

NEWSLETTER EDITOR
TOM HUBER

SPECIAL
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SEPTEMBER 2025



September- The Start of Fall

We're back! We hope you had a good month off. Hopefully, you had a chance to travel, turn, or just relax. We are starting off the Fall season with a demonstration about making ornaments.

It's about that time to start thinking about making ornament and holiday gifts. If you need to make some gifts for family

and friends, one of the best ways to start is by attending one of CAW's ACE classes. You can learn to turn boxes, ornaments, platters, and simple holiday projects in the next four months.

Whatever you decide to do, continue to support CAW by attending our meetings. The next one is Saturday September 13. See you there.

President's Message for September

Welcome to September! It's a great time to find inspiration, tackle new turning projects, sharpen your skills, and connect with fellow members.

August Recap— August was our month off, so no regular meetings—but plenty of activity is coming our way this fall!

September Meeting – Steve Barnard- This month, Steve Barnard will demonstrate his **multi-axis ornament**. Many of you may remember when he brought one last year—it left us all wondering *how on earth did he do that?* Now we'll get to see the full process in action. This will be a fantastic demo to kick off a busy season for the club.

Taste of Falls Church Festival

ACE will host a booth at the **Taste of Falls Church** and has invited us to join them in promoting community education. This is a wonderful chance to showcase both our club and our ACE workshops. September 13, 10 AM–4 PM (same day as our monthly meeting). After Steve's demo, several of us will head over to the festival—feel free to join!

October Meeting & Professional Workshop – Mark Gardner In October, Mark Gardner returns to demonstrate his **Shrink Box** (a variation on the traditional Scandinavian shrink pot). Mark will also lead a **two-day professional workshop, October 9–10**. Registration will open in early September by email. Seats are limited to six—so sign up early!

CAW Website Upgrade—A big thanks to **Jeff Schoolcraft** for leading the upgrade of our website! The new site will be faster, mobile-friendly, and easier to manage.

Congratulations – Patrick O'Brien Named Living Legend

We are proud to share that **Patrick O'Brien** has been named an *Alexandria Living Legend* by the Alexandria Public Library. Patrick was recognized for years of leadership as Library Director and his lasting contributions to the community. Congratulations, Patrick, on this well-deserved honor!

ACE Workshops – Learn, Share, Support.

This month, **Dion Fralick** will teach an ACE workshop on making a **lidded box**. These workshops are a great way to: learn from experienced members, complete a full project in one session, and Support continued access to ACE facilities for meetings, storage, and turning. All materials and tools are provided. Whether you attend or teach, these sessions are a fun and rewarding

CAW Monthly Meetings

CAW's monthly meeting are held the second Saturday of each month (except August and December) at the Pimmit Center. The doors open about 8:00 with a social time. Our meeting begins at 8:30 with show and tell, followed by a quick business meeting. Demonstrations begin at 9:30. Until further notice, our meetings will be limited to a one half day demonstration.

Due to our relationship with The Fairfax County Adult Education Program, members are requested to sign up for the monthly meeting. This allows us to use the facility without charge. To sign up for a meeting, click on the following link:

<https://www.fcpsace.org/>

This link can also be used to sign up for CAW sponsored woodturning classes.



Pimmit Center
Falls Church, Virginia

CAW's Online Look

CAW's web page contains excellent information about CAW programs. It's very attractive and user friendly. You can also use it to pay your dues. It's a great resource for all things woodturning. Check them out:

Website: <https://capwoodturners.org>
 Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/category/Artist/Capital-Area-Woodturners-310034189708779/>

Flickr: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/capwoodturners/albums/with/72157711559707478>



More Ways to Support CAW

CAW now accepts donations, \$10 and up, on our website from anyone who wishes to contribute. Anyone donating \$100 or more gets a free CAW Polo from the color choices. The donations are through PayPal, however, you don't need to

have a PayPal account or be a member of CAW as anyone can checkout as a guest using a credit card.

Donations in Kind

Donations to CAW don't have to be money. If you would like to donate tools,

equipment or materials. These items can be sold to our members and the funds used to support CAW. So, the next time you're in the shop and see items you don't need anymore, bring them in. Bring in pieces of wood you have harvested. Someone will want it and you'll help CAW.

