

July 2024

OCWoodWorkers.org

Volume 41, Issue 7

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Ralph Crowther



Summer is here and that brings us to another year working at the OC Fair. I am very pleased to see that we have

already have 34 members signed up to work the various shifts each day of the fair. We have close to 60% of all the time slots filled already and are looking really good except for a few of the late shifts where there are only one or two people signed up. I am also very happy that we have at least 12 first time participants signed up this year. We should have a great time with plenty of help. Please look at the schedule during the fair to see where openings require some help and consider signing up for more slots. Also it is important that if you can't make a shift that you go in and remove your name for that shift so that others can step up and fill the shift. This year our club will be running the People's choice award as Woodworker West Magazine will no longer be supporting this award. This will work well for us as we are there as docents and booth workers who can help get the word out for fairgoers to vote for their favorite piece. We will give out awards to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place. I will send out an email blast when we get closer to the fair with more information on our role and the rules that we need to follow while at the fair. I sent in the list of volunteers on June 24th so that we can get the names cleared and get our badges before the fair starts. I will provide more information as I get it.

The Fine Arts folks completed the first round of acceptance for the woodworking entrants. The information is on their website but I'll recap it here. There were 58 people who entered 123 items across the various woodworking categories. Our club is represented by 13 members who had 38 items accepted into the fair. So we represent 22% of the people entering and 31% of the items entered. Good luck to all that entered and hopefully we will all win some prizes!

A few reminders: The July general meeting will be on July 11th due to the 4th of July holiday. The turners' meeting will be on the following week, July 18th as normal. The toy workshop will remain on the Saturday following the first Thursday, July 6th. Also remember that we don't meet in August for either the General or the Wood Turners' meetings.. However there is no rest for the toy makers and we will meet in August.

We are doing great in getting items donated for the Auction and especially the Christmas boutique. I want to thank all of you that have already turned in items at the last few meetings and encourage the rest of you to contribute something homemade. I believe that this can be a tremendous fundraiser this year and in future years.

And finally, Sandra Smolinsky, our wonderful Newsletter editor, has indicated that she would like to step down from this job. We would like to get someone to step up and take this over before the end of the year to ensure a continuation of this great communication tool. If you are interested please let us know. This is yet another opportunity to help support our club and all that we do.



TBD

Thursday, July 11

6:30 p.m.



Toy Work Party

Saturday, July 6

9:00 a.m.



Jerry Knight

Pen Making 101

Thursday July 18

6:30 p.m.

WOODWORKERS' SAWDUST



WOODWORKERS' SHOW AND TELL



Ken Cowell
Hand Carved



Jim Mains



Mitchell West



Ralph Crowther

WOODWORKERS' SHOW AND TELL



Jim Mains "Pixel Rings" Collection
Many Layers of Raw Elements Laminated to Create a Blank to Form a Ring



WOODWORKERS' SHOW AND TELL



WOODWORKERS' SHOW AND TELL



TURNER'S SHAVINGS

By Chuck Phillips



Steve Hansen is having fun exploring what he can do on a lathe. In addition to being on of Jerry Knight's star pupils at Cerritos College, he is a voracious consumer of YouTube videos. There are 2 producers that he mentioned specifically:

Tomislav Tomasic and Richard Raffan. Both channels are well worth watching.

For this month's presentation, he saw a video on making a crossgrain lidded box and thought "That looks like fun", and proceeded down the rabbit hole. After all, they're not terribly different from a typical endgrain lidded box. The two main differences are that the hollowing tends to be easier, similar to a typical bowl, and you really shouldn't make the lid terribly tight fitting. This is because the wood tends to move in an oval direction with humidity changes.

Steve begin by making the box. There are many ways the blank can be mounted, and he mentioned a few: Faceplate, faceplate ring, screw center, and pin jaws into a hole. The last of these is his preferred method, you use what you prefer. With the blank mounted, turn it to shape, and form some method of holding the bottom while you hollow. This can be as simple as a recess that is left in place, or a tenon that will be turned off later. Steve uses an interesting variation of the tenon where he turns

a couple of beads on the bottom and grips the work with the tips of his chuck jaws in the valley between the beads. This will probably work best if your jaws have a smooth interior. I can see OneWay jaws having problems gripping this way.

