

October 2018



October's Demo

Our president, Tom Boley, recently made something he hasn't made before and will share the method with us in October. Tom turned an owl for his wife, Judi, and it was so much fun making that he thought everyone would enjoy seeing the process. This demonstration will include standard spindle turning, turning a ball, and vacuum chucking. Tom will explain each step and demonstrate specialty equipment and jigs to make it all work.

"Hoot" "Hoot"



"I'm so Cute"

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<http://flinthillswoodturners.org>

October 2018

The Call of the Lathe



Fall has fell at Red Oak Hollow Lathe Works. Nights are down in the 40s and day-time is just about perfect. Nice to have that hot weather behind us (I hope). But fall and spring are the best times for garage woodturners. The weather is much better for working in an unheated and uncooled shop like a garage so get out there and make stuff.

A big thank you to Ned Gatewood, our Secretary, and to Dennis Biggs, our Program Director, who brought us those two demonstrations for our September meeting. Dennis' presentation on turning the crotch of a tree and how to orient the wood on the lathe to take best advantage of the unique grain pattern embedded in the crotch was helpful to all of us. Ned's demonstration on embellishing a turned piece after the lathe work is done was also very useful. It is not uncommon at all for completion of the woodturning part to merely be the beginning of creativity for many woodturners and Ned gave us some pretty good insight into some of the many options. Thanks, guys.

Next month will be our official annual meeting. That is required of all corporations, including ours as we are fully incorporated in the state of Kansas and, as you know, anointed by the IRS as a 501(c)3 non-profit educational organization. As of now, the main event at our annual meeting will be the election of officers for 2019. We will make every effort to present a full slate of officers but if any of you are interested in one of the positions, please tell me. I would be glad to answer any questions you may have about the duties of all our officers. But please don't wait until the morning of the meeting!

As cool weather comes once again and you get out to the shop for the first time all summer, remember to be safe, think safe, act safe, and wear your safety equipment. I remember when a fellow turner at Capital Area Woodturners came to a meeting one day with a black eye because she hadn't put on her face shield. "I knew I should," she said. Too late.

Tom Boley - President

Club Minutes

September 1st, 2018

The monthly meeting of the Flint Hills Woodturners began at 9:00 a.m., September 1, 2018 at the Golden Prairie Honey Farms, located at the Green Valley Industrial Park, 8859 Green Valley Drive, Manhattan, Kansas.

President Tom Boley called the meeting to order.

The meeting began with Show and Tell. Randy Zelenka, Don Baker, Vaughn Graber, Dennis Biggs, Tom Shields, Karl Dean, Tom Boley, Victor Schwarz, Brad Hopper, Ray Case and Ned Gatewood shared their recent woodturning work with the club.

Officers' Reports:

President's report: Tom Boley reported that toolmaker Carter and Sons donates gift certificates to the club on a regular basis, which are put into the raffle. Glen Lucas will be demonstrating November 3 at the Nebraska Woodturner Symposium, the same day as our November meeting.

Consideration had been given to postponing our meeting if more than ten members planned on attending Lucas' demonstration, but, by a show of hands, only a few members plan to attend. New board members will be elected at the November meeting, and club members were urged to consider serving on the board. Tom will no longer serve as president. In the future there will be a board meeting every two months, and he

encouraged all members to attend. FHW will have a booth at the Pumpkin Patch Arts and Crafts Fair on October 5 and 6, and a sign-up sheet to help was passed around. Tom reminded members wood name tags are available for purchase, and that new members receive a free name tag. Dennis Biggs made a wood handle for the tailstock of our new lathe – thanks Dennis!



Tom reminded members of our library run by Joe Beck where books and CD's can be checked out at no charge.

Vice President's / Newsletter Editor's report: Ray Case asked members to share their knowledge and ideas by contributing to the newsletter's Sharing Corner. It's a good way to make the club better for all.

