

Presidential Mumblings March 2019



Gary Russell

Bruce Impey was our featured demonstrator last month where he talked about how he goes about making a turned piece of furniture. His demonstration was centered on making a Queen Anne style Tea Table. Bruce not only talked about the turning process but also the joinery. I believe most of us don't have the time necessary to be able to complete a Tea Table in time for

our next meeting; so, Bruce suggested that any joined turning would be acceptable as the challenge project. Plus we've included any turning that can be used in the making of a piece of furniture. If you have the time and the ability, a Tea Table would be great.

Our demonstrator for the this month's meeting on Thursday March 21 will be David Barnet who will be showing and discussing natural edge bowl turning. The meeting will start at 6:00 pm with Show and Share followed by a brief business/info session at 6:30 followed by David's demonstration.

We are collecting your donations for the Isaac United Way Breakfast Auction to be held April 12th. Please bring them in as this will be the last opportunity to bring them to a regular meeting. If you can't get them here by then, Lee Spencer says you can contact him and bring them directly to Isaac's. Remember, Isaac has been letting us use their facilities for free. Let's show them our appreciation by donating.

Those of you who attended the February meeting had the opportunity to view our improvements to the audio/video system. Everyone seemed to be very pleased. Jeffery Cheramie who has taken the lead on this project along with Phil Rose, Terry Lund and Lee Spencer did a fabulous job of purchasing and hooking up the equipment before our meeting. Doug Crockett has been helping but wasn't involved with this current setup. Further improvements are coming and will be purchased and implemented in stages. The long range goals are to be able to record our meetings and make it available to the members in various formats, make the equipment portable so we can use it at any special event or workshop, and to be able to

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broadcast our meetings on the web. We will provide regular feedback to the membership of our progress as we proceed.

According to Jim Hotaling, we produced and donated 963 tops for the children at Golisano's Children's hospital and Hillside Center. Our goal was for 1000 tops. We made our goal if you do some tricky math and do some rounding off. Well, I'm not sure that is good enough; so let's get started early and maybe we can actually meet our goal next year. Jim has already distributed them, and they were well received. Thanks to all who participated.

We are still looking for volunteers. If you can help the Club, please step forward. Don't be that person who just sits there and lets other people do all the jobs. If you are a reluctant volunteer because you are a beginner, we can help you get started. There are plenty of opportunities that don't even involve actual turning. You will make new friends, and that in itself will help you on your way to becoming a good turner. Please let any Board member know if you are interested. As always, we are looking for multiple people for each position so no one has to do all the work. I'll see you at the meeting and 'til then keep turning and stay warm.

FLWT meetings are held from 6:30 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, 50 Hollender Parkway, Rochester, NY 14615. For more information, go to <http://fingerlakeswoodturners.com/>.

Turning as an Element of Furniture

with Bruce Impey

by Denis Caysinger

On Thursday evening February 22 Bruce Impey presented his insights on Turning as an Element of Furniture.

Bruce brought a finished example of a Queen Anne style walnut tea table and briefly talked about how it was constructed. The top was roughly 18 inches round. He turned the round post that connects the table top to the base. The base consisted of 3 carved cabriole legs that are attached to the bottom of the post with dovetail joints.



Bruce Impey shop photo

Bruce talked about how he attached the table top to the post. On the bottom of the table top he attached a small round wood plate then used a mechanics tap to thread the plate. Then he turned a connector piece and cut mating threads on one end. The connector is glued into the top of the post, then the table top is screwed onto the connector.

Bruce had difficulty using a mechanics die to cut the male threads on the connector stem. He used a vacuum system to impregnate the wood with acrylic resin to see if he could strengthen the wood. Eventually he had to use hand thread chasing tool to cut the threads on the connector.

Bruce turned the table post out of walnut that he had cut near his home and air dried for several years. First the blank is rough turned round, then the final diameters are marked out with a parting tool. A spindle roughing gouge takes the diameter down close to the desired profile, then he uses a skew chisel to refine the curves



and shoulders. Once the basic shape is formed, the pedestal is taken off the lathe and the dovetail sockets for the legs are cut. It makes sense not to totally finish the post at this time in the event something goes wrong with chiseling out the sockets. Since there are 3 legs, the legs are spaced at 120-degree intervals around the post.



The legs are cut out of the same lumber as the tops, then shaped with a spoke shave, chisel and rasp. Dovetails are cut in the legs so they slide into the matching dovetail sockets in the post.



Once the tenons are correct and the legs fit as desired, the post goes back on the lathe for the finish cuts.

The tabletop blank is glued up 4/4 (1 in thick) quartersawn lumber (explained [here](#) and [here](#)) and cut to the rough diameter on a bandsaw. The quarter sawn lumber is worth the trouble to obtain because of the dimensional stability it provides. He mounts a faceplate on the top of the table blank, being careful to drill the screw holes only about 3/8 in deep. The holes will



be turned away completely when he reverses the blank. The bottom of the tabletop is smoothed and flattened. Sometimes Bruce does this with a hand plane off the lathe.