With the exterior formed, flip the piece around and hollow the interior. Make sure the top bit is at least straight, if not slightly flaring out. An inward taper will make fitting the lid an exercise in frustration.

The top begins with forming a temporary tenon on what will become the upper surface. It doesn't need to be fancy, and Steve held the blank by pinning it against the closed-down chuck jaws with the tailstock. Flip the work around, grip the tenon, and make a second tenon that is a close fit in the top opening of the base. A slight undercut will help conceal any gaps with the lid. Once the lid tenon is sized, cutting a hollow in the center will make the lid lighter. It also gives you a place a small step to grip the lid while shaping the exterior. Steve likes to add one or two concentric rings here, which will mask its purpose.

The shape of the lid is purely a matter of personal preference. For this demo, Steve made a flattish button knob. He then cut a central flat recess, just right for a coin or medallion. Beads of Courage, anyone?

As you may have guessed, your challenge for the July meeting is to make a crossgrain lidded box. Don't forget to sign up for a couple of shifts at the Fair as well!





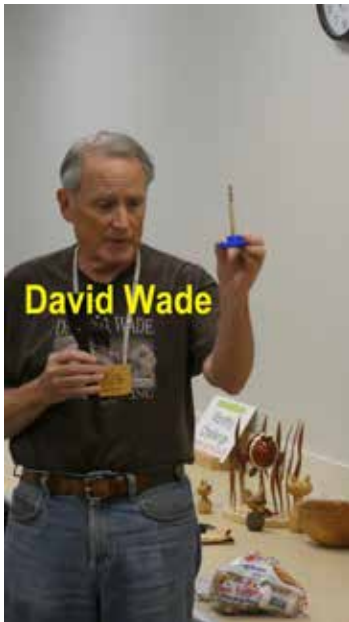
TURNERS' SHOW AND TELL



Chuck Phillips
Amazon-cat eyes
50 for \$5



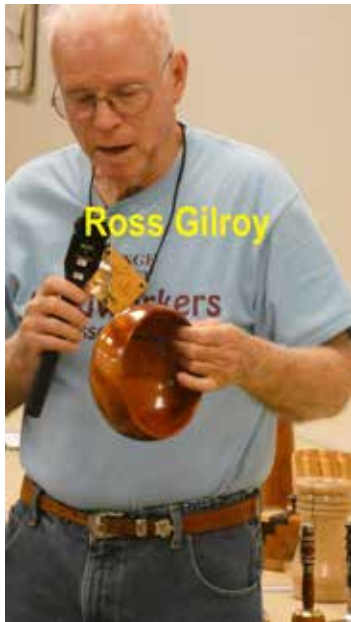
Doug Turner



David Wade



TURNERS' SHOW AND TELL



Ross Gilroy



Stephen Illencik
First Turning



Jerry Levy
see I
remembered



Bill Haskell

TURNERS' SHOW AND TELL



TURNERS' SHOW AND TELL



TURNERS' SHOW AND TELL



TURNERS' SHOW AND TELL



TURNERS' CHALLENGE



Jim Mains



Makayla Weiser
she made 4 of
them



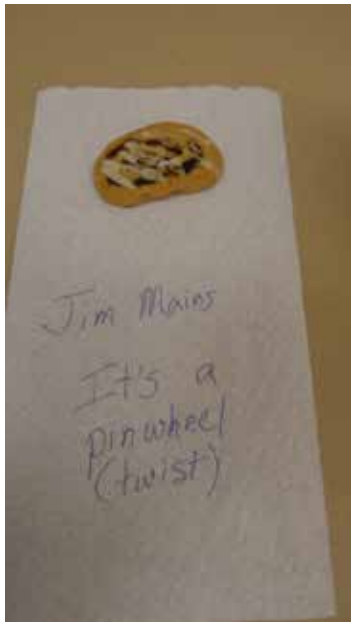
Ralph Crowther



TURNERS' CHALLENGE



Ross Gilroy



TURNERS' CHALLENGE



TOY STORY

By Ken Crandall, Chair, Toy Program



The COVID pandemic put a big strain on our Toy Program with us unable to meet for several months. Things are returning to normal with a cadre of regulars that show up every month to sand and assemble. New members are trickling in to partake in the joy of bringing a smile to a child's face at Christmas. David Bass joined us

this month. He is an ex shop teacher and he can lend his expertise to our endeavors. David lives in Lake Forest. Car pools anyone?

This month's contributions included 72 locomotives from Rex Bullock, dinosaur pull toys

from Joe Fiori and a new maze collaboration from Mitchell West and Robert Morris. Mitchell cuts out the pathways in MDF on his hot rod CNC router and Robert laminates a plexiglass cover to contain the ball bearing within. Very clever! Assembling Wes King's articulating animals rounded out the day. Wes has just had back surgery and we hope that his recovery will be swift and he can return to action. His efforts have been a cornerstone of our program for years. Our toy count stands at 2700. We need to pick up the pace if we are to reach our goal of 5000.

Our next workshop is Saturday, July 6 at 9:00. See you then.



