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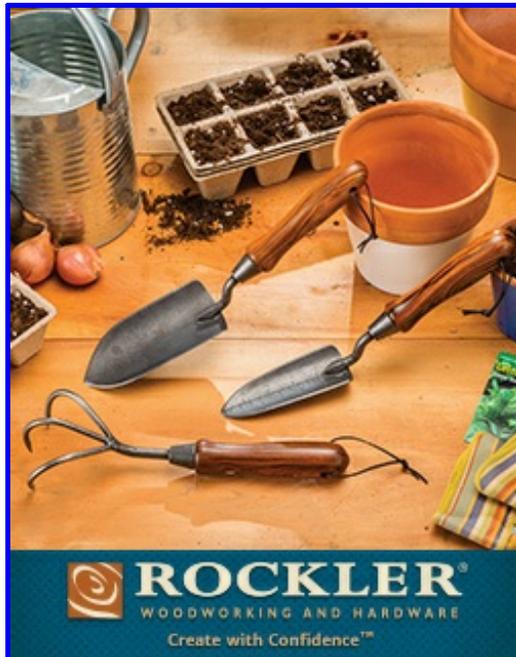
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WE ARE TEACHING THE WORLD TO TURN

Keep Turning with the AAW

June 2019

Greetings!



TURNING OF THE WEEK



James Seyfried
Nested Natural Edge Bowls
Ambrosia Maple
Largest bowl is 18" x 7" and smallest
bowl is 12" x 3 1/2"

ANNUAL MEMBER MEETING

The AAW's annual Member Meeting will be held during the 33rd Annual International Woodturning Symposium at the Raleigh Convention Center.

Saturday, July 13, 2019
9:45 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.



We encourage your to join us! The Member Meeting will be an opportunity for you

to hear about strategic planning initiatives proposed for 2020 and beyond. The meeting is designed to be a once-a-year open dialogue with the AAW Board where you can express your ideas and get your questions answered.

Preliminary Topics

- Vision 2020 strategic planning and status of current initiatives
- Building online communities
- Updates from AAW Board Committee Chairs
- AAW media kit for chapters
- Update about new AAW online tools & website coming later this summer
- Women in Turning (WIT) initiatives
- Open forum

The Chapter Meeting immediately follows. Feel free to stay and learn more about how the AAW and its chapters are working collaboratively to provide members with the total experience in woodturning education.

We hope you will join us for this annual event!

HAVE YOU REGISTERED FOR THE AAW SYMPOSIUM?

[If not, there's still time to register! Click here.](#)

THERE'S A PLACE FOR YOU...
...at AAW's 33rd International Symposium. You'll leave with newfound insights, techniques, and knowledge to help you become a better woodturner.

Register today to guarantee your admission!

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- Trade show with 100+ exhibitor booths
- Exhibitions and Instant Gallery
- Auctions of turned art
- Charitable initiatives
- Networking opportunities

AAW'S 33rd Annual International Woodturning Symposium
July 11-14, 2019
Raleigh Convention Center
Raleigh, NC

Details and registration
woodturner.org
877-595-9094 (toll free)

ARTICLE OF THE WEEK

In the article, "A Jig for Perfect Circles," from the June 2014 issue of *American Woodturner*, Ken Rizza explains how to make a simple jig to cut round turning blanks. He says using the jig is a lot safer than freehand cutting and saves time.

[Click here for a direct link to the article.](#)

A JIG FOR PERFECT CIRCLES

Ken Rizza



Plywood, some simple hardware, a pen bushing, and a cutting board combine to make a safe, easy-to-use jig for cutting bowl blanks.

