



# Des Moines WoodTurners

## Chapter Meeting Announcement & Newsletter

Nov 2020

AAW Chapter 158

A 501(c)(3) Non-profit Organization

Bulletin 2020-11

### NOVEMBER CHAPTER "ZOOM" MEETING PREVIEW

#### I have never been part of a Zoom meeting – what do I need to do?

To connect to the meeting, all that is required is for you to click on a link provided below. This should launch your web browser to connect to the Zoom conferencing web site, and then follow any start-up instructions requested (you may need to answer 'Yes' to downloading the Zoom ".exe" file, and start the program by clicking in your downloads list at the top of your browser's screen. If prompted to do so, click on "Join meeting with Video" and/or "Join meeting with Audio".

After a few seconds, you should see a screen with multiple boxes of member's video feeds. At the beginning of the meeting we will go over how to control your microphone (mute or unmute), your video/camera feed, and other controls.

IF YOU ENCOUNTER PROBLEMS - contact **Tom Baker** for help with getting the connection problem resolved.  
Call 515-249-7503 (cell).

In your "Settings" menu, it may be necessary to check to *see that your webcam is turned on*, that your *microphone is turned on*, and that the *speakers are enabled*.

TO JOIN THE DMWT MEETING ON SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14 AT 1:00 PM CLICK ON:

<https://zoom.us/j/99288042541?pwd=bXFBREltUFhiVDZhWG5EVGJudWFRZz09>

Meeting ID: [992 8804 2541](#)

Password: 095314 (if you need it)

To view a simple, a 1-minute video tutorial about how to connect is available at:

<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362193-Joining-a-Meeting>

**Elections.** The November meeting is one of the most important meetings during the year because it is when you, the members of our Chapter, have the opportunity to voice your opinion of who you would like to see become your officers for the following year. Our by-laws say officers will be elected by a majority of the members present for the elections, so **please plan to be on the Zoom call for the November 14<sup>th</sup> meeting.**

The following is the slate of Chapter members that will be on the ballot for election for 2021:

President - Tom Whalley

Vice President - Jim Reynolds

Secretary - Will Zitterich

Treasure - Tom Baker

Education/Programs - Tad Tadlock

Membership - Dan Carlson

Director at large - Bill Burchett

Director at large - Donna Byers

**The November program** will be a presentation by member **Jack Kennedy**. We have enjoyed and been inspired by Jack's creativity and talent in making beautiful, segmented pieces that he has shown at our show and tell times as well as ones he has donated to our state fair booth. If you have not tried segmenting but have an interest in it but have no idea as to how to do this, be sure to "tune in" to this informative program.

"I plan to demonstrate and discuss how I design and create my segmented bowls. This will include some techniques and tips I have learned through my adventures with segments.

I began working with wood in high school shop classes and started getting serious about woodworking in the early 1980s. Des Moines Tech had adult education sessions on woodworking. Every Thursday night 15 or so of us would spend 3 hours working on our own projects. No formal classes just whatever we wanted to make. Up until about ten years ago most of my time was spent making furniture. Running out of requests for furniture from family and friends, I decided to try my hand at turning and then moved from solid wood bowls to simple segmented bowls. I experimented with more difficult designs, including making feature rings and creating bowls with 'painted' designs using segments. I look forward to new challenges and continuing to learn."



As always, we will have time for **questions and answers** as well as **show and tell**. Since we have not met in person, the number of pieces shown during this time has greatly diminished, which is strange because what else do we have to do but to spend time with our friend, the lathe. So, I want to encourage everyone to have something to show others. I don't want anyone to think "my stuff isn't that great", or any other comment similar to this. Show and tell is NOT about "look at me", but rather how can the efforts of one person help to encourage or influence someone else! Also, take an interest in what others are showing by asking them questions like: "How did you do..." or "what is the finish?" of any other kind of question about their project you might have. Woodturning is all about sharing what we have learned with others. Please join in this month! For many folks within our Chapter, seeing what others have created is the highlight of the meeting. I for one really look forward to seeing what others have done. I have been encouraged and inspired by this, and I don't want to be disappointed, so please show up for the dance – OK?

