



# Atlanta Woodturners Guild

February 2015

Chapter 274 of the American  
Association of Woodturners



## Atlanta Woodturners Guild Newsletter

### President's Message

Well February is here making this our second meeting of 2015 and my second meeting as President. Please if you have not paid your dues yet, please see Wayne Johnson at our next meeting. We are a small club and our dues are the main source for funding the quality demonstrators that Harvey Meyer continues to line up for our monthly meetings.

I want to thank everyone who brought in items for show and tell. From what I could tell, last month had to be the most items we have ever had for show and tell. Please don't be bashful because there is no reason for someone to not bring in something they have made. There are many good reasons to bring something in that you have made. Maybe you want to get someone's opinion/critique, maybe you had an issue you want to discuss with the group, OR maybe you are just DANG proud of it and want to show it off. Whatever your reason may be, please continue to bring them. Many times in the past, I have noticed someone brought an item that I had been thinking of doing myself but had not gotten around to doing it yet. Sometimes seeing what someone has made is enough motivation to try it yourself. And if you have troubles, then you may know who to talk to at our next meeting regarding your problem.

When I first joined the club in 2010, Kurt Whitley was the president. During some of those initial meetings I would hear Kurt talk about the months presidents challenge. I had no clue what a presidents challenge was at the time because I had my own challenges. Some of those challenges was simply getting over the fear of the lathe and turning it on. The president's challenge may be something we start back up later this year.

Last month Mark Sillay came and gave us a great demonstration on making the basic fundamental cuts in woodturning. Mark did a great job in demonstrating those cuts and explaining to us how to make them. If you are like me, then Mark probably made you realize why you have had so many problems with a specific cut. If you have a desire to get some personalized one on one instruction, please give Mark a call because he does a wonderful job of passing his skills/knowledge on to others.

If you are an AAW member, the latest issue of FUNDAMENTAL is available on the AAW website. This issue has an article by our own Nick Cook and a comprehensive pen-making article by Kurt Hertzog along with other short articles on fire safety, log cradles for chainsawing, turning handles to spiff up your lathe and more. You are likely to find something of interest.

Lastly, I want to remind everyone to support our local woodworking stores. Woodcraft has been very good over the years to let us hold our meetings in their store, allow us to hold our mini symposium last year and have donated items for our raffles numerous times. If you are shopping down the road at the new Rockler store please be aware they give club members a 10% discount on regular priced items. If you make a purchase please mention you are with the Atlanta Woodturner's Guild. For every purchase you make they will mark it off in their notebook. After 20 purchases, the club gets a \$20 gift card. Now days with a lot of shopping being done online, great deals and savings can be found. I ask that everyone prior to making that online purchase check and see if the same item can be found locally. I believe in many cases they will try to work with you on price if they can. If there is not a big difference in price please consider paying a little more to purchase it locally so to support the people who are supporting us.

Our February Meeting features Mark Waninger. Mark is from Indiana where he incorporates the natural beauty of the native hardwoods of Indiana in his unique artistic designs. Mark's demonstration will be Segmenting Simplified. Check Mark's website for more information about him and his work <http://www.mlwaninger.com/>.

I look forward to seeing everyone and their recently turned items at our next meeting. I hope each month finds you at some point knee deep in a pile of shavings!

Kevin Wood

## Next Meeting – February 18, 2015

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Atlanta Woodturners Guild will be on Wednesday, February 18, 2015 at 7:00 PM. Our guest demonstrator will be Mark Waninger from Jamestown, Indiana.

Mark will be sharing techniques that can be easily utilized by turners with little or no prior experience with segmenting. Mark's approach does not require complex mathematical calculations or the use of any computer programs. Mark will show the whole process as a series of sequential and repetitive steps that are easy to follow and successfully replicate independently.

### Objectives:

1. Explain & Demonstrate Making a Miter Saw Jig to cut Segments
2. Explanation and Discussion
  - a. Segmented Bowl Design
  - b. Determining Segment and Ring Sizes
3. Demonstrate Set-Up and Cutting Segments
4. Demonstrate Process for Gluing Rings
5. Explain and Discuss Segmented Bowl Construction

The overall intent of the demo is to show a simple method for making the rings needed to construct segmented bowls or vessels.

