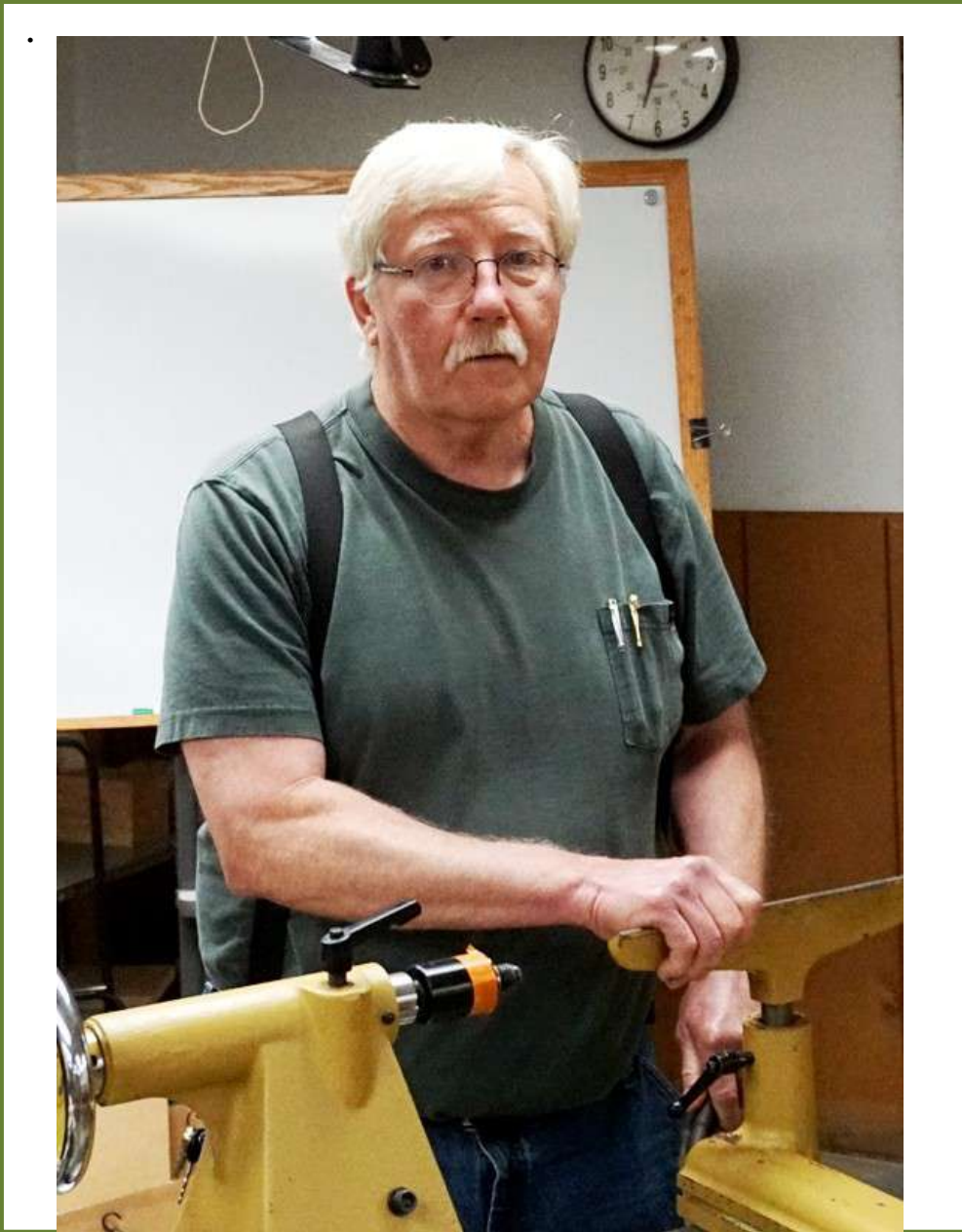


TURNING Threads

August 2024



What's Inside

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- INTERESTING TREES
- AUGUST DEMONSTRATION
- SHOW AND TELL
- PEN WOOD OF THE MONTH
- PEN KIT OF THE MONTH
- CHAINSAW SCULPTURE

August Demonstration

Ron Bartz demonstrated how to duplicate spindles and showed his home made duplicator and how it worked.

