one can either turn to final dimensions at once or as a twice turned bowl. For the demonstration. Mark started with a green quarter section of a Silver







vase handle. Here Mark thinks about the wood that will be removed at the parting and how to make the curve of the vessel arc continuous

Hollowing

the top





Marking the handle location and rim carving depth

through the final joining. Keep the bottom 2/3 or 3/5 of

the total height. Reverse the work onto the chuck and part with a pull saw (narrow kerf). True up the face and make



a shallow tenon for the future joining of the halves. Drill a center hole with a twist bit for a depth gauge, Mark does this with a hand held brace that (Continued on page 5)

Finger Lakes Woodturners <u>http://fingerlakeswoodturners.org/</u> 4

Hollowing without the Hassel...Mark Mazzo

By Bruce Impey Photos by Ralph Mosher

(Continued from page 4)



looked curiously like a visegrip. Mark also showed us a "Monroe Tool" that he uses in the hollowing process.

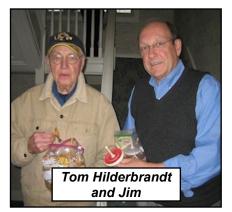
A hidden advantage of hol-

low form turning is that the work does not have to be sanded on the inside, just turn and it's good! The interior will not be visible in the finished product. After parting off the top, hollow the base, then chuck the top. Drill a depth hole but not through. The drill can tear out at the exit so do the final hole later from the top side. Glue the halves with Medium CA or 5 min epoxy for green wood. Fitting the pieces together for the gluing is better done looking at the edge grain than the face. Those big ovals in the face grain can trick you.

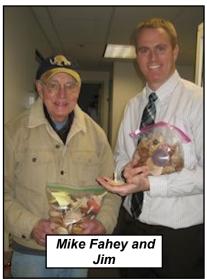
Reverse the work in the chuck and true up so that the shape flows into the bottom. Finish the hole, in this case with a 3/8 Fostner bit. Since this is from the green, remove to dry in a bag or other microclimate to slow the drying. Later sand and finish turn bottom. Embellish the band and you're done! Be creative with how you conceal the joint. ◆

I Was Doubtful-But I Was Wrong...Jim Hotaling

During our September meeting it was announced that we only had 82 tops. Since our target for tops was 250, I was thinking that our goal was not going to be made by our December meeting. By the time we had that meeting we had 274 tops!! A big THANK YOU to all the members that helped us surpass our goal. I would also like to say that I continue to believe that turning tops develops good tool control. Many members reinforced that belief.



One hundred thirty -five tops were delivered to Tom Hilderbrandt -President of Hillside Children's



Photos By Jim Hotaling

Foundation and one hundred twenty-five tops to Michael Fahey -Assistant Director of Community Funding, Golisano Children's Hospital.

Both gen-

tlemen wanted FLWT membership to know that the tops were greatly appreciated! ◆

Spindle Turning Workshop...Mike Brawley

January 26, 2013

How lucky are we

to have members

of FLWT like Mike

Brawley? He is a

very skilled turner

By David Ververs Photos by Ralph Mosher

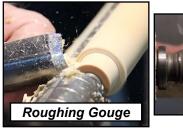


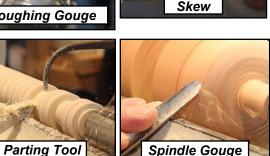
David Ververs

and he is so willing to share his knowledge with us.

Our workshop started at 8 A.M. and finished at 5:30 P.M. We were given a very detailed 47 page handout to

start. Our tools were discussed and inspected. Some tools were honed at which time Mike emphasized one of the fundamental axioms of wood turning: "SHARP TOOLS, FINE CUTS." Next was the roughing gouge. Mike led a discussion and then went through a drill on his lathe.





We then went to our lathes and did a roughing cut, planning cut and a peeling cut. Next up was the skew. Mike did a demo and then we all did a planning cut, peeling cut, "V" cut, shoulder cut and trimming fillets. Working with parting tools was followed by the spindle gouge. We





cut beads and coves. We did a total of eight exercises with Mike constantly available for hands-on help.

