

# Turners Anonymous, Inc.



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[www.turnersanonymous.org](http://www.turnersanonymous.org)

## CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

Last month Bill Blasic and I attended the Totally Turning symposium in Saratoga Springs, N.Y. I was amazed at both the quantity and the quality of the turnings entered in the instant gallery. Anytime I see other people's work, it opens my mind to new ideas. If I can remember to bring along the computer this month, I'll share some pics. with you. This affair is combined with flat woodworking and carving clubs, so there is a lot that we don't normally see. As usual, there are more demo's than you can watch and all that I saw and heard about were top rate. Of course the tool room is always an attraction.

If any of you attend a woodworking affair this coming year, please do a little write-up and we will share with the club in the monthly e-mail.

One of my goals is to revive the club newsletter - things like this could help.

## THIS MONTH!

Our next meeting is Saturday, April 21st. As usual, the doors open at 9am with the meeting starting about 9:45. For those of you visiting, please check the website for the location.

We have a little change in the schedule! I know you all were looking forward to Dave Berringer's demo, but his real life duties are calling and he can't get the day off work. Maybe in ten or fifteen years when he joins a lot of us in retirement we'll see more of him.

So anyway, guess who you're stuck with? That's right, you have to listen to me again! A few years ago we had a demo and class with Don Derry concerning shape and form Don has left woodturning and doesn't teach anymore. Don's class along with a few others I've had with other pro's, my turnings have improved dramatically (you should have seen them before if you think they're bad now).

This month's demo is on shape and form and some tricks on how to reach your goal. Have you heard some guys who say "I just let the wood tell me what to do"? Well, I have enough trouble with Pittsburghese, let alone woodspeak. **It takes some planning!** What about "design modifications"? Let's talk about that too.

For a made up demo, I think we can have a lot of fun with this. I'll lead, but you all can chip in at anytime.

## UPCOMING

**May is sculpture month with Derek Weidman.**

### TURNERS ANONYMOUS PRESENTS

## DEREK WEIDMAN

Derek Weidman has earned an international reputation for his unique and intriguing woodturning, carving, and embellishment skills of three-dimensional figures. He has turned human figures, birds, animals, and abstract art forms attract the eye and hold your interest. A few of his sculptures are shown on our website.

In this demonstration and class, you should learn: new safety methods, tool control, multi-axis turning techniques, embellishment techniques, and visualization of an art form in a block of wood and development of it into a three-dimensional object

For Further Information on Derek Weidman and his talents, see: <http://www.derekweidman.com/>

BIO: Derek Weidman was born in 1982, and has dedicated the last seven years to exploring lathe-based sculpture. His approach involves multi-axis turning as the foundation of his work. By using the unique shaping processes of turning, Derek has created a descriptive visual language that only the lathe can speak. This carving process creates novel representations of a wide range of subjects, from those based on human anatomy to various animal forms. Derek works from a basic question, "What would this look like if rendered through the lens of a wood lathe?", and even with the most rigorous naturalism, an honest abstraction takes place, and for each new subject that question gets answered. So from human heads to rhinos, mandrills to birds, each idea being captured in a way it has not been expressed before.

"Here is an analogy: say if I were to draw a baboon, describing its features with a great deal of realism with my right hand would be relatively simple, but now if I were to draw a baboon with my left hand, some sacrifices would be made due to the limitations my left hand has. I would describe or capture the essence of the baboon differently with each hand. Now if we take this analogy one step further, say if I

were to try and 'draw' a baboon with the lathe, the results would be much different, due to how the lathe works..."(From 2010 Profile in Woodturning magazine).

From very early childhood Derek has drawn constantly. He has a deep connection to nature, and his appreciation for wildlife has had a significant impact on his work. He also draws inspiration from astronomy, cosmology, ancient religions, as well as modern myths. He lives and works in rural Southeastern Pennsylvania.

