



JUNE 2018

T U R N I N G **Threads** G

What's Inside

PREZ SAYS
Page 2

JUNE DEMO
Page 3

SHOW AND TELL
Page 9

PEN WOOD OF MONTH
Page 16

TURNING BETWEEN CENTERS
Page 20

GRAIN PATERNS - BURLS
Page 22



Tom Leonard demonstrates closed end turning of pens using three different methods.



Beginning this month all internet addresses can be clicked on to go directly to the article sources.

Prez Says

I was handed the following at this month's board meeting and I definitely believe it's worth sharing:

New Member sponsor idea:

"I joined a club (I will not say which one) last year. I was a member for one year and people said hello, but never asked me to participate, asked me to help, or asked me to help the club. I quit. I think we need to make new members welcome. I suggest a sponsor for the first year.

The member bringing them in would be a no brainer for sponsor if they came in that way. If they came on their own the board could assign one. Interests, home town, someone you know could be factors in choosing.

The sponsor should welcome the newbie, maybe offer a ride to the meetings and be available for questions on how to do it or what to buy etc.

I suspect any established member of the club would be glad to be a sponsor if asked."

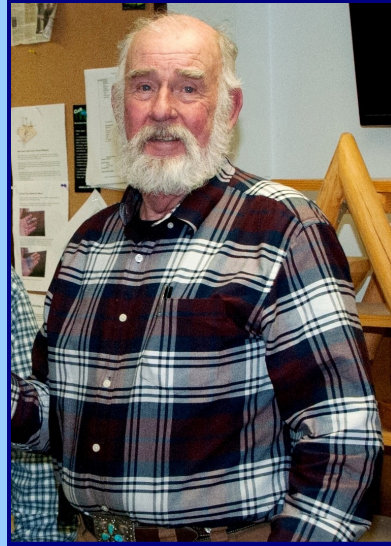
And I will add to this, because my phone number is on our website, I get called nearly every month asking about the club or interested in turning but have questions on how to get started. So if you have any equipment you are willing to sell to a new turner at a good price, let us know and we can help someone get started.

Remember our July meeting is going to be on July 11th, not July 4th. At that meeting Joe Nycz s going to show how to build and use a vacuum chuck for a price we all can afford. You won't want to miss this. Also, remember the July President's challenge is "trash to treasure," or "junk to jewels" if you like.

I know you aren't getting as much time on the lathe as you would like, with having to mow your lawn every other day, but just remember the snow will come soon enough and then you won't have to mow for at least 6 months.

Have fun

Prez Duane



June Demonstration Closed End Pen Turning

3

Duane Walker, President, opened the meeting. We had two guests, Coby Booth, and Joe Felling. On July 4th Dennis Ciesielski will be at Carson Park for a craft show and needs someone to be at the show with him. Sales are allowed, but all proceeds go to the Chippewa Valley Museum. Ron Bartz will be having a class on making a donut chuck in September, possibly the week after Coffee and Chips.



Next up, Duane introduced Tom Leonard who talked about and demonstrated how to make closed end pens.

Those of us who have turned pens have likely used a standard pen kit. Whether it's a slimline or a cigar pen the components are the same: A metallic nib, possibly a band, a clip, and a metallic cap. A closed end pen omits the metallic cap and allows the turner to make one from wood. The wood can be from the same blank or a contrasting piece.

The mounting mechanism for closed end pens is different than for traditional blanks. Tom talked about three different systems.

From Penn State Industries:

- The Grabber: For turning little pens.
- The Big Grabber: For turning big pens. **See page 7 for picture.**
- both of these use rubber bladders to secure the tube.

These instructions are based off the Olympian Elite Closed End pen kit from Penn State Industries.

The blank needs to be cut into 3 sections. The lower end blank, the upper blank, and the cap blank.

Pens are best when the natural beauty of the wood is preserved as much as possible, so take care to orient the individual pieces so that the grain is continuous.

From Craft Supplies USA:

- Pen Maker's Choice Closed End Pen Mandrel
- uses roll pins to lock pen tube around mandrel.
- requires a drill chuck or collet chuck for mounting.

Between Centers

Briefly mentioned as a possible way but requires more than live and dead centers. **See article on page 20.**

Tom buys spindle blanks, a 2"x2" blank can be quartered into 4 1"x1" blanks.

For larger pens, as made in the big grabber, at least 8" of wood is needed. When preparing the blank, please consult the instructions for your particular pen kit, as well as mandrel.

