



OHIO VALLEY WOODTURNERS

January 2017

WWW.OVWG.ORG

A Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners

www.woodturner.org

Home Grown Demonstration January 21, 2017

Dick Gerard and Doug Thompson will start off our OVWG new year!

Dick lives and wood turns in Indianapolis, Indiana. He has been turning since 1981 and has been affiliated with the AAW since its beginning at Arrowmont in 1985. From Dick's website you can learn more about Dick's journey through the world of woodturning. Dick will take us through the creation of a sphere or two and as time permits, decorate the spheres. Examples of his works can be found on his [website](#).

Doug Thompson, of [Thompson Lathe Tools](#) will be discussing several aspects of Thompson Lathe Tool creation: What they are and how they compare to other turning tools that are available in the marketplace.

In Doug's words, "In the beginning I tried many different tools, I found one but they wanted two times as much as the highest priced tool on the market. As a machine repairman by trade and a good machinist, the only thing to do was to make the best tools on the market. What started with a single design would grow, with the help and support of woodturners across the country, to the company it is today. To each and every one I say thank you."

Doug will also present an introduction to sharpening for all turners, both new and "old". Doug will explain why sharpening with a convex secondary grind is important to adding that "something special" to your next turning creation. Doug will have his tools available should you wish to trade some of that "green" you accumulated during the holidays for a new turning tool.

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Check out the website Events Calendar for all upcoming activities at the Learning Center

President's Letter



First, let me wish each of you a happy new year filled with opportunities that enable you to meet your turning goals. As with other new year's resolutions, I suggest that you set for yourself some goals pertaining to improvements you want to make with respect to your turning skills. Once you have done this you can look at the many resources available to you within the OVWG that can be used to accomplish your goals. If you don't find what you need talk to me or another Board member about how we can help.

The Board of the OVWG has been working hard to prepare for an exciting 2017. As with other years there will be professional and home grown demonstrations where you can learn new turning techniques. There will also be several 3 day classes offered by professionals and the highlight of the year is likely to be our Symposium in October. I suggest that you get these on your calendar early so that you can take advantage of the knowledge and skills of nationally and internationally known turners who will be coming.

Our first monthly meeting of the year will feature a homegrown demonstration by one of our members, Dick Gerard. Dick has been turning for over 35 years and is one of the original organizers of the American Association of Woodturners. In addition to Dick we will have Doug Thompson of Thompson Lathe Tools with us. He will provide us with insights into the development of his company and will give a demonstration on tool sharpening that will be helpful to novice and master turners alike.

Another important aspect of this meeting will be the **January contest**. In case you have forgotten, the challenge for this contest is to turn something (anything) and enhance it with color. If you have not yet prepared a piece there is still time to do so. Your participation helps to make the contest more competitive and challenges others to be more creative. While you are learning new turning techniques from Dick and participating in the contest you will also have an opportunity to **renew your membership**. It appears that several of you have forgotten to do this since our numbers have dropped considerably since the end of the year. Please see Kurt to take care of this task or do it on-line before the meeting.

I am not sure if this happens to everyone, but I find as I get older time seems to pass by much faster. While my logical mind tells me that this is not the case, it does seem like only yesterday that we were looking forward to the start of 2016 and all that it had to offer. The previous year, 2015, had ushered in the Grand Opening of the Learning Center (LC) in September, October brought Symposium 2015, and we hosted our first professional turner (Todd Hoyer) in the Lindner Annex of the Kennedy Heights Arts Center in November. All were very successful and gave us an optimistic outlook with respect to the future of the Ohio Valley Woodturners Guild and its move to the Lindner Annex.

Since we have now completed a full year in the Learning Center, I believe that it is appropriate that we briefly look back on the actions that brought us to our current situation. Without a doubt, prior to 2015 the OVWG had been a very successful organization for many years and could have continued to operate in much the same way for years to come. Holding monthly meetings in the North Minister Presbyterian Church did not cost very much and we could have continued there indefinitely. I also think we could have continued to hold hands-on classes at the Woodcraft Store. However, beyond these two activities we were unable to provide our members with experiences and opportunities that would enable them to become accomplished and confident wood turners.

At the recommendation of the Board, the membership decided to take a big step (risk) by leasing space in the newly developed Lindner Annex of the Kennedy Heights Arts Center. Fortunately for

the Guild, past symposia had resulted in the growth of a rather healthy treasury that made it possible to embark on a venture that would change the organization in significant ways. In addition to these funds many members made generous contributions of cash, equipment, turning tools, and of their time.