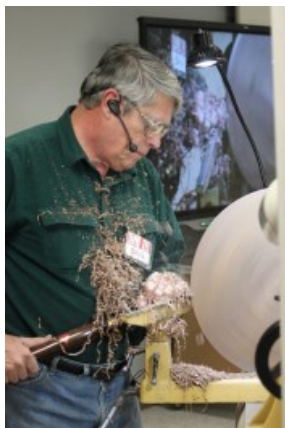
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After the bottom of the tabletop is finished, the faceplate is moved to the bottom side so the top can be finished. The faceplate screw holes on the bottom will be covered by the threaded attachment plate he made earlier.

The final diameter and outer profile of the rim is turned on the backside and about half the material is removed from the front leaving a curved lip at the rim.

Bruce uses sandpaper glued to a block of wood to sand the final surface flat. A suggestion was made at the meeting to round the end of the wood block and cut the sandpaper to that curved edge to avoid losing the crispness of the detail at the rim.



Demo photos by Bob Zingo

Thank you to Bruce for the great demo of how to turn a tea table. It's folks like Bruce who really enhance the experience of belonging to FLWT.



Scouts. After a lot of emails back and forth, and internal discussions among our team of workshop instructors, we eventually settled on doing a session at St Michael's drivers from 6pm to 7:30 to turn spin tops. Thanks to the generous assistance from Pete Shea, Cliff Weatherell, Gary Russell, Harry Stanton, Gary Tveit, Mike Brawley, Denis Caysinger, Jeffery Cheramie, and Bruce Trojan, each of the participants were able to turn and embellish/decorate at least 2 tops each, in the relatively short session. I believe this establishes a new record for 9 participants in one of our public outreach sessions.

Special Workshop with Girl Scouts

by Terry Lund

A workshop held on February 5 at St. Michaels for 7 girl scouts



and their two adult leaders. Julie Sherman had attended a Perinton Workshop last August 11 with her son and husband. Julie is a Girl Scout leader of Cadette Troop 60496 in Fairport. Cadette is the grade level. It is for girls grade 6-8. All of the girls in the troop are 7th graders who live in the Fairport area. Julie contacted Gary Russell in September about the possibility of FLWT doing a turning session for her eight 12 year old Girl



Greece Workshop

by Gary Scialdone

A turning workshop was held in the Greece community center on Sat Feb 2. The workshops consist of several lathes and a tool sharpening system set up around the room, one per student and one-on-one instruction by a club volunteer. Participants start with a cylindrical bowl blank and every participant goes home with a turned bowl. In Greece participants included a married couple looking ahead to retirement activities that they can do together and a middle aged woman who came to prove her son's prediction wrong. He had said that she couldn't do it.

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The workshops are fun, very satisfying for the students, offer a different sort of challenge for the instructors and are a great way to promote the club. I suspect that some portion of students will carry on with turning and are likely to turn to the club for the community, support and information that we offer.

We had 7 instructors- Cliff Weatherell, Denis Caysinger, Jim Echter, Bruce Trojan, Pete Shea, Gary Russell and Phil Rose for six students. Terry Lund was a helper. We also had one father and son there with his teenage friend and an elderly man in a wheelchair who was signed up to turn but didn't feel up to it so he just observed his son. Two of the teachers were first time outreach instructors - Bruce and Jim.

Perinton Workshop

picture story



Library Update

By Denis Caysinger

No new items in the Library this month, but several reminders.

Don't forget, there are many books in the library that we cannot bring to meetings. Please contact either Gary or Denis to have these books brought to the meeting. The listing is on the website under resources. If you are looking for a specific tool, please contact us for those as well.

When checking out items from the library please be sure that a Librarian marks the item down on our tracking sheet. And don't hesitate to offer suggestions to Gary or Denis regarding library operations, or new items you would like to see in the library.

Lastly, as with anything that members borrow from the library, if you lose it or break it, you're responsible for buying another one for the club.