Treasurer's report: Tom Shields reported a balance of \$3,640 in the treasury.

Secretary's report: no report

Club Minutes

Continued

Program Director's report: Dennis Biggs reported nationally known wood turner Alan Lacer has tentatively agreed to give a demonstration next May and possibly a workshop. The details have not been worked out. His will be the feature demonstration of our meeting and will extend into the afternoon. There would be a \$5 to \$20 fee to attend. The workshop would be the Friday before the demonstration, and attendees would bear all of the cost. Tom Boley will give the October demonstration on a topic to be determined. The November demonstration will be given by Tom Shields making Christmas tree ornaments.

Operations Director's report: no report

Member at Large report: no report

Demonstrations: The first of two demonstrations today was given by Ned Gatewood encouraging members to embellish their woodturning projects after completing them on the lathe. Beyond "brown and round", there are endless opportunities to enhance your work and to have a lot of fun doing it. He presented four techniques for embellishing woodturning projects: cutting lines on the piece with a pointed tool; dyeing and staining projects; pyrography; and texturing techniques with a Dremel-like tool.

The second demonstration was Dennis Biggs making a natural edged bowl from wood

found in the crotch of a tree. He used diagrams to show where the best blanks of wood can be found in a crotch, and how grain patterns in the final piece are determined by where the blank is taken from the tree. He made a natural edge bowl from a crotch, explaining the drying process, the rough and final turning of a bowl, and the precautions needed to preserve the natural edge of the bowl during the turning process.

Raffle: A new method of raffling prizes was tried this month. Bidders could place their tickets on individual raffle items they wish to bid on. After these items were raffled, then all of the tickets were combined and everybody had a chance to win a grand prize. This month Joe Davis, Melissa McIntyre, Kevin Dix, Joe Beck, Dennis Biggs, Tom Boley, and Ross Hirst won valuable prizes. And the grand prize was won by Joe Davis.

The next Flint Hills Woodturning meeting will be on Saturday October 6, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. at the Golden Prairie Honey Farms, located at the Green Valley Industrial Park, 8859 Green Valley Drive, Manhattan.

Ned Gatewood Secretary

Club Board Meeting Minutes

Flint Hills Woodturners Board Meeting September 1, 2018

In attendance: Tom Boley, Ray Case, Dennis Biggs, Tom Shields, and Ned Gatewood.

Items discussed:

New Website: Little progress has been made since our last meeting in creating a new website. Don Eisele, webmaster, will need to move old website to new website, but he's been busy with KSU library repairs. The new website will have the same URL as the old website.

Treasury: Tom Shields reported a balance in the treasury of about \$3,500.

Program: Dennis Biggs had a conversation with Alan Lacer, a nationally recognized woodturning demonstrator, about doing a demonstration for FHW next May. A workshop by Alan was also discussed. The basic cost of a demonstration is \$700, and \$1,200 to add another day. Details, such as the length of the demonstration and workshop and costs, have not yet been established. Those attending the demonstration (to be held on Saturday, the date of our regularly scheduled meeting) will be assessed a fee of \$5 to \$20; the amount to be determined by the board. The Standard Operating Procedures say the workshop fee will be shared by those attending without additional

cost to FHW. Nearby turning clubs can be invited to attend the demonstration, and to attend the workshop if space is not filled by FHW members. It was suggested that Friday is the best day to have a workshop, and Tom Boley offered his shop for the workshop as he has five lathes available.

Election of Officers: All officers agreed to stay on the board for next year if so elected by membership, except the president. Randy Zelenka is considering taking the president's position. Ray Case is also considering the position, but it was noted being newsletter editor and president is a lot of work.

Audio Visual Equipment: There was much discussion about how best to record demonstrations and to project them on the club's television during a demonstration. Two cameras were generally thought best. Options will be looked into further. It was agreed the club will buy one more camera.

