



**Turning a
Banksia Pod**



The October program will feature Tom Boley demonstrating how to turn a banksia pod on the lathe.

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The Call of the Lathe – October 2017

Coach Bill Snyder has talked about the “home field advantage” when our guys play in Manhattan. I think he is referring to the Snyder Family Stadium being filled to capacity, the sea of purple surrounding the entire football field, the cheers which erupt from the crowd throughout the game, and the cheerful greetings from everyone there, “Welcome to K-State.” We in Flint Hills Woodturners also have our own home field advantage which we create through our enthusiastic Show and Tell, including for new woodturners who may be bringing something for the first time, the willingness of every single member of FHW to share ideas and “how-to’s” whenever they are asked a question by someone, such strong attendance at meetings that we must seek a larger venue, members bringing in things to donate to the silent auction in support of both the club and their fellow turners, and all the help from everyone when the meeting is over to clean up and restore the shop to normalcy. I’ll tell you, it is a huge pleasure for me to be a part of such a great group and it is always a delight to have new people come to a meeting for the first time.

We are still hoping to move into our new digs before the end of the year and I expect to have an update by the time of our October meeting. We are also working on a new web site. We have engaged a web designer in Colorado Springs who I know to help us with that task. She is expensive in her commercial web design work

but offers a huge discount to non-profits, of which we are one. We have in mind moving away from a monthly newsletter to a web-based newsletter in which we will just update the web site each month with new info and let everyone know when it is current. You should be able to tap into the web site at any time and find info as it is evolving. Our target is to have the new web site on line and fully functional by early in 2018.

By the time we meet in October, we will have had our Mini Makers Faire event in Aggieville and will be working toward the Pumpkin Patch Craft Show in CiCo Park. Thanks to all of you who have signed up with Steve Bietau, our Ops guy, for Aggieville. He still has some openings for Pumpkin Patch and will be asking to fill those slots at the October meeting. We need people to help set up, to stand at a lathe and make something, to “work the crowd” by talking about the craft, the club, and our meetings to those who stop by, and to help clean up when the show is over. If you haven’t done a public event like this before, you will find it is really a pleasure. It is great fun to chat with people who are interested in what woodturning is all about.

See you in October! Be safe and have a good time turning.

—Tom Boley, President

Craft Supplies Gift to FHW

As most of you know, Craft Supplies provides one \$10 gift certificate for each ten members we have in Flint Hills Woodturners. In turn, we provide them with

our membership list. That tells them how many members we have and of course they put our names and addresses on their catalog mailing list. That is a very good deal for us both in getting their catalogs regularly and having those \$10 certificates for our raffles. They also now have a frequent buyer program which allows members to earn Reward Cash when we make purchases. It never expires and can be used anytime. They have just started the program and have seeded everyone’s account with 150 points to get us started. They suggest visiting their web site for more information at woodturnerscatalog.com. If you are interested, you may also sign up through their web site for other offers and new product information. In the years I have been a woodturner, I have mostly bought from Woodcraft because I have lived close to a store but they don’t have everything and Craft Supplies is an outstanding alternative source for woodturning gear. If you already get the catalog, you know what I mean. If you don’t get it yet, grab one at the next meeting.



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Meeting Minutes — September 2, 2017

The monthly meeting of the Flint Hills Woodturners began at 9:00 a.m., September, 2017 at the Red Oak Hollow Lathe Works, 4025 Walnut Creek Drive, Wamego, Kansas. Vice President Ray Case called the meeting to order.

The meeting began with a raffle and several members won valuable prizes.

The proposed new club meeting place was discussed, and we are still waiting for the HVAC equipment to be installed. The equipment and labor has been donated, but installation has not begun.

Bob Holcombe donated all of the items in this month's silent auction.

The next skill enhancement session shall be September 21, and the next You Gotta Eat lunch will be September 21 also.

It was reported there is \$3,556.25 in the treasury.

Operations Officer Steve Bietau reminded members of two upcoming public events which we will be participating in: the Aggieville Mini Maker Faire, September 23 in Aggieville, and the Pumpkin Patch Arts & Crafts Fair, October 6 and 7 at Cico Park. Steve passed out a sign-up sheet for volunteers. Steve will collect tops at our next meeting to handout at these two events.

