



# Space Coast Woodturners

## **Newsletter of Space Coast Woodturners – May 10, 2023**

Submitted by Paul Jackson – Secretary .

Russ Bremmer opened the May meeting of the Space Coast Woodturners at 7 PM at Melbourne Makerspace. There were ~20 people at the meeting in person, including some Makerspace members. 3 members joined on-line via Zoom.

### **Old Business**

Russ Bremmer and Bill Lutian installed the new wheels and levelers on the OneWay lathe. They noted that the wheels provide about 3/4” clearance when lowered, so it is meant for smooth floors. Russ also mentioned that it still weighs more than 300 lbs and Newtons laws remain in effect, so use caution when moving and do not use the headstock as a handle.

Russ confirmed that the Bowl Turning workshop will be held on May 20. Several people have already signed up and more expressed interest at the meeting. Bill Lutian will arrange to bring the student lathes up from storage. Cost for the class is \$25, which includes a bowl blank, but participants should bring their own safety gear and turning tools, including a bowl gouge.

### **Vice President**

John Conway discussed his efforts to arrange demonstrators for the rest of the year. Tonight's presenter is Ron Browning. John is working to get a remote presenter (possibly Kent Weakly) for the June meeting. Other potential demos include Acrylic Pouring by Tony B. from Makerspace, and Segmented Turning by Kevin Nowak. The September meeting will feature Tips and Techniques from club members.

### **Treasurer**

Sally Deabenderfer reported that the club had \$4,774 in the treasury. Most “active” members are now up to date on dues.



## **Secretary**

Paul Jackson reported on the evaluation of Club Express by the officers and current webmaster Dewey Treanor. Advantages include: a secure database of members, an easy to maintain website, unlimited document storage, forums for discussion among members, and automated member updates. At current membership we would pay the minimum \$30 monthly fee after a one-time setup fee of \$150. The monthly rate will remain at the minimum unless we exceed 71 members, then it costs \$0.42 per member.

John Conway made a motion for the club to proceed with adoption of Club Express. Bill Lutian seconded, and the motion was approved by voice vote.

Club Express allows the option for dues and other fees to be paid by credit card, but would incur merchant fees. A decision on activating this feature was deferred until nearer to the next dues payment cycle.

The club still owns its domain name (spacecoastwoodturners.com) through the rest of the year. A decision on keeping the domain and possibly linking to the new site was deferred.

## **New Business**

John Conway noted that some information about the club on the AAW website was out of date. Paul Jackson will verify that the data is corrected.

Ric DeTorre noted that there has been no action regarding the club order with Craft Supplies. Paul Jackson will contact them to see if they still offer gift certificates to clubs. Paul will also check with Klingspors to see if they offer any club discounts or other incentives.

Richard Smith noted that he still had several pieces of Norfolk Island Pine in various sizes available to whomever wants it.

Bill Lutian had several DVDs from the latest Florida Woodturning Symposium available.

Randy Hardy noted that he tried to get name tags for new members, but the company we used is out of business. Some attendees noted that we were surrounded by laser cutters and CNC machines and perhaps Makerspace could help out. Paul Jackson advised that name tag blanks could be obtained from McMaster-Carr and will work on getting some.

Neil Earnhardt relayed info from Gary Christensen about the Honor Flights. The first flight is on June 4<sup>th</sup>. He currently has 100 pens on hand and needs 80 more before October. Paul Jackson advised that he has about 45 pens collected from Richard Smith and others that he will deliver to Gary.



