



Space Coast Woodturners

Newsletter of Space Coast Woodturners – June 14, 2023

Submitted by Paul Jackson – Secretary .

Russ Bremmer opened the June meeting of the Space Coast Woodturners at 7 PM at Melbourne Makerspace. There were ~13 people at the meeting in person, including one visitor, Tom O'Brien. 4 members joined on-line via Zoom.

Old Business

A Bowl Turning Workshop was led by Russ on Saturday May 20 at the Makerspace woodshop. Six lathes were set up. Russ noted that the space felt cramped but all reported a successful event.

Russ noted that the club was low on pen kits. Paul Jackson made a motion that the club replenish its supplies. Bill Lutian seconded and the motion passed with a voice vote. Bob Cusumano will investigate prices and sources and post his findings in the Forum on the Website.

scwt.clubexpress.com/forums

A future workshop on making Christmas ornaments was discussed. Ric DeTorre will look at his availability to lead this in October.

Paul Jackson reviewed the member discounts available at Rockler, Woodcraft, and Craft Supplies. There is some confusion about a member plan with Klingspor, but details will be posted in the Forums as we learn more.

Gary Christenson advised that Honor Flights have resumed and one reunion has already taken place. Richard Smith presented Gary with 39 pens. Paul Jackson noted that he has at least 40 more collected at previous meetings and will deliver them to Gary. Sometime next year we will top 1,000 pens distributed, and Gary proposes submitting an article to the AAW Journal to commemorate this milestone.

New Business

The Florida Woodturning Symposium has announced that the 2024 event will be held in February, but no specific dates have been determined. Negotiations are under way for scholarships with Arrowmont School and John C. Campbell Folk School. Stay tuned for more details.

Russ noted that the supply cabinet has been brought to Makerspace from storage. There is a variety of abrasives and other supplies available. Bob Cusumano has the price list. (Come check it out at a future meeting!)

Treasurer

Sally Deabenderfer reported that the club had \$4,446 in the treasury.

Show and Tell

Russ Bremmer	Spider lidded box. Padauk and boxwood.
Bob Cusumano	Honey Dipper. Maple Small lidded box. Maple with rotary texturing Vase. Mango from downed tree. Insert for fresh flower
Bill Lutian	Wing bowl. Pine, lacquer finish Lidded box
Ric DeTorre	Swing hinge lidded box. Spalted wood, Varnish
Paul McDaniel	Bowl, Walnut Bowl, Camphor Tool handle to replace broken Sorby handle.
Nelson Palmer	Bowl. Cherry (unfinished)
Terry Justice	Large Charcuterie board. Magnolia

Demonstration Part 1 – Paul Jackson – New Website Overview

Paul presented a tour of some highlights of the new website:

<https://scwt.clubexpress.com/>

All members should have received a welcome email with their login id and a temporary password.

Features include:

- Documents library (partially populated, more to come...)
- A searchable Membership Directory
- Photo Albums
- A Resources page with links to a variety of vendors, demonstrators, and other clubs
- Forums for online discussion of relevant topics

Members can edit their profile to create and populate Photo Albums, and to control email notifications about Forum postings.

The general public (i.e. not logged in) can see many of the features of the site but cannot post to forums or access the member directory.

Any suggestions for items to be included on the site will be gladly accepted. Suggestions and/or questions can be sent via "Contact Us" on the website:

[SCWT_Contact_Us](#)



Demonstration Part 2 – Paul Jackson – “Tools that Suck”

Paul began his presentation with a tongue in cheek description of Harbor Freight drill bits. They are fine for wood, plastic, or warm butter, but dull quickly in mild steel. They suck.

The next sucking tool was Paul's dust collector. He was looking for a way to make its use more convenient. There are many options for this including automated blast gates, but being frugal he opted for a simple, inexpensive remote controlled relay from Amazon:

[Amazon-Wireless-Remote](#)

The main part of the presentation centered on Vacuum Chucking. An outline of the discussion with links to resources can be found in the Documents library on the website:

[SCWT_Documents](#) under “Presentation Notes”.

The first requirement is to create a vacuum. This can be done with a pump or a venturi vacuum generator. Paul demonstrated his venturi generator purchased from Veneer Supplies. It was originally meant for veneering in a vacuum bag, but works well on the lathe also.

The next requirement is getting the vacuum to the business end of the headstock. The options here can be lathe-specific, or general purpose. Paul showed his configuration consisting of a rotary union on the end of a piece of threaded lamp tube which passes through the headstock shaft. The directions said to cut the tube to fit the lathe, but Paul added a nut epoxied into a tapered piece of wood so that it can be mounted in different lathes. The nut on the inboard end has an o-ring to seal against the headstock shaft. Paul prefers to seat this against a phenolic washer backed with foam against the inside of the chuck to prevent air leakage past the headstock threads.

The last piece of the puzzle is the chuck that holds the work. Various commercial models are available, but the consensus among the members is that these do not justify their high cost. Simple shop-made chucks, typically using PVC pipe fittings, do the trick at much lower cost. Paul McDaniel showed a variety of chucks that he has made. Terry Justice discussed his method of creating a simple base that threads onto the headstock and accepts various PVC reducers to fit the job at hand. Seals can be created from craft store closed cell foam sheets, or recycled neoprene wetsuits.

To keep the workpiece centered, Paul showed how he takes the bowl still mounted in the chuck and threads it onto a rotating center in the tailstock and brings it up to the vacuum chuck.

Raffle

Book – Turning Green Wood
Turned Pencil
Woodcraft Gift Certificate
Spider Lidded Box (Share the Wealth)
Chopsticks
Vase (Bring Back)

Paul McDaniel
Cay Palmer
Nelson Palmer
Tom O'Brien
Russ Bremmer
Bill Lutian

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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