The lower blank is 4", the upper is 1-7/8", and the cap is 2".

Blank Preparation:

Lower blank:

A 10.5 mm hole needs to be drilled to a depth of 2 1/8" into the lower blank. This doesn't include the brad point on the bit!

The counter sink bushing is dropped down into the blank, with the chamfered side out. The chamfer helps to center the 7mm drill in the 10.5mm hole.

Using the 7mm drill, drill through the chamfer to a depth of 3' (7/8" past the 2 1/8" of 10.5mm bore).

This does not include the brad point which is 1/8'.

Remove the counter sink bushing.

Glue the brass tube into the blank, and allow it to dry. Sand the end square using a sander.

Upper blank:

Drill a 12.5mm hole through the blank.

Glue the tube into the blank and allow to dry.

Use a barrel trimmer to true the ends of the blank.

Cap blank:

Drill a 10mm hole to a depth of 11/32" deep.

Squeeze some glue into the hole. Be careful here, as too little and the cap insert will not be properly adhered. Too much and it's threads may be covered with glue.

Insert the cap insert, and allow to dry.

Use a sander to square the end of the blank.

Turning the upper and cap blanks:

See page 8 for picture of assembly.

Place the upper step bushing beneath the hose bladder.

Place the upper end bushing on top of the hose bladder, and the upper blank over the assembly. Place the sizing washer or bushing over the mandrel.

Place the cap blank on the mandrel.

Bring the tail stock up.

Turn the blank near to the bushings. When quite close remove the sizing washer or bushing and replace the cap blank. Turn them as one continuous piece for a smooth transition. Start to shape the end cap, that there is a 11/32" deep hole in it. Avoid making an accidental tube!

Turning the lower blank:

Mount the lower step bushing beneath the bladder, and the lower end bushing above it. Place the lower blank over the assembly and tighten it.

Turn the lower blank to meet the lower step bushing, and to a length of 3-5/8". The end should be nicely rounded.

To assemble the pen, place the clip over the exposed thread of the upper barrel. Screw the cap onto the thread.

Press the band onto the opposite end of the blank.

Next, press the nib coupler into the open end of the lower barrel.

Insert the spring into the recess of the lower barrel. Drop the refill into the opening. Screw the tip into the threads of the nib coupler.

The upper barrel now screws onto the lower barrel (and unscrews to uncap it)

Note: Be careful when tightening the mandrel, as you tighten the barrel expands and can cause the pen and/or tube to split.

Errata

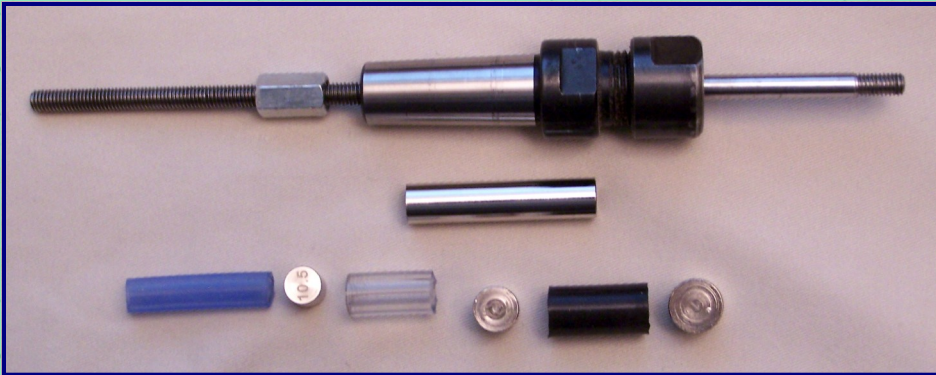
For the big grabber need bigger piece of wood, need at least 8"
Tom buys spindle blanks 2x2 is best, can quarter it into 4 blanks
can use two pieces of wood, similar or contrasting.

Types of exclusive closed end pen kits: Tycoon, Olympia, Apollo and Majestic Jr.

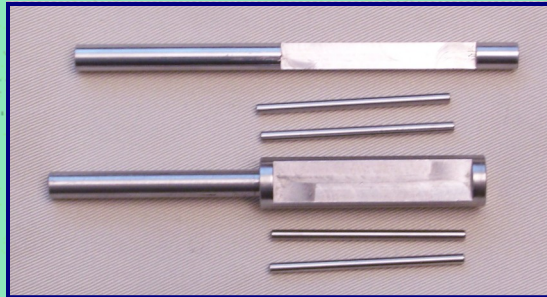
The cheap plastic sizing washer for threaded section doesn't work well, Tom uses a metal washer for better results. The cap can also be mounted on a bolt and turned in a drill chuck.

