

**May 2019**



**May's Program**

**Guest Artist  
Alan Lacer**



Alan has been involved in woodturning for over forty years as a turner, teacher, writer, exhibition coordinator, demonstrator and expert witness. Alan has been an instructor and demonstrator, working in all fifty states and six foreign countries. His published writings—upwards of 150—cover a wide spectrum of woodturning from historical and cultural, technical and specific projects. His specialties include the skew chisel, sharpening techniques, finishing, lidded boxes and

making/using hook tools. In 1999 he was awarded the Honorary Member Award for that year from the American Association of Woodturners for his contributions to the field. He has appeared on PBS in the series, Woodturning Workshop and on the DIY channel.



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**Flinthillswoodturners.org**

# May 2019

## The Call of the Lathe



### “Pass It On”

I was inspired the other day by a gentleman that was the featured guest on a TV show. The man was recognized as being one of the greatest craftsmen and artist in his field. His skill and artistry are recognized around the world. During the show he was asked about his craft and the development of his skills and it soon became very clear that this man, even though he was world renowned, was at the core, a man devoted to helping others learn his craft and skill and took every advantage to pass along what he knows so it will never be lost.

Have you ever wanted to be number 1? Have you ever been the best? Have or are you considered one of the top or best in what you do? Did you tailor your life, school, training and career path in a such a way to achieve that? Maybe you don't think of it that way. Maybe you look at as the measure of success you are or have had. Your status, state and lot in life is where you want it to be. That's great. That's wonderful.

However I would like to challenge each of us to  
“PASS IT ON!”

What worth or value is there if what excellence, achievement, success, skill and knowledge we have is not in some small or large way passed along. Like the man from the show, ultimately he found his worth and value in his pursuit to make sure his craft and skill were never lost.

It seems as if a lot of the crafts and skills we have had in our lifetimes seem to be slowly vanishing. The crafts related to wood working and wood turning, to be more specific, are no exception. As members of the Flint Hills Woodturners organization we do not need to look very far to see that we are to PASS IT ON. Our website and literature states the following. “ **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).”

I can hear it already “ I don't know much”, but you know something. “ My skill level is not very advanced”, but you have some skills. “I don't know how to teach others”, have you tried yet. “I can only make bowls”, then show me a bowl. At some point all of us didn't even have the skill or talent we have today. We spent time and put forth effort to learn and practice.

I was reflecting the other day about my woodturning journey. I remember going to Bob Holcombe's garage and getting a short lesson on spindle work. I went home and made this candle stick looking piece that I thought was quite the accomplishment. I still have that piece somewhere in my shop. But thankfully I didn't stop there. I have gone on to expand my skills and continue to do so every week. One of the reasons I have gotten as involved as I have is the “PASS IT ON” concept. I learn from each of you and hopefully you all learn from each other as well.

So in conclusion, don't discount what you think you may have to offer. The generation you were raised with and those that follow all need each of us to never let our crafts and skills die.

### PASS IT ON

Ray Case - FHWT President

The monthly meeting of the Flint Hills Woodturners began at 9:00 a.m., April 6, 2019 at the Golden Prairie Honey Farms, located at the Green Valley Industrial Park, 8859 Green Valley Drive, Manhattan, Kansas.

President Ray Case called the meeting to order.

The meeting began with Show and Tell. Dennis Biggs, Victor Schwarz, David Delker, Tom Shields, Terry Schmidt, Ray Case, Don Baker, Aiden Constable, Robert Kloppenborg, Melissa McIntyre, Marc Greene, and Karl Dean shared their recent woodturning work.

Nathan Thoms was a visitor at today's meeting.

## Officers' Reports:

**President's Report:** Ray Case announced that someone asked if a club member would be interested in make a burial urn. Ray reminded members next month's demonstration and two workshops will be by Alan Lacer, a nationally known wood turner. Ray handed out copies of the membership roster; personal information has been omitted as per members' requests at last meeting. The club's fourth birthday party will be a pot luck dinner on Saturday April 20, from 5:00 to 7:30 at the Faith Evangelical Free Church. Fried chicken will be provided by the club. Members are to bring a side dish and show and tell items.

**Newsletter:** Ray Case asked members that they make a contribution to the newsletter in order to make it as good as possible. The club's newsletter is transitioning from an emailed newsletter format to a web site. The web site's address is [flinthillswoodturners.com](http://flinthillswoodturners.com) or [flinthillswoodturners.org](http://flinthillswoodturners.org). Cur-

rently all old newsletters editions can be found on the web site. Items for sale by members can be announced in the newsletter. Peter Dorhout plans to make a regular contribution to the newsletter that addresses safety related issues.

**Vice President's Report:** No report

**Treasurer's Report:** Tom Shields reported \$200 was spent for web site development, approximately \$110 was spent for wood for the upcoming demonstration, and approximately \$100 was spent for raffle items. We currently have \$5,153 in the treasury. The web site developer was happy to receive in exchange for payment some members' woodturnings.