Librarian Joe Beck announced the library has several new books; take a look!

Dennis Biggs gave this month's demonstration on the finishing technique he often uses when making bowls and other turned objects. He first applies a coat of homemade shellac, sands the shellac coat, then applies a 50/50 mix of Danish oil and mineral spirits, sands, applies a coat of Danish oil, sands, and then applies a third coat of Danish oil. Dennis then buffs the piece using the Beall Buffing System.

Victor Schwarz gave a demonstration on building a segmented bowl using 24 segments. He clamps segments and spacers together and glues it to the one below, then lets it dry six hours and then repeats.

Fred Damkroger gave the Tips and Tricks demonstration on his method for storing sandpaper disk, which allows for accurate alignment of the sander and the disks. He made a board for storing disk sandpaper with dowels that go through the holes in the sandpaper disks. When he places the sander with its holes over the dowels, this lines up the holes of the sander and the sandpaper, and the sandpaper adheres in the correct location on the sander.

The next Flint Hills Woodturning meeting will be Saturday, October 7, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. in Red Oak Hollow Lathe Works.

—Ned Gatewood, Secretary

From Operations

Saturday, September 23rd, our club participated in the 4th Annual Aggieville Mini Makers Faire by performing turning demos and answering questions about turning as well as our club. Club members John Randle, Karl Dean, Bob Holcombe, Ross Hirst, Nyle Larson, Peter Dorhout, and Vic Vinson all volunteered, and numerous other members stopped by throughout the day. We had a steady stream of visitors at our booth from 10:00 am -4:00 pm. There was a wide range of ages and all seemed to thoroughly enjoy the demos and a chance to learn about our craft from the various volunteers. We also had a number of visitors who had a greater interest in turning and will hopefully attend an upcoming meeting.

— Steve Bietau, Operations



From the Program Director: October Program

Our featured demonstrator this month will be Tom Boley, showing us how to turn a banksia pod on the lathe. According to The Wood Database (<http://www.wood-database.com/banksia-pod/>), banksia pods are seed pods of the banksia tree that grows in southwestern Australia. The pod itself is the fruit of the tree, with the seeds contained in interior cavities. Woodturners have used them to create pens, bottle stoppers, pepper mills, candle holders, and many other interesting projects. I know you will enjoy Tom's demonstration involving this unique and beautiful material!

Recall that Tom was planning to do this program at the September meeting, but a schedule conflict caused him to postpone until October. A big "thank you!" goes out to Dennis Biggs who graciously agreed to step in as the main demonstrator.

Future Programs:

"Flexibility" will be the key word for our club's programming during the next few months, as we transition to a new meeting location. Moving to the new space undoubtedly will entail working out challenges in woodturning equipment, lighting, and audio/video technology as we adjust our activities to fit the space. Nevertheless, my goal is to make sure that our programs continue to entertain and educate!

Here are some of the program offerings you'll see in the months ahead:

- **Holiday Ornaments.** Just-in-time ornaments for the upcoming holidays. Presenters will include several club members (who will soon cheerfully volunteer their talents) showing how to make keepsake ornaments and gifts that will be valued for generations to come.
- **Chuck it All!** This demonstration by several club members (more cheerful volunteers needed, please) of unique methods of chucking work on the lathe. Included will be examples of using a vacuum chuck, Cole jaws, a Longworth chuck, jam chucks, and custom hardware.
- **Turning the Small Stuff.** David Delker will demonstrate techniques and special tools needed to turn miniature bowls, goblets, and other creations.
- Feel free to contact me if you have something you would like to demonstrate (or to see demonstrated) at a future meeting. I would be happy to visit with you and help you develop your idea into an excellent program!
— David Delker, Program Director.