**President
Bob Eberhardt**

**Vice President
Mary Weider**

**Treasurer
Sue Mohr**

**Secretary
Tom Leonard**

**Program Director
Dan Brandner**

**At Large Directors
Joe Nycz
Ron Bartz**

Other Positions

**Membership
Director
Henry Troost**

**Newsletter Editor
Tom Leonard**

**Web Master
Dan Brandner**



We had a wonderful turnout at the annual picnic at our cabin near Colfax. There was some great food and it is really nice to get to meet the spouses. With the display tables the spouses were able to see other member's projects.

It has been a very busy month for the club. We had an event at Menomonie for Paint the Town. Several members were there to get our name out there and show what we do as turners. Several items were on display and there seemed to be a lot of interest by all the questions that were asked. A big THANK YOU to

all that helped make it a success.

The next big event was the Chainsaw Carving Event. Again our club did a great job of letting people make a pen. We started Thursday with packing everything up and moving 3 lathes with all the supplies to Carson Park. We had the same location as 2 years past but this time we had 2 additional tents. Our busy time teaching started at 9:00 am Friday and continued with waiting lines until 5:00 pm. We did another full day Saturday. Sunday we started at 9:00 am and stopped at 2:00pm. The next process was to clean up and pack everything up and return to the club house. We will be having a meeting in the near future to discuss things we can do to improve the process. Overall I think we had another successful event. There were many members that helped all weekend and I would like to thank them all.

I want to thank Dan Brandner and Ron Bartz for running the August meeting.

The Open House had 4 lathes in use with several projects being worked on.

See you at the next meeting September 4th at 6:00PM

Have fun turning!
Bob

Monthly Meetings

First Wednesday of the month

Board Meeting at 6:00 pm

Social Hour at 6:00 pm

Meeting and Demonstration

7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Open House

Second Saturday of the month

8:00 am to 12:00 pm

Members and interested persons may contact the Chippewa Valley Woodturners Guild by email at: woodturnercvwg@gmail.com

The U.S. Chainsaw Sculpture Competition Event

In this publication issue it was noted that 10 years ago the 2010 International Chainsaw Sculpture Competition was held. It was the first one the Chippewa Valley Woodturners Guild participated in. Our group has participated in every one except during the covid years 2020 and 2021. That makes 8 times our group has been to Carson Park for this event and it has become our major fund raising and membership drive event.

A lot of changes have been made during those years. It seemed that the enthusiasm was greater for our group then because it was the first for our group to participate in a fund raiser event since our group's Expos ended in previous years. I remember there were at least 3 of these Expos – once at the event center in the hotel on Highway T and U.S. 29 and a couple of years at the Ramada Inn on Clairemont Avenue. It was also was a big event for the Board of Directors to organize. I remember seeing the Board members spending a lot of time in the board room discussing and organizing the details. But as the years went by, interest in these Expos waned to the point when it was not a fund raiser.

The first 5 chainsaw events had the group's booth on roughly the Southwest side of the Paul Bunyan Logging Camp Museum parking lot. We were not very well organized but there was a lot of interest in the "Learn To Turn" a pen being offered. So popular that the group stayed until 7:00 the first day of the event to satisfy those who were interested. There were several times in those first 2 years when this late hour was the norm. By the third year the group established a 5:00 end time by stopping to take names for people waiting to the try turning. Later it was determined that too much time and effort were being given to children too small to turn so age limits and height limits were established.

The biggest problem for our booth location was the electrical source for the lathes. On that side of the parking lot there were no electrical outlets and our lathes were powered by a generator which proved

insufficient for the lathes and the lathes would often overheat to the point when the lathes had to go unused until cooled off. However, sales of turned items and donations were enough to make the event a success.