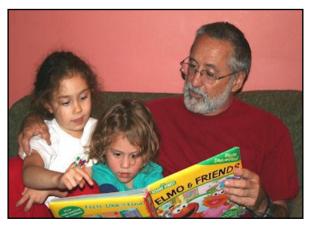


By the end of the day my brain was on overload, but it was a wonderful day. I can also say Mike is a very patient man to put up with me. ◆

Mike demonstrating the tools Finger Lakes Woodturners <u>http://fingerlakeswoodturners.org/</u> 6

By Gary Russell

Library News and Views



Grandpa with Cassie and Cecilia

Last month we had some new donations to the Library. Ed DeMay donated The Loggers by Time Life Books which appears to be a history of logging in the US. Also he donated Finishing by Nick Engler which is a book about all types of finishing most of which is for flat work, but the principles still apply to turning. Doug Crittenden made some more donations. I don't know where he keeps finding them. Anyway, he gave us a whole slew of magazines again and Pathways by Cleveland State University Art Gallery. This book shows examples of various woodturners

work. Thank you Ed and Doug

As you can see from each month's newsletters, donations are the biggest reason our Library has been able to grow so well. Remember they are tax deductible now

I am still looking for someone to convert a few VHS tapes to DVD's. If you can do this please let me or one of the Board members know.

As always a complete list of materials (excluding magazines) are posted on our web site. Materials are loaned out for a month and older materials may be renewed for an additional month by just contacting me. This is not hard folks, and I'm not just looking for e-mail because I'm lonely; it just keeps me informed.

I will continue to bring all the DVD's to the meetings and a few select books and magazines for lending. I will not be recording magazine lending so returning them will on an honor system. Bring one take one. If there is a particular book you would like, please let me know and I will be sure to bring it for you.

Gary ♦

"Ask Woodie"



Dear Woodie,

How do I get that pretty "feather figure" I've seen in some bowls or plates?

-Tickled to Try

Dear Tickled,

Woodrow (Woodie) Turner

Ah, here's the advantage of a chain saw so that you're not con-

strained by how someone else cut your block of wood. I believe what you're referring to is the irregular grain pattern that

By Woodrow (Woodie) Turner

forms at a crotch or fork of a tree as it grows. Here, the pith of the main section divides in two, one for each tree limb, to form a "Y." A standard approach is to cut the piece containing the crotch into halves, sawing in the plane of that "Y" right along the pith of the main section and of both limbs. Ideally, you'll have two Y-shaped half logs with the pith removed by the saw kerf. You can now see what kind of figure has been exposed and whether or not there are bark inclusions to contend with. The figure is most prominent near your fresh cut where the pith

(Continued on page 8)

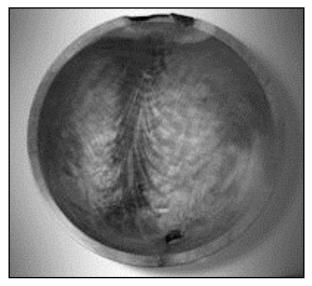
Finger Lakes Woodturners <u>http://fingerlakeswoodturners.org/</u>

"Ask Woodie"

By Woodrow (Woodie) Turner

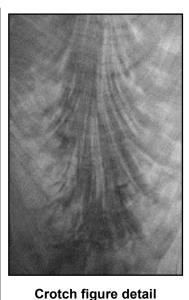
(Continued from page 7)

was – the figure disappears as you go away from the center and towards the outer bark. So, open forms like shallow bowls, plates, or platters are a good design choice. Lay out a circle that makes the best use of the figure and cut it out with a band saw. Then, try to put the base of your turning near where the pith was, so that you don't remove most of the figure when turning your initial shape.



Cherry crotch wood bowl

Since this was probably green wood, you can do an initial turning, let it dry for some



months, and then re-turn. And if normal, areen bowlblanks warp while drving, then crotch wood can be. well, crotchety. You may get some amazing warping during drying. Your turned blank has to be thin enough to dry without crack-

ing, but thick enough to maintain your design. After all, it's hard to turn a plate out of a blank that's warped into the shape of a Pringle! Cherry can have beautiful crotch figure, and it tends to show up better than that of a lighter wood like birch. I've included a few photographs of a bowl I turned from cherry crotch wood some time ago. The beauty within is quite evident!. So, give it a try. There can be magic when you saw open a crotch section and see what's inside.

