

# Back to Basics: Bowl Turning

Our October program will feature Randy Zelenka, who will present everything you need to know to turn a chunk of a tree into a beautiful wood bowl. Randy will cover wood selection, mounting techniques, proper tools to use for turning bowls, and safety considerations. The basic principles he will demonstrate are applicable to simple bowls of all sizes, as well as to more elaborate vessels.



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# The Call of the Lathe – October 2016

Prime time is here. With the cooler weather nearly upon us, it is time to start planning on some serious woodturning. Some years ago, I had what I would call an instant shop. Well, instant meant pulling the car out of the garage, pulling the radial arm saw away from the wall, and setting up saw horses and plywood as a workbench. I guess we all start that way and it works because we make it work. The problem, though, is the weather. And now that fall is upon us, there will definitely be a change in the weather which allows us to really enjoy being in that un-air conditioned and unheated garage. Enjoy it while you can before it is too cold to do it!

I discovered a marvelous resource since the last meeting. Oh, I didn't actually discover it like Columbus discovered America. It was more like how I learned to be a woodturner. Someone said to hold the gouge this way, and I tried it and it worked. So, Randy Zelenka has been telling me ever since I moved here two years ago and we both joined the Topeka club that the Riley County Transfer Station, more affectionately known as The Dump, has a supply of logs which are there for the cutting and taking. So I went out there looking for some elm which a tree cutting friend had said he had taken out there but it was gone. What I found, though, was a treasure trove of logs of many different species. I settled on cutting a piece out of the center of a 20" sycamore tree trunk, took it home, and turned a new

hat. The sycamore was so pretty and so easy to turn that I went back a couple days later and got a bunch. You'll see it in my shop at the October meeting as I won't get it all turned by then. But what a resource! You will need a chain saw, of course, or to go with someone who has one, but for me, this sure solves my occasional need for a large piece of wood. Go check it out.

Once again I will be absent for our monthly meeting. I thoroughly enjoy seeing all of you and especially seeing the Show and Tell items you bring in so hate to miss it. But I know that all of you will pitch in to do whatever is needed and I am grateful for that kind of membership in our woodturning club.

Remember to be safe as you work. Power tools, spinning wood, sharp gouges, and stuff on the shop floor can all create hazards when our attention is not on the task at hand. If you make a mistake, refocus your attention. If you make a second mistake, stop, turn everything off, and go do something else. Woodworking in general and woodturning in particular can be dangerous, but with attention to the task, conscientious use of safety gear, and focus on safety, it can be done safely and very enjoyably.

—Tom Boley

## A New Place to Meet?

On Wednesday evening the 21st, I attended the monthly meeting of the Manhattan Inventors Club. They have initiated an effort to develop what is known as a Makers' Space in or near Manhattan. A Makers' Space would ideally be a large building with plenty of floor space for the several clubs and individuals for which this could provide a facility for both their meetings and their operations. For us, participation could give us a more permanent place to meet than a member's shop and could even result in having a work space with multiple lathes and other power tools available to support not only our individual turning interests but classes, workshops, and skill enhancement. And interacting with other "maker" groups could be pretty inspiring, too. I have often thought about multi-craft collaboration and this could be an opportunity for that. There is a cost involved, of course. I recently sent out an invitation to all of you to participate in an on line survey being coordinated by the Inventors and I hope you did it. One of the big questions is always how much people would be willing to pay per month to have access to such a facility. These things aren't free, of course, but especially for those who haven't the space for a shop, a band saw, and a full size lathe, this could easily be the answer. This will be a project in the planning stage for awhile but start thinking about it as this kind of facility could be a real boon to the future of Flint Hills Woodturners. As with all new projects, this will likely take several months to perhaps even years to bring to fruition, and a lot of go-no-go decisions will have to be made along the way, but this could be just what FHW needs to move into the future. If you are a member of a maker organization which may have interest in such a space, please let me know as I am working to gather representatives from interested groups to talk about it.

—Tom Boley



# Meeting Minutes — September 3, 2016

The monthly meeting of the Flint Hills Woodturners began at 9:00 a.m., September 3, 2016 at Red Oak Hollow Lathe Works, 4025 Walnut Creek Driver, Wamego, Kansas. President Tom Boley called the meeting to order.

The meeting began with Show and Tell, with various members sharing their recent work. Also, five members presented their responses to the President's Challenge, which was to turn an object from an eight foot 2 x 4. David Delker, Tom Boley, and Tom Shields presented segmented vessels. Ray Case presented a tiered candle holder. And Bob Holcombe made a rocket from his 2 x 4.