President’s Message (continued)

way to stay engaged.

ACE Website – New Platform

ACE has launched a new, user-friendly website.

Visit fcpsace.org to:: Create a new login (email + password), Register for workshops and events, and Explore the schedule through year’s end

Monthly Meetings

- **September:** Steve Barnard – Multi-Axis Ornaments
- **October:** Mark Gardner – Shrink boxes – 2day Workshop
- **November:** George Jones – What if?
- **December:** Holiday Party

Upcoming Workshops

ACE Workshops(4–8 PM)

- **September 17:** Turned Box - Dion Fralick
- **October 15:** Holiday Ornament – Steve Barnard
- **November 19:** Platter – Tom Huber
- **December 17–** Simple projects for Holiday gifts

Register early at fcpsace.org. If your plans change, no need to cancel—just come if you can! Questions? Call **703-658-1201**

Membership Renewal

It’s time to renew your **2025 membership!** Your support ensures continued access to demos, workshops, and club activities.

Join or renew at capwoodturners.org

Final Thoughts

I’m looking forward to seeing everyone at Open Turning! Until then—keep turning, keep learning, and enjoy the process.

Happy (and safe) turning,

Ben Johnson,

President, Capital Area Woodturners



It’s that time of year again...

2025 Demonstration and Workshop Schedule

August: No Meeting

August 13 Open turning

September 13— Steve Barnard— multi axis ornaments

September 17 -Open Turning—Pimmit Center

October 11– `Mark Gardner- shrink boxes

Oct 9-10 workshop

Oct 15 Open Turning— Pimmit Center

November 8– George Jones What if?

Nov 19—Open Turning Pimmit

December 13– CAW Holiday Party

(No Open Turning)



September– Fall begins

There are only two times of the year when the Earth's axis is tilted neither toward nor away from the sun, resulting in a "nearly" equal amount of daylight and darkness at all latitudes. These events are referred to as Equinoxes. The word equinox is derived from two Latin words - *aequus* (equal) and *nox* (night). At the equator, the sun is directly overhead at noon on these two equinoxes. The "nearly" equal hours of day and night are due to refraction of sunlight or a bending of the light's rays that causes the sun to appear above the horizon when the actual position of the sun is below the horizon. Additionally, the days become a little longer at the higher latitudes (those at a distance from the equator) because it takes the sun longer to rise and set. Therefore, on the equinox and for several days before and after the equinox, the length of day will range from about 12 hours and six and one-half minutes at the equator, to 12 hours and 8 minutes at 30 degrees latitude, to 12 hours and 16 minutes at 60 degrees latitude. Normally the equinox falls around the 21st of the month. But it can be a few days after.

During this time of the year, there are dramatic changes in the Northern hemisphere. Leaves begin to change; temperatures become cooler, and animals begin migrations. Some of the most dramatic of all of these events are the annual runs of various kinds of fish including sardines, anchovies, herring, shad, menhaden, alewives, and most dramatically, salmon. The annual spawning run of salmon is a major event in the Pacific Northwest. However, salmon are found in both the Atlantic and Pacific oceans and their spawning runs are extremely important to the ecologies of the animals and plants of the spawning grounds.

Salmon are typically anadromous: they hatch in the shallow gravel beds of freshwater headstreams and spend their juvenile years in rivers, lakes and freshwater wetlands, migrate to the ocean as adults and live like sea fish, then return to their freshwater birthplace to reproduce. Salmon can make amazing journeys, sometimes moving hundreds of miles upstream against strong currents and rapids to reproduce. Chinook and sockeye salmon from central Idaho, for example, travel over 900 miles and climb nearly 7,000 feet from the Pacific Ocean as they return to spawn.

Most of the salmon in stores is commercially raised in fish farms. While the wild version is often considered to have better flavor, well managed commercially raised fish are sustainable, healthy, and have a very high quality. Salmon is a great source for lean protein and is high in various omega 3 fatty acids that are an excellent source of vitamin D and other important nutrients. Salmon is easy to cook and has a mild flavor that most people enjoy. Even canned salmon is a good alternative with all fresh salmon's benefits.