-Woodie Turner +

From the Publisher

A note of thanks to the contributors of this issue of the *Finger Lakes Woodturners Newsletter*. Mark Mazzo for *From The Chair*, Bruce Impey for his article covering Mark Mazzo's *Hollowing without the Hassel* demonstration, Dave Verers for reporting on Mike Brawley's *Spindle Turning Class*, Gary Russel for his *Library*

By Ralph Mosher

News and Views, Don DeBolt for article covering Steam Bending Wood, David Gould for his write up about How To Make A French Knitter and Jim Hotaling for the tops update I Was Doubtful-But I Was Wrong. Thanks again to all of you for your input! •

Steam Bending Wood...Don DeBolt



The first time I attempted to steam bend a piece of wood was in October of 2007 at the Windsor Institute in Hampton New Hampshire. I was attending a week long class along with 17 other brave souls on how to make a Sack back

and bow

parts of

the chair

which was

both piec-

used for

in a 19"

radius

form

es of

wood.

Don DeBolt

Windsor chair which is the same style as the Raffle chair. As part of the first day of instruction we needed to bend the arm



Fresh Cut Red Oak Log



Riving the log using a tools

It is interesting to note that both these pieces of wood were cut out of a tree several months prior to the class and were placed in a freezer

Photos by Don DeBolt

until they were removed the morning of the class. As the wood thawed you could feel the sap on the surface of the wood. This is done so that the wood is very wet prior to being steam bent - a real plus to a steam bender.



Steam bending form with chair arm cooling down. Notice the metal strap which helps avoid grain from separating



I attempted to steam bend wood at home twice shortly after I returned from the Institute. On my first attempt I was able to salvage 1 piece of wood out of 4. If vou are good at math that is a 25% success rate. То say the least I was

One of my high tech steam benders

quite taken back. So I Emailed Mike Dunbar at the institute about my failures. He responded with a long detailed Email on what I should do.

With new information I attempted steaming 8 pieces and was successful with 7, which would be acceptable by most steam benders standards - 95% is the standard for this kind of bend.

(Continued on page 10)

Steam Bending Wood...Don DeBolt

(Continued from page 9)



Extra Steam bent parts hanging around the shop



Here are some things you should consider when you steam bend:

1) If you are not using straight wood, it will break. The steam bent pieces in the chairs I make have been rived or split out of a 46" long

Sack Back form ready to go

red oak log which is very straight.

- Use green wood. The wetter the better!!! I have used air dried wood with success. I have never used kiln dried because I am told it does not work well at all.
- Some woods work very well and some don't. Red Oak, White Oak, Ash are good. Hickory works well when it is wet but after it has dried you will have better luck steam bending a concrete block.
- Steam bend on a nice bright day with lots of sunshine. I was told this and laughed but I have to say that it is my experience that it is true.
- 5) Get the heat as high as you can before you put the wood into the steam box.



Unfinished Sack Back with an eastern white pine seat. This same chair became the Raffle chair.



Continuous Arm chair with a seat made out of popular. Check out the bends on this one. This is a shield seat with the grain running from back to front. The Sack Back seat grain runs from side to side. Definitely my favorite chair design.

Photos by Don DeBolt

6) Many grain splits can be repaired with CA glue, however some can't.

At present I am working on steam bendina turned spindles on the upper part of an 1804 birdcage chair and trying to successfully steam bend a continuous arm chair. Stay tuned for further developments.

If you believe in the saying "failure is not an option" Steam bending is not for you. If you believe in " if you don't succeed, try, try again" then you need to start to build your own steam box!!!!

How To Make A French Knitter...David Gould



I don't know if it works this way around your house, but it certainly does around mine. My lovely wife will see me coming in from working on the lathe, obviously tired and lightly covered with sawdust and know the time is right to inquire

David Gould

"honey, can you make me one of these . . . except different?". In this case Donna



handed me a small cylindrical object about 5 inches in length with four pins arrayed around the top of the object which had about a ¹/₂ inch hole run-

ning through it.

She said the thing was called a "French Knitter". Got to call it something I guess. It looked more like a toy than a tool but I was assured otherwise. The yarn that is to be knitted starts around the posts at the top and the completed knitting goes down the center hole until it is the desired length and the knit-work can be finished and taken off the top pins. The qualifier was that the ones Donna wanted were to have more pins around a larger hole. She wanted four knitters. One each with 5, 6, 7 & 8 pins. So it began.

As all us married guys do, having no experience in making what was desired, I

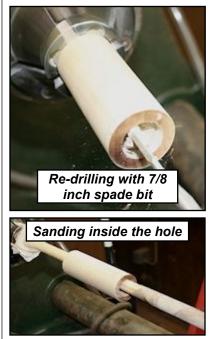
Photos by David Gould

assured my wife that making those items would be "no problem at all". The trouble with enunciating those words is that they imply the job can be done immediately and handed over. Then, of course, I was late from the start.