When a local church asked me to make 100 bowls from trees it was cutting down on its property, I knew I would need a circle-cutting jig to make the blanks. Commercially made jigs have their limitations: overhead supports that get in the way, designs that restrict the size of the blank, or high cost. Thomas Edison said that after many attempts to invent the lightbulb, he was not a failure because he had discovered 10,000 ways not to make a lightbulb. Fortunately, I didn't need that many tries to come up with a simple jig to cut perfectly round turning blanks. Using a jig is a lot safer than trying to cut a blank freehand, and having round blanks will save time by eliminating air-cutting bumps while turning. The jig is basically a sled, riding in the miter slot of a hand saw table that allows the wood to be rotated past the blade in a full circle. I devised a Lazy Susan that fastens onto the bottom of the jig and provides a stable, secure way to pivot the wood into the saw blade (Photo 7). The size of your hand saw table will determine the size of the sled. I have a

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American Woodturner June 2014

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QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Having turned bowls for just less than thirty years, I have come to the conclusion that simple is best." Glenn Lucas

From time to time turners overcomplicate pieces with extra details that can be difficult to cut cleanly. In the article, "A Pro's Guide to a Simple Bowl," from the February 2018 issue of *American Woodturner*, Glenn Lucas explains how to keep it simple with an open-form bowl with an unembellished, classic design.

[Click here for a direct link to the article.](#)

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A Pro's Guide to a Simple Bowl

Glenn Lucas



My Bowl Gouges

Here are the bowl gouges I use to turn a simple bowl, in order of use from top to bottom.

1. 1/2" Irish-girded bowl gouge, 35-degree bevel. Roughing and shaping cuts.
2. 1/2" Irish-girded bowl gouge, 45-degree bevel. Finishing cuts.
3. 1/4" bowl gouge, 45-degree bevel. Delicate cuts on rim and interior.
4. 1/4" bottom bowl gouge, 60-degree bevel, inside bowl bottom.

Note that all of these tools have a secondary bevel, which reduces the likelihood that the tool's heel will rub and leave ridges on concave cuts.

When traveling around the world, I am often invited to critique the turned work of others, and I have always been especially keen to help new woodturners improve design and basic skills. One of the things I notice is that the novice turner tends to over-complicate pieces by adding extra details, such as beads and other forms of decoration, which can prove difficult to cut cleanly, leaving a rough surface, even after sanding.

Shape can also add to the challenge, especially on the interior, so choosing a closed form such as a calabash bowl is setting the bar very high. An open-form bowl with a simple but classic design can look great and prove a lot easier to turn and sand. When technique improves, then a little extra detail can enhance a bowl, particularly one with an uninteresting grain pattern. I learned the hard way when it comes to shape, finish, and design.

My mother has plenty of my early bowls on display to remind me of where I started. It is worth picking up a few books on pottery, a great source of shape inspiration that has helped me over the years. Having turned bowls for just less than thirty years, I have come to the conclusion that simple is best. My ongoing bowl sales over these years have proved that this approach works well.

Getting started

When I make a bowl in production, I normally turn it in two stages. The first is to roughly shape an unseasoned piece of wood close to the shape of the finished form. I allow extra material for the bowl to distort as it dries in a kiln or by air and then re-turn the dry bowl at a later date. This can be a little disheartening for the beginner, who just wants to get turning straight away, rather than

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American Woodturner February 2018

VIDEOS OF THE WEEK

Watch as Rob Summerlin / Woodslee Summercraft demonstrates how to turn a stunning walnut platter with a natural edge.

[Walnut Live Edge Platter, Woodslee Summercraft \(TRT 25:54\)](#)



Watch as Jerry Kermode turns a natural edge bowl with a stitch at the 2015 AAW Symposium in Pittsburgh. *(Please note: AAW recommends that turners wear closed-toe shoes or work boots to protect feet from dropped tools and chunks of wood.)*

[AAW Video: Making a Natural Edge Bowl with a Stitch with Jerry Kermode \(TRT 1:16:40\).](#)



TIP OF THE WEEK

Mount natural-edge bowl blanks

Use a Forstner or spade drill bit the same diameter as your spur center to drill a hole about ½" to ¾" (13 mm to 19 mm) deep in the center of what will be the top or inside of your bowl blank. When you mount the wood, the spur center will act like an extra hand to hold the piece so you can use two hands to draw up the tailstock.