**Thanks, and lets have a greet meeting Saturday.**

**Get involved with **YOUR** AAW Woodturning Chapter and get more **Bang** for your Bucks!  
You might be surprised just how rewarding this experience can be.**

## **OCTOBER 31 WOOD SALES RECAP**

The October 31 wood sales went well. I had mentioned earlier during the Scout Center virtual meeting that we would have some birch boards available for folks to use for segmented projects, and unfortunately that didn't happen. Dave Yearian, who has these in his truck, was not able to be there. He suggested that anyone that wants some should give him a call at 515-971-5552 to make arrangements to pick them up at his home. He would like to get them out of his truck before it snows, so please call him. I want to give a huge thank you to **Maurice Herold**, too. Maurice had been turning spurtles for us to sell at the fair, and since we were not able to have our booth there this year, he did something else. He and a friend decided to have a garage sale and sell some things that they had both made – to include a bunch of spurtles. Maurice came to the wood sale Saturday and presented our treasure, Tom Baker, with \$128 from his spurtle sales! To Maurice, I want to recognize and thank him for doing this.

## BASIC BOWL TURNING AND TWO OTHER SPECIALTY CLASSES BEING COMPLETED

Before Thanksgiving, nine members will have completed our Basic Bowl Turning class this fall. Three classes, with two students each, were held in October and the remaining class will be held the week before Thanksgiving. The one-day session covers basic information on harvesting turning wood, creating bowl blanks and easy ways to round out square or octagonal bowl blanks. Each step of mounting and turning a bowl is demonstrated and students then repeat those steps on their individually assigned Jet 1221 variable speed lathe. Members attending were **Rob Blink, Vince Lewis, John Augspurger, Jim Pierce, Jim Appleby, Bill Fanter, Mike Gieszler, Maurice Herold, and Tony Raymer**. This one-day class is only \$15. A prerequisite for all classes is having attended at least two days of Basic Woodturning hands-on time. Instructors were **Dick Meuler** and **Tad Tadlock**. If you'd like to take this class in 2021, call or e-mail and get on the list.

A one-day Intermediate tool class was requested to learn how the basic wood **TEXTURING TOOLS** can be used to embellish woodturnings. **Maurice Herold** and **John Augspurger** signed-up. In this class next week, they'll be practicing how to use a Chatter tool, Sorby Spiraling and Texturing tools (both full size and the Micro tool), Wagner Embossing tools and the Henry Taylor Elf tool. Students will bring the texturing tools they own and get a chance to see how others work and decide if they want to invest in them. Class instructor will be **Dick Meuler** with **Tad Tadlock** assisting.

Two others who requested a one-day Intermediate tool use class were members **Donna Byers** and **Vikki Morain**. They both wanted to learn more about the use of the **Joyner Offset Jig** to turn pendants and other items with offset patterns. The class will also illustrate how to use the free Excel software application that helps design offset patterns. These one-day classes cost only \$15 and are for members only. Instructor for this class will be member **Dick Meuler**.

## NEED WOODTURNING TRAINING? THINK AHEAD TO 2021 TRAINING CLASSES

Our Chapter Training Center, located in donated space in the Valley Junction area of West Des Moines, is equipped with ten Jet 1221 variable speed lathes and a Wolverine Sharpening System with 8" CBN wheels. Under normal times, we taught classes with up to eight students. Under Covid 19 safety rules, we have limited classes to two or three students. Our two BASIC classes are a two-day **BASIC SPINDLE TURNING**, which is a prerequisite for all other classes, and our one-day **BASIC CROSS-GRAIN (BOWL) TURNING**. Students are required to provide their own High-Speed Steel tools (or better), that meet beginner student safety standards, along with an ANSI Z87+ rated face shield and assorted accessories outlined in class material. Students should own or have easy access to a lathe and a reasonable HSS tool sharpening system as tools need sharpening often (within minutes, not days). Both basic classes also require use of a 4-jaw scroll chuck to hold work. You can sign-up now for 2021 Basic classes, but all names go on a waiting list in the order they are received. Students will be assigned once training dates are selected. Requests for other project or technique-oriented classes are always welcomed too.

For 2021 Spring, Summer and Fall classes yet to be scheduled, members should contact the Training Coordinator at [dmeuler@gmail.com](mailto:dmeuler@gmail.com) or phone **515-991-8111** between 10a and 9p to leave a voice mail message. Until COVID 19 infections subside substantially, we'll continue training with limited students and instructors and under our COVID protocols with temperature testing, face mask wearing and distancing. Turn Safely and Stay Healthy!

## NEW TO WOODTURNING AND NEED HELP GETTING STARTED?

Getting started in woodturning isn't just picking up an old used lathe, acquiring some decades old bargain garage sale tools and whipping out a project using an inappropriate and dull tool to shape a rapidly rotating piece of dry Osage Orange timber. Let's just say it wouldn't be a safe or enjoyable experience. Beyond learning woodturning jargon is the task of selecting equipment, tools, and accessories to insure you invest wisely and give yourself a reasonable chance at learning a new skill. Learning woodturning takes practice. Lots of practice. But it should all be enjoyable, rewarding and done safely. That's our goal for you.