At the business meeting, Tom Boley introducing several visitors: Richard Mikolajczyk, Josh Brantl, Dan Pipp, Collin Delker, and Brian Weber.

## **At Officers' Reports were presented:**

President Tom Boley reminded the membership that Skill Enhancement sessions are offered twice a month at the Red Oak Hollow Lathe Works shop at a cost of \$5 to cover expendables such as sandpaper and blades. This is an excellent learning opportunity for those new to woodturning to spend two and a half hours with an experienced woodturner. Attendance has been good and the club has only five lathes, so if interested, contact Tom Boley. A schedule of dates is to be determined.

Vice President Ray Case asked everybody who made tops for the Mini Makers Faire to turn them in so they can be distributed to children at the Mini Makers Faire on September 10.

Secretary Ned Gatewood offered to organize a group purchase from Beall Tools and Vince's Wood N Wonders. An email of details is to follow.

Treasurer Tom Shields reported \$204.93 was spent on two Oneway live centers for the club's small lathes, \$71.50 on wood nametags, and \$158.95 was spent on hats and raffle items, resulting in \$1941.02 remaining in the treasury.

Operations Director Randy Zelenka said the American Association of Woodturners is offering a free two

month membership trial. This is a good opportunity to become familiar with the many excellent publications and resources of AAW. Randy reminded members of our mentoring program, where new turners can link up with an experienced turner when they need help or have questions. Randy reminded members of the upcoming Mini Makers Faire in Aggieville on Saturday, September 10 from 10 to 4 p.m. FHW will be doing woodturning demonstrations. Volunteers are needed. FHW also is participating in Pumpkin Patch Arts and Crafts Fair, September 30 and October 1 at CICO Park. Volunteers are needed. Along with woodturning demonstrations, wood tops will be given away. If you are making tops, please be sure to turn them in to Bob Holcombe. These events are excellent opportunities for the club to sell itself and to enlighten the public about woodturning. It was noted the Mini Makers Faire will conflict with the October 1 FHW meeting and that Tom Boley, in whose shop we normally meet, will be away. It was suggested that at next year's Pumpkin Patch, FHW buy a booth and sell items donated by members, and the proceeds be given to the club for its use. It was also suggested the club have a booth at next year's Smokey Hill River Festival, and Randy will investigate options.

Program Director David Delker said the October program will be by Randy Zelenka entitled Back to the Basics: Bowl Turning and Chucking Methods, and the November and December programs will be on holiday ornaments and small stocking stuffers. Also at the start of each future program, a volunteer will make a brief presentation of a tip or trick to share with the club. David requested ideas for future programs.

Newsletter Editor Bob Holcombe requested tops for the Pumpkin Patch be given to him.

There was a large number of participants in this month's raffle. The winners were Phil Dix, Nyle Larson, Lisa Zeller, Collin Delker, and Don Eisele.

The next Flint Hills Woodturning meeting will be Saturday, October 1, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. in the Red Oak Hollow Lathe Works.

— Ned Gatewood

# From the Program Director:

## October Program:

Tom Boley presented our very first program on bowl turning in April 2015. That seems like only yesterday, but we've had 17 other programs since that inaugural meeting. I know that many new members have joined our club since that first demonstration, so it's time to "get back to the basics" with this month's program on introductory bowl turning. Randy Zelenka always puts an interesting spin (pun intended) on the subject during his demonstrations, so I know you'll enjoy his presentation!

Also this month, Peter Dorhout will give a Tips and Tricks presentation entitled "Substitute Rubber Chuckies." What, you don't know what a Rubber Chuckie is or why one would need a substitute? Come hear Peter enlighten us!

## Future Programs:

Our November and December programs will focus on making holiday ornaments and small stocking stuffers. Bob Holcombe has volunteered to show how to make a birdhouse ornament at the November meeting, but two or three others will be needed to round out the presentations for November and December. Please contact me if you are interested in sharing at one or both of those upcoming meetings! As always, feel free to let me know if you have program suggestions or if you have something you would like to demonstrate in the future. I would be happy to visit with you and help you develop your idea into an excellent program!

