



## February 2025 Newsletter

Hope everyone is staying warm  
making shavings!



## Upcoming Events at the Workshop

- Club Meeting - Wednesday February 19th 6:00pm
  - Brad Vietje will demonstrate some spindle turning techniques while making a new gavel for the club
- Workshop - Open Mentoring Session, Wednesday March 5 - 6:00-9:00pm
- Totally Turning Symposium - March 29 & 30 - Saratoga Springs, NY
- Woodturning Safety Checklist
- **Club Dues are due - \$40 by April 1 to be eligible for club discounts**

# Show and Tell



Candid pictures from the meeting



# January Demo by Adam Wager

Repairing Cracks in pieces

Adam Wager did a demo on repairing cracks in woodturned pieces; below are some pictures of the demo along with his notes or outline of what he presented. <http://woodchucksvt.org/wp-content/uploads/Adam-Wager-Repairing-Cracks.pdf>







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### **Our Work Endures By Gary Walz**

Many times artists and craftspeople never know where their work may end up or whose life it may touch. I recently saw a listing on Facebook Marketplace for a wooden bowl. The first image was the bottom of a bowl signed by “D Edwards Smith”. The bowl was listed for \$ 20.

I immediately contacted the seller. My idea was to put the bowl up in a raffle for club members to benefit the club. Unfortunately, the seller let me know that someone had already made arrangements to come and get it, but she would let me know if the deal fell through. I thanked her, and asked if she could pass on a little background about Edwards and what he has meant to the wood turning community over the years.

She let me know the next day that the person had come to get the bowl and that she passed my information on to her. As it turned out, it was a fellow former Vermont Hand Crafter member (someone I actually know) who had done shows with Edwards and loved his work but couldn't afford to buy one of his bowls, so she was thrilled when this one came up for sale.

The seller also shared the story of how she got the bowl in the first place. She had a tree come down on her property, and put it out on FB Marketplace. Edwards jumped on it and came and got the wood. In return, he brought her this hollow form a few weeks later as a thank you.



## Totally Turning Symposium

Totally Turning, the largest woodturning symposium in this region, is coming to Saratoga Springs, New York. This year's event will be held March 29-30, 2025 at the Saratoga Springs City Center.

Last year about four members attended. Comments about last year's event were great (except for the snowfall!) and we hope more members can make it this year.

The two-day symposium, presented by the Adirondack Woodturners Association, includes 48 woodturning-based demonstrations by national, international and regional demonstrators in six newly upgraded demonstration rooms (four rotations each day in each room). For complete information — presenters, exhibitors, registration, lodging — visit the organization's website at [woodworker.org](https://woodworker.org)

<https://woodworker.org/about-totally-turning/>

International/national presenters this year include: Kirk DeHeer, Jim Echter, Kristin Levier, Art Liestman and Keith Tompkins

Regional presenters include: Rick Angus, Stan Blanchard, Rich D'Ambrosio, Todd Gunter, Ray Puffer

The Totally Turning Symposium is held concurrently with the NWA's Annual Woodworkers Showcase in Saratoga Springs NY. When you register for Totally Turning, you have access to both shows and everything they offer. The event site will be the Saratoga Springs City Center which is part of the Saratoga Hilton. As in past years, there will be plenty of great demonstrations, an instant gallery, a trade show, and more.

If you are planning on attending, reply to this email with your name, email and cellphone number. We'll try to gather members together the evening of March 29 for dinner. If you have questions about the event, ask Gary Walz who attended last year. As a list develops we can discuss ridesharing, etc.

## Woodturning Safety Checklist

### 1. Prepare the turning blank

When preparing a turning blank for mounting on the lathe, inspect it for cracks, splits, bark inclusions, knots, or irregular shapes that could result in separation of the blank into flying fragments or chunks as it spins on the lathe.

### 2. Mounting the blank on the lathe

Make sure that the method you use to mount the blank on the lathe is appropriate and provides the necessary security for the size, shape and weight of the blank.

### 3. Live center for security

Use a live center in the tailstock for added security whenever conditions allow.

### 4. Lathe locking devices

Check that all locking levers on the tailstock, the toolrest and the toolrest base are tight and that any index locking device is disengaged.

### 5. Rotation interference

Rotate the wood blank by hand after mounting it on the lathe to ensure that there is no interference.

### 6. Tools

Select the appropriate tool for the operation that is to be performed (e.g., never, ever, attempt to use a roughing gouge on a bowl). Sharpen the tool! Gouges, skews and such must be essentially razor sharp. You may have to frequently sharpen/hone the tool as turning progresses.

### 7. Face and eye protection

Face and eye protection are mandatory. A full face shield meeting or exceeding ANSI A87.1 is best. As a minimum, safety goggles or safety glasses with side shields should be used.

## 8. **Lung protection**

Protect your lungs. Collection of wood dust at the source through a hood connected to a dust collector, by an overhead room air cleaner, or both, are good aids in protecting your lungs; but, they do not do the full job. A dust mask meeting or exceeding the NIOSH N95 standards is highly recommended.

## 9. **Hearing protection**

Hearing protection may be needed in some circumstances, particularly during long turning sessions.

## 10. **Dress**

Make sure that shirtsleeves, long hair, etc., cannot catch on the spinning wood or lathe parts.

