



**Established 1987**

**First Woodturning Club in New England, AAW #26**

**Next Meeting  
October 6, 2016  
6:30 PM**

**Learn N Turn  
Roger Biosvert  
Angels  
Demonstration  
Alternative Approach to  
Segmenting  
Steve Reznwk**

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**Elections coming  
in November**

**Good Positions  
Available**

**Sign up before  
they're gone**

**President's Message**

The selection of the items for the Arnold Arboretum show was pretty exciting. The items selected for the show really demonstrate the skills and artistic abilities of the club's members. We do have a very talented group of turners! I was particularly pleased to see that this year there are a number of turners who made the cut this year that either did not submit last year or did not make the cut.



On a recent visit to the CNEW website I was once again reminded of all the behind the scenes work that folks do to help the club. Dominic has spent countless hours working on the website and making it both functional and visually pleasing. Month after month Art pulls together the newsletter, adds interesting items from AAW and past chapter newsletters, and works to keep us all informed while Don photographs the Show and Tell items and the demonstrators for the newsletter. Michael manages the library and lugs out our holdings to and from each meeting while Kevin deals with suppliers and maintains the store inventory. Richard always arrives early to open the doors to the church and get the learn and turn up and running while Bob manages the AV equipment. It is clear that without these folks the club could not be what it is. When you see them at the next meeting, thank them.

Random thoughts, if you are going to mix bat guano with warm water, do it in a well-ventilated place, preferably outside and up wind. Worn out 220 grit sandpaper does not make 320 grit sandpaper.

Stay well, *Joe*

**October meeting demonstration:**

The topic for the demo is "an alternative" approach to segmenting.

I will distribute write-ups and sell little kits to make small bowls/plates.

The proceeds will go to Charley

Steve Reznek

## Minutes September 1, 2016 Meeting

**Art Bodwell, Secretary**

Present approx. 35, visitors 4

Arboretum voting night

Demo: Thread Chasing—Eric Holmquist

President: November meeting—voting for officers for next year  
Provided instructions for arboretum voting

Treasurer: Balance \$6363

Learn N Turn: Free wood provided by Mickey Goodman

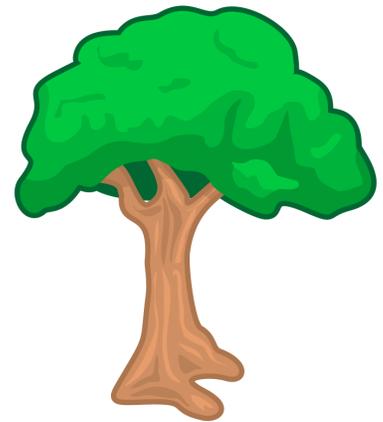
Next month—Angels, by Roger Boisvert

Possible trip to Bad Dog Burls new Connecticut location

Int. VP **Fall craft show at Worcester Center for Crafts Thanksgiving weekend**  
-let Reid know if interested

## Weird and Wonderful Facts About Wood

- Wood is made up of a combination of living, dying, and dead cells.
- "Softwood" & "Hardwood" describe the leaves, seeds & structure of the tree.
- Redwood bark can be as much as two feet thick.
- Softwoods are not always softer than hardwoods.
- Balsa is actually a hardwood!
- The bark of the Cork oak is used for bottle corks and cork flooring.
- Softwoods come from gymnosperm trees (evergreens).
- Hardwoods come from angiosperm trees (deciduous types).
- All wood is biodegradable.
- Wet wood, unlike dry wood, can conduct electricity.
- The Osage Orange tree's wood generates the most heat when burned.
- Hardwood is denser than softwood and burns for longer, with more heat.
- Some ironwoods are so dense that they sink in water.



The world is home to more than 23,000 different kinds of trees.

Trees never die of old age. Insects, diseases and people are usually the killers.

Reprint from Cook Woods

# Arboretum Voting Tough Choices



# Thread Chasing

## Eric Holmquest

Eric offered us an alternative to a slip-fit box lid that has its own elegance and beauty: thread it on!

Of course beauty and elegance sometimes needs skill and Eric got us all started on the right path. Before you start you need to choose the wood and the tools. Each bear consideration.

### Wood:

A soft wood cannot support the cut threads. A fairly hard wood is needed and harder than poplar. It is easier to cut stable threads into a fine grained, diffusely porous and somewhat oily hardwood. Lignum vitae, bloodwood, boxwood and Burmese blackwood (not nearly as expensive as African blackwood) are all good candidates. Eric used Lignum for tonight's project.



If you are determined to use a lighter wood you will need to stabilize it with CA, maybe a \*lot\* of CA. A successful thread chasing into poplar means a little cut, soak, a little cut, soak and repeat.

You might have 90% CA by the time you are done. Guillermo pointed out to all that CA is the woodturner's 'holy water'!

Sugar maple can work with only a little CA, maybe 15% in the end.

Mount the wood along the grain. Side grain is easier to cut but moves too much for a threaded lid. Most hardwoods have comparable enough expansion coefficients. (poplar is not a good one though).

### Sizing:

A 16 TPI thread is about 1/32" from top to bottom. Measure the inner diameter of the mortise and add 1/16 to get the target diameter of the tenon.