Demonstration: Saturday, May 19, 2018

Doors open at 9:00 AM

Coffee, donuts and social time 9:00 to 9:30

Brief Meeting and Introduction of Derek Weidman 9:30 to 9:45

Demonstration by Derek Weidman: 9:45 to 4:00 p.m.

Cost: \$40.00, Includes coffee, donuts, and lunch

This is a demonstration only, no hands-on experience

Total capacity, about 60 people, several openings are still available

Class: Sunday, May 20

Doors Open at 9:00 AM

Instruction by Derek Weidman: 9:15AM to 4:00PM

Cost: \$160.00 for the class, lunch and materials

This is a hands-on wood turning and embellishment class

Total capacity: 8 people, several openings are still available

Students will be able to share the use of carving tools, airbrushes and paint supplies, propane torches, and woodburners. If you have these items, please bring them along.

**For Additional Information, Please Contact:**

Glen Nickodemus, 814-421-0911, [ghnick@comcast.net](mailto:ghnick@comcast.net) or [ghnick@icloud.com](mailto:ghnick@icloud.com)

Denny Kearney, 412-965-4341, [d.kearney@verion.net](mailto:d.kearney@verion.net)

**To Reserve a Place in the Demonstration or One of the Class Sessions, Please Contact:**

Bill Hays, 412-741-5150, [wjhayes@comcast.net](mailto:wjhayes@comcast.net)

Dave Betler, 412-848-6911, [dabetler@gmail.com](mailto:dabetler@gmail.com)

Derek's demo's are an amazing thing to see and his hands-on class will teach you things about tool control and working the lathe that translates to everything else. I have seen his demo three times already and will look forward to experiencing it again - this is one of those "CAN'T MISS" opportunities. His hands-on class can even be taken by beginners and will teach you ways of thinking about turning that you never realized. Bill is away this month so see Glen to sign up for either day. There are still a few spots open for the hands-on. Saturday all-day demo session is \$40 with lunch included, Sunday hands on class is priced at \$160.

### **INSTANT GALLERY - *Silk purse out of a sow's ear***

Okay, maybe I messed up the phrase, but last month you saw my hollowform with poison ivy vines carved on it. Well that started life as the form that Dudney and I were marking and drilling holes on in the January demo. Why am I telling you this? This month let's bring in some of the problem pieces that we have made a design modification on and ended up with a finished piece. Write a little note with it telling of the problem and how you solved it. This can be a learning experience for us all.

### **SHARE AND SELL TABLE**

Do you have a tool you no longer use, how about that piece of wood that you trip on every time you walk to the lathe (if Blasic is there ask him). Bring it in, put it on the table with your NAME and a price - the price can be free.

### **LIBRARY**

One of the resources that I used when I joined the club was the video library. There is something in there for everyone - I don't care what your skill level is. We still need someone to put out the video's and put them away. We can store them on site so no-one needs to haul the suitcases around. See Dave or Gerry to sign up for this job.

## **INDIANA CLUB NEWS**

This note just in from Daryl Gray, President of the Indiana, Pa. woodturners group. On Tuesday, May 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm they are having Carol Hall give her presentation "Beyond Round and Brown". I have seen her work and will have some pics. at our April meeting. It is an amazing collection of artwork. They are asking for a rough headcount by contacting Daryl at [mroamer@verizon.net](mailto:mroamer@verizon.net).

A donation jar will be at the door to help defray cost. Suggested donation is \$10.

## **AAW**

At the symposium in Saratoga Springs last month, I attended a meeting with the folks at AAW. In addition to the trial memberships they have started, they are working on several other things to help the members and local chapters.

There is a program to be released prior to this year's symposium whereby the demonstrators and local chapters can coordinate schedules and availability. In other words, we can look at this data and see if a demonstrator is at a local area and schedule them the next week. This can save both clubs on expenses and make it easier on travel for the demonstrator.

Just two meetings left this season. Remember to bring a friend, we'll find an extra chair.

**SEE YOU THERE!**

Dave Betler