**Secretary's Report:** No report

**Operations Report:** Steve Bietau passed around a sign-up sheet for volunteers for the upcoming Flint Hills Discovery Center's Flint Hills Festival at the Blue Earth Plaza on May 11. It was noted that participating in this and similar events helps elevate our standing in the community. There will be two lathes working and four demonstrators are needed. Steve noted that novice turners working events such as this can learn a lot from the experienced turners.

**Program Director's Report:** Dennis Biggs announced Alan Lacer will be our visiting demonstrator at the May 4 meeting. He will demonstrate the use of the skew, as well as additional topics of his own choosing. The demonstration will be from about 10:30 to noon and from 1:30 to 3:00, and it is free to members. The regular monthly meeting will be abbreviated. For lunch during the demonstration, a \$5 donation will be requested for those wanting to participate with the club-provided food.

He also will give a workshop on Friday May 3 dealing with lidded box making, and a workshop on Sunday May 5 dealing with the skew. The workshops will be from 9:00 to 4 PM with a break for lunch. The workshops will be at Tom Boley's shop. The cost for each workshop is \$100 per attendee, paid at the door. Lunch will not be provided. Alan's fee is \$700 per day plus travel expenses. The club is paying his fee for the demonstration, and the workshop attendees are paying his fee for the workshops. The June demonstration will be Randy Zelenka describing the use of the chain-saw.

Members at Large: No reports

Raffle: Aiden Constable, Dan Zeller, Kenneth Stitt, Ross Hirst, Daniel Joseph, Robert Kloppenborg, Peter Dorhout, and Joe Beck won valuable prizes. There was no grand prize this month.

Demonstration: Tom Boley demonstrated the use of coring tools. Coring tools allow a wood turner to remove two or more bowl blanks from a single piece of wood

instead of the normal method of getting only one bowl from a piece of wood. This is both productive and efficient. Several sizes of coring tool are available for different lathe sizes. The coring tool has a cutting edge on the end of a curved bar that is mounted onto the lathe bed. This is rotated on axis into the wood as the wood turns on the lathe, cutting out (coring) a bowl blank. This can be repeated to cut out a second and third bowl. When the cutting edge and curved bar are deep into the wood, a support is placed under the curved bar for support. To use the coring tool, Tom first put a tenon on the large piece of wood, then faced-off the top of the blank until smooth. Using the coring tool, he cut into the spinning wood along the curved arm's arc until the wood was divided into two bowl shaped blanks. The smaller, interior, bowl blank can be remounted and divided into two more bowl blanks, producing three bowl blanks from a single piece of wood that would normally produce only one bowl.

Ned Gatewood – Secretary



# Board Minutes

In attendance: Ray Case, Bob Holcombe, Dennis Biggs, Tom Shields, Tom Boley, Steve Bietau, and Ned Gatewood.

Who's to Receive Email Enquiries: Only the club president's email address is to be listed in the web site in the future.

Donated Magazines: Someone wants to donate a collection of Woodsmith and Shopsmith magazines to the club. It was agreed to turn the offer down.

Club's Fourth Birthday Dinner: It was agreed the club will provide fried chicken. An email will be sent to remind members to attend.

Visiting Demonstrator and Workshops: Alan Lacer's Friday workshop will be about making lidded boxes and the Sunday workshop will be about using the skew. The topics of the Saturday meeting demonstration will be left to Alan to decide. Fourteen people have signed up for the workshops. The cost to attend each work-

shop is \$100. Alan is to be paid \$700 per day plus travel expenses. Dennis will arrange getting the wood for the events. Lunches at the demonstration will be order-in pizza paid for with a \$5 suggested donations by attendees. The workshops lunches will be provided by the attendees. At the Saturday meeting, we will have show and tell, no raffle, and a brief business meeting. The demonstration will be Saturday from about 10:30 to noon and from 1:30 to 3:00. Each workshop will be from 9:00 to noon and from 1:30 to 3:30.

Third Thursday in Downtown Manhattan: It was decided not to participate in the Third Thursday in Downtown Manhattan event.

Web Site: Ray suggested we need to discuss in the future the web site and the transition from a newsletter to a web site.

Ned Gatewood – Secretary



## Programs

**Finally it's here**



I am excited about the first weekend of May with Alan Lacer the skew specialist. We have a full complement of members for the workshops on Friday and Sunday. The club meeting and Alan's demo will last until about 3:30 so plan accordingly. Lunch will be available for purchase Saturday.

If you are signed up for a workshop, remember to PACK A LUNCH for yourself. Water will be available.

June's demo will be by Randy and will elucidate many factors of chainsaw use in preparing turning blanks for Woodturners.

The rest of the year is open. Please let me know if you have particular wishes for demos or better yet volunteer to do a demo

If you have ideas or desires for upcoming demonstrations, please contact Dennis Biggs.

Thank you all. You make this an exciting organization.

