

May 2022

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of  
***OTOW Woodshop***

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## *This Issue:*

Welcome to the ***OTOW Woodshop Quarterly.***

We are excited to bring you information about the OTOW Woodshop facility and activities.  
Our plan for this and subsequent issues is to use the following format:

- Comments from club President & Club Secretary
- Shop activity
- Shop Demonstration and Information (videos/classes)
- Sounding Board—Feedback from our members
- Woodshop tip—"how to do it tip"
- Featured Project/Article—Highlight club members project/activity

This is a work-in-process publication for our membership— we look forward to any comments and/or suggestions, you may have. Please use the "Contact Us" page

***Our Featured Project in this issue— "Ye Olde Woodturner"***

by John Meta

who admits he is a member of Turners Anonymous .

*Publishing team:  
Ed Casper & Ed Glynn*

*Board meetings are held  
Monthly  
on the third Monday  
@ 3:00 pm  
meeting room adjacent to the woodshop  
all Woodshop members are invited to attend*

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## *Message from the Woodshop President*



The biggest news this issue is probably the Shop upgrades we've effected.

1. The new sign-in kiosk is installed.

There are still a few tweaks, but it is functional. It will allow us to better organize and store our supplies, but most importantly, it provides a more organized way to present member info notices, the bulletin and white boards.

2. We have a new miter saw!

3. The Board has approved the purchase of a new midi lathe to replace the current mini. Look for it to be installed in the next quarter.

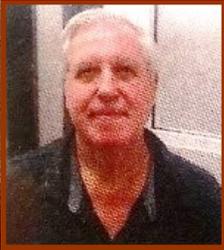
4. We are also in the midst of a survey to identify the dust generating machines in the Shop and assess the efficiency of our dust collection systems so we can try to improve air quality. This will be an ongoing effort, so don't expect overnight changes.

You can do your part by ensuring that the cyclones are running and the proper gates are open when using our machines.

Bob Wilkes,  
President

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## ***Message from the Woodshop Secretary***



Greetings!

Helping get information to you in a timely fashion is always at the top of my list of things to do. We've made a number of changes over the last few months and it would be good to know how effective they have been and if they can be improved in any way. Items like putting forms and sign-out logs in one place as well as implementing a calendar that provides the ability for members to directly sign-up for an event.

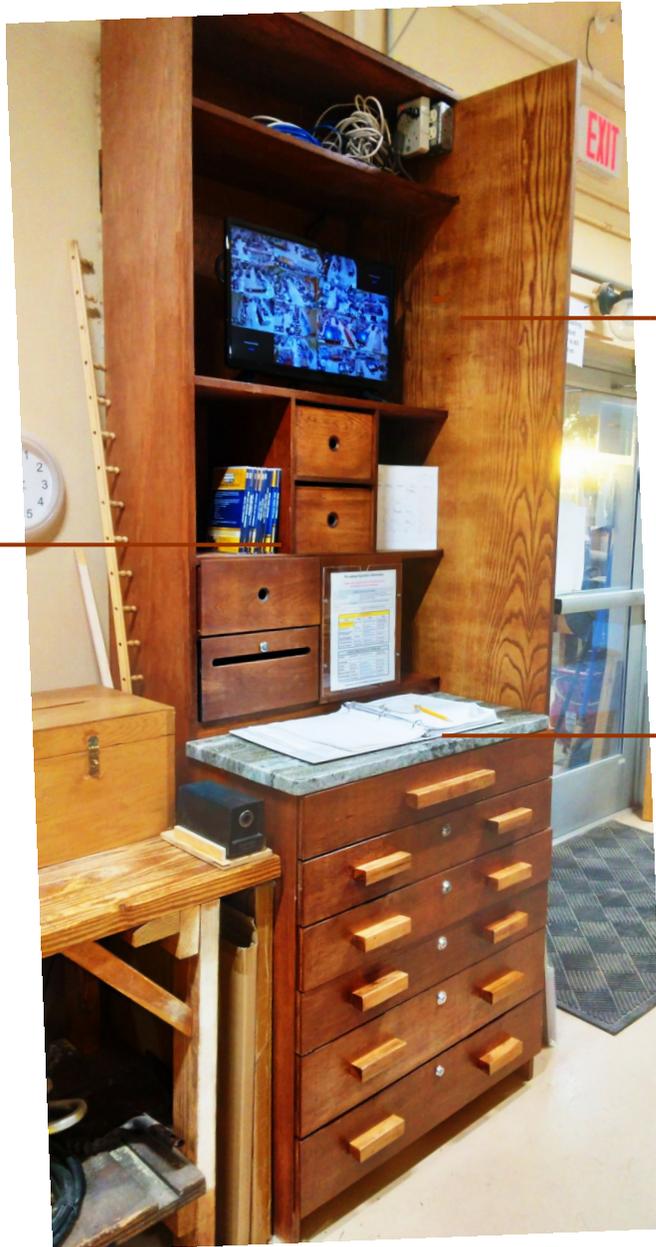
We are also putting the final touches on the new woodshop kiosk that not only gives us some more storage space but also helps consolidate communications materials. Thanks go to Dave Keitz for spearheading the build process!!!