Show & Tell



Tod Salfrank



Dennis Biggs



Peter Dorhout



Randy Zelenka



Karl Dean



Victor Schwarz

August Program: Finishing with Dennis Biggs

Dennis Biggs gave this month's demonstration on the finishing technique he often uses when making bowls and other turned objects. He first applies a coat of homemade shellac, sands the shellac coat, then applies a 50/50 mix of Danish oil and mineral spirits, sands, applies a coat of Danish oil, sands, and then applies a third coat of Danish oil. Dennis then buffs the piece using the Beall Buffing System.

Victor Schwarz gave a demonstration on building a segmented bowl using 24 segments. He clamps segments and spacers together and glues it to the one below, then lets it dry six hours and then repeats.

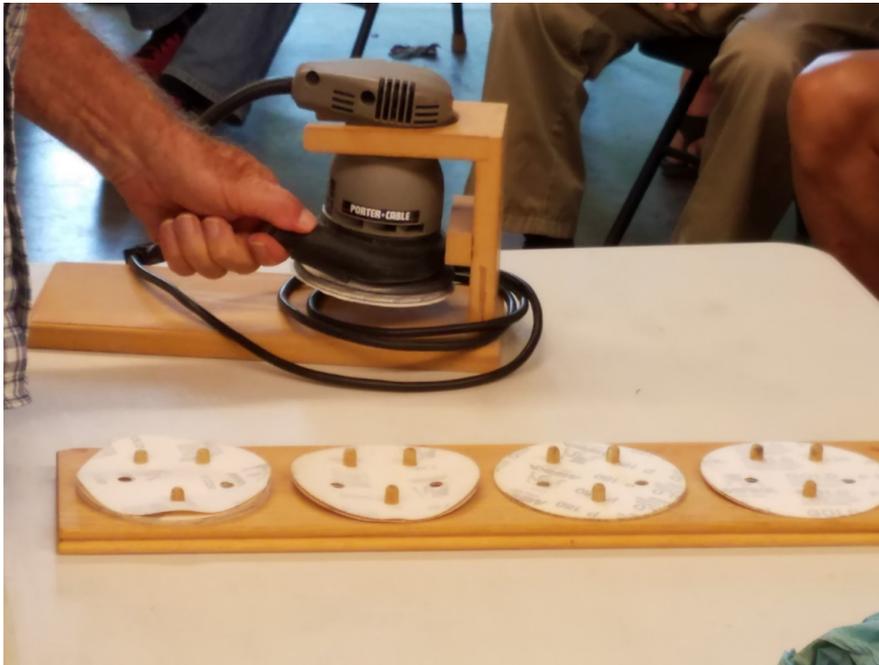
—Ned Gatewood, Secretary



Tips and Tricks

Fred Damkroger gave the Tips and Tricks demonstration on his method for storing sandpaper disk, which allows for accurate alignment of the sander and the disks. He made a board for storing disk sandpaper with dowels that go through the holes in the sandpaper disks. When he places the sander with its holes over the dowels, this lines up the holes of the sander and the sandpaper, and the sandpaper adheres in the correct location on the sander.

—Ned Gatewood, Secretary



How One Member Dries His Green Wood Bowls

I had the pleasure recently of visiting the shop and wood storage facility of fellow Flint Hills Woodturners member, Bob Holcombe. Bob had just finished turning more than 100 bowls for sale at upcoming craft events. He shared with me his techniques for drying bowls, and he seems to know what he's doing as he has very few bowls that crack and can't be used.

Bob begins by trying to use wood that has been felled in the winter; summer wood is too wet and results in more cracking as the wood dries. He cuts the logs to a useable length and stores them outside on skids for up to a few months before he uses them; any longer and bugs start to infest the wood. He paints or Anchor Seals the ends to slow down checking, and follows with further painting, as just one coat will not last very long.

Note on sealing: When I discussed this article with Ray Case, he told me of an interesting and free source of paint. The Riley County Shops on Rt. 24 west of Manhattan collects hazardous materials, including paints. You can take unused paint there and they pour it into 55 gallon drums, oil and water based. Using your own container, you can get as much free paint as you like. You can paint your whole house with it if you like, which may explain why that neighbor's house is gray with just a hint of chartreuse. Anyway, Ray and Bob think paint is as good as sealer for woodturners and not as expensive as Anchor Seal... just as long as you don't care what color it is.