Thankfully, Woodcraft had a few dowel rods that were 1 ½ inches in diameter, which would allow for a much larger cen-







ter hole while providing outside beads and coves for a comfortable grip. I was able to cut the pur-

cut the purchased dowel rod into several approximately 7" lengths on my band saw.

Then using Vic Marc Shark jaws, I mounted the dowels in turn on the lathe and used a 5/8ths inch drill to drill a hole through each.

That hole would prove too small and I was forced to go

(Continued on page 12)

How To Make A French Knitter...David Gould

(Continued from page 11)

back and use a 7/8ths spade bit for the center holes.

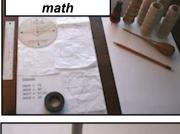
The positive result of that was that sanding the inside of the hole was made easier.

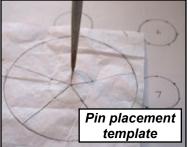


Pin placement

The negative was that the side wall was reduced to 5/16ths which would make the potential depth of the beads

less dramatic.





The pin placement around the rim was a matter of simple math. A circle being 360 degrees, determining the spacing between the pins in each hand piece would be ac-

complished by dividing the number of pins on each specific hand piece into 360 giving the degrees between each pin.

The calculation is:

360°/5	=	72°
360°/6	=	60°
360°/7	=	51.43°
360°/8	=	45°

Fortunately I had a compass for this kind of work. So I made circles on tissue paper and added the angles above.

Then I made circles on plain paper just smaller than the top of each hand piece. With the tissue paper angles overlaying

Photos by David Gould

the plain paper circles and with the use of a scratch awl I made punches along the angles where the angle line on the tissue paper crossed the circle on the plain paper.

Then each plain paper disc was put on top of each hand piece and the angles marked. The halfway point on the side wall (by thickness) was where I would drill each pilot hole to receive the escutcheon pins (3/4" x 14 gage – Ace Hardware).

The holes were drilled; the pins inserted and tapped-in with the aid of a jeweler's hammer; and except for adding finish, the French Knitters were complete.

The knitter in use: The "No Problem At All" statement evolved







into about four solid days of work. Donna however is happy and that, of course, is all that matters. ♦

Name	Day Tel	Eve Tel	Email	Turning Skills / Specialty
Doug Crittenden	924-5903	924-5903	cleo99@frontiernet.net	General turning
Ed DeMay	406-6111	924-5265	edemay@rochester.rr.com	Bowl turning, dust collection
Ward Donahue	334-3178	334-3178	wddonah@frontiernet.net	Spindle & hollow turning, cor- ing, sharpening
Jim Echter	377-9389	377-9389	jechter@rochester.rr.com	Spindle & faceplate turning, sharpening
David Gould	245-1212	245-1212	D2sGould@aol.com	Bowls, plates and hollow-forms
Jim Hotaling	223-4877	223-4877	jhotaling2198@aol.com	Christmas ornaments
Ed Lehman	637-3525		eljw@rochester.rr.com	General turning
Ralph Mosher	359-0986	359-0986	2rmosher@rochester.rr.com	Bowl turning, Boxes, Sharpening, Tool control
Dale Osborne	(315) 524-7212	(315) 524-7212	dborn3@rochester.rr.com	General turning
Erwin A. Tschanz	271-5263 (Dec – Mar)	271-5263 (Dec – Mar)		Historical, bowls, plates, gob- lets, boxes, bone, antler

Mentor Contacts¹

1. Here's a great way for you to improve your turning skills. FLWT has award winning and expert turners who, at no cost, are willing to share their expertise oneto-one with other club members. A mentoring relationship might be as simple as getting a mentor's advice in a one time conversation. Or, it might include regu-

lar hands-on sessions over a lathe. The exact nature is up to you and your mentor. If you feel you could benefit from mentoring, organize your thoughts about your needs and contact an appropriate volunteer mentor above to determine if he or she is a match and available. 🔶

Calendar of FLWT Woodturning-Events 2012/2013

Date		Event	Location / Time	Pre-Mtg. Show & Share	Challenge	Demo / Topic
Feb 2013	Fri. 22nd	FLWT Turning Mtg.	Turning Classroom		Turn a Two Piece Hollow Vessel	Peter Exton Invited Speaker
	Sat. 23rd	FLWTIsaac Heating & AirTurningConditioningMtg.Classroom		None	None	Peter Exton Demo 9:00 AM—4:00PM
	26th	FLWT BOD Mtg.	ТВА 7:00 - 9:00			
Mar 2013	21th	FLWT Turning Mtg. Isaac Heating & Air Conditioning Classroom 6:00 - 9:00		6:00 - 6:45	ТВА	Bruce Trojan Creativity and/or Carving
	26th	FLWT BOD Mtg.	ТВА			