Two Tree Boyz Wood will also be at our next meeting with pre-cut blanks and natural edge pieces. Check out their new website or contact Elisabeth directly for pre-orders. She can take cash, check, or credit card at the meeting. You can pre-order logs, but must be able to unload them from her vehicle. Pre-orders must be made by 2/15. See ad section for contact information.

Look forward to seeing you all soon. We have a much better idea of the wood business since we saw you last and are getting better every week! I have done over \$600 in sales in the past 2 weeks and I think we are getting a good idea of where we fit in the wood blank market.

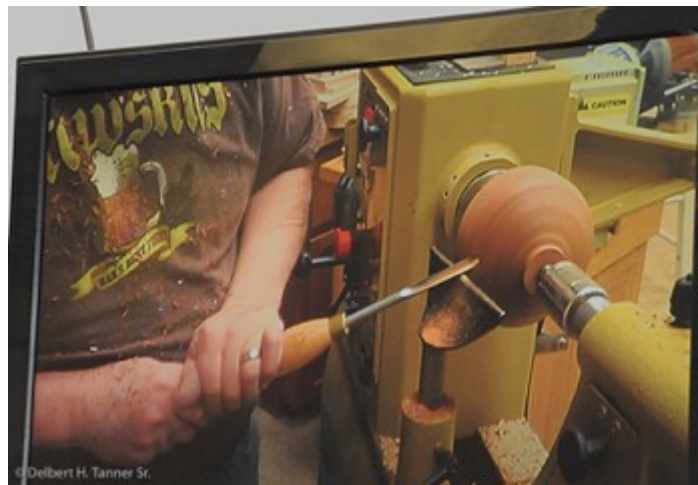
Guests are always welcome. The meeting location is:

Woodcraft  
8560 Holcomb Bridge Rd  
Suite 115  
Alpharetta GA, 30022  
(770) 587-3372  
[www.woodcraftatl.com](http://www.woodcraftatl.com)



## Previous Meeting – January 2014

The January meeting featured demonstrator Mark Sillay. Mark demonstrated tool techniques for the finish cuts with minimum sanding required. Mark also explained how he grinds how tools to make these fine cuts.



## January 2015 Instant Gallery Photos

January's instant gallery was one of the best the club has seen. In total, 9 turners brought in over twenty pieces!

Don Douthart



Kevin Wood



Emery Swensen



Guy Worley



Harvey Meyer



John Teichert



Rex Letner



Ron Cambell





## Mark Waninger



From his childhood in rural southern Indiana, to the launch of his own business, Mark has always been active in woodworking. He enjoys searching for the possibilities of what can be created from the natural beauty of native Indiana hardwoods, adding the occasional accent of rare exotic species. The combinations are endless when Mark's skill as a master millwright is partnered with his artistic flair. When you start with precision craftsmanship, then add the drive for perfection and an eye for complementary styles, you have a recipe for beautiful creations. His work features unique artistic designs, where each piece is envisioned and individually fabricated, one step at a time, from the rough sawn lumber to the high gloss finish.

When he is not in the shop, Mark enjoys spending time with his family and being outdoors. He has traveled to many parts of the United States to explore the natural wonders of this country. Some of his favorite areas include the beautiful state parks across Indiana, the red rocks and twisted Junipers of Sedona, the majestic pink granite of Cadillac Mountain in Maine, and the Giant Redwoods along the coast of northern California. Mark is also committed to replenishing native Indiana hardwood trees, to do his part to provide future generations with the opportunity to enjoy the same pleasures these resources have offered to him. He has personally hand-planted nearly 4000 trees to date..



## Article of the Month

### Making those Basic Cuts

*By Kevin Wood*

Last month Mark Sillay demonstrated at our meeting on making the basic fundamental cuts in woodturning. Mark did a great job in demonstrating those cuts and explaining to us how to make them. If you are like me, then there is some basic cuts you may have not yet mastered. Sometimes you realize you have not mastered them when you get a catch when trying to finish a project. Sometimes our mistakes are not a big deal and then there are times when it requires you re-sand your piece. Re-sanding may not be a big deal unless you are going through all the grits not just one or two times but THREE times. Sometimes our lack of mastering the basic skills can really test us mentally. When you realize you are going to have to sand something for the third time, it's ALL you can do to not find something to throw. I really hope my neighbors don't stare out their windows and watch me for their own amusement / entertainment!