Tool steel has changed from the softer carbon steel of years past to High Speed Steel and beyond. Sharpening has slowly migrated from AO stone wheels to CBN wheels using slow speed motors. Lathes have changed from step pulleys to electronic speed controls with soft starts, all designed to keep you safer and more efficient in your woodturning journey. One tip all beginners need is not to buy a set of woodturning tools. They typically contain smaller, less usable length tools and includes some tools you'll probably never use. It is less expensive to purchase the individual tools you need. If you have questions and would like to find out more about tools, equipment or the kinds of woodturning beginners should do, feel free to give a call. If I can't help, I'll connect you with someone who can.

Contact [dmeuler@gmail.com](mailto:dmeuler@gmail.com) or call 515-991-8111 between 10a & 9p, and leave a voice mail.

## VETERANS LEARNING TO TURN PENS

Photos by Dick Meuler

In October four veterans visited our training center to learn how to turn pens. The Central Iowa VA sponsors the program with the Des Moines Woodturners providing the instructors and technical assistance. A special thanks to member **Chuck Haas** for allowing the veterans to use his facility monthly until such time they can occupy space at the VA campus.

**Dick Meuler** has been coordinating the program with **Donna Byers**, **Tad Tadlock** and **Dan England** assisting with set-up, clean-up and most importantly, guiding the vets through the various pen making steps. It starts with introductions, then learn a little about the veterans including branch of service, years served and specialty. After some safety instructions and introducing the parts of the lathe, a short demo is given on how to round a blank. Then the first vet practices turning a blank down to the size of washers on each side of the practice blank. They can practice sanding and finishing if they wish. Then they move on to selecting a pre-drilled blank with the brass tube already glued in. Our members furnish the wood and others drill them out and glue in the brass tubes ahead of time. The vet then turns, sands, and puts a wax finish on the completed pieces. From there they go to the assembly station. When they test the mechanism and test write with it, it always brings a smile to their face.

A special thanks to all those who have participated in this on-going project.





## IOWA ARBORETUM RECOVERY PROJECT – by Dick Meuler

Member Roger Nass and a group of other avid woodturners of our Chapter and the Ames AAW Chapter have taken on a unique project to use downed tree wood for good rather than just send it off to a disposal site.

The Iowa Arboretum experienced a derecho storm on August 10th that also impacted most of the Midwest. Winds gusting over 130 miles per hour whipped through the Arboretum and caused damage to over 200 trees on the main campus. Over 133 specimen trees have to be removed from the grounds. The arboretum is now closed



as the staff and volunteers start the long and arduous job of cleaning up and restoring the grounds and woodland trails.

Here's the deal. Below is a listing of the species that were affected by the storm. I think you'll agree that most of those species have never been on your lathe. If you are an experienced turner, a number of those species are being picked-up and stored on Roger's property in the Ames area, west of town. What is being asked is for individuals to volunteer to go pick-up any reasonable number of pieces and agree to turn and finish a minimum of one sellable piece to give back to the arboretum for them to sell at a fund raising auction or in their gift shop when they reopen. The rest is yours for personal use. The arboretum understands that green wood isn't something that can normally be turned around in a short period of time. But within a year, you should be able to have a nice presentable project, or more, that you could donate back to help raise money for their recovery. It's also an opportunity for you to experience turning some interesting species. Spindle or cross-grain projects are all acceptable. Turn functional, decorative, or artsy items. So why not lend a hand and use your woodturning skills to help out a great cause and save some good tree wood from rotting in a disposal site. At the same time, you'll acquire some free wood for your personal use. Sounds like a WIN, WIN to me.

If you have questions relating to the available species, sizes, characteristics, pick-up times, etc., contact Roger direct at **515-292-0248** in Ames or e-mail him at [rnass2143@aol.com](mailto:rnass2143@aol.com) and include your phone number so Roger can contact you. I can help coordinate a Des Moines area group who might want to join in to get a pick-up load and bring it back to share among themselves. You can contact me at [dmeuler@gmail.com](mailto:dmeuler@gmail.com)

### Iowa Arboretum Damaged Tree Species

1 Black River Birch	10 Shagbark Hickory	19 Black Walnut
2 Miyabbi Maple	11 Chestnut	20 Hickory
3 White Willow	12 Honey Locust	22 Osage Orange
4 Yellow wood	13 Gmelin Larch	23 Silver Willow
5 Red Bud	14 Amur cork	24 Lacebark Elm
6 Freeman Maple	15 White Willow	25 Japanese Wingnut
7 Red Maple	16 Chinese Black Walnut	26 Sycamore
8 Chinese Elm	17 Green/white Ash	27 White Oak
9 Shingle Oak	18 More Green/white Ash	28 Excelsior Ash