Gary Tveit & Denis Caysinger

library@fingerlakeswoodturners.com



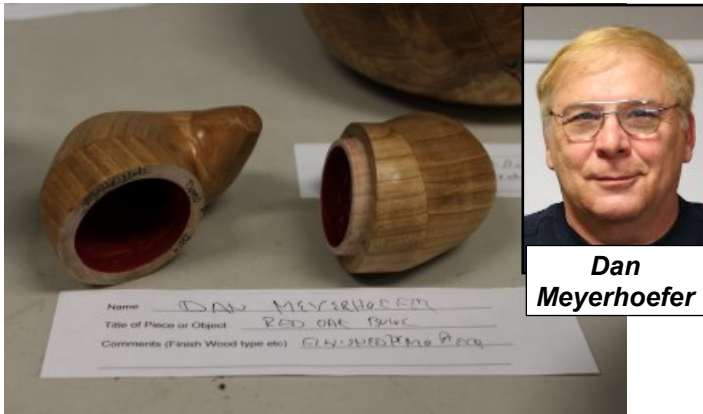
**Phil
Rose**



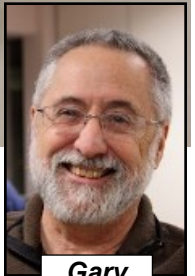
**Erwin
Tschanz**



Show and Share



**Dan
Meyerhoefer**



**Gary
Russell**



Pete Shea

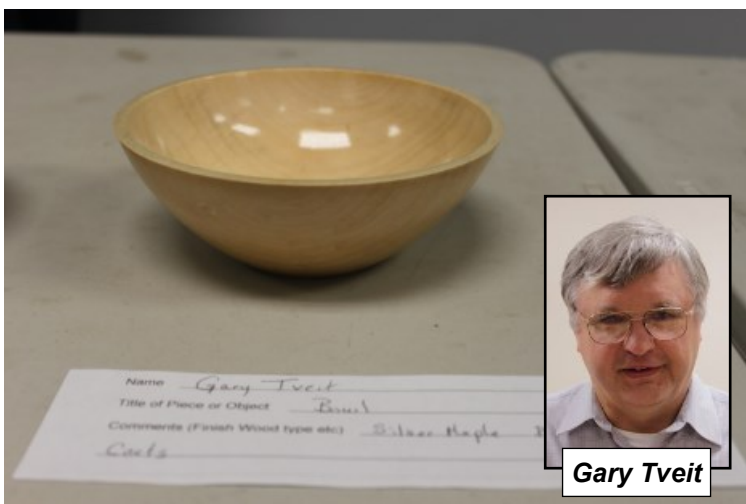


**Jerry
Sheridan**





Dave Harp



Gary Tveit



Clifford Weatherell



Ryan McElhinney



Todd Cranston



Jon English



Harry Beaver

If your work is shown here but not your picture, please see the photographer at the next meeting.

Separating the Hay from the Sticks

by Gary Scialdone

SG Art Turning is a business run by a young man in Quebec named Simon. He has only been turning for a few years but I think that he shows some good skill and has nice eye for design. He has an envious access to ambrosia maple and has upgraded over time to the Laguna 24 inch lathe. (Drool) He does a wide variety of pieces including large bowls and sinks.

A video of one of his sink projects can be viewed [here](#).

In the video you can see the joy of producing large ribbons from a heavy, wet piece. He completes the entire project primarily with bowl gauges which is something that I enjoy doing. (To be honest that is in part, sadly, due to my fear of the skew and heavy scraper.) On his sinks he uses an Aluminite epoxy finish that produces a lovely gloss. He applies thick coats, removes air bubbles with a flame and then rotates the piece ingeniously by mounting a rotisserie motor to his head stock to turn the piece slowly; resulting in an even coat as the epoxy cures.

As I watch YouTube videos I am always looking for safety tips, unsafe practices, instruction and confirmation that my techniques are being done by others. In this video I noticed some use of the chainsaw on the lathe that gives me pause. On one hand I wonder about the things that could go wrong during this practice. On the other hand I do like to use my chainsaw at waist height for comfort and safety. I have built a large, wooden saw buck out of scrap for this purpose in my shop.

I would very much like to hear the opinions, reactions and ideas of other members from watching this video. If some of you send your ideas in we can publish them next month.

If you'd like to see pictures of more of Simon's work you can do so at on [Facebook](#).

2018-19 SCHEDULE AND MENTOR CONTACTS

March	David Barnet "Green Bowls"
April	Jim Echter
May	National Turner—Alan Lacer
June	Bruce Trojan "Turning an Off-Center Platter"

Mentor Contacts

Name	Phone (585)	Email	Turning Skills / Specialty
Mike Brawley	755-2714	mbrawley@rochester.rr.com	Design Principles, Spindles; Bowls and Platters; Sharpening
Jim Byron	478-9911	jimbyronhome@yahoo.com	General Turning; Bowls, Spindles; Hollowing; Sharpening
Ward Donahue	334-3178	wddonah@frontiernet.net	Spindles; Hollowing; Coring; Sharpening
Jim Echter	704-7610	jechter@rochester.rr.com	Spindles; Sharpening; Faceplate turning
David Gould	245-1212	d2sGould@aol.com	Bowls; Plates; Hollow-Forms
Jim Hotaling	223-4877	jhotal2198@aol.com	Christmas Ornaments
Terry Lund	455-2517	terry.lund@gmail.com	General Turning; Dust Collection Design and Installation, Sharpening
Ralph Mosher	359-0986	2mosher@rochester.rr.com	Bowls; Faceplate Turning, Sharpening
Erwin Tschanz	271-5263	TschanzLandscape@aol.com	Historical; Bowls; Plates; Goblets; Boxes; Bone; Antler
Gary Russell	353-3148	cngrussell@gmail.com	General turning, bowls, ornaments, finials

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 regular 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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