While the cost of the lease was a considerable amount, many other expenditures were necessary in order to turn the LC into the type of facility that would meet the needs of our members. This included having the Learning Center built (work benches, ceiling tile, epoxy flooring, etc) and wired to fit our needs. Other costs included the purchase of 8 new lathes, other power tools, turning gouges, and all the other items that are necessary to make a wood turning studio functional.

Some questioned the wisdom of taking this path for a variety of reasons and had doubts that it would work out to be a positive venture. However, after a full year in the Learning Center we can begin to see the results of this decision. I admit to being an optimist, but I do believe that there is little doubt that the LC has been a success and that it has added to our Guild in many ways that are the envy of other AAW chapters. Very few, if any, have any sort of facility that even comes close to what we provide our members.

A look back at some of the activities that have occurred over the past year is very impressive. In addition to the usual monthly meetings (6 professional demonstrators); we had 4 three day classes by professionals; 10-12 open shops per month; several classes by members on such topics as sharpening and inside-out ornaments; turn and learn classes; introduction to woodturning classes; 2 "pens for the troops" sessions; etc. For the year over 165 different members made a total of approximately 928 visits to the LC and spent over 3000 hours engaged in woodturning activities.

All of this is even more impressive when one takes into consideration that a new member can join with absolutely no turning experience for \$25 a year, attend a free orientation class, attend a series of turn and learn classes (for a small fee), have the help of a mentor, attend several open shops per month for free where assistance is provided, and quickly become a competent turner. The almost unbelievable aspect of this is that she/he can do all of this without initially having to purchase a lathe or turning tools - an ideal test drive before buying.

So, if you are new to the OVWG or you have not kept track of what is going on this will give you a brief overview of our success during the past year. We will provide you with a more detailed annual report during the January meeting scheduled for the 21st. During this meeting you will also be presented with a proposal for a strategic plan that will guide our activities for the next 5 years. Those of us on the Board feel that long term planning is the key to our continued success and development in ways that best serve our membership. This proposal will have much to offer and will provide many opportunities for your involvement.

Upcoming/Ongoing Events

Jan 21, 2017	Home Grown and Contest
Feb 25, 2017	Robin Costelle www.robincostelle.com/
Mar 18, 2017	Steve Pritchard www.stevepritchardwoodturning.com/
Apr 15, 2017	Home Grown Demonstration
May 8-10, 2017	Rudy Lopez - Three Day Class
May 20 , 2017	Michael Mocho www.mmocho.com/

Our guest professional turner for the November meeting was Mr. Dennis Paullus. His home is in Tennessee and he is an active member of both the OVWG and the Mid-South Chapter of the AAW. His demonstration

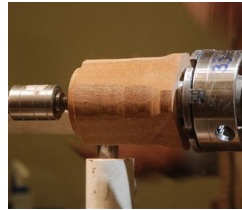


consisted of turning one of his signature Acorn boxes as well as a “secret compartment” box with a very unique method of cutting threads into the top and bottom portions. Prior to finishing the project, he demonstrated the use of a shop made burning tool to create a distinctive pattern on the exterior of the box to help mask/conceal the joint between the box and lid, giving the piece the appearance of being a solid object with no apparent means of opening it.

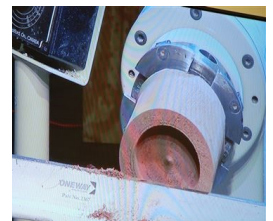
Acorn box For the lid, or nut shaped part, Dennis started with a dry blank of maple. Due to the requirement that the wood not expand or contract excessively, he stressed the importance of using dry stock. Instead of mounting the piece between centers, he simply approximated the center of the tailstock end and used the tail stock to jam the piece against the jaws of the 4-jaw chuck much in the same manner as on would use a jam chuck to clean up the bottom of a small bowl. This was a quicker way to turn a tenon on one end without having to remove a spur drive and replace it with a 4-jaw chuck. Once the piece was brought to a cylindrical shape with a tenon on one end, he reversed the piece and placed the tenon in the jaws of the chuck to begin hollowing the center of the lid. His preferred method was to drill a hole in the lid portion and use a spindle gouge, sharpened to a long point similar to an Irish grind, and to use a series of pull cuts from the center, outwards corresponding to a “downhill” direction of cutting the grain and minimizing the amount of tear-out on the inside surfaces. He then shaped the outside surface in a similar series of downhill cuts to give the outside a cone shaped appearance to resemble the acorn. When bringing the point to near



parting off from the piece remaining in the chuck, he cut it off rather than risking tearout due to breakage. The base of the acorn was turned from a mahogany blank to provide a distinct contrast between the