## Show and Tell

Russ Bremmer	Chopsticks. Walnut, maple, and wenge
Paul Jackson	(Bring Back) Rotary texturing tool, Zebrawood, PVC threaded lid inserts
Bob Cusumano	Gnome ornaments
John Conway	Ambrosia Maple bowl
Bill Lutian	Pen from bowling ball material
Ric DeTorre	Cross. Multi-part assembly in Mahogany with gloss lacquer finish

## Demonstration – Ron Browning – Tool Handling and Advice for New Turners

Ron began by showing us a small bowl he had turned, stained with a dark walnut stain, and cut into four radial segments. He passed them around the room so we could see how the grain direction influences how the stain penetrates the wood. Ron's main theme was understanding how to eliminate or minimize end grain tearout in bowl turning (grain perpendicular to the lathe axis.) He reminded us that the tool cuts in the direction that the bevel points. When beginning a cut, watch where the tool is going, but as soon as it begins to cut, watch the profile along the top of the workpiece to see the shape you are creating. Ron illustrated proper posture by creating a triangle with the tool on the tool rest, the end of the handle firmly against his midsection, and his shoulder. Maintain this triangle and move the tool by shifting your weight. Ron noted here that he uses an English grind on his bowl gouges to simplify sharpening, and for other advantages to be demonstrated at the lathe. Someone in the audience noted that Ron taught [Rudy Lopez](#).

At the lathe, Ron showed the bowl gouges and their grinds. The English grind is made by rolling the edge against the wheel with the tool handle end in the Wolverine jig without using the Vari-Grind accessory. Since there is no setup beyond setting the angle, it is quick to do and get back to turning. The typical grind is approximately 45 degrees, but steeper angles allow cutting on the bottom of deeper bowls.

Ron marked the center of a bandsawn blank and mounted it between the face of the chuck jaws and a live center in the tailstock. He then formed an appropriate tenon on the tailstock end before reversing the workpiece and mounting it firmly in the jaws. He then formed another tenon on the new tailstock end and trued up the cylinder with the gouge "open" at an angle of about 40 degrees to the lathe axis. Ron keeps a small rare earth magnet in the flute of the gouge to redirect shavings. The cylinder was cut in from both directions to avoid blowout on the edges. Ron moved the tailstock out of the way and repositioned the toolrest at a 45 degree angle across the outside corner of the bowl and began cutting the outside from the bottom toward the rim. Ron showed where some tearout occurred where the grain reversed. To refine the surface, Ron held the flute almost closed (vertical, facing toward him,) and rode the heel of the bevel against the piece. He slowly raised the handle until the lower edge of the flute engaged and began cutting. Holding this position, he refined the outside profile of the bowl. He emphasized that this is a bevel-supported cut slicing through the grain, not a shear scraping "pull" cut. The English grind enables this cut which greatly reduces the end grain tearout. It is not possible with a gouge with a fingernail grind.

Ron sanded the outside with 120 grit using his self-made PVC-handled rotary sander to remove tool marks and the minor unavoidable tearout. As he progressed through higher grits he reminded us that the finer grit only removes the marks from the previous grit.



Ron reversed the piece and remounted it in the chuck. The toolrest height was adjusted so the gouge cut through the center of the bowl. The outer tenon was cut away before hollowing began. To make the hollowing cuts, hold the flute closed (vertical, facing away,) when starting the cut then open and push smoothly through to the center. As you approach the rim, it is important to make sure the bevel points in the direction you wish to cut. The English grind helps here since the angle does not change as you rotate the tool. The final cuts at the rim may need support from your fingers to dampen vibration. The interior is sanded like the outside.

The bowl is now reversed and mounted on a jam chuck. The piece is aligned by using the hole made by the tailstock center from the original mounting. With the tailstock live center in place, the majority of the tenon is removed and the rim of the base is established. Use the gouge to begin slightly dishing the base. The tailstock is moved out of the way for final cuts. A gouge with a higher angle grind can be used if tearout becomes an issue. The base is then sanded.

Ron provided a link to a video to illustrate his process. It is on YouTube at:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lkF3Xg7Zt9M>

### **Raffle**

John Conway	Block of Wood
Ron Browning	Circle Gauge
Sally Deabenderfer	Set of Chopsticks
Ric DeTorre	Block of Wood
Russ Bolton	Yellow marking pencil
John Conway	Turning Book
Russ Bremmer	Woodcraft Gift Certificate
Bill Lutian	Ron's Demo Bowl
Paul McDaniel	Beth Ireland DVD
Bob Cusumano	Rotary Texturing tool (Bring Back)

# 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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