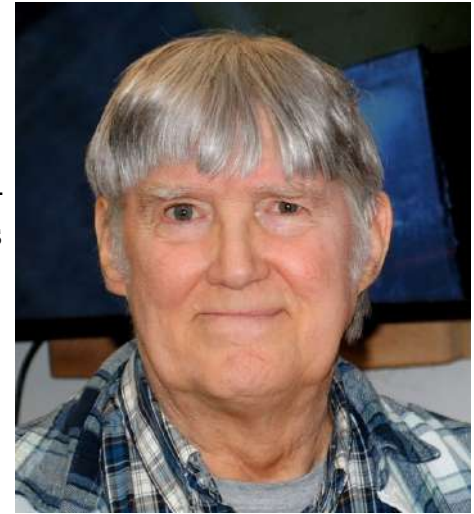
With the revival of the International Chainsaw Competition in Eau

Claire in 2022 our booth was put on the Northeast side of the parking lot next to the Paul Bunyan Logging Camp Museum. Here we had access to power outlets and the lathes ran smoothly. After covid years, people were anxious to get out and see and buy. The donations and sales were a lot higher and the "Learn to Turn" was as popular as ever. The 5:00 stop time was again instituted and on the last day the group had to shut down, clean up, pack up and leave at 3:00.

Before the group left in 2022, the director of the event announced that the chainsaw competitions were to be every other year. However, a change in directors occurred when the Paul Bunyan Logging Camp Museum merged with the Chippewa Valley Museum. That new director wanted it every year because it was a great money raiser for both museums. In place of the international event, the chainsaw competition was the U.S. competition and has been for the last 2 years.

The 2023 event brought in some of the groups' newer members to participate. Many of these new members were not comfortable tutoring pen turning. But each did terrific jobs assembling turned pens and drawing people for learning to turn as well as talking to many people letting them know what our group is all about.

It was a trying event for the tutors. Several members spent many hours at the lathe tutoring with few rotations with other members to take over. But these members persevered and made the event a success. (continued)



The 2023 event went without incident unless one does not include the problem with one of our tents. After the 2022 event the group decided that our booth space was too small for our activity. The event coordinators had limited tents and tables. We realized this in 2023 we needed to provide an extra tent which was brought by a member. Unfortunately, a storm tore up the tent. Our president immediately bought a replacement tent. In 2024 the group bought an additional tent so there was plenty of room for all. The new tent proved unstable and it was decided to get a stabler tent. The group members also brought additional tables.

2024 was probably the end of the spending spree of post covid rebound. There were fewer attendees and less spending. The “Learn To Turn” activity did not

suffer. It was estimated that there were probably 100 people learning to turn and they were generous with donations.

These events represent what the group wants the most from these chainsaw events. A lot of children and adults tried turning and were very happy, proud and some even ecstatic over their turned pen. It is very rewarding to participating members to listen to people about where they were from and other conversations. These events bring many people from out of state as well as from other countries. One observer of our activity saw us as well coordinated despite what appeared to be a bit chaotic in our crowded space.

Thanks to all members who have made our chainsaw participation successful.

Tom Leonard

THIS MONTH IN 2015



Members John DeRyckere (left) and Ron Bartz (right) teaching youngsters pen turning

U.S OPEN CHAINSAW SCULPTURE CHAMPIONSHIP

The Chippewa Valley Woodturners Guild participated in the event in Eau Claire Wi on August 6-9. The group was invited by

Larry Doyle, VP Board of Directors of Paul Bunyan Logging Camp Museum and coordinator of the event. Two lathes were brought to do a Learn—To-Turn for event goers to do their own pen turning or simply to watch how pens are turned. Larry Doyle the event coordinator emailed about the group’s participation —“Thanks Rich. I also received a considerable amount of great feedback from spectators about your activities. You helped make our show successful. There were over 15,000 spectators at the event.

AAW Safety Recommendations

TECHNIQUE (Part 2)

- Be aware of the red zone or firing zone. This is the area directly behind and in front of the rotating surface of the workpiece - the areas most likely for a piece to travel if it comes off the lathe. A good safety habit is to step out of this zone when turning on the lathe, keeping your hand on the switch in case you need to turn the machine off. When observing someone else turn, stay out of this zone.
- Hold turning tools securely on the tool rest, holding the tool in a controlled but comfortable manner.
- Always anchor the tool on the tool rest before contacting the wood.
- Turn the lathe off before adjusting the tool rest or repositioning the banjo. Rotate the piece by hand to confirm that no parts of the piece will encounter an obstruction.
- Always remove the tool rest before sanding, finishing, or polishing operations.
- Do not use cloth to apply finishing or polishing materials if it is intended to contact a rotating object on the lathe. Never wrap polishing materials around fingers or hands.
- Use spindle locking screws in the faceplate or chuck if turning in reverse. Also, if your lathe has a brake or when you are turning a heavy piece, the stopping action of the lathe can make the piece come off of the spindle. When running a lathe in reverse, it is possible for a chuck or faceplate to unscrew unless it is securely tightened or locked on the lathe spindle