— David Delker, Program Director



As reported to Flint Hills Woodturners by the Hospice people, our donations of turned wood items, common ordinary things to us but special and unusual to many, **resulted in total silent auction income to Hospice of \$899.** That just has to be a significant portion of whatever total they got from this, their big annual fundraiser. We can be mighty proud of the fact that so many of our members stepped up with donations to this most worthy cause. Hospice was so grateful for our contributions and I, as your president, am so proud of what you did, too. Thank you very much for the time and effort you put into each piece which you then gave up to help someone else. Way to go!  
—Tom Boley



# Show & Tell

Members are invited to bring a piece that they have turned to show and to tell other members how they made it, what was difficult or easy, what is special about it, how they finished it or anything else that will be of interest to other members.



Barbara Drolet



Sandra McIntyre



Collin Delker



Nyle Larson



Lowell Regehr



Kevin Dix



# Show & Tell



Ross Hirst



Don Baker



Dennis Biggs



Randy Zelenka



# President's Challenge:

Turn an object from an eight foot 2"x 4"



Tom Shields



David Delker



Ray Case



Tom Boley



Rocket Man



# September Program — Back to Basics: Sharpening Techniques

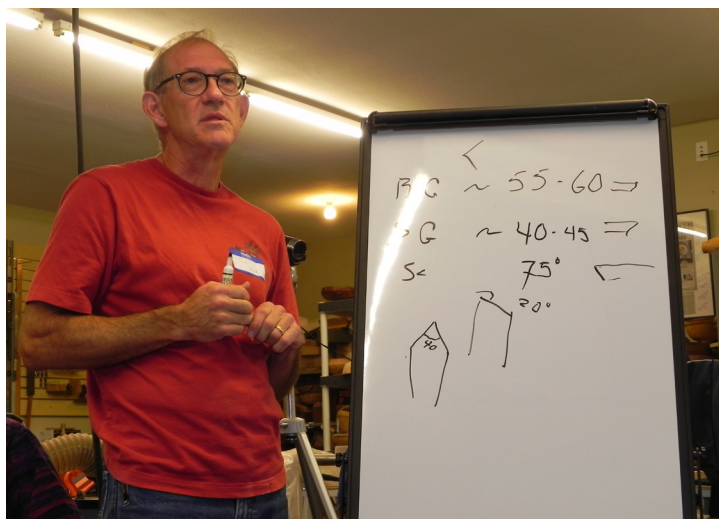
This month's Program entitled Back to the Basics: Spindle Turning and Sharpening Techniques was presented with Tom Shields demonstrating sharpening techniques of various woodturning tools. Tom first talked about the three types of grinding wheels: aluminum oxide, ceramic and aluminum oxide mix, and cubic boron nitride wheels. He recommended grinding wheels eight inch diameter and one inch wide wheels. The first two require periodic dressing with a diamond dresser. The CBN wheels are the most durable, require no dressing, require a ¾ hp grinder motor, can be used only to sharpen HSS, and they run the coolest therefore will not overheat the steel.

Tom addressed the bevel angle on various turning tools, and he emphasized that in order to get consistent results when turning, the bevel of tool must be ground to the same angle each time it is sharpened.

Tom also addressed sharpening devices and jigs. One of the most common is Oneway's Wolverine and Vari-Grind jig system. In sharpening roughing gouges, only the arm with a V- receptor is used and the tool is rotated on the Vee. In sharpening gouges, the Vari-Grind jig is used, and four factors are important: the height of the wheel above the jig base; the extrusion of the tool out of the Vari-Grind; the angle of the Vari-Grind; and the distance from the Vari-Grind to the wheel. For sharpening scrapers, skews, and parting tools, the platform supplied with the Wolverine system is used.

Tom's sharpening portion of the program ran longer than expected, and so instead of spindle turning being addressed this month as planned, it is postponed to a later date.

— Ned Gatewood





# Mini Maker Faire®

The 2016 Aggieville Mini Maker Faire was a huge success! For the second year in a row, the Flint Hills Woodturner's display was one of the event's top attention-getters. Young and old alike came by to see how we transform pieces of wood into beautiful creations. The spinning tops were a real hit with the kids. We were able to keep up with the huge demand, thanks to several of our members who made dozens of tops in advance of the event.

Many visitors to our booth had a keen interest in woodturning and picked up brochures; we hope that several of those folks will come to an upcoming club meeting to check us out. Several people indicated that their spouse, parent, or grandparent who had once done woodworking would be a great candidate for club membership. K-State students inquiring about the club included two from Interior Architecture and Product Design who are learning to design and build furniture and interior spaces. Their studies include the use of



woodworking tools, including the wood lathe, but not enough hands-on experience to become proficient. Another student is learning about textile design and was quite interested in what we do with the shavings left after we turn a project. Their studies include the use of natural materials (like osage orange wood chips) from which dye is extracted. We have the opportunity to form some unique partnerships through these conversations!

