As we draw the club year to a close, our last official meeting (May 12) will be no ordinary meeting. I ask my fellow club members to do a few things to make our last meeting a success.

First, promote the auction. Please start now to invite your family, friends, neighbors and coworkers. Tell them to bring their cash because they will want buy one, two or more of the outstanding pieces that will be available. Even though it is an auction, there will be lots of bargains on really good hand-made items that make great gifts. We can't have a good auction if the bidders don't have a full belly, so don't forget your favorite dish for the pot luck. This year, if your last name begins with A through M please bring a side dish. If you're lucky enough to have a last name beginning with M to Z, please bring a dessert.

The May meeting will also have some business to discuss (suit and tie not required!). We will consider a bylaw amendment, receive a report from the audit committee and elect officers. (If you are interested in holding an office, please contact the nominating committee, Bob Pfister and Steve Wagner).

Honorable Mention:

Each month Central Ohio Woodturners Club profiles fellow members who bring with them inspiration, originality and creativity; and have contributed to the spirit of Central Ohio Woodturners. This month we make Honorable Mention of fellow member and former officer of the club, Devon Palmer. He has received distinguished awards and honors for promoting woodturning. He was featured in the City Scene Magazine in April and the feature article is shared with our readers in this month's newsletter.

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A Few Words From Your President: *(continued from page 1)*

Of course what would be the last meeting of the year without some recognition of some of our outstanding club members and a pre-view of what the summer will bring, i.e. open shops, State Fair demo and other activities yet to be decided.

Finally, I would like to remind you of the AAW symposium in Pittsburgh June 25-28. I looked at the list of demonstrators, and boy, did I get excited! (Go to the AAW website and take a look for yourself.) I personally signed up to be a volunteer assistant, to JoHannes Michelsen, David Ellsworth, Nick Cook and Craig Kirks. So if you have not made your plans to attend the AW symposium, you are running out of time; please do that today.

Don’t forget: join us May 12th for our annual potluck, auction and all the other good stuff that comes with it. I hope to see you at the meeting.

Sincerely Paul Courtright your President

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**What makes Central Ohio Woodturners a great club.....**

- **Woodturning Demos** - Each meeting we have an experienced woodturner who demonstrates a technique, skill, or item of interest to club members. Demonstrators include club members and professionals, including internationally known turners.
- **Show & Tell** - See members’ work and listen to them explain the nuances of turning and finishing their work. You also can show off your own turnings to the club and get valuable feedback and advice.
- **Workshops** - Occasionally, we host a professional teacher or turner who conducts small, hands-on workshops, yielding even richer learning opportunities.
- **Mentoring Sessions/Open Shops** - Every month, on a Saturday, interested club members meet to hone their skills, turn a particular item, see another member’s shop, or just plain enjoin the camaraderie of fellow woodturners.
- **Video/Book Library** - Members can borrow books or videos on woodturning, all free of charge!
- **Monthly Newsletter** - Gives meeting and other miscellaneous information.

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**2015 Pittsburgh**

*June 25-28*

29th International Symposium ... Save the Date!
Woodturning is a form of woodworking that is used to create wooden objects on a lathe. Woodturning differs from most other forms of woodworking in that the wood is moving while a stationary tool is used to cut and shape it. Many intricate shapes and designs can be made by turning wood.

**Mentoring News**

*By Nelson Meyer*

The Central Ohio Woodturners sponsored a Mentoring Session on April 18 at Woodcraft. Presenters were Walt Betley and Bob Pfister demonstrating advanced pen construction. They demonstrated techniques they learned from a week-long course at Arrowmont led by well-know pen “guru,” Barry Gross.

Walt demonstrated how to make the Celtic Cross, single and double versions, via a jig for use on a tablesaw. He emphasized “accuracy, accuracy, accuracy,” as well as the use of contrasting woods for clarity.

Bob demonstrated a stacking technique which can result in either a segmented look or as “laid-brick” look. Both illustrated that with a little bit of planning, pens can move from the ordinary to being truly eye-catching.

Nearly 20 people attended, following the presentation with dozens of questions. Hopefully, we’ll see some of the results at the May meeting!
Our next meeting on May 12 will include the Club's Annual Meeting which will include the following items of business:

1. **Election of Officers** -- nominations presented at the meeting

2. **Amending the Bylaws** -- to require an annual audit. The Officers and Steering Committee propose adding the following paragraph (in blue):

   **ARTICLE IX – COMMITTEES**

   A. Audit Committee: The Officers shall annually appoint an audit committee, composed of at least two persons. Club members may be appointed to the committee, but not any current officer nor anyone who lives with or has a family or business relationship with the treasurer or any check signer. The committee shall review the financial records for the past year and the equipment list in order to express an opinion to the officers and the membership as to whether the financial statements fairly represent the financial health of the organization and whether the equipment list is reasonably accurate. The opinion shall be delivered in writing, normally prior to the May annual meeting of the organization.

3. The Audit Committee (John Hahn and Robin Moro) present their report for approval:

   **To: Central Ohio Woodturners**  
   **From: 2015 Audit Committee**  
   **Date: April 15, 2015**

   The Audit Committee (John Hahn and Robin Moro) conducted an audit of the Central Ohio Woodturners financial reports, tax reports and inventory list.

   The Committee reviewed the financial statements and supporting documentation from March 1, 2014 through February 28, 2015. The review included receipts, deposits and expenditures. In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Central Ohio Woodturners.

   The Committee reviewed the organization’s I.R.S. Form1099 and Form 990 reports. All appeared to be timely and in order.

   The Committee also reviewed the organization’s equipment inventory list. In our opinion, the list accurately represents the equipment owned.

       John Hahn
       Robin Moro

Thank you for your attention to these important matters; I hope to see you Tuesday, May 12.