Source: [20200730Safety is Your Responsibility replacement Final.pdf](https://www.woodturner.org/2020/07/30/Safety-is-Your-Responsibility-replacement-Final.pdf) ([woodturner.org](https://www.woodturner.org))

FUTURE DEMONSTRATIONS

**Meetings are first Wednesday of the month at 7 pm.
Open house is the second Saturday of the month from
8 am to 12 pm**

Meeting Dates and Demonstrations

September 4—Vacuum Chuck by Joe Nycz

October 2—Sphere Cutting Tool by Ron Bartz

November 6—Ringed Christmas Trees by Dan Brandner

December 4 — Turning Antler Pens by Tom Leonard

January 8—Not Yet Determined

February 5—Not Yet Determined

September Open House Date

September 14 from 8:00 am to 12:00pm. If coming after 10:00, please inform us through the web site the night before at: woodturnercvvg@gmail.com. Meetings and Open House are held in the Eau Claire Insulation building at 1125 Starr Ave on the northeast side of Eau Claire, WI. Driveway is just before railroad tracks. Look for the meeting sign. No sign—No meeting.

**Next Month
Vacuum Chuck
Joe Nycz**



In [Northern Ireland](#)'s Ballymoney, this avenue of beech trees has become known as the Dark Hedges. Most famously used as a filming location in *Game of Thrones*, the eerie tree tunnel is where Arya Stark escaped from King's Landing with Hot Pie and Gendry.



Renowned for their defiant nature, mangroves are tangled shrubs and trees typically found in coastal, tropical waters. They are productive ecosystems, helping protect coastlines and coral reefs, filtering out sediments and providing shelter for [animals](#).





Previous Demonstrations

July 2024 Tops
by Dan Brandner

June 2024 Hollowing
by Bob Eberhardt

May 2024 Plywood Turning
by John Layde

April 2024 Chasing Threads
by Tom Spielmann

March 2024 Shaker Pegs
by Dan Brandner

February 2024 Wet/Dry Wood Tips
by Barry Grill

January 2024 Bottle Stoppers
by Joe Nycz

December 2023 Christmas Ornaments
by Bob Eberhardt

November 2023 Wands
by Paul Meske

October 2023 Basket Weave Illusion
by John Layde

September 2023 Tenon Pens and Buttons
by Tom Leonard

August 2023 Tool Handles
by Ron Bartz

Previous Pen Kits and Woods

July 2024 Texas Ebony
for Sketch Pencils

June 2024 Kirandy
for Jazz bolt

May 2024 Lacebark Elm
for Exemplar/Professor

April 2024 Hard Rock Maple
for Dura Click Slim

March 2024 Black Chacate
for Cyclone pen

February 2024 Honduran Rosewood
for Medical pen

January 2024 Sycamore
for PMK-3 pen

December 2023 Orange Agate
for Ultra Cigar pen

November 2023 Sindora Burl
for Saxa pen

October 2023 Cambodian Ormosia
for Button Click pen

September 2023 English Yew
for Yari Click pen

August 2023 Lauro Preto
for Diamond Knurl pen

Making Duplicate Spindles

Ron Bartz

Ron explained that spindles were primarily for table and chair legs or for staircase balusters. Exact duplication is a must and to get the exactitude one needs to use one or more methods to do so.

The first step, no matter what method of duplication is chosen is to make a sample of the spindle. This sample provides clues to problems that might arise. Some of Ron's tools to accomplish making a sample are curved templates (French Curves), compass and calipers. A curved pattern is traced on one side of a piece of folded paper and cut out making a template for the spindle. The cut pattern is then put on a flat thin piece of wood and traced out to make a story stick. The story stick is used to mark measurements of the various coves and bead's sizes and depths. A sample is turned using these measurements and then attached to a duplicator.