Not all species have been brought to Roger's lot — Yes, 21 is missing, no longer available

**DES MOINES WOODTURNERS WEARABLES** - Members wanting Des Moines Woodturners logos embroidered on clothing are advised to purchase shirts, sweatshirts or turning smocks of their choice and style. These must be BRAND NEW and UNWASHED and can be delivered to any officer or board member. When enough are collected to meet minimums, they will be taken to the embroiderer. Be sure to attach a note with your name to the collar of each garment submitted indicating if and how you want your name embroidered along with the Chapter logo. Costs to add the standard logo are \$8.00 per item. Personalized names can also be added for an additional \$6.00 per item. Chat with **Rob Beattie** if you have questions. 282-4532 or [beattie.r@mchsi.com](mailto:beattie.r@mchsi.com).

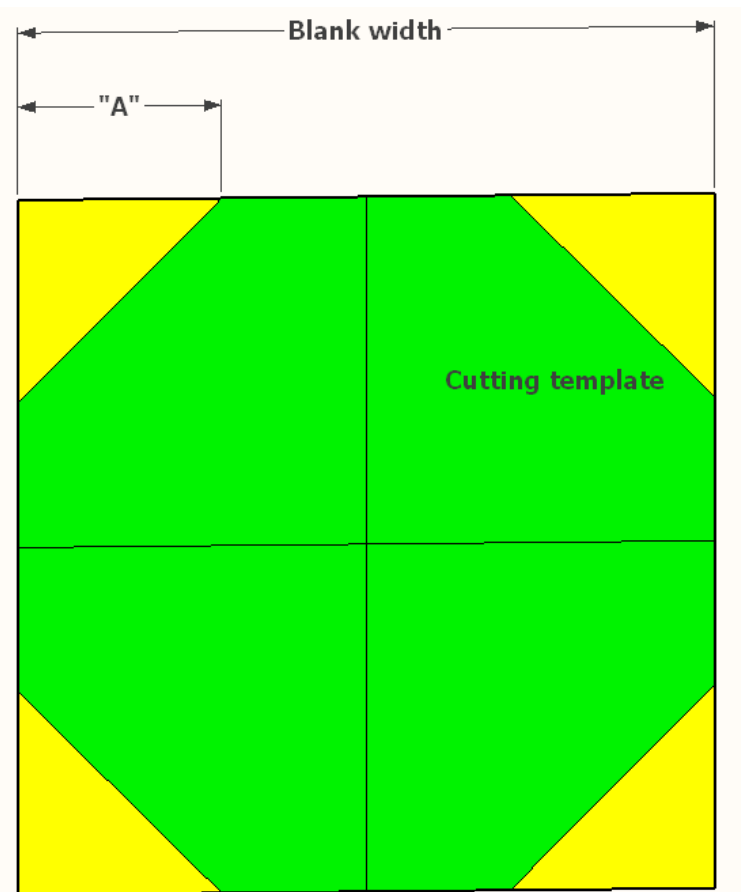
## BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND , the ever "UN"POPULAR MATH MINUTE!

OK – so I lied – popular demand – uh, “I don’t think so!” I heard some of you say that, so let’s move on.

So, you have access to a log or a half of a log, but don’t know what to do to get it into a turning blank. We have a lot of beautiful walnut pieces (most of which are already split in half for you) just waiting to be turned into something beautiful, but no one wants them because they aren’t already cut into nice uniform round blanks. Cut it into an octagon. No need to do make them round - a simple 8-sided blank is all you need. The problem for many because they don’t know where to the cut diagonals, so they don’t end up with another offset square or some other strange shape.

**Solution** - Here is an easy way to cut off the four corners uniformly. You can either make a template or simply follow the instructions and see the chart below.

On the drawing below, you will see an octagon with two dimensions – one represents the width of the square blank you are cutting. The second, represented by “A”, shows the distance in from the edges to make your cuts to create an octagon, or for the math challenged, an 8 sided or “stop sign” shape. The value of “A” is shown on the chart that lists the dimension of “A” rounded to the nearest 1/16” for the blanks between 5” and 16” wide. For example, if you want a 10” blank, start your cut 2-15/16 from the edges and make 45° cuts to remove the corners. Do this on all 4 corners and you are done. Then locate your centers, mount it on your lathe, put on your safety equipment and start turning. It is that simple! So now, who wants some of the walnut pieces we have stored to start making blanks?