   **REMEMBER:** There will also be Pot Luck at 6:00 pm and an auction to follow!

   **Don't miss the last (and best!) meeting of the year!**
Local Boy Makes Wood
Woodturning connects Devon Palmer to his past, his family and his community

BY CINDY GAILLARD

Woodturner Devon Palmer is a patient man. Some of his pieces take up to five years to season and become art.

“When I make a wooden bowl, I’ll rough it out and leave it extra thick so that when it dries and warps, I can get a perfectly round circle out of it,” Palmer says. “So I have 300 to 400 bowls sitting down in the basement, just slowly drying over the course of five years.”

Related: A Brush with Experience
Wooden bowls are Palmer’s bread and butter, but his touch extends to platters, vases, pepper mills and cups. He’s a local favorite at ComFest, and he mentors other newbies in the craft of woodturning.

“They call it ‘the practice of woodturning’ because it very much is a lot of practice,” says Palmer. “That’s typically why you see mentoring organizations associated with woodturning – because the initial ramp-up of the motor skills you have to develop is pretty high.”
On a snowy day in February, Palmer turns his 1,000th piece at his relatively new studio at the Columbus Idea Foundry. Looking on are his two Golden Retrievers, Bo and Uma. While he turns his work on an industrial lathe he lovingly named Xena – “because all things of beauty, power and grace are female” – he talks about his life as an IT specialist for Schottenstein’s Value City Furniture by day and a woodturner by night.

“Before I even walk in the door, I’ve put in a full 40 hours,” Palmer says. “Given the fact that I have several neighboring studios around (at the foundry) and many of the people here that do the same thing, we all kind of provide a social network, so not only do we work, but we play together as well, and play is a huge part of the creative business.”

Some might think there is little value in the ash trees destroyed by the invasion of the emerald ash borer over the last few years, but in Palmer’s hands, the holes the insects make enhance the delicacy of the bowl.

“So many times, our self-received flaws are the things that make us interesting and beautiful. Had this wood not had been infested by the borer, would it be this interesting? Would it be this special?” Turning the ash-infested wood into art, he says, “gives it value and gives it power.”

Family and tradition are both important to Palmer. His mother was a woodcarver, his father a cabinetmaker. While Palmer studied airplane mechanics in college and transitioned his skills into a career in IT systems, he felt out of touch with his blue-collar heritage.

In 2004, he traveled back home to Indiana and took up woodturning with his father. Though he moved to Columbus, a town he loved because of its creative vibe, he feels connected to his family when he makes a wooden bowl because it symbolizes breaking bread and time with his family. It also reconnects him to his childhood passion for chainsaws and his duties on the family farm.

“We used to heat our farmhouse with wood, and I was running a chainsaw at 10,” Palmer says. “That was one of the things that kind of made a segue into what I do now.”

Aside from the ash, Palmer looks for hardwoods of any type, but never needs to harvest trees on his own. All of his raw wood is donated from areas that needed to be cleared, such as the path for the new Emerald Parkway in Dublin. He calls his wood stock “reclaimed urban forest” and, when he can, he gives back to donors by making special pieces from the donated wood.

Some might pass over reclaimed wood as too inconsistent a material. Palmer sees nothing but opportunities.

“So some of these pieces of wood might not be all that awesome, but when you frame them and give them a purpose and play to their strengths, because really Mother Nature does all the work, all I have to do is carve away and show what she’s done,” he says.

Cindy Gaillard is an Emmy award-winning producer with WOSU Public Media. Learn more about the weekly arts and culture magazine show Broad & High at www.wosu.org/broadandhigh.
UPCOMING EVENTS
By Nelson Meyer

That's right, the annual meeting/auction is next Tuesday, May 12!  Note the times!

• Swap & Shop -- 5 p.m.
• Pot Luck -- 6 p.m.
  • Last name A-M -- Side Dish
  • Last name N-Z -- Dessert!
• Raffle
  • Trend Sharpening System
  • Gift Certificates to Packard Woodworks
• Auction -- 7:30 - ??? (Bring your friends & relatives - Public Welcome!)
  • President's Challenge items
  • Demonstrator items
  • Duracraft Lathe - not used - $25 minimum bid

Official Business:

• Audit Report - (If you want me to send another copy, please let me know.)
• Bylaw Amendment to require an annual audit - (If you want me to send another copy, please let me know.)
• Minutes of the May, 2014 Meeting
The April 2015 Club Meeting

Guest Turner Dave Betler Demonstrating Turning a Thin Platter

*Photography and Pictures By Mark Boyd*
President's Challenge for April 2015 – :

Ron Gardner and Bob Dadik won gift cards for their entries in the challenge.
COW Member Displays

Bruce Kerns
Carl Ruehle
Bob Gardner
Freddy Dutton
Paul Courtright
Richard Ruehle
Michael McClure
William Brestle won the Mystery Box Prize for April. Congratulations!

And the winner is....
PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL

SWAP & SHOP
JUNE 20, 9AM – 3PM

CLEAN OUT YOUR SHOP AND BRING YOUR EXCESS/UN-NEEDED WOODWORKING TOOLS, WOOD & SUPPLIES TO WOODCRAFT ON SATURDAY, JUNE 20. JOIN YOUR FELLOW WOODWORKERS FOR A FUN DAY OF SWAPPING, TRADING AND SELLING. FREE TABLE SPACE WILL BE PROVIDED. ALL THAT IS NEEDED ARE WILLING PARTICIPANTS. WHO KNOWS WHAT “TREASURES YOU MAY DISCOVER!?? CALL WOODCRAFT AT 614-273-0488 FOR DETAILS. ONLY AT YOUR COLUMBUS WOODCRAFT STORE!

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