top and bottom. Once the cylinder was brought to round, he hollowed the center of the base and used a bedan, which is a special purpose turning tool popularized by Jean-François Escoulen in France, to provide a very slight taper to the inside of the box giving the lid a sort of “compression fit”. This is one of the unique characteristics of the Acorn box and, if fitted properly, requires a slight tilting of the lid to open it. Once the lid was fit, and the bottom turned into a mini goblet shape, the turning portion was completed and it was time to begin carving the “handle” into the piece to finish the acorn cap appearance. Dennis uses a commercially available motorized carving set and he brought a number of his favorite carbide cutters. He drew pencil lines to divide the piece into five segments and, using a round cylindrical cutter, finished the piece using the motorized cutting tool. He placed particular emphasis on safety:



using a gloved hand to hold the piece and the use of a dust mask to protect against inhalation of micro-dust particles because long term inhalation of these microparticles can have serious health consequences. In his home shop, Dennis employs a down-draft table and multiple fans to keep dust away from his face. There are plenty of commercially available down-draft tables on the market, but it may be cheaper and more reasonable to build your own to suit your shops specific needs, and there are plenty of DIY videos on youtube.com to



Secret Compartment Box The Secret Compartment Box is similar in many ways to any other lidded box that many of us have attempted or completed. Dennis puts his own unique twist on the project by incorporating elements of turning, wood-burning, carving, and coloring to form a piece that at first glance, is a quite attractive piece of artwork!



Hollowing and Threading Dennis turned the cylinder in the usual fashion and parted the piece using a small bedan to form the top and bottom, making sure that the ends of the parted halves were square. Using a homemade thread cutting jig, mounted to the bed of a smaller lathe that he brought for that



specific purpose, he began the process of cutting the threads. The jig consists of a 1", 16 TPI threaded rod mounted in a machinist vise capable of moving across two axis relative to the



bed of the lathe. At the headstock end of the jig, a 1 1/4" 8 TPI stud was secured with jam nuts to allow the workpiece in the 4-jaw chuck to be attached and to be moveable within the jig.

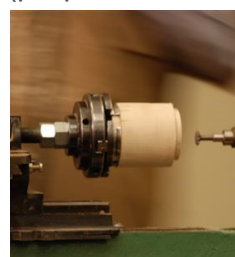
The important note to consider if you plan on building your own jig is that the threads per inch of the long, fine threaded rod will correspond to the threads per inch that you will get on your lidded box. The rod is parallel to, and vertically even with the center of the headstock to allow the cutter, which was mounted in a chuck, in the lathe headstock, to engage the workpiece.



Two other points worth mentioning are that the male and female ends of the threaded portions of your box need to have a built in "overlap". That is to say that the male end needs to be slightly larger than the female end. With the jig Dennis designed, a 3/64" overlap was the recommended oversize value. This may vary depending on the

rod you use and the cutter you select for the threading operation. We are not all engineers or machinists, but it makes sense that the male end needs to be oversized approximately the depth of the threads when cut to the final dimensions. Too much of a difference will make the joining pieces too tight or too loose. Dennis did offer a couple of tips on this. Start by cutting a slight chamfer on both the inside and outside portions to be threaded. This will help in fitting them together rather than having a sharp edge to try and engage the threaded pieces when completed. Second, use CA glue to stiffen the fibers if the wood you are using is too soft. This will help prevent the threads from shattering.

The workpiece is then turned by hand in the jig and advances along the x-axis (parallel to the lathe bed) when the rod is turned, and the y-axis (perpendicular to the lathe bed) by movement of the 2-axis vise.



It was recommended to make threading cuts in small increments. One other point that Dennis made that the entire process was an exercise in trial and error, even for him having

done this hundreds of times. If you are considering investing in this type of setup, I would recommend checking out the options available on both commercially available jigs as well as many that are posted on youtube. Many of the ones that I found online mount in the banjo post hole and don't have too many moving parts to complicate the operation.



Marking and Burning the outside With the cylinder completed and assembled, Dennis roughly marked out with pencil lines, the pattern of the outside appearance of the piece. Roughly recreating the finished piece that he brought to the demonstration, he used a reciprocating carving tool and the rotary tool to carve the dimples on the top and bottom as well as the outline that separates the carved sections from the burned sections.

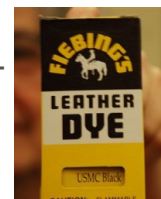


The burning tool was made from a battery charger and di-chromic wire in the shape of the pattern that he wanted for the burnings. He noted that the burning tool was easily constructed from a battery charger using the procedure outlined in an AAW article by Graham Turner. The di-chromic wire, being easily pliable, could be bent into just about any shape to give the artist an infinite number of possibilities in the creative process. Control of the amount of heat to the burning tip was by



means of a rheostat installed as a part of the battery charger modification.

