



Space Coast Woodturners

Minutes/Newsletter of Space Coast Woodturners – January 10, 2018

Submitted by Randy Hardy – Secretary

Just a reminder – the meetings are held on the **second Wednesday** of the month from 7:00 – 9:00 PM and the hands-on sessions are held on the **third Saturday** of the month from 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM at Melbourne Village. Doors will be open at around 8:00 AM so come early and help set up. We always need extra help with the lathes, etc.

President: Russ Bremmer opened the meeting at 7:00 PM. He welcomed everyone and asked if there were any visitors. There were six – Mike Goode, Tim Mehling, Len Karas, Richard Jackson Alan Weber, & Dan Fulton. Mike Goode, Tim Mehling, & Alan Weber joined as new members.

Gene Cross is the demonstrator tonight - the topic is bottom turning.

The hands-on workshop will be Saturday, January 20, 2018 – making pens is the topic,. There will be experienced tuners to help, if needed. The club owns some pen mandrels, but bring 'em if you got 'em. Please bring tools & safety gear. Tools will be available if needed.

Vice President: Vacant - We still don't have one. .One of the primary tasks for the vice president is to select & organize a presenter for the monthly meetings.

Treasurer: Reenie Pirjevec – She is accepting dues for this year - \$25 for individual, \$30 for family membership.

Secretary: Randy Hardy – Four things -

1, Wood alerts – we have a mailing list that will be sent to any member interested when we are notified of any free wood. If a pile of wood is available (usually from a neighbor cutting down a tree), send the address, the type of wood, & a picture (if possible) to me & I will send an email to everyone on the wood alert list. If you would like to be added to the list, just send me an email.

2. The American Association of Woodturners (AAW) has a special membership offer for anyone who has never been an AAW member. You can join for 3 months for \$20 to see if you like it. You get one American Woodturner magazine mailed to you, access to the magazine archive, Woodturning FUNdamentals, Explore!, AAW Connects, & AAW forum. After 3 months, you can join for the remainder of the year for an additional \$40. I recently went to the AAW website & they have changed the offer to free for 60 days. If you're interested, go to the AAW website (<http://www.woodturner.org/>) to see the details.

3. I put together a spreadsheet listing all of the equipment that SCWT owns (lathes, chucks, projectors, cameras, etc,) & sent copies to the club officers,

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4. I'd like to set up a "tool library" of tools that you only need occasionally or would like to try before you buy. The idea is the club would buy the tool initially but would be reimbursed for the cost through demonstration fees, tool rental fees, & donations. The plan is to make the tool purchases "revenue neutral", There are lots of issues that need to be worked out, like liability, collateral, training, & tool rental fees, Also, selection of the 1st tool to try. Candidates include:

- A, Coring tool – make multiple bowl blanks from a single piece of wood
- B. Fluting tool – embellish the outside surfaces of vessels with a router
- C. Sphere jig/threading jig – make spheres or threads

Contact Randy Hardy by email if you're interested in being on a committee to work through these issues and select the 1st tool or send your ideas via email.

Supplies: Rick DeTorre – Rick takes orders for Craft Supply from all the wood turning clubs – we get a 10% discount & don't have to pay tax or shipping & may get quantity discounts.

The Christmas party was a big success thanks to Mike Frazier's efforts – Thanks, Mike!

Show & Tell

Russ Bremmer	Inside-out ornament to commemorate his mother, made out of cherry
Mike Goode	Two yarn bowls – cedar & maple
Gary Christensen	Cane One piece salt & pepper shaker out of poplar
John Conway	Spalted pecan bowl Gumbo limbo bowl
Neil Earnhardt	Rimmed platter (ala Jimmy Clewes) out of ambrosia curly maple

Florida Woodturning Symposium will be held at the Lake Yale Baptist Convention Center (near Eustis, Florida) on February 9 – 11, 2018.