Discovery Center Invitation: The Discovery Center invited FHW to demonstrate making Christmas tree ornaments at their Santa's Workshop December 1 and 8. It was decided the proposed making of hundreds of simplistic ornaments would be of little benefit to FHW, and the invitation will be declined.

Club Board Meeting Minutes

Continued

AAW Newsletter Competition: Tom Boley asked Ray Case to investigate submitting again this year our newsletter to the American Association of Woodturners' newsletter competition.

Newsletter's Sharing Corner: Ray Case will ask more members to share their tips and other interesting ideas in the newsletter's Sharing Corner.

November Annual Meeting: The demonstration by Glen Lucas at the Nebraska Woodturner Symposium on November 3 is the same day as our November club meeting,

which is also our annual meeting. If ten or more of our members plan on attending Glen Lucas' demonstration, the FHW meeting will be postponed until the following week.

Future Demonstrations: Tom Shields will demonstrate making Christmas tree ornaments in November, and the December demonstration will be by Tom Boley; the topic to be determined.

Board Meetings: It was discussed and agreed the board will meet every two months.

Ned Gatewood, Secretary

Items For Sale

Woodturning Equipment Sale

Harold Cyphers, a woodturner from Junction City, passed away several months ago and his family would like to offer his woodturning equipment, including many tools and two lathes, for sale. They will have the sale on Friday, the 19th, and Saturday, the 20th of October. The address is 1526 Holly Lane, Junction City. Times are not yet set but if still not by the time this is published in our newsletter, I'll update it by e-mail. Let's help out Mr. Cyphers' widow to both clear out much of his shop equipment as well as to give her good and reasonable prices for his gear.

Community Involvement

The 45th Annual Pumpkin Patch Arts & Crafts Fair will be held at Cico Park in Manhattan, KS. This event is free to the public with free parking available. There will be local vendors selling handmade and refurbished arts and crafts as well as exhibitors demonstrating various skills and trades. There will be attractions and activities for children as well!

Our club will participate again this year.

Fair Hours:

Friday, October 5, 2018 9:00am - 7:00pm

Saturday, October 6, 2018 9:00am - 4:00pm

Location: Cico Park
City: Manhattan, KS



Programs

<u>October 6th</u>	<u>November 3rd</u>	<u>December 1st</u>	<u>January 5th</u>
Tom Boley Demonstrating an Owl.	Tom Shields Preparing us for the season by turning an ornament.	Bob Holcomb Will demonstrate a "Once" turned bowl from start to finish.	Randy Zelenka Will be doing a hollowing demonstration.

Volunteers for demonstrations are welcomed and encouraged. It is fun and a learning opportunity. Please contact me at dbiggsgolf@yahoo.com or at our next meeting.

We have tentatively scheduled Alan Lacer to do a workshop and club demo in May 2019.

Dennis Biggs - Program Director

September: Show and Tell



Dennis Biggs



Ned Gatewood



Tom Shields



Don Baker



Vaughn Graber



Victor Schwarz

September: Show and Tell



Randy Zeleka



Karl Dean



Ray Case



Tom Boley



Steve Hougham



Brad Hopper

September's Program

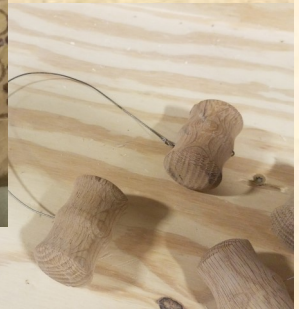
Recap

Embellishing, Pyrography, Dying & Burning And Turning a Natural edged "Crotch" Bowl

**Demonstrators: Ned Gatewood
and Dennis Biggs**



The first of two demonstrations today was given by Ned Gatewood encouraging members to embellish their woodturning projects after completing them on the lathe. Beyond "brown and round", there are endless opportunities to enhance your work and to have a lot of fun doing it. He presented four techniques for embellishing woodturning projects. Lines can be cut with a handmade or purchased pointed tool, and then darkened with the friction of a taut wire or a piece of Formica. Ned discussed using colorants like dyes and stains to enhance your turnings. He also talked about pyrography, the burning of images with a hot tipped pen and showed a few examples of the many pyrography opportunities available to turners. Ned concluded with techniques of texturing on turnings with Dremel-like tools.