If you have questions or comments on the above or anything else, please send them to [otowoodshopsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:otowoodshopsecretary@gmail.com)

Robert Oddo  
Secretary

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**Woodshops  
New  
Sign-In Kiosk**



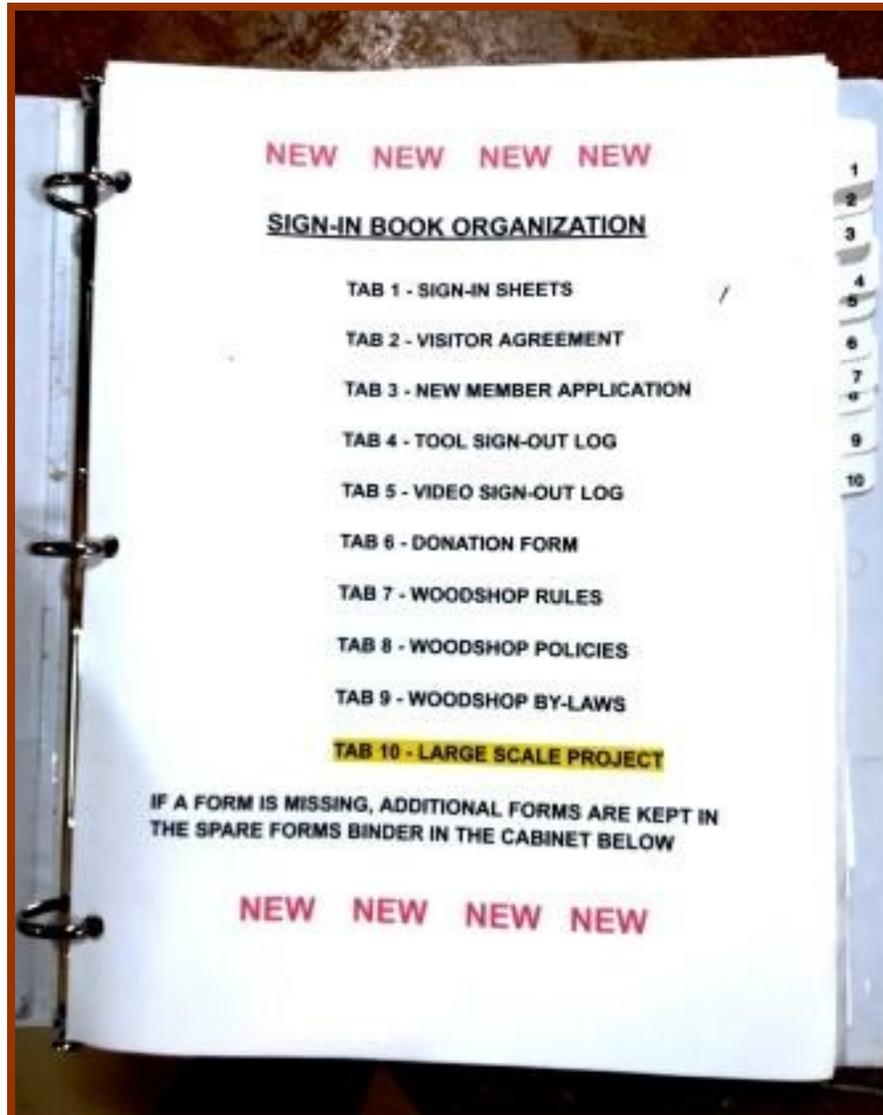
**Shop's CD  
Library**

**Shop's Video  
Camera images**

**New  
Sign-In Book**

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***The New Sign-in Book***  
***Located on the New sign-in kiosk***



