

TURNING Threads

January 2026



Bob Eberhardt's demonstration consisted of how to use a screw chuck and designing a bowl.

What's Inside

PREZ SEYZ

Page 2

A WOODTURNER MYSTERY

Page 3

JANUARY MEETING TOPICS

Page 8

MISCELLANEOUS

Page 9

FOCUS ON BULOKE

Page 11

VIDEOS OF THE MONTH

Page 12

NEW CLUB BANDSAW

Page 13

JANUARY DEMONSTRATION

Page 14

SHOW AND TELL

Page 17

WOODTURNING EVENTS

Page 24

AAW | AMERICAN ASSOCIATION
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Hi All,

I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and Happy New Year.

The demo was by Bob Eberhardt on how to use a screw chuck, make your own screw chuck and then how to finish the bottom of a bowl taking into account the design's shape from the beginning. He also showed how to rechuck a bowl for the 2nd turn after drying. He was very detailed with his demo and did a great job explaining all aspects of the process. Also, next month's challenge is to finish the bottom of a bowl and walk us through your thought processes.

We did get a new Laguna band saw for the shop replacing the Grizzly. The Grizzly is back in working order and is up for silent bids to active club members.

We had a good turnout for our Open House on Saturday, with 15 people showing up. Some were turning and some were there to sharpen/reshape their tools. There were a lot of questions and a lot of mentoring, so that is great for the club/guild.

February's demo will be on making a bowl from a board by Ron Bartz. I think this is a repeat from years ago, but we have a lot of new members since then. I've never seen it.

We had an attendance of 35 at our January meeting, including three new people. Looking forward to seeing you all in February.

Dan

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 Chipewa Valley Woodturners Guild by email at:
woodturnercvvg@gmail.com**

The Ghost House

Cast of Characters

A.G.

A nickname for Eric Ahlgren who returned to his hometown of Scanden when his father died and left him the farm and a very large life insurance payout. A.G retired and started a small woodturning group with his also retired high school friends. A.G. became the leader of the group and no one knew what he had done for a living all the years he was not in Scanden.

E.G.

A nickname for Aras Egle was an orphan in Lithuania and was adopted by the Augustus family but he retained his Lithuanian name. He left Scanden and became an engineer but never said in what field. He was the member that always pushed for better woodturning equipment and skills.

Goody

A nickname for Myron Goodlove who was the son of a farmer in Scanden. He never left his hometown and was left his fathers's farm but having a small dairy farm, he couldn't compete and sold it to the corporates. He lived in town and married a Scanden girl.

Snid

A nickname for Alfred Schneider was another of the group that never left Scanden. His father raised cattle and Snid took over the business but was not as good a businessman as his father. He reduced the level of the number of cattle and just got by for years. But he sold all the cattle and rented out the land but kept the farm buildings.

Previously, the woodturners turned their attention to finding a missing neighbor, Brubaker. They succeeded in finding him and he was found with a broken leg in his cabin along Tomahawk Lake and was hospitalized.

Brubaker was transferred from the Howard Young Hospital in Woodruff to Aspirus Devine Savior Hospital in Portage. Portage was not too far from Scanden, so the over-the-hill meddlers who made it possible to find the missing Brubaker decided to give him a visit. The quickest route was over some back county roads, then on to County X to County CX, then to U.S. 51 that lead into Portage and near the hospital.

The hospital had several buildings including a helipad. The parking lots seemed to take up more space than the hospital actual land space. It wasn't very big but being near Madison probably had its advantages for where to sent critical patients quickly. Brubaker's room was easy to find and they knew when the room was near by the noise emanating from it.

As soon as they entered, Brubaker shouted, "Get me out of here. Gall darn infernal place. Can't get any peace. Always checking me out. Afraid I'll die on them. For my own safety they say. Bull rot." He said with sarcasm shaking his head.

"Well, you old goat. That's what you get for running off like you did. Over ninety years old thinking you are twenty", scolded Snid.

"I'm a younger goat than you Snid. And don't you forget it."

"And how do you figure that?"

"It's all in the mind. Got to keep moving. That's when you die when you stop moving."

"Didn't your daughter and son-in-law come to see you?"

"Yeah, those worthless two. That Brayden got no spine. And that daughter ain't much better."