Additional benefits include creating a flat surface when turning a natural edge and removing punky bark or sapwood to get to the solid wood below. Also, the wood is less likely to fly off the lathe, even if it is unbalanced.

—Steve Schwartz, Virginia



[Click here for a PDF of "Mount Natural Edge Bowl Blanks," by Steve Schwartz, from the December 2011 issue of American Woodturner.](#)



ADJUSTABLE MINI-LATHE STAND FOR SEATED USERS

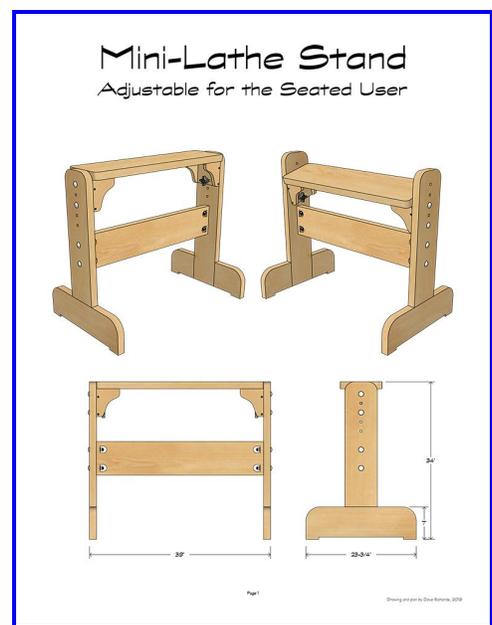
[North Carolina Woodworker](#) (NCWW), Raleigh, North Carolina, which started as an online woodworking-based forum, expanded its focus to offering woodworking training to military members including the wounded warriors in 2010.

We assembled a trailer loaded with tools, but knew standard tools and equipment would not meet our needs. Woodturning outreach to people with disabilities requires a lathe stand that can be lowered and tilted to overcome height and wheelchair challenges. I had the advantage of knowing what wheelchair-bound folks need as I watch my wife struggle with hers daily - so I took

on the task. I sat in her wheelchair and attempted to turn on my lathe. It was too high and too far away to reach. Clearly, a new adjustable lathe stand was required and I am pleased to say it has worked well.

During the wounded warrior events, virtually all of the warriors were interested in making toys for their children, so NCWW added youth woodturning to the mix. In the past ten years, we have held over fifty events for wounded warriors, Girl Scouts, first responders, and local youth groups.

~ Phil Soper, Raleigh, North Carolina



[Click here for a drawing and plans for the adjustable mini-lathe stand for seated users by Dave Richards.](#)



ASWT club members pose with proud students showing off their completed turned items.

ATLANTIC SHORE WOODTURNERS TEAMS UP WITH PAL

The first meeting of [Atlantic Shore Woodturners](#) (ASWT), Lakewood, New Jersey, in September 1997 included sixteen turners, a few chairs, and a wooden plank for a table. We have since grown to a membership of sixty, including men, women, and even a few teenagers. Over the years, we have set up booths and demonstrated woodturning at the Woodworking Shows, Monmouth County Fair, Howell Day, and several other venues. We also support the Mid-Atlantic Woodturning Symposium and have worked with scout troops and taught at local high schools.

This past year, ASWT members were excited to work with the [Howell local PAL \(Police Athletic League\)](#) and teach elementary and high school students how to turn.

Working with Sgt. Chris Hill of the Howell Township police department, we have had two successful evenings of turning instruction. Holding these events at the Howell Community Church, where we have our monthly meetings, made it easy to set up all our lathes to accommodate ninety-plus kids. Each child was able to turn a pen, a top, or even a bowl if they were brave enough. They were each given a certificate and had their picture taken with their finished piece. This is an event we hope to continue every year.

~ Ray Ostrow, President, Atlantic Shore Woodturners



First-year members still active in the Kansas City Woodturners club, from left: Anthony Harris, Jim Reynolds, Kevin Neelley, Bill Kuhlman, and inset: Jim Lambie.