Ron had some comments on preparing for the actual spindle wood to be turned.

Get stock prepared. Every piece should be the same dimensions.

Do not get too ornate. Keep simple.

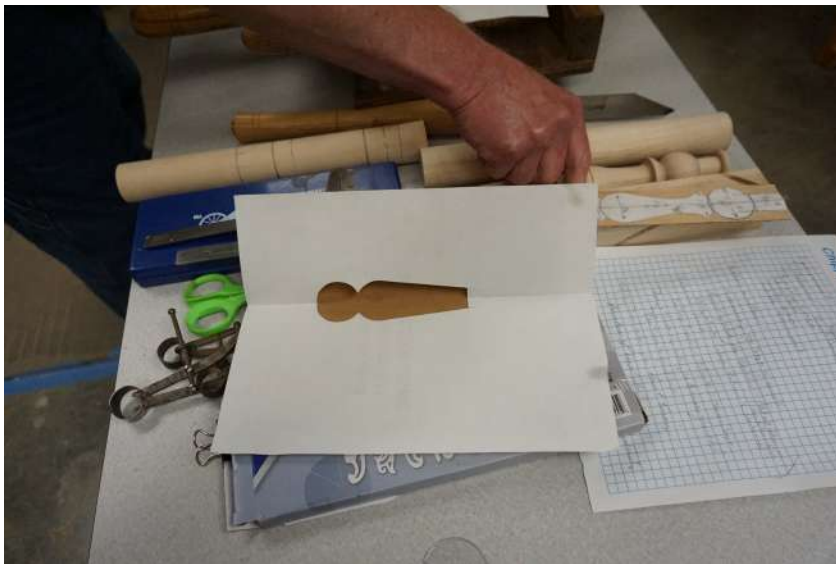
Use carbide tools in the duplicator.

Ron's home-made duplicator could not be used in the demonstration because of a difference in height distance of the lathe bed to the head stock. He did demonstrate manually how it works. Instead of using his duplicator, he turned the spindle without and used the sample spindle and story board turning with various gouges to shape the spindle.

Using a pre-rounded wood, Ron made several cuts with a parting tool to mark the depths of the coves. Eyeing the sample spindle Ron turned out the duplicate by stopping occasionally to compare the two turnings. Ron used several locked down calipers to check the depths of the coves to fine-tune the turning.

The results was very close to the sample that Ron made. A very rewarding demonstration for all.

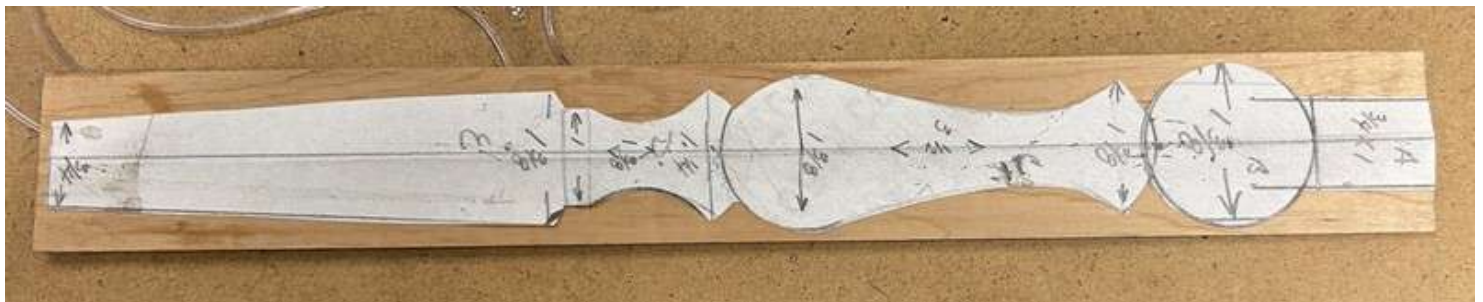
Tom Leonard



Top: French Curve templates that Ron uses to trace the shape of the spindle.

Middle: A cut-out example that demonstrates the use of the traced folded paper .

Bottom: The template Ron used to make the story stick for the sample spindle.