Blank width	"A"
5	1 7/16
5 1/2	1 5/8
6	1 3/4
6 1/2	1 7/8
7	2 1/16
7 1/2	2 3/16
8	2 5/16
8 1/2	2 1/2
9	2 5/8
9 1/2	2 3/4
10	2 15/16
10 1/2	3 1/16
11	3 3/16
11 1/2	3 3/16
12	3 5/16
12 1/2	3 5/8
13	3 13/16
13 1/2	3 15/16
14	4 1/16
14 1/2	4 1/4
15	4 3/8
15 1/2	4 1/2
16	4 11/16

## CHAPTER DIRECT WEB LINKS – Below are a few direct links to our Chapter web site.

- Calendar of Events - [http://www.dmwoodturners.com/?page\\_id=2](http://www.dmwoodturners.com/?page_id=2)
- Woodturning Article and Plan Links - [http://www.dmwoodturners.com/?page\\_id=90](http://www.dmwoodturners.com/?page_id=90)
- Chapter Library contents - [http://www.dmwoodturners.com/?page\\_id=84](http://www.dmwoodturners.com/?page_id=84)
- Contact board members and volunteers - [http://www.dmwoodturners.com/?page\\_id=126](http://www.dmwoodturners.com/?page_id=126)
- Download Membership Application form - [http://www.dmwoodturners.com/?page\\_id=399](http://www.dmwoodturners.com/?page_id=399)
- Download or view Scout Center Networking Info - [http://www.dmwoodturners.com/?page\\_id=500](http://www.dmwoodturners.com/?page_id=500)

**AMERICAN ASSOCIATION of WOODTURNERS (AAW)** - If you are an avid woodturner, we would recommend an AAW membership because it offers you many woodturning resources including access to all previous issues of American Woodturner, the AAW Journal of articles, plans and woodturning techniques, six NEW issues of American Woodturner a year along PLUS six issues of the digital Woodturning FUNDamentals and many other learning resources and opportunities. Check them out at <http://www.woodturner.org>.



**AAW GUEST MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM CONTINUES** - AAW continues to offer a **Guest** membership program for Chapter members who are not yet AAW members. By signing up for a complimentary **Guest** membership, Chapter members can have limited access to AAW member resources for a full 60 days. They'll be able to explore what the AAW has to offer, kick their tires, and hopefully decide to become full-fledged AAW members and benefit from everything the AAW has to offer. The Guest membership welcome page can be found at <https://www.woodturner.org/Woodturner/Join-Pages/Guest-Online-Membership.aspx?WebsiteKey=c9100f02-c77e-4177-a9bc-7d3eb0216238>

**Woodturning FUNDamentals** – The Woodturning FUNDamentals are digital publications offered to members four times annually. Each issue includes projects, techniques, tips, videos, and information to build essential woodturning skills. These publications are design to turners at all levels build strong woodturning skills and essential techniques. This portal contains the current and all the past Woodturning FUNDamentals digital publications. <https://www.woodturner.org/Woodturner/Resources/Publications/Woodturning-Fundamentals/Woodturner/Resources/Woodturning-Fundamentals--Publication-/Woodturning-Fundamentals.aspx?hkey=eee166cc-4207-40b2-8094-b7ad83faa93a>

## AAW PROJECTS AND ARTICLES AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

Nearly everything you want to know about woodturning is at your fingertips.

<https://www.woodturner.org/Woodturner/Resources/Woodturner/Landing-Pages/Res.aspx?hkey=3888ecb5-0a54-4e8c-9963-fa4d1b7a6858>

**AAW STORE** – This link will connect you to the store where you can purchase anything the AAW has to offer – videos, books – you name it! <https://www.woodturner.org/Woodturner/Shop/AAW/Shop/Store-Overall-Splash.aspx?hkey=6fb989fa-f65e-4701-ab68-1437920235c1>

**AAW GRANTS - AAW is now accepting annual grant applications for award and use in 2021.** Submission for these education Grants runs through December 31, 2020. Grants may be awarded to individuals, Chapters, and schools and other groups for woodturning education endeavors. Learn more one the AAW website at: <https://www.woodturner.org/Woodturner/Learn/Learn-about-AAW/Grants/Woodturner/2020%20Grants/Grant-Applications.aspx?hkey=008fe559-c478-482b-b143-ac8a0ca5ec28>

**AAW MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS – JOIN or RENEW TODAY** <https://www.woodturner.org/Woodturner/Join-Pages/Member-Benefits-and-Services.aspx>



**Turn to your Passion**

**American Association of Woodturners**

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