Tom tapes mandrel into headstock with duct tape because his lathe head stock doesn't hold the tapered mandrel assembly.

Make sure to take brad point of drill bit length account when determining the curved end of the closed end pen. ①①



Penn State Ind. Big Grabber Closed End Pen Mandrel with counter sink, bladder hoses and end bushings - all included in package price of \$34.95.



Craft USA Pen Makers Choice Closed End Mandrel. Shown is 7mm and 12.5 mm . Pins fit in slot to tighten blank on mandrel. Each mandrel is \$14.95.



Finished pens with and without caps and clips



Big Grabber mandrel assembled with 10.5 mm pen bushing, 10.5 mm bladder hose and held in place with a 10.5 mm end bushing



Assembled mandrel inserted into the lower blank with a 10.5 mm tube.



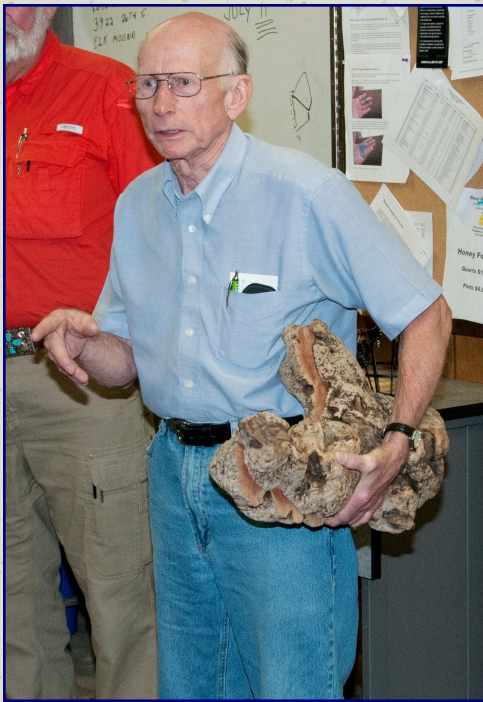
Assembled mandrel with changed pen bushing and a 12.5 mm bladder hose held in place with a 12.5 mm end bushing. Assembly is inserted into upper blank with connected cap blank and a sizing washer put between so the two can be turned together and turned down to match sizes.

SHOW AND TELL / GALLERY



Kim Thalacker surprised us all with a beautiful array of pens and bottle stoppers. Kim has been turning for about 6 months.





Dennis Ciesielski with a burl of unknown type. Dennis picked this burl from many that a unknown wood turner gave to a local Amish sawmill.



Mark Palma with 3 Baltic Birch plywood bowls turned in different grain orientations. Also a small plate turned from “architectural foam” (aka PVC).





Rich Thelen with 4 turned disks that he carved various designs. The blue disk is not wood but low density urethane foam which can be used to teach carving.





John Layde with a natural edge cup made of Ash



Tom Leonard with the Wood of the month pen made of Honduran Rosewood

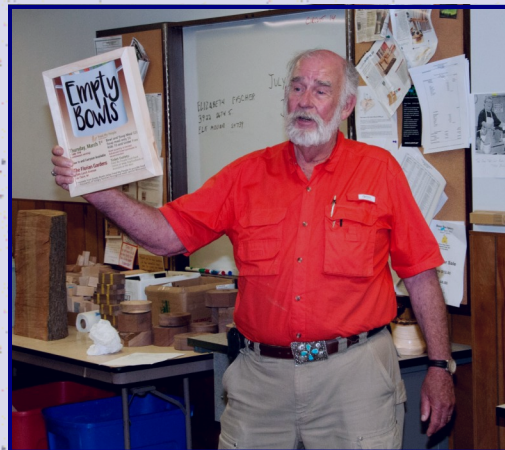
Not shown was Paul Meske with two half logs of soft Maple that he was giving to anyone who will turn bowls to be donated to the Feed My People Bowl Event.

July President's Challenge

President Duane Walker demonstrates examples of the July President's Challenge which is called Trash to Treasures or Junk to Jewels. The pieces will be a wood and non wood combination.



President Duane Walker holds up the groups certificate of participation in the Feed My People Bowl Event. Member Joe Nycz once again made the frame. It will hung on the wall with the other certificates.





The June meeting of the Chippewa Valley Woodturners Guild was well attended as usual.