Baked Salmon with Honey– Miso glaze

This baked salmon recipe is ready in about 30 minutes

Set oven to 350 degrees. Lightly oil a glass or aluminum baking dish

1 portion of center cut salmon 12– 16 ounces 4 Tablespoons of white miso

2 Tablespoons of honey. 2 crushed garlic cloves or 2 teaspoons garlic powder

Place miso in a small bowl and add 1 tablespoon water. Beat until smooth; add garlic and honey and mix. Place the salmon on the oiled dish. Cover with miso glaze. Bake 20-25 minutes. Reserve a little glaze for the last 5 minutes of baking. (If you want to eat the salmon skin, be sure the skin is scaled before baking.) Let salmon rest 5-10 minutes; slice and serve.

Salmon Patties

This dish came into its own during the Depression. It's a classic

1 12 oz can of salmon 1/2 cup breadcrumbs 1 tablespoon onion powder

1 teaspoon garlic powder 1/4 cup chopped parsley or 2 Tablespoons dried parsley

1 beaten egg salt and pepper to taste.

Combine all the ingredients and let rest in the refrigerator for 30 minutes. Form into patties; it should make about 8. Lightly fry in oil until golden brown on each side. Serve with tartar sauce, ketchup, or cocktail sauce. Leftovers make great sandwiches.

Smoked Salmon Spread (great for bagels, toast or a dip)

1 12 oz can of salmon 1 block of cream cheese 1 teaspoon garlic powder

1 Tablespoon onion powder 1 Tablespoon Worcestershire sauce

1 Tablespoon hot sauce 1 Tablespoon Wright's smoke flavoring salt to taste

Allow the cream cheese to come to room temperature. Add the salmon broken into pieces and all the other ingredients. Mix until you have a smooth mixture. Refrigerate.

Trees we Turn— Indonesia

If one travels north from Australia, they will encounter the great archipelago of Indonesia. This area in Southeast Asia and Oceania, lies between the Indian and Pacific oceans, and comprises over 17,000 islands, including Sumatra, Java, Sulawesi, and parts of Borneo and New Guinea. Indonesia is the world's largest archipelagic state .

The Indonesian archipelago has been inhabited since the time of *Homo erectus* or "Java Man," with fossils dating back 2 million to 500,000 BCE. Sulawesi and Borneo are home to the world's oldest known cave paintings, dating back 40,000 to 60,000 years . Around 2,000 BCE, Austronesian peoples began arriving in Southeast Asia from the island of Taiwan, gradually displacing native Melanesians to the far eastern part of the archipelago as they spread east,^[25] and would eventually form the majority of Indonesia's modern population. Favorable agricultural conditions and advancements like wet-field rice cultivation by the 8th century BCE enabled the growth of villages and kingdoms by the first century CE. The archipelago's strategic location fostered inter-island and international exchange with civilizations from the Indian subcontinent and mainland China, profoundly influencing Indonesian history and culture through trade.

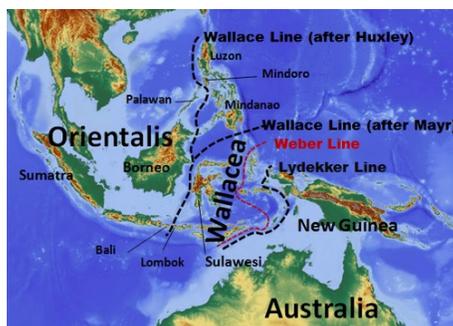
Indonesia features diverse topography, including towering mountains, vast lakes, and extensive river systems. Indonesia's geology is shaped by its position on the Pacific Ring of Fire, a subduction zone where three tectonic plates

collide, namely the Eurasian plate, the Indo-Australian plate, and the Pacific plate. This tectonic activity makes the region highly unstable with volcanoes and earthquakes. Around 130 volcanoes are classified as active, stretching from Sumatra through Java, Bali and the Lesser Sunda Islands, and the Banda Islands to northeastern Sulawesi.

Indonesia hosts one of the world's highest levels of biodiversity due to its tropical climate, large size, and archipelagic geography. The country's flora and fauna include a mix of Asian and Australasian species. The Wallace Line, described by English naturalist Alfred Russel Wallace, marks the biogeographical divide between Asian and Australasian species, with the region between the Wallace and Weber Lines (called Wallacea) hosting unique biodiversity as described in Wallace's 1869 book, *The Malay Archipelago*. Eighty-three percent of Southeast Asia's old-growth forests are located in Indonesia.