"Now listen to me, Brubaker," Snid said with emphasis. "That worthless son-in-law was the one that came looking for you and got us involved. And we are the ones who figured out where you were."

"Well, thanks for that. Found my clues, did you?"

“In a round about way. That piece of paper was found because your spineless daughter told us about you leaving notes to get them to pick up things off the floor for a reward.”

Brubaker gave a laugh. “Yeah, that worked pretty good until they caught on as teenagers.”

A.G. spoke up., “Brubaker, did you deliberately misspell segret as secret?”

“I did. Wonder why I did that?” Brubaker answered with a sly grin.

A.G. continued. “That note was a dead end. After I got home, I got to thinking about your relationship with my father and maybe I could get a clue looking through his things. Among his things was a picture of him and you with fishing rods and a blurred image of a word that I made out as ‘Haven.’ We went back to your place and decided to search the machine sheds looking for fishing rods.”

“Ha, ha. Had you running around, didn’t I.”

“Yeah, you sure did. In the smaller shed we found the separate room with fishing gear and a picture of you and my father. On the back was written Secret Haven Fishing Resort and that led to tracking you down. Why in name of Jamison’s cow did you leave anyway?”

“He. He. Olaf must have told you about Jamison’s cow.” Brubaker was slapping his unbroken leg.

“Wait a minute.” Interrupted Snid. “What about Jamison’s cow? A.G. wouldn’t tell me when he said that same thing.”

“He. He. Well, let’s see if I can remember. Oh, yes, Jamison had a small farm somewhere north of here and had a cow that was a bit cantankerous. So cantankerous that Jamison was thinking of transferring the cow’s better parts to the freezer. It was told that the cow was actually very crazy which was its only positive trait. Jamison himself was also a bit cantankerous so when the two met, it was hatred at first sight.

“Whenever Jamison would get close to the cow, it would try to bite him. Now what made Jamison mad was that he realized that he had been snookered into buying the cow. Jamison considered him to be unsnookerable because he was a snookerer himself. It became more galling when the cow was amenable to anyone but Jamison.

“Well, one day, Jamison was out and noticed that the cow was missing so he went looking for it. When the two met in an open field the cow bellowed and started toward Jamison. Jamison went running for his life and managed to shimmy up a tree. The cow in its rage wasn’t watching where it was going and went between two trees that weren’t wide enough and got stuck.

“Jamison went over to the stuck cow and it squirmed and bellowed at the sight of Jamison. Jamison was strutting back and forth taunting and laughing at the cow and it got angrier. Well, a neighbor passing by heard all the commotion and stopped to see what was going on. The neighbor looked at the stuck cow and then Jamison and asked how was he going to get the cow out.

They looked at the situation and decided it might be harmful to the cow if a chainsaw was used considering the way it was thrashing around. The neighbor suggested getting a rendering service who would have the equipment to pull the cow out. Well, Jamison wasn’t about to pay anyone to get that cantankerous cow out. He had another idea.

“He went and picked up a large branch and began beating the cow. That turned out to be a bad idea. The cow got madder and thrashed about even more violently. It soon became obvious to Jamison that the cow was coming loose and he ran for the house. The bleeding cow shortly got loose and was hot on Jamison’s trail.

“Jamison thought he would be safe in his house but it was not to be. The cow broke into the house and the neighbor who was watching all

this heard a shot fired. There was quite a racket in the house and within a minute Jamison flew out the back door and headed for the woods with the cow hot behind.”

There was a pause. “And?” Snid asked.

“And what?”

“What happened to Jamison?”

“Oh. Well, nobody knows. Jamison and the cow were never seen again.”

“How’s that possible. There must have been bodies?”

“There is a river a couple of miles from Jamison’s farm and with a recent rain it was fast moving. It was theorized that both went into the river and drowned. Or maybe the cow finally caught Jamison.”

“Well, what was the cow’s name?” asked Snid.

“Just what difference does that make?”

“Well, the phrase is ‘in the name of Jamison’s cow.’”

“Snid. The cow’s name has nothing to do with it. The phrase is meant to point out how dumb something is.”

“Oh. So, A.G. said it was dumb of you to leave like you did?”

“Precisely.” Brubaker then changed the subject.

