

From The Chair – January 2014



Mark Mazzo

Happy New Year to everyone! I hope that everyone was able to attend last month's meeting and Holiday get together. This is the second year that we have done this event in December and it has been a rousing success! Thanks to everyone who attended and to those who brought the great treats to share with all of us.

Not only did we get to

sample delectable treats last month, but we also had a fine demonstration on Thread Chasing by our own David Gould. Thanks to David for a job well done! This month will give us the opportunity to see if anyone will try their hand at this technique to enhance their turnings.

We also collected a good amount of spinning tops to donate to children in various organizations. While we can always use more tops to donate, I know that Jim Hotaling our resident FLWT top coordinator is pleased with the results from December.

This month outgoing FLWT Secretary Bill McColgin will be doing a demonstration on selecting and turning Crotch Wood for Figure. If you have ever looked at a crotched log and wondered how to best utilize it and/or looked at a turning with beautiful curly figure and wondered where it came from, this demo will be the one for you to attend. Bill will be giving us all the info that we need in order to best utilize those unique pieces of wood.

This is that last call to renew your memberships if you have not already done so – either via PayPal on the website or via application and check through our Treasurer. As of our January meeting the club communications will be going out only to paid members.

I look forward to seeing everyone at our next meeting – until then, keep turning and keep learning!

--Mark

Here's a look at the rest of our season:

January: Bill McColgin – Turning Crotch Wood for Figure
 February: Gary Russell – Turn a Bowl
 March: Bob Rosand – National Speaker (Friday night meeting, Saturday demo) see www.rrosand.com
 April: Ralph Mosher – Turning a Goblet
 May: Jeffery Cheramie – Spirals
 As you can see, we have a great planned. I look forward to our future meetings and all of the great and interesting turning topics we will cover. Until our next meeting, keep turning and keep learning!

FLWT meetings are held from 6:45 to 9:00 PM (pre-meeting Show and Share starts at 6:00 PM) on the 3rd Thursday of the month each month. Our meetings are held at the Isaac Heating and Air Conditioning University classroom, 180 Charlotte St, Rochester, 14607. For more information, go

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Lifetime Membership —Tops

Congratulations Ralph Mosher on your
Lifetime Membership
from the Fingerlakes Woodturners Association



TOPS TOP GOAL - Jim Hotaling

At the Dec. meeting of FLWT's tops of all shapes,color and design filled our top collection box. When all the tops were counted the total came to 261 !!!! Our goal was 250. I would like to thank all the members who helped us reach this goal and especially a senior member who turned sixty-five tops. the quality of the tops continue to improve. I'm always concerned about quality. Great way to close out the year 2013.



Thanks Jim for your efforts

Ralph Mosher Note—Lathe Plaque

An Unexpected Surprise!

Ralph Mosher

On December 19th, 2013 my Grandson Patrick and I set off to attend the holiday meeting of *The Finger Lakes Woodturners*. All in all it seemed that a great evening was in store...anticipating great company, exciting “challenge project” and “show and share” displays, a great demonstration and those “oh so good” refreshments along with the apple cider!

The showcase of members’ work included an exciting variety of items from bird house ornaments for the challenge project to show and share vessels, pens, a unique bowl turned from newsprint, a how to photo display on making tall turned columns and over 250 tops to be donated to children. To say the least, this was another fantastic display of the talents of the membership of *The Finger Lakes Woodturners*.

Members eventually drifted into the meeting room where Mark Mazzo gave a run-down of the evening’s agenda, a few members discussed their work, drawings for the challenge project, show and share and the 50/50, of which Patrick took the prize. On with David Gould’s thread throwing demonstration!

But wait!! One more thing...Mark went on to describe an award given to members in the past, *The Finger Lakes Woodturners Association* Lifetime Membership Award.