Leave at least 1/8" wall thickness in excavating the inside.

Cut 5-6 threads on the mortise and more on the tenon. Later these get cut back to have the lid fit tight with only a couple of turns.



**Tools:**

You need at least male and female cutting tools. There are mostly two major brands Sorby and Mayes & Warwick. Eric prefers the latter and thinks they are similar but M&W a little better steel.

They come in different pitches of threads cut all the way from 10 tpi (threads per inch) to 24 tpi. Eric likes 16 as the best compromise between ease of cutting, stability of the threads and importantly, the depth of the thread. A coarse thread travels horizontally too fast. A fine thread needs very well behaved wood.



The traditionalists could also use an arm brace to support the tool. Eric explained that the historic reason is the lack of a swiveling tool rest in early production lathes. The tool that cuts the mortise (the female threads) has to come in parallel with the bed. If you can't swivel the tool rest you need to support the tool some other way. This is what the brace is for.

Even with a tool rest that moves the brace can make it easier to keep an eye on the tool's alignment with the bed but it is not critical.

You also need a tool to cut a relief space for the thread chaser: This may seem simple but it is very important. When the chaser hits the end of the thread it has to come out easily and quickly. If not, it will destroy the threads you just cut!

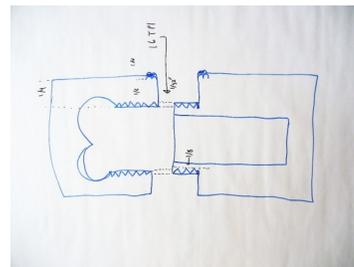
It is possible to sharpen the tools with a light touch of a diamond home. Don't make a burr, just a slight angle to the flat face and draw across.

**Technique:**

Cut the most difficult piece first. You will have to inch up on the final fit, better to do that on an easier cut. Run the lathe at 50rpm, or as slow as you can go steadily to get a crisp cut. For Eric that's the mortise.



Start with the tool at an angle to the wood, not parallel to the ways right off. Once it bites and you start getting thread cutting bring the tool parallel and run it down the tenon. Each pass you cut you want it to engage first, then apply pressure to cut! The tricky part that needs practice is that change.



*Article by Dominic Ryan*

## WOOD SWAP WOOD

Ah yes, the first day of Autumn. Sunshine, blue skies, crisp air.

The perfect day for cutting wood . So on Thursday September 22<sup>nd</sup> 6 CNEW members converged on a woodlot in Clinton, MA to get wood for the wood swap. We met at 9am and went to work.

What started out as a perfect fall day quickly warmed up to an OH MY GOD IT'S HOT day. But work on we did, and after a couple hours of cutting and rolling and splitting and sealing and stacking and loading we finally had enough wood loaded on the pickups to supply the club wood swap for a few months.

Although there is no photographic evidence of this adventure, I assure you we busted tail. So after all this what better way to unwind than with a cup of HOT coffee at Dunkin Donuts. I would like to give a huge thank you to Ron Despres , Michael Peters, Jim Brennen, Karl Nelson and Richard Hunt for all their help in collecting the wood. Now all you need to do is buy some raffle tickets at the monthly meetings and show support for the club. Who knows, maybe you might win a nice piece of cherry or maple.

Happy Turning, Mike Smith



## Association of Revolutionary Turners

ART is hosting Stuart Batty for a demo at the Woodcraft in Woburn on November 12, 2016, exact hours

to be determined later. Cost is \$30 and includes a pizza and soda lunch. You can sign up on line at <http://mkt.com/revolutionary-turners>. If you sign up through that link look for "additional information for the merchant" tab and enter our club affiliation. Any questions or issues contact Duncan Suss at [duncan8r@gmail.com](mailto:duncan8r@gmail.com). Stuart is a great teacher and focuses on tool technique (stance, balance, tool position, body movement, etc.). Not sure if he will be covering technique exclusively but even if he only addresses it briefly it will be well worth it.

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Central New England Woodturners

A Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners



**Officers for 2016**

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- Videographer:** Bob Pacini, Holliston, MA 508-429-7759, rpcpo78@msn.com
- Club Store Manager:** Kevin Nee, W. Boylston MA 508-835-4301, kpni@charter.net
- Big Name Demo Coord:** Rick Angus, Moosup, CT 860-564-3660, rick.angus@gmail.com
- Club Project Coord:** Steve Reznek, Concord MA 978-287-4821, stevenreznek@gmail.com
- Membership:** Steve Reznek, Concord MA 978-287-4821, stevenreznek@gmail.com



**Membership**

To join or renew membership, please complete the form below and a check made payable to CNEW and bring it to a CNEW meeting, or pay

online at the CNEW website under "join/renew" or mail to: Treasurer, Central New England Woodturners

c/o Todd Heino, 148 Howe St, Natick, MA 01760

**Membership Application**

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Treasurer, Central New England Woodturners

c/o Todd Heino  
148 Howe Street  
Natick, MA 01760

Annual dues: \$40 including e-mail delivery of newsletter

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e-Mail Newsletter (\$40.00)

Please let us know of your interests:

How long have you been turning? \_\_\_\_\_

What programs would you like to see at meetings? \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like to demonstrate at a meeting? Yes/No If so, what topics do you offer? \_\_\_\_\_