Finishing the piece Once the carving and finish sanding were completed, he used a "Marine Corps black leather dye to coat the outside of the box, including the threads, to give the final appearance.



Articles on both the Battery charger burning tool by Graeme Priddle and the Acorn box that Dennis demonstrated are available to AAW members on the AAW website www.woodturner.org.

AAW Scholarships

Please join us in congratulating Ken Kramer and Nancy Bowman for their selection as recipients of one of the 2017 AAW Scholarships.

January Contest Theme

Turn a piece and then add **COLOR**



Things of Note

- OVWG name tags with a magnetic back are available for \$5 from member Chris Barrett. To get a name tag, send Chris an email at artisan022@icloud.com, telling him how you want your name to appear. He will have your name tag at a subsequent meeting.
- The OVWG now has **business cards** printed and available for members to be given out and posted at related wood turning businesses. The cards are available in the Learning Center.
- We continue to have opportunities to do demos in many different locales. We have an "approved demonstrator" list that receives an email with a chance to volunteer for demo events. If you would like to be on the approved demonstrator list, please contact Jerry Warner.

Show and Tell



Patricia Wilkerson
Christmas Ornament



John O. Johnston
Cherry Hollow Form



Mike Pankion
African Mahogany



Tom Cummings
Pine Segmented Horn



Ray Feltz
Segmented Ornament



Vaughn Solomon
Dish



Cliff Goosmann
Walnut Vase with Band



Ken Werner
Maple Box



David Wright
Square Oriental Box



Gary Vance
Elm Segmented Lamp



Tom Cummings
Walnut Segmented Horn



Ken Werner
Bowl



Steve Trauthwein
Carlo Walnut Vase



Robert Hendrickson
Cherry & Maple Box



Gary Vance
Segmented Bowl



David Wright
Inside Out Ornaments



Cliff Goosmann
Hollow Form



Dennis Paullus
Secret Box



Robert Hendrickson
Walnut & Maple



Robert Hendrickson
Maple

Show and Tell



**Ray Feltz
Segmented Egg**



**Chris Barrett
Maple Bowl**



**Ray Feltz
Segmented Egg**



**David Wright
Cherry NE Bowl**



**Gary Vance
Isosohedran**



**Dennis Paullus
Hollow Forms**



**Chris Barrett
Segmented Bowl**



**John O. Johnston
Maple Bowl**



**Ken Werner
Walnut & Poplar Box**



**Mike Wolfram
Cherry & Osage Box**



**Dennis Paullus
Assorted Acorn Boxes**



**John O. Johnston
Walnut Bowls**



**Ken Werner
Maple Box**



**John Shannon
Lidded Box**



**Mike Pankion
Walnut Crotch Bowl**



**Thomas Dresch
Cherry Bowl**



**Ken Werner
Bradford Pear**

NOTIFICATION

Be sure to check the meeting schedule as there have been some changes.

In addition to some demonstrator changes please note the February meeting has been moved to the 4th Saturday, February 25, 2017.



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OVWG Mentors

Do you need help getting started or working out a problem? Call any of the names listed below. As always, there is **NO CHARGE** to members of the Ohio Valley Woodturners Guild. We love to share our woodturning passion. Call us, we want to help you.

Central:	Dave Morrical	513-771-5205
	John Albachten	513-325-9002
	Mary Carol Meinken	513-521-1517
	Dave Kratzer	513-290-9609
Highland County	Nancy Bowman	937-239-1980
Loveland:	John Lannom	513-683-3129
North Side:	K.C. Kendall	513-755-8856
West Chester:	Mike Pankion	513-777-5599
East Side:	Gary Brackett	513-553-7474
Dayton:	Jim Burrowes	937-371-9426
	Lowell Converse	937-426-2646
	René Keyzer-André	937-277-4717
Tipp City	Gary Vance	

Kentucky:	Pete Kekel	859-653-3520
Kenton Cnty:	Keith Bundy	859-781-5414

Campbell Cnty:

Indiana:

Southeast: **Gerald Williams** **812-689-6545**

Contact: KC Kendall, Mentoring Chairperson, with any changes or if you'd like to join these talented volunteers.

Meetings

Demonstration meetings are generally held the third Saturday of the month (September through June) from 9:00am to 3:00pm. Registration and set up starts at 8:00am. Meeting cost (includes lunch) is \$10 for members and \$15 for nonmembers when there is a professional demonstrator and \$5 for members and \$10 for nonmembers for "home grown" demonstrators. Annual membership dues are \$30 (\$25 for AAW members) for the first year (includes name badge) and \$25 (\$20 for AAW members) for renewal, payable upon joining.