SUPPORT OUR TROOPS PEN PROGRAM

By John Sobota, Chair, Support Our Troops Pen Program



We are off to a very good start this year with our pen production. To date, we have had 17 members return 1,810 pens! June was a very good month with 318 pens turned in between the two meetings. I am starting to receive requests from a

few of the organizations we support asking for pens for upcoming events this Summer and Fall. It was also promising to see different members checking pens out to prepare for the OC Fair which starts in July. I would highly recommend members get involved working at the fair, whether it is making pens, tops or almost anything else on the lathes.

People have recently inquired as to how many pens the OCWA has made and donated to the various military and veteran organizations we support. Per my research, coming into 2024, the club has produced

52,778 pens over the last twenty plus years for the various organizations we support. With this year's production, we have exceeded 54,500 total pens! We are well on our way to the 55,000-pen mark by this Fall! While I believe these numbers sound impressive, I feel the way the pens are received by the recipients is truly heartwarming. This has proven to be a very worthwhile program to show our appreciation to the men and women of our armed forces.

As always, I would like to thank all those who contribute to our program either by making pens or by donating tools, materials or money for the continued support of our "Support Our Troops" pen program. Your generosity is greatly appreciated by the OCWA and the members as well as the veterans of our armed forces who receive the pens, we distribute to the organizations we support.



REFLECTIONS AFTER A FIRST YEAR OF WOODTURNING

By Alan Weinberg

Having collected wooden bowls and forms for four decades, the creative process always intrigued and mystified me. How is this done? As a surgeon, working with my hands is something I love and I could appreciate the artistry and craft involved in turning. A year ago, I had never seen a lathe, did not know what a chuck looked like or was used for, and was mystified about what a gouge did—the latter sounded like something used by medieval torturers. I joined the Orange County Woodturners before I had even started turning, started Google searching and watching YouTubes about woodturning.

My timing was fortuitous, as Dick Foreman, an elderly and well-respected woodturner, was turning in, so to speak. I bought his Powermatic 3520A, some gouges and chucks, and he threw in wood blanks and 30 years of woodturning magazines. An elderly patient sold me more tools and gave me more wood blanks. I took a course at Rockler, turning my first bowl with a carbide scraper. I took another class there. I took a couple classes more at Woodcraft. Needless to say, I was hooked. My wife had a wary look every time she opened the front door, as the newly purchased tools, stains, oils, and equipment started showing up sometimes several times a day.