“Are those nephews still in town?”

“No.” answered A.G. “I called Bertha and she had a rumor that there were three scalawags as she called them that hung out at Mable’s Café in the mornings. I told about your disappearance and she said she would call Mable. Mable did confront the three and they admitted that they were your nephews and brightened up when Mable suggested that you might be dead. She then got a broom and started beating them and told them to get out and never come back.”

Brubaker started laughing so loud that a nurse came in to check on him. She pushed his visitors aside who were also laughing. She was afraid her patient was getting hysterical. They all found the action of the nurse just furthered their laughter. Confused, she ran out of the room to look for help. They had all stopped laughing and decided to become very serious looking to confuse the nurse. By the time she got back with help, the five of them sat there giving the nurse a ‘what’ look.

The nurse was not amused and took on a stern look. “All of you out, now.” As the woodturners were headed to the door, Brubaker wanted to know if it included him. “You are on my list Mr. Brubaker and it isn’t on the nice one.”

“You, old bag. Don’t talk to me that way. Let me out of here! I got one of those lists too, so if you want a war, a war you got.”

“I think, guys, we had better vamoose while we still can.” suggested Goody.

All of them nearly ran out of the hospital.

Getting into fall, A.G. informed his fellow woodturners that the shop would be closed for about a month for remodeling. The trip to the AAW Symposium got him to thinking about some ways the shop could be improved, especially ventilation which at the time there really wasn’t any.

This got the curiosity of the three woodturners who were left out of what A.G. was up to. They would come by occasionally to try to get A.G. to let them know what he was up to, arguing that their equipment was in the shop and where was it put during this remodeling. One day the three decided to gather on the county road by the path to A.G.’s farm. From there they would find a good spot to observe this so-called remodeling. As they got closer, the three moved cautiously and quietly to the place the wood thief had observed A.G.

There was a lot of activity with several people working in and out of the machine shed who seem to be in the hire of Andreessen Construction from

Madison which they thought was a bit odd. Must be lots of construction people closer to home. While they were watching another vendor drove in the drive. A truck with the sign of Sun Prairie Industrial Ventilation.

“Well.” E.G. commented. “We did discuss the ventilation situation in the shop. Not a bad idea. Still, why the secrecy?”

They stayed for another half hour and they were about to leave when Goody came up with an idea. “A.G. is going bowling tonight so maybe we could come and sneak in the back door.”

“Didn’t A.G. put a lock on the back door?” Asked E.G.

“Hm, don’t remember. A.G. did talk about an escape door. You know just in case we couldn’t get out the front or back door,” ventured Goody.

“And exactly where is this escape door?”

“Didn’t say. But he did sort of allude to the door not looking like a door. Maybe through the siding.”

“And, you are suggesting that we come back at night and try to find this hidden door?”

“Well, yeah. Got any better ideas?”

Snid had been quiet but now spoke up. “Well, I for one would come back tonight.”

“Okay. Okay. We will get together tonight and give it a try. But we better make sure A.G. is actually bowling.”

“I’ll check,” volunteered Snid.

They gathered on the county road after dark at the beginning of the path to A.G.’s. They all had their very bright flashlights and after turning them on were again shocked at the brightness.

“We can’t use these lights.” Said E.G. “I’ve got a regular one.” E.G. went back to his car to get the flashlight. “Stay close together and follow my

lead.”

They had just started up the path when there came the sound of a siren. A squad car pulled beside the road behind their cars. Of course, it was Sheriff Barton who got out.

“Well. Well. Is this another adventure for the geriatric four?”

“Now, Barton. We are on a mission to discover what A.G. is up to,” explained E.G.

“Hm, so, A.G. isn’t in on this caper? Just what is he up to?”

“If we knew what he was up to, we wouldn’t be here trying to find out what he is up to,” E.G. said indignantly.

“Don’t get smart with me, E.G. Now, what do you think he is up to?”

“All we know is he is redoing the wood shop and will not let us in on what he is doing to redo it,”

“So, you three old geezers are going to break into the shed?”

“Not, exactly. We three old geezers do have access to the shed whenever we want. So, it wouldn’t be like breaking in. After all, we know the combination to the lock. And, we have property in the shed.”