**Dennis Biggs - Program Director**

<u>May 4th</u>	<u>June 1st</u>	<u>July 6th</u>	
Alan Lacer	Randy Zelenka	TBD	
Special Guest	Everything about Chainsaws		

# May 15th at Noon



**Y A  
G O T T A  
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T E L L I T E M S  
W E L C O M E**

# Skill Enhancement



**May 9th**

**7:00pm—9:30pm**

Red Oak Hollow

Lathe Works

4025 Walnut Creek Drive

Wamego, KS 66547



# April: Show and Tell



**David Delker**



**Aiden Constable**



**Marc Greene**



**Karl Dean**



**Ray Case**



**Dennis Biggs**



**Tom Boley**



**Tom Shields**



**Victor Schwarz**



# April: Show and Tell



**Melissa McIntyre**



**Don Baker**



**Robert Kloppenborg**



**Terry Schmidt**

One of our members, Robert Kloppenborg, has been in touch with Marsh County Arts Organization in Marysville, KS and has set up an exhibition in July for any and all of the Flint Hills Woodturners that would like to exhibit your woodturning wonders. If you are interested, please get in touch with Robert and he can fill you in on all the specific details.



## 2019 Exhibition Season

April - Jim Griggs

May - Closed

June - Rick Hildebrand

July - Members of the Flint Hills Turning Club

August - Allen Morris

# April's Program

## Recap

**Demonstrators:**

**Tom Boley**

Today's demonstration was given by Tom Boley explaining the use of coring tools.

Tom began his demonstration by explaining coring tools are curved devices mounted to the lathe with a cutter on one end that cuts a round bowl blank into two or more bowl-shaped blanks. Oneway and McNaughton are two popular manufacturers of coring systems, and each make tools to match various lathe sizes. Tom suggested watching online videos by these manufacturers to decide which system to purchase.

To use the coring tool, Tom mounted a round bowl blank with a tenon on the lathe and trued-up the face of the blank. The coring tool was then attached to the lathe and adjusted so the height of the cutting edge was at the centerline of the blank and the arc of the cutting knife enters and cuts through the blank at the desired location. When the coring knife nears its limit into the wood blank, a supporting arm is installed to support the cutting knife. The lathe runs at about 500 rpm. If possible, the lathe's drive belt is set at a high torque/low rpm setting (versus a low torque/high rpm) as the tool produces a lot of resistance, and the cutting needs to be done slowly. The cutting becomes more difficult as the cutter gets further into the wood as it is cutting more end grain. If three bowls are to be cored, the largest is first cut out, then the remaining blank is mounted on the lathe and it is separated into two bowl blanks.

Ned Gatewood - Secretary





**Peter's**

## **Safety Corner**



As woodturners (and woodworkers), we often only worry about the wood and the cutter – be it a saw blade, knife, chisel, or gouge. These are important to keep clean, sharp, and in good working order. However, before you start working on your saws or other electrical equipment, here are a few important safety tips to keep in mind:

1. Always unplug your tool before servicing the blade or the tool. Although many newer models have safety or “dead man” switches to prevent accidental starts, it is a common accident to lean over the starter switch while wrestling with that stuck nut.
2. In industrial settings, lock-out tags are commonly used to alert others in the area not to plug in a loose wire. If you have others in your shop, let them know not to plug in your wire and put an old sock on your plug end.

Once the task is complete, clean up around the area where you were working before plugging your equipment in again. Rags or tools around your saw could be accidentally drawn into the blade if you have accidentally turned on the switch while the equipment was unplugged – plugging it back in will start that blade immediately. A wrench or other tool still connected to your blade could become a lethal projectile, thereby ruining your day, or just ruin your newly-sharpened blade.

One more piece of safety advice related to electrical plugs. We know that a 2 HP electric motor wired for 110V will draw 20A of current (exceeding most shop circuits) and a 1 HP motor draws 10 A. Using long extension cords or, worse, multiple outlet extension cords, with such high currents can create a significant fire hazard. Position your equipment in your shop so that the higher-HP motors are as close as possible to your outlets. And, if at all possible, keep your cords off the floor and behind your equipment to prevent trips.

Be Safe!

Peter Dorhout

**AAW** | AMERICAN ASSOCIATION  
OF WOODTURNERS

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**President**  
**Ray Case**  
[president@flinthillswoodturners.org](mailto:president@flinthillswoodturners.org)

**Vice president**  
**Randy Zelenka**

**Secretary**  
**Ned Gatewood**

**Treasurer**  
**Tom Shields**

**Program Director**  
**Dennis Biggs**

**Operations**  
**Steve Bietau**

**Members at Large:**  
**Bob Holcombe**  
**Tom Boley**

## Flint Hills Woodturners Calendar of Events

<b>May 4th</b>	<b>Monthly Meeting</b>	Golden Prairie Honey Farms 8859 Green Valley Drive, Suite #4, Manhattan
<b>Morning &amp; Afternoon Sessions</b>	Guest Turner Alan Lacer	
<b>May 9th</b>	<b>Skill Enhancement</b>	Red Oak Hollow Lathe Works, Wamego
	7:00-9:30 PM	
<b>May 15th</b>	<b>YA GOTTA EAT</b>	
	<b>NOON</b>	
<b>Jun 1st</b>	<b>Monthly Meeting</b>	Golden Prairie Honey Farms 8859 Green Valley Drive, Suite #4, Manhattan
	Randy Zelenka Chainsaws	

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



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.