Most of my turning has been done with bowl gouges and most of the time I feel somewhat comfortable at where my skill level is at the moment when I have a bowl gouge in my hand. When it comes to spindle turning and being competent with a spindle gouge, I think I have plenty of room for improvement. I have known for some time that I needed to improve my skills. After much thought on the subject over the past year and Mark's recent demonstration, I have decided to do something about it.

I started my first practice session Wednesday evening, January 28<sup>th</sup> on turning beads with a spindle gouge. After I get better with beads, I will proceed with other cuts that give me trouble or I feel I need to master. My plan is to try to spend one or two evenings during the weekdays just making shavings. My plan is to spend 30 minutes to an hour just working on the basic cut I want to be better at making. Hopefully after a month or two, my turning skills will have improved. I ask all of you new to intermediate turners to consider to doing the same. If you are a new turner you may not have fell into that pit of always thinking / wanting to "make" something when in the shop. If you take the time now to work on those basic skills like Mark demonstrated at last month's meeting, then I think you will be better off in the long run. Since I am currently in that pit, I am using weekday evenings as a chance to increase my skills. I hope this will leave my weekend shop time for actually making things while hopefully benefitting from my weekday practice sessions.

#### **What's Needed other than a lathe:**

**Wood** – poplar or pine 2x2 will serve well. I bought two 8ft 2x2 pieces of pine from Home Depot this weekend for \$4.

**Time** – time spent on the lathe will develop the muscle memory needed to make the cut look easy while focusing more of your attention on the shape / form. Consistency is how many goals are achieved. People who successfully lose weight in the long run did it by consistently sticking to their plan of healthy eating and exercise. The same applies here and with most things in life that you happen to choose to pursue.

Besides the basic cuts, you may also have issues with sharpening. Though Mark did a great job demonstrating to us the proper way to achieve the basic cuts, you are probably like most people in that you may have forgot much of what he said. The following are some books/dvd's you may find useful. I believe most are available in our club library. Videos / DVD's are very useful when you are learning something new. You also may have issues or questions regarding sharpening some of the references below covers the sharpening aspect as well.

#### **References:**

**Glenn Lucas Woodturning Mastering Woodturning: Tools & Techniques by Glenn Lucas DVD** - available in the AWG library

**Fox Chapel Woodturning: A Foundation Course by Keith Rowley** - available in the AWG library. I know we have the book and I think we may have the DVD as well.

**Kirk DeHeer Sharpening Demystified by Kirk DeHeer DVD** – I think we have this in the AWG library. If not, you can get it from Craft Supply (<http://www.woodturnerscatalog.com/p/99/4332/Kirk-Deheer-Sharpening-Demystified-by-Kirk-DeHeer-DVD>).

**Fundamentals of Woodturning by Mike Darlow** – Book – Available in the AWG library. I believe we have companion DVD's as well. I know we have the DVD on learning the skew. BTW, I started trying to use the skew summer of 2013

and got comfortable with planing cuts, peeling cuts, v cuts but I failed miserably at rolling beads. I will be looking at the skew again when I get my spindle skills in order.

### **Tips**

- For spindle work, you may want to keep the practice pieces under 8 inches if you are working with 2x2 material. If you use wood is longer you may experience flexing in the wood as you start turning the wood smaller.
- Start slow and don't rush the cut as Mark suggested in his demo. If working on beads with a spindle gouge go slow and concentrate on your form. As you roll the bead think about rotating and lifting the handle as are making that bead. If you lose the cut, pick it back up and think about what you did in order to finish the cut correctly.
- Of course, use SHARP tools.

### **Advantages**

- No stress to rush and complete a project. When you need to stop, you simply turn off your lathe and leave.
- No sanding involved because your goal is to compare your progress as you go. You want to see those imperfect beads, coves, etc. When you start seeing them perfected, you can sit back and smile in knowing how far you have brought your skills as a woodturner.
- Increasing your skills at making those basic cuts will build confidence in yourself as a woodturner.

### **Disadvantages**

- Less Time in the Shop - You may not spend as much time on your weekend woodturning projects because you struggle less with the fundamental cuts which help you finish those projects quicker.