Lidded Box Classes

May Class

Don Raymond, Dean Brockmeier, Randy Patzke and Uncle Willy.

June Class

Merlin Jones, teacher John DeRychere, Donna Maxwell and Mary Weider. Chuck Wald left before picture.



Pen Wood of the Month

16

Common Name(s): African Mahogany (Khaya)

Scientific Name: *Khaya* spp. (*Khaya* *anthotheca*, *K. grandifoliola*, *K. ivorensis*, *K. senegalensis*)

Distribution: West tropical Africa

Tree Size: 100-130 ft (30-40 m) tall, 3-5 ft (1-1.5 m) trunk diameter

Color/Appearance: Heartwood color is variable, ranging from a

very pale pink to a deeper reddish brown, sometimes with



streaks of medium to dark reddish brown. Color tends to darken with age. Quartersawn surfaces can also exhibit a ribbon-stripe appearance.

Grain/Texture: Grain is straight to interlocked, with a medium to coarse texture. Good natural luster with a light-refracting optical phenomenon known as chatoyancy. (See video below.)

Endgrain: Diffuse-porous; large to very large pores, very few; solitary and radial multiples; orange/brown deposits occasionally present; growth rings usually indistinct, though sometimes distinct due to terminal parenchyma; rays medium to wide, fairly close spacing; parenchyma scanty to vasicentric, and occasionally marginal (not typical for *Khaya* spp.).

Rot Resistance: Rated as moderately durable; moderate to poor insect/borer resistance.

Workability: Easy to work, glue, and finish. Tear out can sometimes be a problem if the grain is interlocked.

Odor: No characteristic odor.

Allergies/Toxicity: Although severe reactions are quite uncommon, African Mahogany has been reported as a sensitizer. Usually most common reactions simply include eye and skin irritation. See the articles Wood Allergies and Toxicity and Wood Dust Safety for more information.

Pricing/Availability: Readily available in a variety of lumber sizes, as well as plywood and veneer. Prices are low to moderate for an imported hardwood.

Sustainability: This wood species is not listed in the CITES Appendices, but is on the IUCN Red List. It is listed as vulnerable due to a population reduction of over 20% in the past three generations, caused by a decline in its natural range, and exploitation.

Common Uses: Veneer, plywood, turned items, furniture, boat-building, and interior trim.

Comments: Comprised of a handful of species from the *Khaya* genus, all of which are native to Africa. Sometimes lacks the deeper reddish brown color and durability that is common for true mahogany in the *Swietenia* genus. Botanically, *Khaya* is a part of the Meliaceae family, which not only includes mahoganies, but also Sapele (*Entandrophragma cylindricum*), and a host of other commercial species. Considered to be a valid substitute for Honduran Mahogany (*Swietenia macrophylla*), otherwise known as "Genuine Mahogany."

Related Species: None available.

<http://www.wood-database.com/african-mahogany/>

Pen kit is called Pluma from Woodcraft which uses a Parker refill. As you can see it has as much wood as hardware. This was the first pen that I did entirely between centers. A following article tells what is needed and the limitations of between center turning of pens.



The Khaya Tree and Fruit



Things To Do With Khaya (AKA African Mahogany)



TURNING AND FINISHING A PEN BETWEEN CENTERS

20

Tom Leonard

I've used a pen mandrel for several years to turn pens but have never turned one between centers. My interest was stirred when I saw a video of a pen being finished between centers. The reason the presenter gave for doing this was that the Ca glue didn't stick to the blanks but on the centers and the finished blanks easily came off. It was then that I decided to try this method.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aJsJYOeFToM>



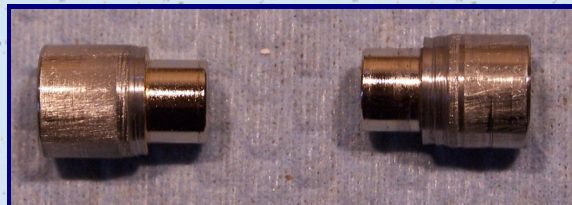
Above is the foot stock "live" center. Below is the head stock "dead" center.

To turn between centers one needs a "dead" center and a "live" center. Strange designations for these lathe accessories. A "dead" center does nothing on its own. It is tapered to

fit into the head stock which turns and therefore the "dead" center will turn.

The "live" center does turn and has a taper that fits into the foot stock which doesn't turn and therefore turns when pressed against something that does turns - something in the head stock.