When he's ready to make bowls from his stored wood pile, Bob cuts blanks in the usual manner, though he does prefer to use a chainsaw to rough-out a round blank instead of the bandsaw.

Bob turns each bowl to its final shape while the wood is green, leaving a tenon on the bowl bottom to help with future sanding. He won't do any later shaping to correct any inevitable distortion. He's happy his rough turned bowls warp and disfigure and he believes those are qualities his customers appreciate.

He leaves the bowls to dry for as long as needed for the particular wood species and bowl thickness. That can be from one to three, or more, months. He dries them in paper leaf bags without shavings.

When earlier making the tenon, Bob makes sure to leave a small nub or indentation on the center of tenon, and he uses this marker to place the tailstock which aides in mounting and centering the bowl on the jam chuck. Now he remounts each bowl on a jam chuck, turns the piece to remove the tenon, sands, and applies several coats of walnut oil. And that's it! Ninety-nine more bowls to go.

—Ned Gatewood, Secretary

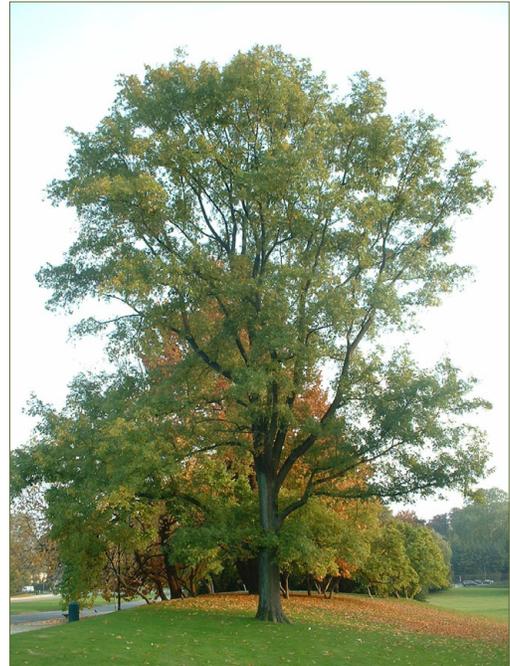


Trees of Northeast Kansas

Butternut Hickory

Janka Hardness: 1,500

Butternut Hickory tends to be medium to light brown, and the sapwood is a pale yellowish brown. The grain is straight with medium size pores. Butternut Hickory can be difficult to work with as tear can only be avoided with sharp tools. It finishes well. It is one of the densest and hardest wood found in the United States, harder than Hard Maple, and hence it is often used for utilitarian purposes such as tool handles.



The **Janka hardness test** measures the resistance of a sample of wood to denting and wear. It measures the force required to embed an 11.28 millimetres (0.444 in) diameter steel ball halfway into a sample of wood. A common use of Janka hardness ratings is to determine whether a species is suitable for use as flooring.

This number is incredibly useful in directly determining how well a wood will withstand dents, dings, and wear—as well as indirectly predicting the difficulty in nailing, screwing, sanding, or sawing a given wood species.

Examples are: Balsa—70; Douglas Fir—660; Black Walnut—1,010; Osage Orange—2,040.



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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 or e-mail them at 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

Flint Hills Woodturners **Ya Gotta Eat!**

Wednesday, October 18th

Join fellow FHW members for our next

"Ya Gotta Eat" lunch at noon at **Vista Drive In**

1911 Tuttle Creek Blvd, Manhattan

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>



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 2	Monthly Meeting Dennis Biggs Finishing Techniques	Red Oak Hollow Lathe Works, Wamego
September 21	Ya Gotta Eat! Noon	Vista Drive in
September 21	Skill Enhancement 7:00 – 9:30 PM	Red Oak Hollow Lathe Works, Wamego
 October 7	Monthly Meeting Tom Boley TBA	Red Oak Hollow Lathe Works, Wamego
October 18	Ya Gotta Eat! Noon	Vista Drive in
October 18	Skill Enhancement 7:00 – 9:30 PM	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.