KANSAS CITY WOODTURNERS TURNS 25

On July 19, 1994, fourteen people gathered at the Lenexa, Kansas, Woodcraft store to discuss the development of a new AAW chapter. The [Kansas City Woodturners](#) (KCWT), Kansas City, Missouri, is now celebrating twenty-five years of turning and almost as many years' being affiliated with the AAW. Given the generally advanced age of our club members, we are delighted to have a number of those first-year members still involved. In our first twenty-five years, we grew to 150 members, acquired fourteen lathes, and hosted two AAW Symposia (2005 and 2017).

Getting out into the community has been a focus of KCWT. We demonstrate at a variety of venues, including zoos, a local maker fair, a nature center, an Irish festival, wood shows, schools, First Friday events, and arboretums. Our club has been involved in teaching teachers who instruct high school students in turning. Individual members also participate in a variety of exhibitions locally and internationally. One ongoing activity is the turning of tops for a local chapter of the Ronald McDonald House Charities. The first donation of tops was fairly small, but last year we delivered

1,700 tops, and the goal for 2019 is 2,000 tops.

~ Shaun McMahon, Kansas City Woodturners



ASWT club members pose with proud students showing off their completed turned items.

FLORIDA CLUBS DONATE PENS TO VETERANS

The [Honor Flight Network](#) is a nonprofit organization whose mission is: "To transport America's Veterans to Washington, D.C., to visit those memorials dedicated to honor the service and sacrifices of themselves and their friends."

From October 2017 through April 2019, three Florida woodturning clubs donated 225 turned pens to veterans who traveled with the Honor Flight program. The pens are meant to further honor and thank those veterans for their service. The [Space Coast Woodturners](#), Melbourne Village, Florida, began this turning outreach and was soon joined by the [Brevard Woodturners](#), Mims, Florida, and [Treasure Coast Woodturners](#), Port St Lucie, Florida, chapters. Recently, the clubs started giving pens made with purpleheart wood or purple acrylic to veterans who had received a Purple Heart Medal.

~ Gary Christensen, Brevard Woodturners & Space Coast Woodturners

CLUB CONTEST BRINGS OUT THE FUN

Hugh Buttrum, Treasurer of the
[Wine Country Woodturners](#),

Sonoma County, California, came up with a great idea to foster development among the membership. At a recent meeting, Hugh initiated a contest to turn "the perfect cereal bowl." In two months' time, all members were eligible to submit a single bowl for the judging of the assembled club. The prize: a mystery bowl from Hugh, a bunch of homemade granola for eating out of the bowl, and eternal bragging rights.



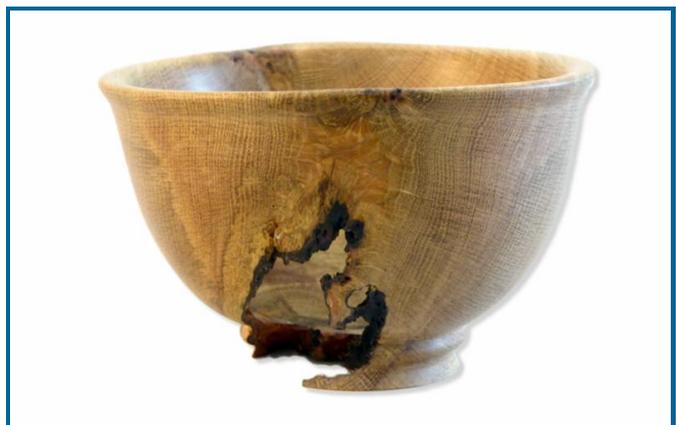
[Victor Larson's winning cereal bowl entry in a club contest.](#)

Victor Larson's winning entry was a work of art, a sensuous bit of exquisitely finished madrone, shaped with a combination of turning for the inside and carving for the outside. Pleasing facets on the handles, along with a restrained bit of decoration, made it the obvious and universal choice. This being Sonoma County, not everyone came at the challenge straight on. Loren Heyer's delightful interpretation of a cereal bowl was made of cereal-in this case, Cheerios. (The Froot Loops bowl was still drying, so not an official entry.) Mike Sooley, on the other hand, presented his bottomless cereal bowl. In addition, there were plenty of earnest entries, as the various members worked to their capacity.