The complex biogeography of the Indo-Australian Archipelago is a result of its location at the merging point of four major tectonic plates and other semi-isolated microplates in combination with ancient sea levels. Those caused the isolation of different taxonomic groups on islands at present relatively close to each other. Understanding of the biogeography of the region centers on the relationship of ancient sea levels to the continental shelves.

Wallace's Line is visible geographically when the continental shelf contours are examined. During the Pleistocene, when the ocean levels were up to 400 feet lower, islands became connected, but never uniting Asia with Australia. Consequently, for over 50 million years, deep water between those two large continental shelf areas created a barrier that kept the flora and fauna of Australia separated from those of Asia. It can reasonably be concluded it was an ocean barrier preventing species migration because the physical aspects of the separated islands are very similar.



The distributions of many bird species follow the limits of the line, since many birds do not cross even the shortest stretches of open ocean water. Among mammals, bats have distributions that can cross the line, but larger terrestrial mammals are generally limited to one side or the other. On the Australian side, many species of marsupials are

present, and some monotremes, By contrast, to the Asian side, marsupials are excluded, and placental mammals such as apes, cats, elephants, monkeys, rhinoceroses, and other species are found.

Flora do not follow the Wallace Line to the same extent as fauna, since their colonization events differ in their ability to spread across bodies of water. One genus of plants that does not cross the line is the Australasian genus *Eucalyptus*.

So, the tree species in the Indonesian archipelago were originally derived from cousins on the Asian and Australian mainlands. They remained in contact for the entirety of the Ice Ages. However, once the seas began to rise, these species have been cut off from interactions with mainland Asia and Australia. As a result, when the last Ice Age ended 10,000 to 15,000 years ago. Many of the Indonesian species began to evolve in their own unique ways in their island ecologies. So, while we can see similarities between species, some of the plants and trees of Indonesia have become distinctly their own. We look forward to exploring these unique tree species with you over the next issues of the Capital Area Woodturner's Newsletter.

Pretty Lidded Boxes on

I've always enjoyed making lidded containers on the lathe, but I wished I could make them from green wood, which is such a pleasure to turn quieter, less dusty, more malleable. When I discovered traditional carved Scandinavian shrink pots, which are hollowed-out green branches (with a dry-wood bottom that the container shrinks around as it dries), I realized there was no reason I couldn't turn a shrink box from green wood. Typically, the fact that green wood shrinks and warps as it dries presents a challenge to the turner. But a shrink box takes advantage of the shrinking to lock the bottom of the box in place, and with the lid fitted to the body during drying, the

whole box changes shape together, making for a lid that, when dry, still fits snugly on the body of the box. And to me the slight diamond-shape the square boxes assume as they dry is very appealing.

Preparing the blank

Begin with a log of green wood, the fresher and more recently cut the better. Because you want the box to shrink a fair amount to lock the bottom in place, you don't want a species that's extremely stable. Birch is a good choice, and I've also had success with holly, cherry, and dogwood. I'm using cherry here.

With a chainsaw, cut a few inches off the end of a

Made from green wood, they're bandsawn outside and turned inside

BY MARK GARDNER



the Lathe

log to remove any cracks. Then cut a disc a little more than 8 in. thick from the log and saw it in half right through the pith. At this point, I head into the shop to finish cutting the blank to shape on the bandsaw, making a blank roughly 4 in. or 5 in. square and 8 in. long. The dimensions don't need to be exact since you'll trim the exterior to final shape once the interior has been turned.

To the lathe

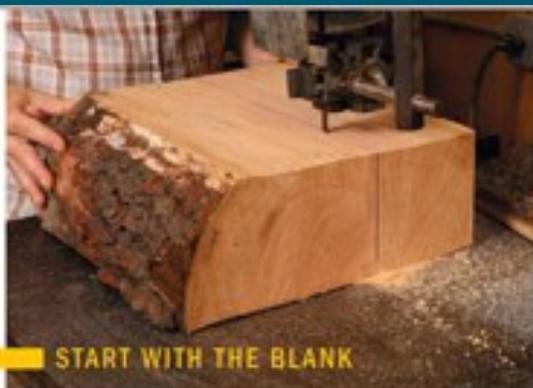
The box gets hollowed out from the bottom, so you need a temporary tenon on the top end. With the blank between centers, use a $\frac{1}{2}$ -in. bowl gouge to turn a tenon to fit a four-jaw chuck. Finish the tenon with a $\frac{3}{8}$ -in. spindle gouge, tapering the sides to a slight dovetail shape.