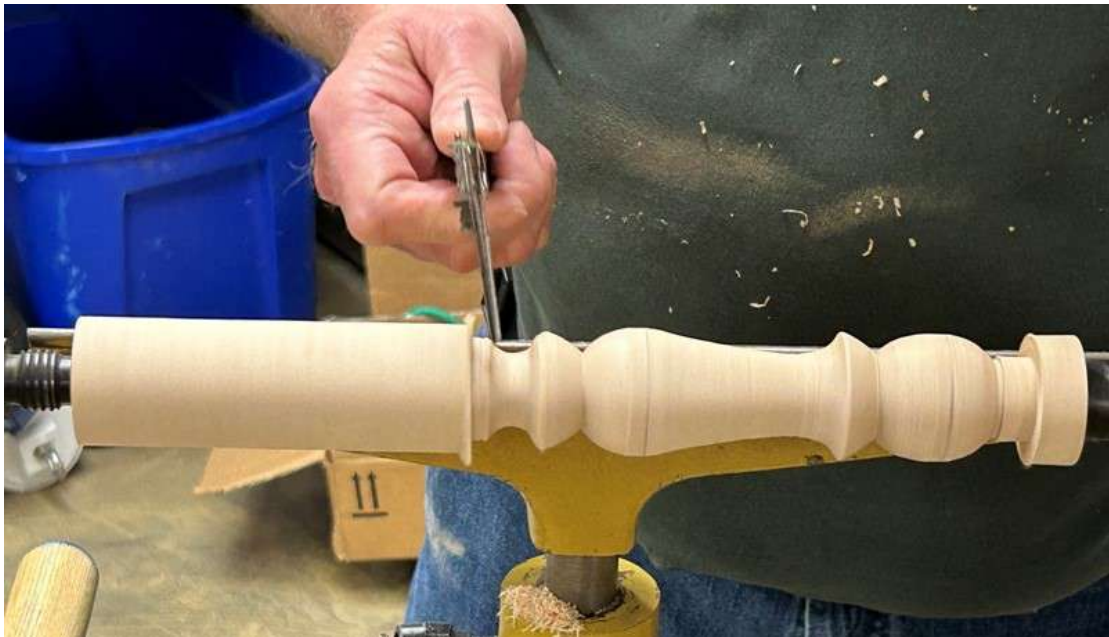


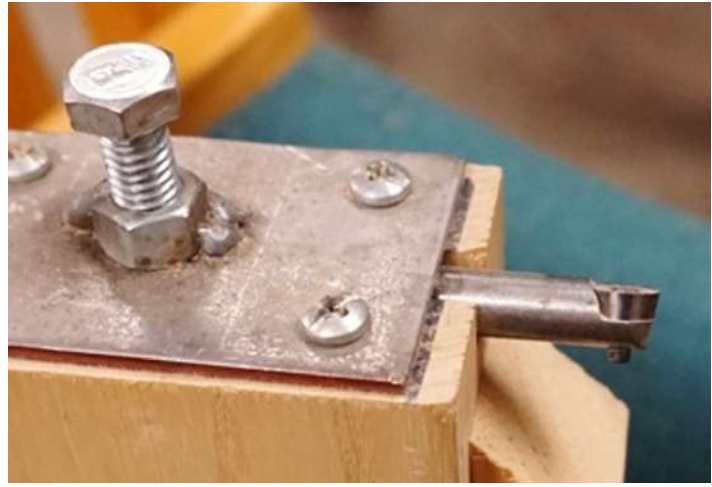


Top: Ron explains a point about tapering.

Middle: Ron using a caliper to check the depth of a cove.

Bottom: Ron holding his sample spindle to the new turning. Close as it can get for the demo.





Top Left and Middle Left: The two parts of Ron's home made duplicator.

Top Right: Close-up of the small round carbide bit Ron uses on his duplicator. Note that the carbide bit is at an angle.





Brook Erickson

Brook made 3 bottle stoppers from Cherry, Walnut and a burl wood.