Barton leaned against his squad car and rubbed the back of his neck. He shook his head and turned to leave. “One of these days. One of these days.” Barton got in his squad car and scratched off as usual.

“Wonder what he meant by that?” asked Snid.

“Not sure I want to know. Let’s do what we came for.”

Using as little light as possible, the three made their way up the path. It was a dark night and the flashlight was of little help. E.G. would stop occasionally to get his bearings and the other two would plow into him.

“E.G. Give us a signal when you stop.”

“Lower your voice. Just what do you suggest, Goody?”

“Raise your hand or something.”

“You can’t see my hand. You can barely see me. Just pay attention. I think we are almost there anyway.”

They came to the end of the path and crouched down just inside the edge of the woods.

“Looks like A.G. is gone,” commented Snid.

“What a minute. Didn’t you check,” demanded E.G.

“Uh. I guess I forgot. But he always goes bowling on Thursday.”

“Always isn’t infinite. Does look like he is gone. Let’s stay in the brush and move to the back of the shed.”

Cautiously but not entirely silently, the three crept around the back of the shed only to discover the back door had a lock on it. But there was something else. A piece of paper nailed to the door. E.G. turned on the flashlight and read the note.

“I knew you three would try this. House is open. Enjoy a snack before your long trek back to the county road. It will be done by next Monday for

the grand opening at the usual hour.”

“That does it.” E.G. yelled. He went around to the front of the shed and looked at the camera and yelled. “A.G. it had better be good after all this waiting. Them snacks better be good too or you will pay for the beer and pizza for a long time. Come on guys. Snack time on A.G.”

Just as they were entering the house, a siren sounded. It was Barton again. He skidded his squad car as usual. Barton got out and leaned against the car.

“Just thought I would stop by and see what you goof balls found out.”

“Sheriff, I am amazed at the numerous names you have come up with for us. You must have a dictionary of insults on your desk.”

“Cute, Goody. With you old codgers, it comes naturally. Care to share what you three reprobates discovered?”

“Well, these old codgers don’t remember how we even got here. Do you know where we left our cars? Maybe take us to them,” queried Snid.

“Smart asses. Find them yourselves.” Barton then left in a huff and made a serious dent in the gravel driveway.

Next time: find out what A.G. was up to and the Ghost House adventure begins.

New Raffle

The next raffle is now in play for meetings through March. We’ll draw in April. It is for a 1/2" Robust Bowl gouge.

Tickets are still \$5 and 5 tickets for \$20. See treasurer Sue at the meetings to get tickets.



New Band Saw

A new Laguna 14" Band Saw was purchased to replace the Grizzly bandsaw at the shop. The new saw has more power with 2.5 hp and 240v. It was delivered and put in place by Bob Eberhardt, Bob Wilcox and Dan Brandner on Wednesday morning 1/7/26. Bob E. also updated the 240 circuit so we could add another power cord for this saw. The old bandsaw was put back into working order by Bob Eberhardt and is up for silent bids to club members. Many thanks to Bob Eberhardt for his electrical knowledge, and driving this replacement to keep our shop in good working order. We will be looking at holding an advanced course on Band Saw use in wood-turning. (Photo of new saw)



Raffle

The first tool raffle for a 5/8" Robust bowl gouge netted us \$215 minus the tool's cost. It was won by Jerry Lilly. A Walnut blank for a tool handle was included with the win. (p.s. I didn't get a picture of Jerry with the win, but I also heard he passed it on for an undisclosed sum to a newer turner who needed it more.)

2026 Folk Art Festival, Feb 28th

The Folk Art Festival at the Chippewa Valley Museum is coming up Sat Feb 28th. Volunteers are being sought to work the table. We are looking into having some things for sale there. To sell, we may need to be at least showing a video demoing woodturning. All proceeds going to the club. We will probably have a second table. One for show and tell, one for club sale items.

Logo Shirts

Rich Thelen should have the shirts picked up from Impact Advertising the week of Jan 12th. We will have them at the February meeting for distribution. A few extra shirts were ordered for future prizes, or for new members to purchase.

President's Challenge.

The whole purpose of the President's Challenge is to get people turning. For the Skew challenge, only two entries were received, one each from Bob Eberhardt and Dan Brandner. We felt that was two few to select a winner, so no one took home the \$10 gift card prize. Maybe next Month on the Bowl bottom challenge.