I started attending the monthly Orange County Woodturners meetings, watching the demonstrations and listening, being motivated by the skills of so many. I learned about the club mentor program and was lucky enough to have Bill Haskell willing to assist me—I've been often to his home shop to learn many aspects of turning. He has patiently tolerated my endless questions and frequent visits, advancing my learning. Fred Wilmott, another mentor, has shown me bandsaw technique and setup. I took two classes in Las Vegas with Jimmy Clewes, the second a two day one-on-one that significantly advanced my primitive skills. I watch YouTube videos, dozens of them, recognizing that there are many ways to turn a bowl—and not all of them on that site work for me. Leland Wong, a woodturner with a machine shop, upgraded and modified my Powermatic, greatly improving its capabilities.

I joined AAW (American Association of Woodturners) and started participating with trepidation on their internet forum—my caveman turnings were well received with friendly advice like, “learn to sand.”

But I've persisted, met many people who offer kind and helpful advice, leading to the amazing World of Woodturners internet site where incredible craftsmen (and women) daily post their amazing work, something to which to aspire, but so enjoyable to view. And there are several other very worthwhile internet woodturning sites. And I think I'm slowly improving at turning.

It's been a year since I started this hobby; I've now turned about 90 bowls and a couple platters, giving away (and throwing away) all but a couple—the wife says we have enough bowls. I'm passionate about it now. I'm still a beginner, but at least the bowls no longer take flight from the lathe, fewer funnels are being made, and I'm usually keeping the inside smaller than the outside. It's a wonderful hobby and pastime that has endless creative avenues. I expected the process to be interesting and fun. My expectations have been wildly exceeded. Sawdust and wood shavings are in my soul now, unfortunately in many other places as well.

I write this mostly for other beginners or those who just contemplate beginning to turn—and wondering where to turn. It does not need to be a lonely process as there are many sources for assistance in shortening the learning curve and maximizing the enjoyment—join the AAW, join your local turning club, watch videos, participate on the woodturning forums, and find a mentor. Most of all, turn.



“CLUB ROOTS” (25 YEARS)

Bruins, William
Couch, Sam
Crowther, Ralph
Daniels, James
Davis, Carson
Gamo, Gilbert
Goldman, Andy
Kaufholtz, Lee
Musgrave, Len
Neesley, Michael
Overholt, El Jay
Plummer, George
Rogers, Les
Santhon, James
Smet, Edward
Wade, David

LIFETIME MEMBERS

James Santhon
Jeff Bennett
Carson Davis
Andy Goldman
Len Musgrave
Michael Neesley
Ingko Oetomo
George Plummer
Al Whitcomb
Larry Marley
Ralph Crowther

TURNER OF THE YEAR

2023 Ross Gilroy

WOODWORKER OF THE YEAR

2023	Robert Morris
2022	John Sobota
2021	Richard Kalman
2020	Ken Crandall
2019	Ken Cowell
2018	Bill Rogers
2017	John Marshall
2016	Len Musgrave
2015	Ken Cowell
2014	Larry Marley
2013	Ralph Crowther
2012	Ed Smet
2011	Len Musgrave

Person of the Year

2010	Al Whitcomb
2009	Ed Straub

PAST PRESIDENTS

2013 - 2020	James Santhon
2012	Vic Cohn
2010 - 2011	Craig Chambers
2006 - 2009	James Santhon
2005	Doug Nowlin
2001 - 2004	James Santhon
1999 - 2000	Carson Davis
1997 - 1998	Sam Migliazzo
1995 - 1996	Mike Neesly
1993 - 1994	Larry Baum
1991 - 1992	Len Musgrave
1988 - 1990	Al Griffin
1987	Andy Goldman
1986	Greg Martin
1985	Doug Christie
1984	Bob Pederson



A BIG WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS:

Scott Rychnovsky, Irvine
Charles Krieger, Villa Park

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MAILING ADDRESS

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Do you have an idea for an article, shop tip, or tool review?

Please send articles to: ssmolinsky@comline.com

Deadline for submissions is the Monday after the Woodturners meeting.