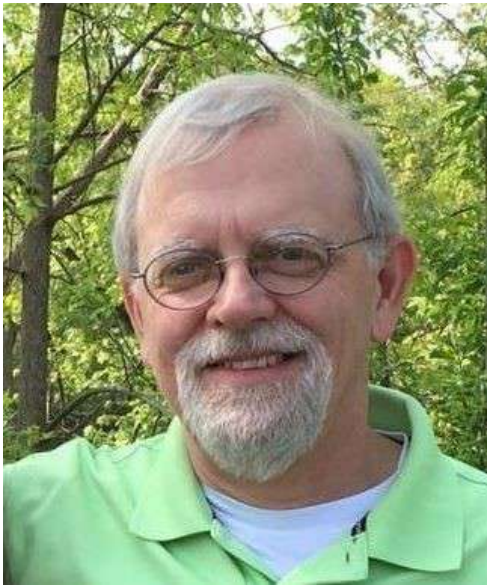
Joe Nycz



Joe had a slab of Mesquite that was cut at the root line. Joe will be finishing it but was undecided what to make with it.



Dan Brandner



Left: Dan challenged himself to do a top as small as he could make it. I think he succeeded.

Right: Dan made a handle for a cheese slicer with Walnut. Demos on turning handles came in handy.



Photos for Demonstration, Show and Tell and Gallery provided by Dan Brandner and Tom Leonard

Common Name(s): Thuya (burl)

Scientific Name: *Tetraclinis articulata*

Distribution: Atlas mountain region
(primarily Morocco, as well as subpopulations in Malta and southern Spain)

Tree Size: 20-50 ft (6-15 m) tall, 1-2 ft (.3-.6 m) trunk diameter

Color/Appearance: Color is generally an orangish or reddish brown. Color tends to darken with age to a medium to dark reddish brown. Nearly always exported and sold as burls from the root of the tree, with plain or unfigured wood of little commercial value.

Grain/Texture: Burl blocks can vary in frequency and size of knot clusters, but grain is more or less swirled/irregular. With a medium to fine texture and good natural luster.

Endgrain: No data available.

Rot Resistance: Rated as durable; good insect/borer resistance.

Workability: Like most other burls, Thuya burl can be difficult to work, and care must be taken to avoid tearout. Most shaping/planing operations will result in torn grain, and should be performed by hand with very sharp tools. Sands and finishes well.

Odor: Thuya has a very distinct, cedar-like smell.

Allergies/Toxicity: Although severe reactions are quite uncommon, Thuya has been reported to cause eye and skin irritation. See the articles Wood Allergies and Toxicity and Wood Dust Safety for more information.

Pricing/Availability: Most commonly sold as root burls. Expect prices to be very high, particularly on pieces with premium figuring exhibiting numerous tightly-packed burl eyes.

Sustainability: This wood species is not listed in the CITES Appendices, and is reported by the IUCN as being a species of least concern. However, the small subpopulations in Malta and Spain are both regionally endangered.

Common Uses: Carvings, veneer, decorative boxes, turned objects, and other small specialty wood items.

Comments: Cedar-like tree that is the sole species in the *Tetraclinis* genus, though the tree has been formerly classified in the *Thuja* genus, and the scent is very similar to Western Red Cedar (*[Thuja occidentalis](#)*). National tree of Malta. Sometimes called Thyine or Citron wood.

Related Species: None available.

[Thuya Burl](#)