Old Club Bandsaw For Sale through Bidding

The Grizzly Bandsaw that was in the shop is up for silent bids to club members/email recipients. There is already interest.

People can determine the value to themselves on their own.

Please make “silent bids” in an envelope to any board or at-large member before or at the February 4th Meeting.

Bob Eberhardt got it working again, and it includes 1 extra new blade.



Dues are Due

According to Chip Troost, 55% of the membership has paid 2026 dues. Dues are only \$25. Cheap for what a member can get out of the club. Get the dues in so the club can continue to provide the woodturning quality all of you expect.

Humorous Signs



FUTURE DEMONSTRATIONS

Meetings are the 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

2026 Feb 4 Ron Bartz - Bowl from a board

2026 Mar 4 Joe Nycz - Cutting screw threads with the bit in the Lathe

2026 Apr - Dan Brandner—Manually duplicating small pieces

2026 May - John Layde—Turning Gizmos

2026 Jun - TBD

2026 Jul - TBD

2026 Aug - TBD

2026 Sep - TBD

2026 Oct - TBD

2026 Nov 4 Dan Brandner - Fancy spindle turned icicle ornament (Xmas theme) and Christmas tree with a star on top.

2026 Dec - TBD

February Open House Date

February 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. Look for the meeting sign. No sign—No meeting.

Next Month

Ron Bartz

Bowl from a Board





[Buloke tree video](#)

Sawing [Buloke](#)

[Making a Mallet with Buloke](#)

[Buloke Data](#)





[Giant Tree with holes and burls](#)



[Woodturning In India](#)

Screw Chucks By Bob Eberhardt

Screw Chucks

- There are many types of screw chucks
- Small screw chuck
- Medium screw chuck
- Large screw chuck
- 3 in 1 chuck
- Homemade custom screw chuck sized for personal use
- 4 jaw chucks with a screw held in place with the jaws



**One side of Bob's
Homemade Screw
chuck.**

Precautions

- The bowl blank must have a flat side that will allow the chuck to be tightened down and register on a flat surface.
- A large diameter blank will require a large chuck with a larger screw to accommodate the forces that is required to safely turn the blank.
- A large blank attached to a smaller chuck and a smaller screw can break the screw and the blank will be ejected!
- The pilot hole in the blank must be sized to fit the screw in the chuck

Advantages

- Quick way to attach a blank.
- Easy on and off
- Easy to make
- Nothing to go wrong mechanically
- Good holding power on side grain



**Second side of Bob's
Homemade Screw chuck.**

**Useful for small things like
drawer or cover knobs, es-
pecially if you have to
make many of them.**

Disadvantages

- Blank requires a pilot hole
- Chuck must be sized to fit blank
- Poor holding power on end grain
- Not good for larger blanks

Bowl Design **By Bob Eberhardt**

Evaluate the blank

- Look for shape, size, and defects
- Make the design fit the blank.
- Plate, box, bowl, natural edge, deep, shallow, wide rim, narrow rim, undercut rim, recess bottom, flat bottom, shallow foot, pedestal.
- Don't wait till you have turned the block and then changed design several times. Which usually destroys your options for completing the bowl.

Turn the outside first

Shape the outside and decide what type of bottom you will have. This is really important and will have great benefits after you hollow the inside. If you plan correctly now, you may be able to avoid the need to deal with finishing the bottom after you turn the inside.

Recess

- Make sure the outside rim is substantial enough to hold the bowl without breaking. Be aware of the depth of the recess when turning the inside of the bowl.
- If using a chuck make sure the recess will fit the chuck.
- If the chuck has dovetail jaws, make sure to dovetail the recess.
- Make sure to sand and finish the bottom so the bottom will be complete and will not require you to remount the bowl later to finish the bottom.

Tenon

- If using a tenon with a chuck make sure the tenon fits the chuck.
- Make sure the face of the jaws register flat on the bowl.
- Make sure the tenon has a sharp corner between the side and bottom of the tenon.
- If the jaws of the tenon are dovetailed then dovetail the bowl bottom.
- Make sure the length of the tenon is short enough that the top of the tenon doesn't bottom out on the chuck.
- If the jaws of the chuck fit the tenon and do not leave a mark, sand and finish outside and bottom of the bowl.