## 11. **Chuck key, wrenches, index lock**

Make sure that chuck key, wrenches, etc., are removed and that the index locking device is disengaged before turning on the lathe.

## 12. **Lathe speed**

Check and adjust the lathe speed before turning on the lathe. Start at a slow speed for large or unbalanced blanks and incrementally increase the speed as the blank is trued up and comes into balance.

## 13. **Standing at the lathe**

Stand to the side of the project blank, not behind or in front of it, when turning on the lathe. This applies to spectators as well as the turner. Be ready to switch the lathe off immediately in case of emergency.

## 14. **A-B-C rule**

Engage the gouge or skew with the wood, keeping in mind the A-B-C rule:

A- Anchor; first, anchor the tool on the tool rest

B- Bevel; second, rub the bevel against the wood

C- Cut; start the cut by rotating and/ or lifting the tool handle as appropriate for the tool

## 15. **Toolrest adjustment**

Always turn the lathe off before adjusting the toolrest.

## 16. **Tool reach**

Do not overreach the tool beyond the toolrest. The distance from the end of a turning tool handle to the toolrest must be at least five times the distance from the toolrest to the tip of the tool. For example, for a gouge reaching 3 inches beyond the toolrest the tool handle should extend a minimum of 15 inches out from the toolrest.

## 17. **Safe footing**

Maintain proper footing and balance. Keep the floor clear of wood dust and shavings under your feet to avoid slipping.

## 18. **Stay alert**

Pay close attention to unusual sounds or vibrations while turning. For example, sometimes a live center will become loose (i.e., lose its grip on the wood blank) and emit a squeal or allow the wood to vibrate.

## 19. **Turner limitations**

Know and acknowledge your capabilities and limitations. If you are unsure or uneasy about performing a certain operation at the lathe, then stop and call a

more experienced turner friend for advice.

## Note

This checklist is not intended to be a comprehensive list of safety considerations for wood turners. Please use the AAW Lathe Safety Guidelines (<http://woodturner.org/resources/safety.htm>) and other sources of woodturning safety tips for more information.

# February 2025 Treasurer's Report

## Edwards FEBRUARY 2025 Treasurer's Report

**Bank Balance forward** 10,194.30

### INCOME

Dues	720.00
Raffle	85.00
Class	40.00
	<hr/>
	845.00

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**EXPENSES** Shop tools 116.39

**Bank Balance ending** 10,922.91

As a result of ongoing expenses to support the Russ Fellows Woodturning Shop, it was necessary to increase the annual dues to \$45 for 2025.

The Board of Directors of the Vermont Woodturners Guild gratefully acknowledges the payment of dues from the following members for **2025**:

Steve Chamberlin, Janet Collins, Bill Currier, George Disney, Bruce Dumelin, Michael Dunbar, Tom Dunne, Cheryl Ferry, David Ferry, Joe Gaines, Helen Hamilton, Damon Hartman, Brad Jackson, Donna LaPerle, Larkin, Luc Lefebvre, Chris Lumbra, Bob Martin, Ross Mitchel, Harvey Porter, Michael Sarvak, Kathy Sarvak, Edwards Smith, Melissa Southwick, Temir Stier, Marilyn Stolberg, Andrew Vogelmann, Adam Wager, Fred Walters (29)

Scott Bennett, Bob Coates, Ted Fink, Michael Mode, Dick Montague, Nick Rosato, Hav Smith, Army Spahn, and

Al Stirt are Honorary Lifetime members (9)

If you have paid your dues for the 2025 year but do not see your name listed above, please contact me at [BradJackson234@gmail.com](mailto:BradJackson234@gmail.com) to correct that error of omission. Dues for 2025 are \$45. Checks should be made out to "VWG" and sent to: Brad Jackson, 14 Rustic Drive, Essex, VT 05452

Please note: The following privileges are only available to dues-paying members:

Video library use, mentoring program, bulk purchase discounts for CA glue and Anchor Seal.

10% discount on purchases from Klingspor, Penn State Industries, Rare Woods USA,

WoodTurnersWonders, and Craft Supplies.

Klingspor requests you login **before** you order.

PSI requests you mention the club.

Rare Woods USA requests you order using coupon code WOODCHUCKSROCK or mention the club.

Woodturnerswonders requires the individual member to create an account at [woodturnerswonders.com](http://woodturnerswonders.com) and then send an email to [members@woodturnerswonders.com](mailto:members@woodturnerswonders.com). They should include their name as well as the name of the club in which they are a member. Woodturnerswonders will then add the discount to their account and send them an email explaining the next steps. This will give them a 10% discount on Lamps, Sandpaper, and Sanding Accessories.

Craft Supplies gives Club members 10% off abrasive discs and finishes when ordering as an individual.

They just need to call in the order and mention their membership when ordering those products.

*Reminder: As previously advertised, unless you have paid your annual dues by April 1st your name must be removed from the discount list.*

**Brad Jackson/Treasurer**

Happy Turning, hope to see everyone this Wednesday at the club meeting;  
6:00to 8:00pm at the Russ Fellows Woodturning Center!

## Vermont Woodturners Guild

Skunk Hollow Studios, 05482, Shelburne

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