This seems simple enough and it actually is simple. But as usual there is a catch. Unlike turning a bowl or a spindle between centers in which the head stock center has



Stepped bushings

some width, the "dead" center for pens has only a point for support, so there has to be some form of wider support. So catch number one is the bushings have to be stepped for both sides of the blank to be able to fit inside the pen tube and provide width support. This limits the pen types that can be turned between centers.

Catch number two is that only one blank can be turned at a time unless the middle bushings is double stepped. However, if the kit has a mixed stepped and non stepped bushings, one is better off to do it all on a mandrel.

The good news is that bushings are not needed for the finishing so all turned blanks can be finished between centers. The pen tube can accommodate the point on the "dead" center and the "live" center and maintain stability. But be careful not to tighten the down the foot stock too much or the freshly turned blank will split.



Mounted blank between centers on stepped bushings

Having said all this about limitations due to non stepped bushings, there are ways to circumvent this limitation either by making a support substitute or buying additional bushings known as TBC (Turn Between Centers) to stabilize the blank.



Turned pen between centers without bushings

What I have seen used is a wooden dowel or a turned rod of corion or similar material of a size to fit snugly within the tube as well as within most of the non stepped bushing. The limitation here is that a different size dowel/rod would be needed for different sized pen tubes.



Finished pen blank between centers

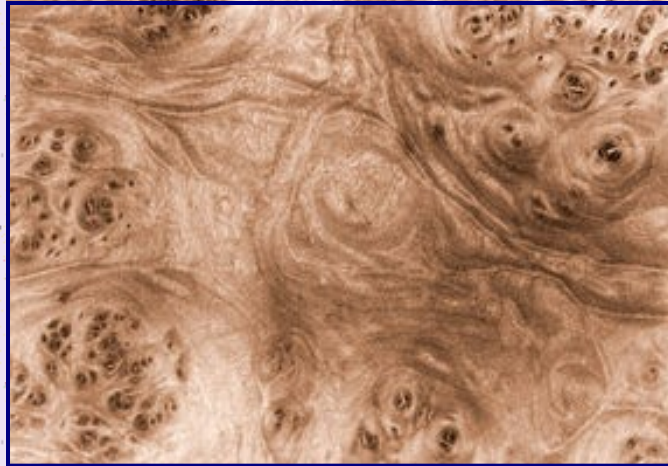
The TBC bushings have the same limitation as the made stabilizers in that the stepped bushing must fit snugly in the blank tube. So one would be purchasing a separate set of bushings for most pen kits. Additionally, the TBCs are more pricey - ranging from \$5.95 to \$12.00.

Penn State Industries has a TBC Mandrel System which is a TBC bushing on steroids. It consists of a tail stock insert (live center) and a head stock insert (dead center) with a protruding pins at a pricey \$29.95 (\$19.95 on Amazon). This mandrel system is for 7mm pen tubes only. ②②

Grain Pattern - Burls

22

A **burl** is a tree growth in which the grain has grown in a deformed manner. It is commonly found in the form of a rounded outgrowth on a tree trunk or branch that is filled with small knots from dormant buds.



A burl results from a tree undergoing some form of stress. It may be caused by an injury, virus or fungus. Cambial growth is hyper-stimulated as a way for the tree to isolate and contain the injury. Almost all burl wood is covered by bark, even when underground.

Most burls grow beneath the ground, attached to the roots as a type of malignancy that is generally not discovered until the tree dies or falls over. Such burls sometimes appear as groups of bulbous protrusions connected by a system of rope-like roots. Insect infestation and certain types of mold infestation are the most common causes of this condition.

Burl wood is anything but average. The swirls, twirls, and eyes dancing in the bark all create a unique, highly figured wood grain that no human could dream of designing.

The tree's growth hormones are disrupted and, consequently, it produces those colorful looking lumps and swirls.

While burls can technically form on any type of tree, certain species are more susceptible to the fungal attacks that produce burl wood. As a result, burls are quite rare. They can't be produced on command and, hence, are prized for their incomparable beauty.

Interestingly, burls don't do much harm to trees or shorten their lifespan. In fact, burls, despite their rarity, are a sustainable wood product if harvested with care. They can be harvested without chopping down and killing an entire tree. As burls age, their colors and patterns become even richer. It can take 30-40 years for a burl to reach maturity and its peak in distorted beauty.

Often, a tree that has developed burl wood is still generally healthy. In fact, many trees with burl wood will go on to live for many years. Still, burl wood in vulnerable spots or with off-shooting growth can become so large and heavy that they create additional stress on a tree and can cause the tree to break apart.