The second demonstration was Dennis Biggs making a natural edged bowl from wood found in the crotch of a tree. He began with diagrams showing where the best blanks of wood can be found in a crotch, and how grain patterns in the final piece are determined by where the blank is taken from the tree. He cuts out a blank of wood from the crotch while it is still green, rough turns it to the approximate size of the final bowl, then puts it in a paper bag to slowly dry. By periodically weighing it over a period of several months, he established when the blank has stopped losing moisture. When the bowl has sufficiently dried to the point where it will not warp when second turned, the piece is remounted and turned to its final shape. The inside of the bowl is trued-up first starting with the bowl's edge and working down to the bowl's center. Care must be taken near the natural edge so as to not damage the bark. The outside of the bowl is then trued-up, making sure to get a consistent wall thickness.

Safety Spotlight

Band Saw Safety

What should you do before using a band saw?

A band saw can be dangerous if not used properly.

- Read the owner's manual carefully.
- Make sure you understand the instructions before attempting to use any tool or machine.
- Learn the applications and limitations before use.
- Securely anchor the band saw to the floor (or a workbench of appropriate height) to reduce vibration.

What safety procedures should you follow when using a band saw?

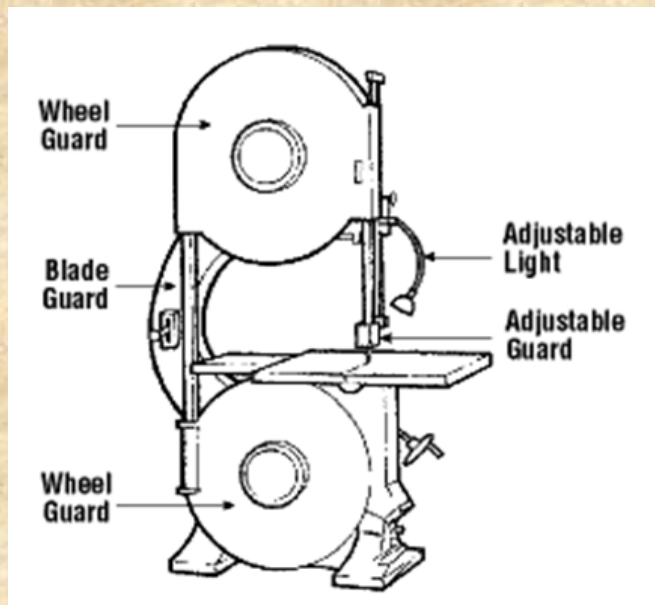
- Wear safety glasses or goggles, or a face shield.
 - Wear hearing protection that is suitable for the level and frequency of the noise you are exposed to in the woodworking area.
 - Wear protective footwear when required.
 - Make sure all guards are in place and properly adjusted. Ensure all band wheels are enclosed.
 - Adjust blade guard height to about 3 mm or 1/8 inch above the top of the material being cut.
 - Ensure the blade is tracking correctly and runs freely in and against the upper and lower guide rollers.
 - Ensure the blade is under proper tension. A band saw equipped with automatic tension control is desirable.
 - Use band saw blades that are sharp, properly set and otherwise suitable for the job (e.g., the right tooth pitch; tooth form; blade width).
 - Hold stock firmly and flat on the table to prevent the stock from turning and drawing your fingers against the blade. Keep hands braced against the table. Use a push stick when you remove cut pieces from between the fence and saw blade or when your hands are close to the blade. Keep your hands on either side of the blade - not in line with the cutting line and the blade. Make release (relief) cuts before tight curves when doing intricate scroll-type work.
 - Keep the floor around a band saw clean and free of obstructions or clutter.
 - Keep the machine properly oiled and serviced.
- Provide adequate lighting at the machine table. A light fixture with a flexible connection can provide essential

lighting.