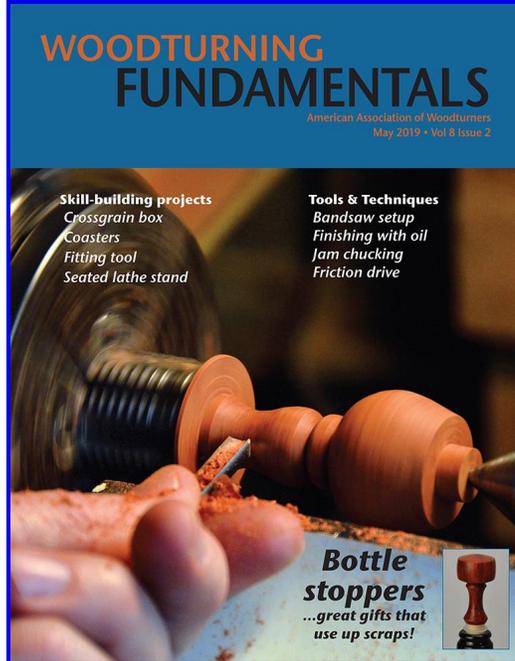
[Loren Heyer's "cereal bowl" made from... Cheerios.](#)

Despite the hijinks, the challenge had a serious purpose: exploiting a silly contest to encourage turners to fully engage with a bowl, because turning a simple bowl can teach you everything, if you let it. Issues of form, space, the foot, cutting technique, sanding, and finishing all come into play, and I can attest that my fourth bowl turned for the contest was significantly better than my first. Other chapters are encouraged to come up with their own skill-building contests as a way to energize the club and foster community.



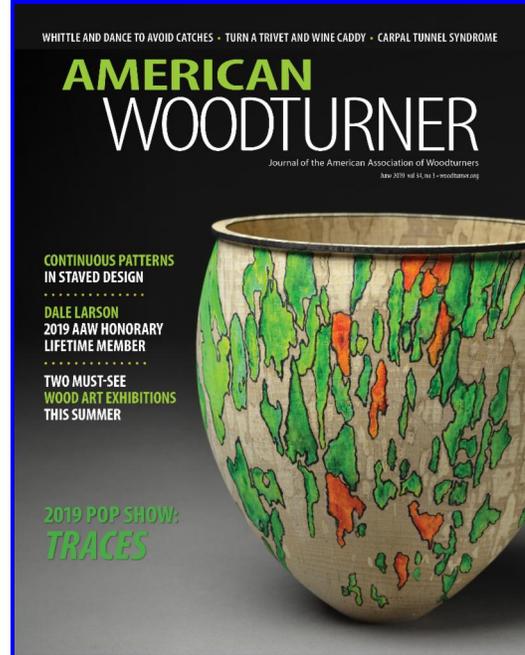
[Mike Sooley's bottomless cereal bowl.](#)

~ Steve Forrest, Wine Country Woodturners



WOODTURNING FUNDAMENTALS

The May 2019 issue of Woodturning FUNDamentals is available online. Have fun building your woodturning abilities with projects including lathe stand for seated turners, bottle stoppers, coasters, and crossgrain flat boxes. You'll also learn about choosing, setting up, and adjusting a band saw, as well as about negative rake scraping. [Click here to view/download the current issue.](#)



AMERICAN WOODTURNER

The June 2019 issue of American Woodturner includes four projects, a biscuit cutter, square box, a trivet, and wine caddy. The features include, "Whittle and Dance to Avoid Catches," by David Ellsworth, "Dale Larson: 2019 AAW Honorary Lifetime Member," by Malcolm Zander, "Meet Your Needs with Custom Soft Jaws," by Mike Peace, "Carpal Tunnel Syndrome," by Rich Foa, and much more. [Click here to view the current issue.](#)

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Details at woodturner.org



...at AAW's 33rd International Symposium, at the Raleigh Convention Center, Raleigh, North Carolina, July 11-14, 2019. We'll have a place for you wherever you are on your woodturning journey. You'll leave with newfound insights, techniques, and knowledge to help you become a better woodturner. Learn more at woodturner.org.