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**This new book contains everything**  
**from *Sign-in sheets* to the shops *Rules and Regulations*.**

**Check it out the next time you visit the shop.**

## ***Sounding Board:***

### ***Member feedback***

*(Suggestions/recommendations submitted by club members)*

In my shop I often use all three common measurement systems being Imperial fraction, imperial digital and metric. I have the DRO on the table saw and planer set to imperial digital, and usually work with the micrometer in that mode as well, but I don't have engineering tapes and rulers so back to old Imperial fractions.

So rather than digging out my phone or calculator each time I need to flip back and forth I made this one page (both sides) cheat sheet.

If the powers that be think others in the shop might find this useful you might consider including in the next news letter.

I've included an Excel XLS file (I intentionally chose the older version of Excel files to make it more universally available on older Excel versions as well as Open office and LibreOffice). Feel free to modify and certainly correct if desired.

If this is thought to be a dumb idea I won't be offended. Having been married to the same woman for over 40 years and with three Daughters it won't be the first time I was accused of having a dumb idea.

Happy woodworking  
George Nebel

(editors note DRO is Digital ReadOut)

**[Click here for George's metric tables](#)**

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***Do you have suggestions/recommendations  
you would like to share with other?***

***If so:***

***Please use the "Contact Us" page of this website.***

## **Shop Education** (Classes/Videos)



**David Keitz**  
**Education Chairman**

**A few Smart Shop Tips and three new informational videos** were added to the website in the last several weeks. Members are encouraged to view the many videos on the website whether they are new to woodworking or not. Twelve of the 22 videos on the website were made in our shop with our equipment so no extrapolation or translation of details is needed. Those that have viewed videos posted on the website have reported that they were very helpful, so take advantage of them.

**Lathe sessions** were successfully completed with eight members completing their first spindle and face turning pieces. There were four instructors, and all four shop lathes were used in six weekly sessions of two and a half to three hours each. These sessions will likely be held again starting in late August. Thanks to the instructors and congratulations to the attendees.

If the **SawStop table saw** is new to you, and the brief information in your shop general orientation session did not leave you feeling comfortable using the saw, you should attend one of the regularly scheduled sessions.

If you had an orientation but have not used the saw to reinforce what you learned, you may want to attend another session before you use it.

Experienced woodworkers attending an orientation session have said the saw is different in the details and felt it was worth knowing those details.

To sign up for an orientation session, use the Shop Events Calendar on the shop website.

**The Shop Events Calendar** is on the website under the 'Calendar'

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tab. The SawStop sessions are offered every other Wednesday from 3:30 to 4:30 (or so, depending on questions and practicing time spent). Any member who wants to be more familiar with the capabilities of these great machines and discover safe and easy ways to do common cuts, and use the accessories, should sign up for a session. Go to [otowwoodshop.com](http://otowwoodshop.com), click the Calendar tab, pick the session you want, click it, and sign up.

**Special educational sessions** will be curtailed for a while as schedules of members and instructors are more difficult to mesh during the most active months of the year. If you are wanting to use some machine or make some kind of cut or other operation you are not sure of, call me (804 304 8683) and I will help you find suggestions of experienced members to improve your chances of being safely successful. Starting in late summer, orientation sessions for most of the major equipment and jigs in the shop will be scheduled and publicized to the membership.

***Here's an opportunity to give back  
to the OTOW Woodshop  
Join a cleaning and maintenance team today. It's easy and fun.  
Every Thursday from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm a team will completely  
clean the shop from top to bottom. Stop in the shop  
and add your name to the white board  
posted by the entry door and set yourself  
up to be a part of what makes this shop  
one of the best in this state.***

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***or just show-up on any Thursday***



# Your Shop Safety

Woodworking can be a dangerous hobby. By following a few common sense rules, you can decrease the risk of serious injury. Develop the habit of using the following pieces of safety equipment from the start, and you'll never want to work without them.

**Remember—the greatest risk of injury is your immediate work area!**

## Safety Glasses



Safety Glasses are the most important piece of safety equipment. There are many styles of safety glasses, but all share the same features, namely impact resistant lenses, and side screens to protect against dust and debris created by [power tools](#).