What should you avoid when working with a band saw?

- Do not use excessive force when pushing the wood past the blade.
- Do not back the stock away from the blade while the saw is in motion if the work piece binds or pinches on the blade.
- Do not stop a band saw by thrusting stock against the cutting edge or the side of a blade immediately after the power has been shut off.
- Do not remove sawdust or cuttings from the table by hand or with compressed air. Use a stick or brush. Do not leave a saw running unattended. Turn off the power and make sure the machine has stopped running before leaving the area.

Make sure that if you are cutting a piece that is round that you provide adequate support to counter act the natural rotation caused by the blade to avoid pulling your hand into the blade or even jamming and ruining the blade.



Sharing Corner

By members for members

I recently upgraded from a 12" mini lathe to a full size 18" lathe. I have spent many months searching all the various options out there (and there are many) and finally landed on a lathe made by Colt called a Stratos FU 230. It is a German manufactured lathe that also has the capacity to handle up to 30 plus inches in size by sliding the head stock to the end or rotating the head stock. While doing my research I came across Bradley McCalister who is an AAW member, is an instructor and demonstrator at his own facility, woodturning shows and also at symposiums and clubs across America. He also has a website features an educational academy and On-line store. He is a dealer for Rikon, Colt and Riss, Carter and Son and Easy wood tools. I have communicated many times with Bradley and have found him to be very helpful in my pursuit of a new lathe and the necessary turning items related to an upgrade. Bradley has even offered to extend a discount to our club members.



Below you will find information regarding his website spiracraft.com

Ray Case

SPIRACRAFT™

Spiracraft has been in development for several years leading up to it's recent opening. I felt a need to allow the Studios Store and Educational Community to have room to grow and better serve the world wide turning community.

With the transition to Spiracraft, came updated names for the retail and educational components. The Studios Store has grown into "The Turning Shop" with new products and services being offered and updated regularly. The Studios Educational Community has grown now to The "Spiracraft Academy".

What about The Studios of Bradley R.M.? Well, The Studios will continue to function as it was originally intended. When I first created The Studios of Bradley R.M. it was an outlet for my creative endeavors including but not limited to. Painting, Sculpture, Woodturning, Woodworking, and Film Making. Now you see why the need for Spiracraft began to emerge.

My role as Director of Education at Spiracraft allows me to oversee, guide, and contribute to the educational programs offered at the Spiracraft Academy. A larger course curriculum currently in development, will utilize a broader and more diverse group of educational staff.

Warmest Regards,
Bradley McCalister



Sharing Corner

Shellac

In our September club meeting it was obvious that a number of members have interest in using shellac, but have questions preventing them from trying it as a finish. I have been using shellac both as a complete finish and as a sealer for some time now with success so decided to try to provide some additional information to encourage others to try it as a finish.

Shellac has been used for various things for several centuries. It is mentioned in Roman literature as a dye as early as 250 AD. It has been used as a wood finish for at least 5 centuries. Currently, shellac is used in numerous ways other than as a wood finish. The shine on various food products is the result of application of food grade shellac. Food grade shellac is dissolved in pure ethanol not denatured alcohol. The shine on Reese's Pieces, M&M's and Jelly Belly jelly beans has been the result of a light application of shellac. It has been used as a pharmaceutical coating to delay the release of the medication. It is used to stiffen felt used in hats and the toes of ballet point shoes. It is an excellent electrical insulator and has been use on the windings of electrical motors. It has been used as a glue in the manufacture of light bulbs.