Gene Cross Bottom Turning

Gene is a retired surgeon that does a lot of bottom turnings. He started by hollowing a vessel through a small opening with a hook tool. It developed several cracks that he repaired. He repeated the effort using bottom turning, & the result was about the same but it was much easier to do. He makes a hole in the bottom of the turning (about 3 inches) & hollows the turning through this hole. He then makes a plug out of the same material as the turning & plugs this hole. He gets some of his ideas for form from designs of glassware. He uses PC wood hardener for hardening punky or spalted wood. You can buy a gallon of it on the web for about \$40. Gene turned some guava that had lots of cracks. You could fill all the cracks with CA glue, but he embellished the cracks to make them part of the turning, He drew mangros & roots on his vessels.. He has another piece of wood that cracked & he just immersed it in water & held the wood down with a brick. Its important to mark the crack before you immerse it so you will know where the crack is if you can't find the crack after soaking. He stressed safety equipment – he used to turn a bowl & his ears would be ringing the next day. He started wearing earplugs, & it helped. You can get the big ear muffs, but they're kind of cumbersome. He uses small ones that are very convenient & work well. He also found a face shield that has screen in the areas over his mouth so he can talk during demonstrations. He has a fan behind him blowing dust away, but still wears a Dust-B-Gone dust mask to filter out the small particles of dust. These masks are kind of pricey (~\$40), but they are well worth it.

It's important to turn the walls of your vessel down to about 3/8" thick or you will get cracks. One way to ebonize (turn it black) is to use steel wool & vinegar to react with the tannic acid in the wood. A better way is to use the bark of a hardwood tree from central/south america & make cabracho (spelling?) tea & paint it on. People in the leather industry use this to tan their hides. An even better way is to use India ink mixed with shellac (he couldn't remember the name of it, but it's available on line – just search india ink & ebonizing wood.

Gene showed several different drive spurs, but his favorite is a single piece of flat metal (about 3" x 5") that is held in your chuck. It's cheap (about \$20 from any turning supply place) & holds really well. I believe the one he had was from Oneway.

He likes Pony (?) carbide tools. He said you could re-sharpen the carbide cutters with a diamond card. For lathe speed, he said to start slow & gradually increase the speed, He said "if your not shaking & the lathe is not shaking, then that is the right speed." :He used a steady rest that fit his lathe, but didn't fit our lathe. He said he has stuff from Steve Sinner.

He puts a double edge on his chisels. For instance, he grinds a sharp edge on his chisel at 55 degrees & then puts a 3/4" block of wood into his Wolverine jig & grinds it again. He only cuts with to 1/16" at the end of the tool, so the block lets him relieve the back of the tool. He is a proponent of a concave edge (instead of a convex edge) on his skew. He says it cuts better & doesn't catch. He uses Boeshield T-9 spray to lubricate his tool rest.

He uses a 10 degree angle for his plugs. Use wood glue rather than CA glue to hold the plug. He uses Forstner bits to hog out the inside of his vessels. He likes the Forstner bits from Lee Valley because they have a hexagonal shaft. You can get a hex extension to hold these bits from Home Depot.

You can hold your vessel with a 4" (?) piece of PVC with an attachment from rubber chucky. See their website at <https://www.rubberchucky.com/>.

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Raffle

Mike Goode	\$10 Gift Certificate – Craft Supply
Richard Jackson	\$10 Gift Certificate – Craft Supply
Dewey Treanor	Four pen blanks
John Fordham	\$10 Gift Certificate – Craft Supply
Mike Frazier	Block of yellow cedar

Auction

Holiday Scroll Saw book (Donated by Harvey Driver)	Paul Gell	\$5.00
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SPACE COAST WOODTURNERS

The Chapter's Purposes, in addition to supporting the general purposes of the AMERICAN ASSOCIATION of WOODTURNERS, Inc., are to:

1. Provide a meeting place for local woodturners
2. Share ideas and techniques regarding this craft
3. Trade woods
4. Exchange ideas about tools
5. Exhibit finished projects

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