FLWT Thanks Isaac Heating & Air Conditioning



FLWT thanks Isaac Heating & Air Conditioning and Lee Spencer, VP of Finance, for their generosity in letting FLWT use the "Isaac University" facilities for our meetings! ♦

FLWT Thanks Rockler Woodworking and Hardware a 2012 / 2013 Season Sponsor!



- FLWT members (must show membership card) receive a 10% discount.
- Excludes sale items, power tools & Leigh jigs, CNC, Festool, and Rockler Gift Cards.
- Valid at Buffalo, N.Y store only.
- Not valid with any other coupon or offer.

FLWT Board of Directors 2012/2013

Position	Name	Home Tel	Cell Tel	Email
President / Chair	Mark Mazzo	265-4002	978-1926	mark@mazzofamily.com
Vice President	Bruce Trojan		261-7230	trojanbd@frontiernet.net
Secretary	Bill McColgin	586-1417	402-0967	mccolgin@rochester.rr.com
Treasurer	Clifford Weatherell	737-7815	737-7815	canoeboy@rochester.rr.com
Librarian	Gary Russell	227-8527		cngrussell@rochester.rr.com
Newsletter	Ralph Mosher	359-0986		2rmosher@rochester.rr.com
Advisor	Jeffery Cheramie			
Advisor	Roger Coleman	288-0344		rogeracoleman@rochester.rr.com

Local and National Woodturning Events of Interest

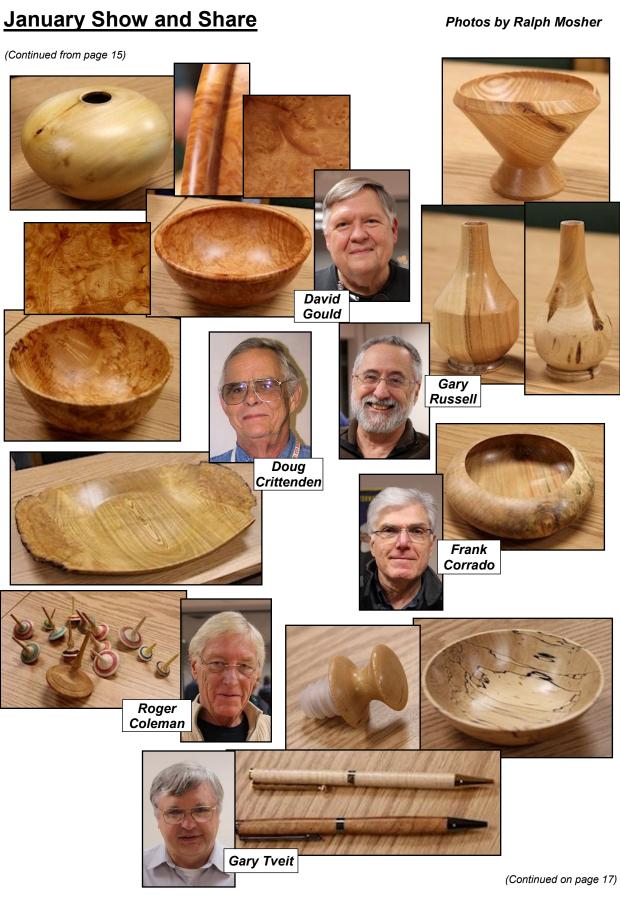
Year/Date		Event	For More Information	
March 2013	23rd 24th	Totally Turning Saratoga Springs City Center, Saratoga Springs, NY	http://www.totallyturning.com/	
May 2013	10th 11th	The CNY Woodturners Present Brad Sears Demonstration and Workshop	http://www.cnywoodturners.org/	
June 2013	28 th - 30 th	2013 AAW Symposium Tampa Convention Center, Tampa FL, June 28-30.	<u>http://www.woodturner.org/sym/</u> sym2013/index.htm	

January Show and Share

Photos by Ralph Mosher



Finger Lakes Woodturners <u>http://fingerlakeswoodturners.org/</u> 15



January Show and Share

Photos by Ralph Mosher