Tenon cleanup or removal

Some of the ways to remount the bowl are with a Donut chuck, Longworth Jaws, Large chuck jaws, custom chuck jaws, flat plate with friction padding, Cole Jaws, Jam Chuck which, in most cases will require tailstock support. Vacuum chucking options are also a possibility.

Survey of WI Woodturning Clubs

Submitted by Dan Brandner

Chippewa Valley Woodturners Guild (CVWG)

Location: Eau Claire area (West Central Wisconsin)

Website: <https://cvwg.org/>

AAW chapter open to all skill levels; hosts demonstrations, open houses, and events.

Central Wisconsin Wood Turners Club

Location: Wisconsin Rapids / Central Wisconsin

Website: <https://www.wisconsinwoodturners.com/>

Informal, non-profit group focused on learning and hands-on assistance; no membership fees.

Milwaukee Area Woodturners (MAWt)

Location: Metro Milwaukee / Southeastern Wisconsin

Website: <https://www.mawturners.com/>

AAW chapter founded in 2006; promotes skill-sharing and fellowship for novice to experienced turners.

Northeast Wisconsin Turners (NEW Turners)

Location: Neenah / Fox Valley area

Website: <https://www.newwoodturners.org/>

AAW chapter supporting community events and woodturning education.

Wisconsin Valley Woodturners

Location: Wausau area (meets at D.C. Everest High School)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/wisconsinvalleywoodturners/>

Local group with monthly meetings.

Coulee Region Woodturners

Location: La Crosse area (Coulee Region, western Wisconsin)

Website: <http://www.crwoodturner.com/>

(continued on next page)

Lake Superior Woodturners

(also referred to as Lake Superior Wood Turners or Lake Superior Woodturning Guild)

Location: Superior, WI (recently moved to a new shop at 1314 Ogden Ave., Superior, WI 54880; part of the upcoming Superior Craft School development)

Website: <https://www.lakesuperiorwoodturners.com/>

This group is active as of late 2025, with monthly meetings, demonstrations, raffles, mentoring, and community outreach (e.g., donating turned wig stands to cancer centers and free wig programs). They participate in local events like art festivals and plant sales. The club serves woodturners in the Duluth-Superior area and is open to all skill levels.

Badger Woodturners

Location: Madison / Southern Wisconsin

(meets first Tuesday of each month at Madison College, Room 141)

Website: <https://bwt.clubexpress.com/>

This is an AAW-affiliated chapter founded around 2000, focused on education, demonstrations, mentoring, outreach, and social activities. It's open to turners of all levels (hobbyists to professionals), with benefits like a library (books, DVDs, tools), mentors, and monthly demos. Membership draws primarily from southern Wisconsin.

Bay Lake Woodturners

Green Bay WI

Website: <https://www.baylakewoodturners.com>

Harry Nohr Woodturners

Platteville WI

Website: <https://www.nohrwoodturners.org/>

Northwood Turners - Contact Bill Kingsbury at 715-360-7886

Minocqua WI

No website

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/524472518309391/about>

UB6 Woodturners - griesbac@charter.net - (920) 235-8017

Oshkosh WI

Website: AAW chapter, No Website

Bob Eberhardt

Bob made a juvenile snowman with an Olive wood hat that he made with a skew.



Bruce Trimble

Bruce made an inside out ornament.



Dan Brandner

Left: Dan made king and queen chess pieces.

Below: Repaired kitchen tool in Ebony.



Dave Rutherford

Carving mallets in Ironwood



Doug Dannen

Doug made a vase with Birdsbeak joints glueup.



Kevin Schwartz

Kevin made snowman earrings



Joe Nycz

Joe made L&R hand Bread Slicers and board.



**Photos for Show and Tell and Gallery provided by
Dan Brandner**

Alaska Woodturners

Annual Symposium

May 2-3, 2026

Anchorage, AK

Turn On! Chicago

July 30 - Aug. 2, 2026

Hilton Chicago Northbrook

Northbrook, IL

AAW's 40th International

**Woodturning
Symposium**

June 4 - 7, 2026

Raleigh Convention Center in Raleigh, NC