Shellac is an organic resin that is secreted by the lac bug (*Kerria lacca*) as it travels the branches of the tree it lives on. Estimates vary but it takes anywhere from 50,000 to 300,000 lac bugs to produce 1 kilogram (2.2 pounds) of shellac. Shellac is harvested in India and Thailand. Harvest of the raw shellac is hand work. After harvest the shellac is washed and refined and after processing is dried in sheets which forms the flakes the finish is produced from.

Zinsser is the only commercial producer of shellac. Zinsser shellac has a limited shelf life of 3 years according to their help line. Old shellac will be slow to dry and adhesion between coats may be weak leading to flaking off of top coats. Shellac is not a high-volume seller in paint or hardware stores, so the age of the product on the shelf is problematic. Zinsser shellac has a lot number stamped on the can from which the date of manufacture of the lot can be determined. I recently purchased a small can of Zinsser amber shellac for a specific project (flat work) which required color. The can contained the lot number S67114D. The S identifies the plant where the product was manufactured.

The first number identifies the year of manufacture, in this case 2016. The second number is the month of manufacture, for October, November and December the letters O, N, or D are used. On my can the 7 would indicate a July date. The third and fourth numbers are the day of the month. In this case the 11th. The last number is the run. So, my can purchased on 8-22-18, was manufactured on 7-11-16, over two years ago. Zinsser says their shellac has a 3-year shelf life but when I opened the can it was cloudy looking, and it seemed to be somewhat slow drying, but it did work and seems to be holding up, but I won't use it on any important project. Luckily this wasn't a critical project. Shellac can be tested by putting a few drops on a piece of glass. If it doesn't dry quickly to a hard surface it should be discarded.

Zinsser's help line also told me that all of their shellac contains wax except for their primer.

I have elected to prepare my own shellac by mixing dewaxed shellac flakes in denatured alcohol. The formula for mixing shellac is referred to as a cut, or the number of pounds of shellac flakes mixed with a gallon of alcohol. A quick google search will provide a formula for mixing shellac in small quantities. I found a chart on the Rockler web site which gives formulas for various cuts in quantities as small as one cup. I usually mix a cup at a time and use a digital postal scale to measure the alcohol and shellac flakes. I keep my shellac in a glass jar because the alcohol will evaporate through some plastic containers.

When I mix a batch, I let it set overnight to allow the flakes to fully dissolve. I then strain the shellac through a funnel strainer I got at Woodcraft, to remove any undissolved flakes.

I have used various methods to apply shellac to projects. On flat work I have had good luck using a foam brush. I tried a bristle brush but had difficulty avoiding brush marks. On turnings I have used paper towels, foam makeup applicators and foam brushes. My best results have been using a paper towel. I have had my best results applying the shellac off the lathe. When I have done it on the lathe I have trouble with radial marks caused by the spinning project and the drying speed of the shellac. The Zinsser can indicates that it can be recoated in one hour. I have had no problem second coating in much shorter periods, but if I use more than two coats I wait longer. When applying shellac remember that second and later coats will dissolve prior layers, so I try not to overwork later coats.

I hope this information will encourage more members to at least give shellac a try.

Keep making chips!

Ross I. Hirst

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 Hills 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 (AAW).



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**Member at Large
Bob Holcomb**

<http://flinthillswoodturners.org>



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.

Flint Hills Woodturners Program and Events

Oct 6th	Monthly Meeting Ton Boley How to Turn an Owl	Golden Prairie Honey Farms 8859 Green Valley Drive, Suite #4, Manhattan
Oct 19th	You Gotta Eat! Noon	
Oct 25th	Skill Enhancement 7:00-9:30 PM	Red Oak Hollow Lathe Works, Wamego
Nov 3rd	Monthly Meeting Annual meeting Tom Shields Ornamant	Golden Prairie Honey Farms 8859 Green Valley Drive, Suite #4, Manhattan

Unless otherwise announced, meetings are held at 8859 Green Valley Drive, Suite #4, Manhattan KS
Meetings start at 9:00 am but come any time after 8:00 am.

Enter at the rear of the building