Burls certainly should not be removed from a living tree bole since that would expose a large decay-producing wound or completely kill the tree. ①①

Sources:

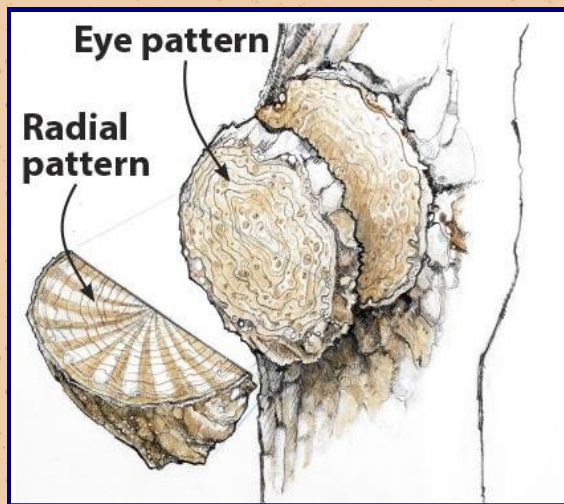
<https://www.thoughtco.com/what-is-a-tree-burl-1342918>

<https://treehut.co/blogs/news/what-is-burl-wood-its-weirder-than-you-think>

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Burl>



The Many Facets of Burls



Things To Make With Burl Wood



July Demonstration

Making a Vacuum Chuck

Joe Nycz

26

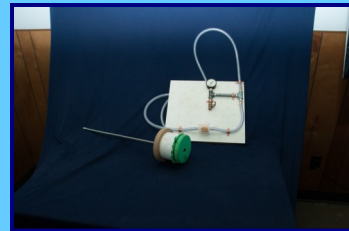
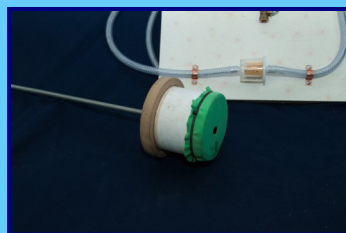
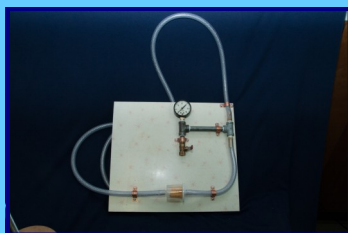
About The Demo

Building a vacuum chuck using parts available from my shop and some purchased locally.

About The Demonstrator

I have been turning since 2010 and making various gigs, fixtures and tools.

Before I retired in 2008 I worked as an Industrial Mechanic Repairing, Setup, and programming most all types of machines.



A preview of a part of the vacuum chuck that Joe will explain and assemble.

COMING EVENTS

Meetings are first Wednesday of the month at 7 pm. Open house—Coffee and Chips - is the second Saturday of the month from 8 am to 12 pm

Meeting Dates and Demonstrations

July 11 - Joe Nycz - Making a Vacuum Chuck

August 1 - Barry Grill - Hollow Forms and Negative Scrapping

September 5 - Ron Bartz - Making a Donut Chuck

October 3 - To Be Determined

November 7 - To Be Determined

December 5 - To Be Determined

Open House-Coffee and Chips Dates

July 14

August 11

September 8

October 13

November 10

December 8

Meetings and Coffee and Chips are held in the Eau Claire Insulation building at 1125 Starr Ave on the northeast side of Eau Claire, Wi.

Board of Directors for 2018

28

President	<i>Duane Walker</i> 1-715-577-2248 elk.stir@gmail.com
Vice President	<i>John Layde</i> 715-834-9371 ouzo@charter.net
Treasurer/ Membership	<i>Randy Patzke</i> 1-612-845-6185 arpatzke@hotmail.com
Secretary	<i>John DeRyckere</i> 715.838.9480 jderyck@gmail.com
Program Director	<i>Mark Palma</i> 1-612.991.7733 marksworkshop@gmail.com
At Large Director	<i>Joe Nycz</i> 1-715-937-2803 nyczjoseph@live.com

Non Board Positions

Librarian	<i>Dennis Ciesielski</i> 715.233.0236 daciesie@gmail.com
Newsletter Editor	<i>Tom Leonard</i> 715.831.9597 tl9597@charter.net
Web Master	<i>Jerry Engedal</i> 712.834.1022 joanandjerrye@gmail.com

***Photos of Show and Tell / Gallery items
provided by : Bruce Lindholm***