▶▶ Accelerate Your Growth

You'll be able to tap into the expertise and advice of AAW's handpicked roster of internationally known woodturning talent. Plus, we'll introduce 14 remarkable demonstrators who have never presented at an AAW Symposium before.

FEATURED DEMONSTRATOR

Colwin Way

Lyme Regis, Dorset, England

Symposium Presentations

Bowls & Platters: Bowls!!

Suitable for beginners.

Attendees will learn about correct use of the bowl gouge and the process of turning a bowl from start to finish. Additionally, the process from wet-turned bowl to finished dry bowl will be covered.



Treasure: Christmas Pyramid Carousel

Suitable for beginners.

Attendees will learn to use the skew and other spindle tools to make an heirloom decoration. Additionally, drilling techniques, holding techniques, and the history of well-known Christmas decorations will be covered.

Tool-Making & Tool-Handling: Taming the Skew

Suitable for beginners.

Attendees will learn about correct use of the skew chisel and how to make it work effectively. Additionally, the anatomy of the skew and differences between standard, round, oval, and German-style skews will be covered.

About Colwin Way

Colwin Way lives in a small fishing village called Lyme Regis in the middle of the Jurassic coast in the far southwest of England. His woodturning journey started as a hobby over 35 years ago after three weeks with a local production woodturning shop. From there, he went on to complete a five-year apprenticeship. Then, he became a fulltime woodturner and moved his workshop to a farm he managed. Twenty-one years ago he took over the woodturning courses for a local tool company, where he continues to teach and demonstrate today. He is also a freelance woodturning demonstrator and author who travels internationally. [Visit Colwin's website.](#)





Please register today to ensure your place at the [symposium](#). [Click here.](#)

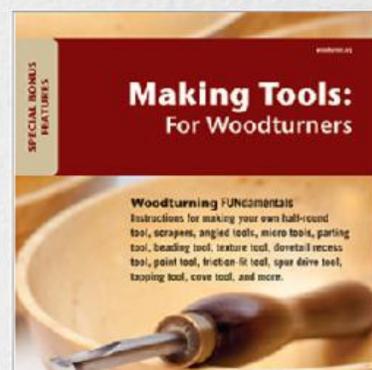


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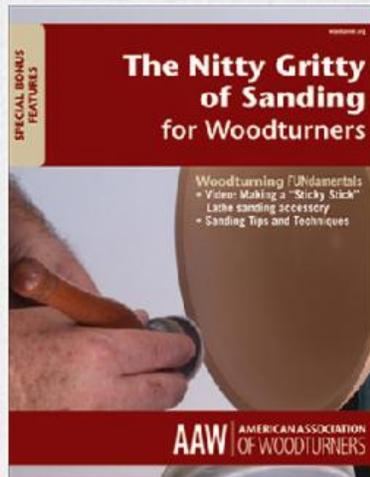


- Member price **\$9.95**, plus shipping



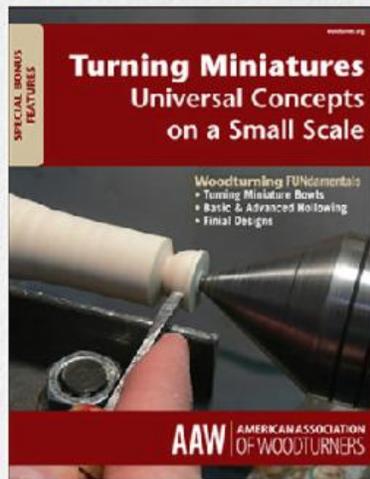
The Nitty Gritty of Sanding for Woodturners

- 37 full color pages, soft cover
- Features include Sanding & Scraping, Sanding Savvy, The Art of Sanding, Techniques to Reduce Sanding, Making a “Sticky Stick” Lathe Sanding Accessory, more.
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