As Mark was describing the contributions of the recipient of this award my thoughts went to members that had received the award in the past and their sustained contributions. Who might be the recipient this year? You can imagine my unexpected surprise when Mark asked me to come forward to receive the award. I was asked to say a few words but I was speechless! The only thing to say was Thank You. I feel humbled by this recognition and gesture because so many other members have made significant contribution to the organization. So, thank you again and I assure you that I’ll continue to be a part of *The Finger Lakes Woodturners Association!* It is a fun and satisfying organization with lots of great people.

A Tribute to Dave Smith



Chasing Threads with David Gould

By Bruce Impey



At the December meeting of the FLWT, David Gould gave us a demonstration on hand chasing threads on the lathe. David apparently got interested in turning threads through a Mike Mahoney demonstration on turning urns. David thinks that demos at Craft Supplies are worthwhile and recommended Robert Sorby's video on thread turning and Wyoming-woodturner's video on youtube.

Our local hardwoods, Cherry, Maple and Walnut are "soft" woods compared to the woods used for thread turning. A proxy for hardness is specific gravity. Heavier woods popular for threading include Blackwood,



Boxwood, Lignum Vitae and Osage Orange. The denser the wood the better it is for threading. Lignum Vitae has the useful property of being self-waxing.



Naturally, threads have to be turned on male and female on the mating pieces and David showed us a special tool by Robert Sorby for matching the OD of the tenon and the ID of the hole. It didn't seem to be a foolproof



guide but was an interesting gadget with calibrations for 10, 16 and 20 TPI. The male threads get cut with the straight on

tool and the female with the side cutting tool. In both instances the leading edge gets a Most instructors recommend turning the female



thread first and then making the male thread to match. David recommended that if the male threads need to be resized, they should be completely removed and recut. The reason is that cutting into the full thread profile tears the tops of the threads off. Some recommend using wax on the final cuts but David doesn't see the need to use lubrication.



Mike Mahoney uses thin inserts of dense wood to make threaded joints. Mahoney cuts wafers for this purpose and lets them dry before gluing them in. Remember not to use this technique on a green turning blank!

Chasing Threads with David Gould (con't)

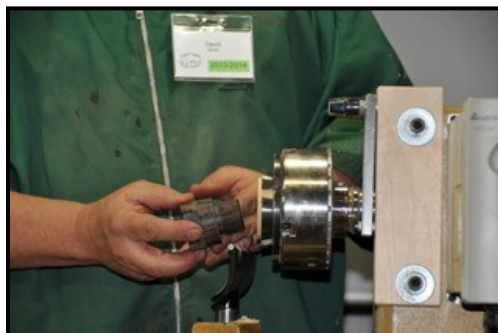
Finials can be screwed into such an insert and the assembly turned as one piece. chamfer for starting the thread. Don't start the cut with the first tooth. Keep the lathe at a slow speed, 200 to 300 rpm is best. Sharpening is done just on the top surface of the tool with a diamond hone. New tools have to have the edges softened (the edge that rests on the tool rest) as they are sent sharp from the manufacturer. Make sure the tool rest is smooth as well.



David found a boxwood supplier that provided the material for his demonstration, Griffin Exotic Hardwoods. The largest diameter they could supply was 2 ½ in. The Vigmark chuck is the most heavy duty that he has found and

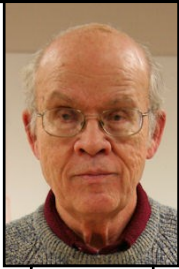


with "hard" woods he mounts them in the scroll very tight, using both screws. David showed use of the Sorby relief tool and warned about continuing your cut right into the chuck. On the ID let the tool contact at the centerline or just above. Strike the first threads ½ to 1/3 of the way into the tool. Materials other than wood can be great too. Home Depot carries 4x4 samples of Corian that they might let you take home to color match with your décor. You might end up using them as threading inserts on your hollow forms.