I hope this article is useful or at least motivational in pushing some of you like me in either learning the basics or working on our weaknesses. "Just Making Shavings" can be tough for those of us with full time jobs and limited shop time. Hopefully by stepping back and working on the skills we need improving, we will become much better and confident woodturners.

## Swap Shop/For Sale

Two Tree Boyz Wood sells locally harvested wood in end grain-sealed blank and log form. We sell from our Buford location by appointment, at local turning clubs, and online through our website. Visit us for best price, best selection, and custom cutting. We have the potential to get new wood daily from my husband's tree service, so let me know if you are looking for something special.

Elisabeth Ross --- 678.887.0896 --- [twotreeboyz@yahoo.com](mailto:twotreeboyz@yahoo.com) --- [www.2treeboyz.com](http://www.2treeboyz.com)

## Upcoming Events:

### **Southern States Woodturning Symposium**

When: May 15 - 17, 2015

Where: Clarence Brown Conference Center Cartersville, GA

Featuring: Soren Berger, Chris Ramsey, Kimberly Winkle, Avalino Samuel, Steve Pritchard, Steve Cook, Nick Cook, and Harvey Meyer

Info: <http://southernstatessymposium.org>

### **AAW Annual Symposium**

When: June 25 - 28, 2015

Where: Pittsburgh, PA

Featuring: Too many to list...

Info: <https://aaw.site-ym.com/?page=2015Pittsburgh>

### **Turning Southern Style**

When: September 18 - 20, 2015

Where: Northwest Georgia Trade and Convention Center, Dalton, GA

Featuring: Jimmy Clewes, Nick Agar, and Benoît Averly

## AWG Meeting Schedule

*January 21, 2015 – Mark Sillay (GA)*

**February 18, 2015 – Mark Waninger (IN)**

March 18, 2015 – Richard Morris (KY)

April 15, 2015 – Derek Weidman (PA)

May 20, 2015 – Robert Lyons (SC)

June 17, 2015 – Jim Creel (LA)

July 15, 2015 – Sharon Doughtie (HI) - tentative

August 19, 2015 – John Jordan (TN) - tentative

September 16, 2015 – Jimmy Clewes (NV) - tentative

October 21, 2015 – TBD

November 18, 2015 – Tania Radda (AZ)

December 16, 2015 – Holiday social

## About the Guild

The Atlanta Woodturners Guild (AWG) was formed to provide support, ideas, and camaraderie to fellow woodturners in the metro Atlanta area. The Guild meets once a month and members are invited to display examples of their work at the instant gallery. New and established turners have the opportunity to ask questions and solve problems with other members.

At each monthly meeting a demonstration is conducted by professional turners from all over the world. It is a great opportunity to see a professional in action, ask questions and learn techniques. The AWG has a comprehensive library stocked with woodturning DVD's, and books. These items are available to the membership for a small rental fee. Members are kept informed about upcoming events and activities through this, their web site.

All interested in learning about woodturning are welcome to attend the month meetings.

## AWG Contacts

### Officers

President	Kevin Wood	co-president@atlantawoodturnersguild.org
Vice President	Del Tanner	vp@atlantawoodturnersguild.org
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Treasurer	Wayne Johnson	treasurer@atlantawoodturnersguild.org
Past President	Arnie Moore	past-president@atlantawoodturnersguild.org
Director	Harvey Meyer	director@atlantawoodturnersguild.org
Director	Jim Hardy	director@atlantawoodturnersguild.org

### Committees

Librarian	Jim Hardy	librarian@atlantawoodturnersguild.org
Newsletter	Jeff Barnes	newsletter@atlantawoodturnersguild.org
Programs	Harvey Meyer	programs@atlantawoodturnersguild.org
Photographer	Del Tanner	photographer@atlantawoodturnersguild.org
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## Closing

This newsletter is published monthly by the Atlanta Woodturners Guild, (AWG). All opinions expressed by contributors do not necessarily reflect those of the Editor, Officers, or the AWG. Your AWG questions, comments and suggestions are always welcome. You may contact any officer through the contact information in this newsletter, or our website's contact webpage: [www.atlantawoodturnersguild.org](http://www.atlantawoodturnersguild.org).