Remount the blank using the tenon, and turn the bottom end of the blank flat. Then dish out the bottom, making a shallow concavity just wide enough to leave small triangles of wood in the corners—these will be the feet of the box.

Now it's time to begin hollowing the interior. First, draw pencil lines showing where the box's lid will be divided from the base. Then, with a Jacobs chuck in the tailstock, insert a drill bit and bore to a depth just shy of the lid line. I used a 2-in. Forstner bit here, because that was what I had on hand. You could use a larger bit if you like; just be sure it's sharp.



Photos, except where noted, Jonathan Dixon



START WITH THE BLANK

Bandsaw the blank. After chainsawing a slice from a green cherry log, Gardner bandsaws a blank to rough size for turning.



Start with a spigot. With the blank between centers, turn a tenon on its top end (left) to fit a four-jaw chuck (below).



Dish out the underside. Using a $\frac{1}{2}$ -in. bowl gouge, cut a concave recess on the bottom of the blank. Leave wood at the corners, as they will be the feet of the box.

Member's Gallery



Oak bowl in the style of Stuart Furini
Jim Gerding



Shallow walnut bowl

Jim Gerding



Folded bowl
Justin Prevatte



Walnut bowl
Justin Prevatte



Galaxy S22 Ultra



Galaxy S22 Ultra



Galaxy S22 Ultra

Three very different pieces— George Jones



Natural edge bowl in maple
George Jones



Osage Orange sextet from branches
Patrick O'Brien



Three boxwood piece from branch wood
Patrick O'Brien



Beer tap handles
Pete Greene



Walnut weed pot with dried orchid
Gary Guenther



Autumn in Arrowmont platter
Tom Huber



Grampian Woodturners, Aberdeen, Scotland
Courtesy of John Clements



Boxes in the style of Jim Scarsella
Tom Huber



Carved and painted boxes
Tom Huber

ADVANCED AUTO TECH

7075 C Newington Road, Lorton, VA 22079
703-339-5500 / advancedautotech.net

Exclusive CAW Discount

10% off any service or repair*

- Free Loaner Cars
- Courtesy Shuttle
- Brakes
- Tire Sales and Tire Repair
- Fluid Exchanges and Flushes
- Steering and Suspension Repair





**Newsletter Editor
Tom Huber**

thuber829@gmail.com



Monthly Meeting Information –
Pimmit Adult Education Center
Map with driving directions here:

[www.fcps.edu/maps/
pimmit.htm](http://www.fcps.edu/maps/pimmit.htm)



CAW's QR Code

*Capitol Area Woodturners is
a chapter of the American
Association of Woodturners*

Directions To Pimmit Adult School– 7510 Lisle Avenue, Falls Church

From VA or MD, take I-495 towards Tysons
Corner

Take Exit 147A to Route 7 South towards
Falls Church

Immediately get in the left lane and drive ap-
proximately 100 yards on Rt. 7

At the first stop light turn left onto Lisle Ave-
nue. Proceed for about 1 mile. Pimmit Cen-
ter entry is on the left. Turn right into the low-
er parking lot. The entrance to the meeting
rooms is off the back corner of the Pimmit
Center at door number 7.

Contact CAW

President@capwoodturners.org - for all things President

VP@capwoodturners.org - for all things VP

Treasurer@capwoodturners.org - AR/AP for our organization

Secretary@capwoodturners.org - Membership Lists/Update for personal info, Newsletter distribution, vendor discounts

Programs@capwoodturners.org - Organization of yearly meeting schedule for topics, artists, IRD's, etc.

SEW@capwoodturners.org - Organizer for SEW's and Mentor program

Info@capwoodturners.org - default/catch-all for general questions, all things Website, Emails about general items & offers