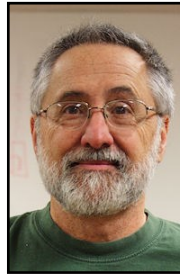


The handout from Dave on this topic is posted on the FLWT website

Members Show and Share



**Erwin
Tschanz**



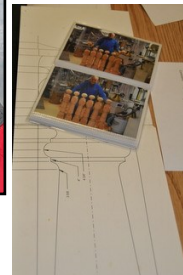
Gary Russell



**Harry
Beaver**



**Jim
Echter**



**Jerry
Sheridan**



**Bill
McColgin**



**Mike Brawley
And
Hollis Heinzerling**



Patrick Dioguardi



Frank Corrado



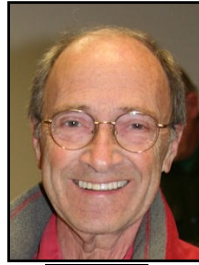
**Dave
Gilbert**



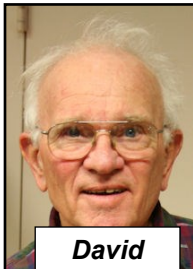
Members Show and Share (con't)



**Denis
Caysinger**



**Marty
Chatt**



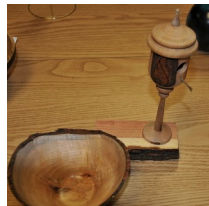
**David
Schwardt**



**Jim
Hotaling**



**Sam
Tischler**



**Clifford
Weatherell**



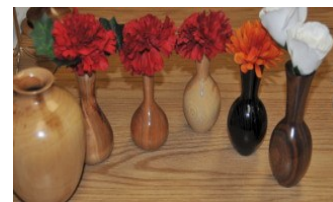
**Albert
Filo**



**Mike
Sullivan**



**Richard
VanHanehem**



“Ask Woodie” - Totally Turning

Ask Woodie

Dear Woodie,

Where do I find free burls. Tell us more about burls.

Dear Gratis,

Gratis Woods



Woodrow (Woodie)

Where do you find *free* burls? Why, in your friendly neighborhood hardwood store, right next to the free ebony, free pink ivory, and free agarwood (look it up). OK, sorry, that was a bit harsh. (Still recovering from New Year's.)

Burls on a tree or its root system result from stress, be it injury, insect damage, or disease. The burl is full of bud eyes.* The fibers are highly interlocked and “crazy-grained,” which makes the wood resistant to splitting, but also prone to chip out on your lathe. Highly figured burl is desirable and expensive. You'll readily find supply houses that specialize in burls such as amboyna, big leaf maple, or imports from Australia. But you said “free.” Well, burls occur in all different kinds of trees right here. You've seen burls on willow trees, and at times, generous members have given away willow burl sections at your club meetings. In the Adirondacks, you'll see pine burls all over (some porches have burl-tree columns, and there is burl furniture for sale). Sawmills might have some small burl scrap. Also, check with your local arborist, who is sure to come across burls occasionally. Too often, those just get ground up or hauled to the town dump. So, get some and practice on it. Then you can shell out for the amboyna.

*Michael O'Donnell, “Turning Green Wood,” (Guild of Master Craftsman Publications Ltd., p. 16, Lewes, East Sussex, England, 2000.)

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Local and National Woodturning Events of Interest

Year/Date	Event	For More Information
February 21-23, 2014	Woodworking Show Somerset, NJ	http:// www.thewoodworkingshows.com /shows.htm
MARCH 29 and 30 , 2014	TOTALLY TURNING WOODTURNING SYMPOSIUM	www.totallyturning.com

Mentor Contacts¹

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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, coring, 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
Gary Russell	227-8527		cngrussell@gmail.com	General turning, bowls, ornaments, finials
Erwin A. Tschanz	271-5263 (Dec – Mar)	271-5263 (Dec – Mar)		Historical, bowls, plates, goblets, boxes, bone, antler

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 one-to-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. ♦



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