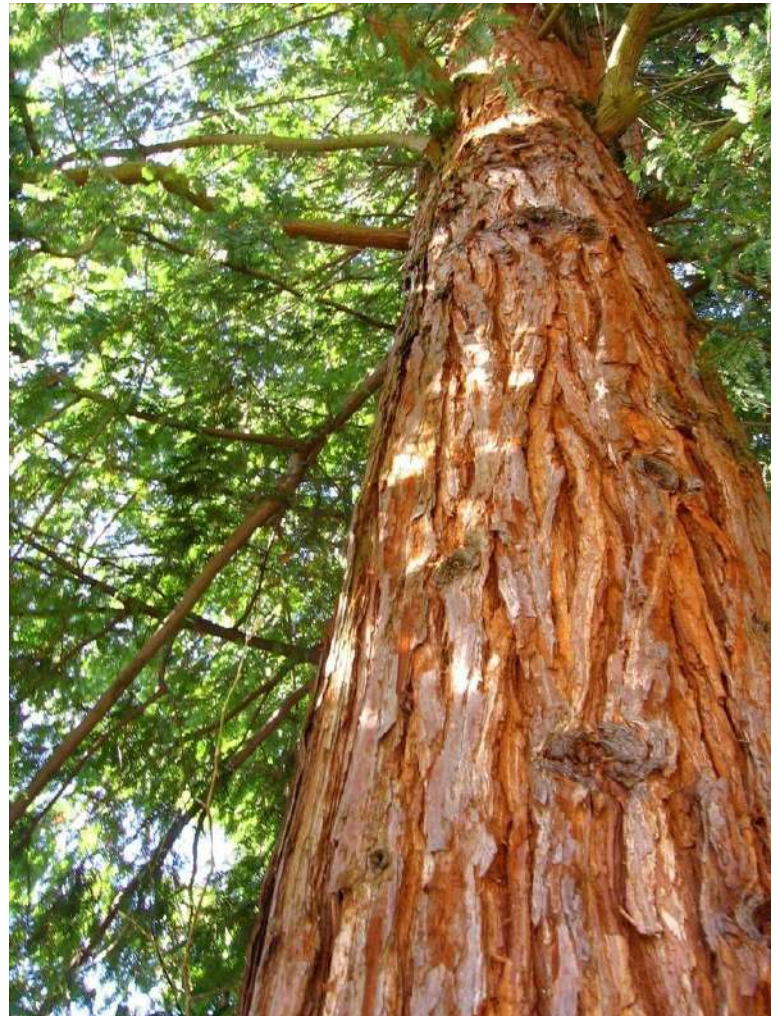
Thuya pen



Wood of the Month Uses

Small Thuya tree showing likeness to a Cedar tree.

A larger Thuya tree showing the bark.



Thuja tree seeds and foliage.



Large items made from Thuja burl





Smaller items made from the Thuya Burl wood.



PEN KIT OF THE MONTH

Pen kit of the month is called Diplomat. Exotic Blanks says of this kit ” *The Diplomat series is made for Exotic-Blanks, to our standards and specifications, so there are several advantages, when compared with other similar-looking pens.*

- *The black parts are durable, scratch-resistant black chrome*
 - *The cross-hatching is deep etched, not just pressed metal--a much better look and feel for writing*
 - *Single-tube design for ease of assembly*
 - *Equal sized bushings--again easy to make, easy to assemble*
- Extremely economical purchase price.”*

Each of these pens are \$9.95 with bushings at \$4.95 and 27/64” drill bit at \$4.65 (acrylic bit for \$23.95). A combo set of 3 pens with bushings is \$54.95. The combo set come with 3 Thuya Burl blanks or Buckeye blanks that are pre tubed and round.

When I bought a similar combo it included the full Thuya blanks. However, after turning all three, I did not like two of them and turned them off the tube and reused the tube for a Cherry and a Desert Ironwood.

Thuya



Cherry



Desert Ironwood



U.S. CHAINSAW SCULPTURE COMPETITION



Above: Panoramic view of the club's expanded booth area.

Middle: Bob Eberhardt shows turner how to assemble the pen she made. Bob Collinson and Ron Bartz are enjoying a break.

Below: Event goer examining the various turnings donated for the event.



Above Left: Grayson Schwartz and Dan Wold walking event goes through the process of turning a pen.

Sue Mohr looks at the activity while breaking from greeting event goers.

Below Left: Bob Collinson and Dan Wold instructing event goers on turning a pen.





Competition Sculptures





Non Competition Sculptures





Non Competition Sculptures

Independent chainsaw sculpturer assistant cleaning up the sawdust.



Southwest Association of Turners Symposium

August 23-25, 2024

Waco, Texas



Rocky Mountain Woodturning Symposium

September 27-29, 2024

Loveland, CO



NWW All Day Demo featuring Keith Gotschall

October 19, 2024

Anacortes, WA

Mid Atlantic Woodturning Symposium

September 20-22, 2024

Lancaster, PA



AWGB International Woodturning Seminar 2024

October 4-6, 2024

Yarnfield Park Training &
Conference Centre,
Staffordshire



Virginia Woodturning Symposium

November 2-3, 2024

ExpoCenter, Fishersville, VA