It's always fun to share how a log becomes a bowl or how small slices of wood can be glued together and turned into a beautiful segmented vessel. It's especially fun to work as a team of dedicated club members to inform and educate the public about our craft. A big "Thank You!" goes out to those of you who helped with setting up, cleaning up, turning tops, and visiting with people in the crowd for your dedication and commitment!

—David Delker





## PRODUCT SALE

# 25% discount

on most ONEWAY products,  
except lathes, plus shipping.

Go to ONEWAY website

[www.oneway.ca](http://www.oneway.ca)

to see products available.

Will provide quote upon request.

Happy and Safe Turning  
and Keep Those Turning Tools Sharp!

Contact CA SAVOY [cadjsavoy@cox.net](mailto:cadjsavoy@cox.net)



## Basic Bowl Class

It used to be called University for Man but over the years, has evolved to just UFM Manhattan and their array of classes is terrific. Among the class selections are iCan with iPad, Sushi Rolling, Genealogy Essentials, Beekeeping, Archery for Adults, and Woodturning for Beginners. It is that last one which is now taught by Tom Boley at his shop, Red Oak Hollow Lathe Works. The class project is a small bowl and is suitable for never-before turners or for those who would like to add bowl turning to their repertoire of woodturning skills. Contact UFM at [tryufm.org](http://tryufm.org) or e-mail them at [info@tryufm.org](mailto:info@tryufm.org). Their phone number is 785-539-8763. This is a great way to jump right into the craft of woodturning in a formal way with an excellent instructor in a comfortable woodshop setting. Come, learn to turn.



Community  
Learning Center  
[tryufm.org](http://tryufm.org)



## Flint Hills Woodturners **Ya Gotta Eat!**

### Tuesday, October 11

Join fellow FHW members for our next "Ya Gotta Eat" lunch at  
noon at **Little Apple Brewing Company**

1110 Westloop Place, West Loop Shopping Center

Please let me know if you will be able to come so I can get a table to accommodate all of us.

**And bring something for Show and Tell.**

Tom Boley <[tboley10@gmail.com](mailto:tboley10@gmail.com)>



**Flint Hills Woodturners** is a 501(c)(3) non-profit composed of individuals who are interested in learning and promoting the art of turning wood. Formed in March 2015 for hobbyists in the Flint Hill region of Northeast Kansas, the club welcomes all interested people to visit our meetings to get a sample of this inspiring hobby. You will find warm people from novice to expert willing to share with you. Flint Hills Woodturners is a chapter of the American Association of Woodturners.



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The American Association of Woodturners (AAW) is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization, dedicated to advancing the art and craft of woodturning worldwide by providing opportunities for education, information, and organization to those interested in turning wood. Established in 1986, AAW currently has more than 15,000 members and a network of more than 350 local chapters globally representing professionals, amateurs, gallery owners, collectors and wood/tool suppliers.

The mission of the American Association of Woodturners is to provide education, information and organization to those interested in turning wood.

## Flint Hills Woodturners Program and Events

 September 3	Back to the Basics: Spindle Turning and Sharpening Techniques	Red Oak Hollow Lathe Works, Wamego
September 13	Skill Enhancement 7:00 – 9:30 PM	Red Oak Hollow Lathe Works, Wamego
September 29	Skill Enhancement 7:00 – 9:30 PM	Red Oak Hollow Lathe Works, Wamego
 October 1	Back to the Basics: Bowl Turning and Chucking Methods	Red Oak Hollow Lathe Works, Wamego
October 11	<b>Ya Gotta Eat!</b> Noon	Little Apple Brewing Company
October 18	Skill Enhancement 7:00 – 9:30 PM	Red Oak Hollow Lathe Works, Wamego
 November 5	Holiday Ornaments, Part 1	Red Oak Hollow Lathe Works, Wamego
 December 3	Holiday Ornaments, Part 2	Red Oak Hollow Lathe Works, Wamego

Unless announced, meetings are held at  
Red Oak Hollow Lathe Works,  
4025 Walnut Creek Drive, Wamego, KS.

Meetings start at 9:00 a.m. but come any time after 8.