## Hearing Protection



When working with loud power tools and machinery such as [routers](#), surface planers, and joiners, it is wise to wear hearing protection. There are two common types: expandable ear plugs and ear muffs. Ear Muffs tend to provide slightly better protection, but can be very wieldy and cumbersome. Consistent use of hearing protection will help protect you from long-term hearing loss.

## Respirators and Face Masks

[Sanders](#), routers, and other power tools can generate a lot of dust. When using these tools, it is a good idea to wear a dust mask, to keep these fine particles from entering your lungs. When spraying varnish or paint, a respirator is a better choice, to protect you from any harmful effects of using these chemicals.



## Face Shield



When using a [lathe](#), you'll likely generate a lot of flying chips. In addition to using your safety glasses, a clear full-face shield is a good idea. The shield is comfortable, can be flipped up when not needed, and will keep most of the flying chips away from your face.

## Proper Clothing

When working with power tools, you should always wear proper clothing. As such, you should never wear loose fitting clothing. Comfortable, long-sleeved shirts and long pants combined with good steel-toed work shoes will each provide a layer of protection. However, loose articles of clothing can easily become entangled in a power tool which can be very dangerous. A shop apron is also advisable at times, particularly when using a lathe.

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# *Woodshop Tip for the quarter*

## *16x32 Jet Drum Sander*



### *Don'ts and Do's*

- Don't** run painted lumber
- Don't** run soft wood
- Don't** run finished lumber
- Don't** run with dust vent closed

**Do** watch OTOW's Drum Sander video  
(the video was created in our woodshop)

The video discusses:

- Sanding on steroids
- When to use the planner instead of the drum sander
- Best way to adjust sanding depth
- Why rotate project while sanding
- When to use the Eraser
- Planning up to 32" project
- Glued-up projects

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[Click here to watch the video](#)

# ***Featured project***

*Contributed by John Meka*

## ***Ye Olde Woodturner***

There are two kinds of members in the OTOW Woodshop Club, those of us who are woodturners and those that want to be woodturners. When I attend my Turners Anonymous meetings, I have to stand up and proclaim with conviction, "I am a turner".

No matter how old you are or how much experience you have turning, we are all new to woodturning. Let me explain...

The origin of turning dates to around 1300 B.C. when the Egyptians first developed a two-person lathe. One person would turn the work piece with a rope while the other used a sharp tool to cut shapes in the wood. The Romans improved the Egyptian design with the addition of a turning bow. In the Middle Ages a pedal replaced hand-operated turning, freeing both the craftsman's hands to hold the woodturning tools. Spring pole lathes were in common use well into the early 20th Century.

During the industrial revolution the lathe was motorized, allowing wooden turned items to be created in less time. The motor also produced a greater rotational speed, making it easier to quickly produce high quality work. Today most commercial lathes are computer-operated allowing for mass-production that can be created with accurate precision and without the cost of employing craftsmen. Yes, it is becoming a dying art.

I have been studying woodturning under the tutorage of David Keitz for the past four years minus the Covid-19 lockdown period. It cannot be conveyed on paper, the amount of enjoyment, relaxation, and sense of pride that producing a useful or artisan object by hand can provide.

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Featured project continued



The majority of my turning has been bowls, here the picture shows the progression of my work from the practice piece of pine, to cherry, spalted ash? and finally black walnut.

This winter (January - March), OTOW Woodshop offered the six week long Woodshop Turners Program. Led by David Keitz, Mike Custard, Steve Warren, and myself, the sessions covered basic spindle and face turning beginning with wood selection and ending with finishing options. Eight club members participated in the sessions and were able to take home a vase and a bowl. The purpose of this program is:

***"To promote the craft of woodturning by developing safe and creative turners through knowledge, skill and attitude".***

The attitude at the sessions was:

***SAFETY FIRST, LAST, and ALWAYS.***

Due to the favorable response, the program will be offered this Fall again with a limited number of positions available. If you are one that wants to be a woodturner, look for the announcement later this year.

Let's make some bowls,  
John Meka

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***For more information  
about the shop***

*Check out the rest  
of the website.*

*questions/comments/  
suggested topics/ projects etc  
send them to us via the  
**"Contact Us"**  
page of this website*

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*(Important—Please include your phone number along with your name)*