



# South Central PA WoodTurners

## August 2012

### President

Don Wilson  
(717) 741-1226  
wilson.don@verizon.net

### Vice-President

Tom Deneen  
(717) 927-9004  
Tomdeneen@  
emailaccount.com

### Treasurer

John Stewart  
(717) 757-2212  
JRWS3088@aol.com

### Secretary

Carol Woodbury  
**Newsletter**  
Bryan Sword  
(717) 225 6807  
bryansword@gmail.com

**Club Web Site**  
www.PAwoodturners.com

### Dates to Note

#### Club Meeting

**Sept 4 - Tuesday**  
6:00 PM Social  
6:30 PM Meeting

#### Demonstration on Power carving

### Upcoming Demonstrations

#### Oct. Date Change!

**October 9:**  
Turning Thin and Piercing

**November 6:**  
Don - Rectangular Bowl

**December 4:**  
Christmas party



*Thoughts  
from  
President  
Don Wilson*

I know why wood turning is a lost craft for the most part. After spending a few days at craft shows and watching the choices being made, it is apparent that not many people are using wood bowls in their everyday life. So the question arises, are any of us using wood bowls in our everyday life? Do you have a fruit bowl made of wood or do you have a favorite wood bowl for snacks or cereal?

In our house we have a walnut fruit bowl that is out all of the time. It was an experiment that almost worked the way I wanted it to. We also have some "wood art" that is on display. I know many of you probably have something that you made that is on the shelf for display. But in the long run wood bowls have been out favor for a long time due to the effort of washing and caring for them.

So many things have replaced wood items that it is no wonder that wood turning is not common any more. Bowls to baseball bats, and how many people even use wooden clothes pins any more.

That said, there are still many people who appreciate the feel of wood and it is fun to watch people pick up wood items and smell them. Most of us relate that smell of wood to a time or place in our past. And it probably had something to do with grandparents.

It is interesting to observe kids watching us make something on a lathe. At Yorkfest, Phil was turning tops and there was a family with a young boy and girl. They watched in fascination as a top was made and handed to the boy. Phil had to demonstrate how to make it spin, so they really understood what was going on. Then it was the girls turn to get a top made. She even got to pick the colors for the top so it matched her face painting. I'm sure that getting a top was one of the high points of the outing with the family as evidenced the big smiles on their faces when they were able to spin their top.

Don't forget to make a few Christmas ornaments along the way. This is another way to show the community what wood turners do.

Happy Turning *Don*

### August Picnic Notes

*Submitted by Carol Woodbury*

This being our great summer picnic meeting at the Stewarts', there was no formal meeting. President Don Wilson made the following announcements:

#### Chambersburg Club:

The Chambersburg Club is hosting a Mark Sfirri demonstration on October 13. All who are interested are welcome.

#### Festival of Trees:

We will again be trimming a tree (one tree this year); ornaments are due at or before the November meeting.

#### Yorktowne Craft Guild Workshops:

Don is proposing teaching workshops at the Yorktowne Craft Guild. A lathe will be brought from Stewart's and perhaps 3 mini-lathes plus tools and grinder will be kept there. We are working with the Yorktowne Craft Guild to hold our own hand-on sessions at the guild building as well.

#### Raffle Item:

Al Herner's Linden bowl was won by Joyce McCormick.

#### American Chestnut Foundation:

Martin Stolpe gave us a short lecture on Chestnut tree blight and efforts to combat the virus. Experiments are being done in creating a hybrid tree that is 1% Chinese Chestnut which is virus-resistant and 99% American Chestnut to bring back these beautiful trees in the US. A few remain from the original forests in Lucerne County, PA and Garrett County, MD. Martin gave some chestnut wood to Don who turned bowls for an auction to benefit the efforts by the American Chestnut Foundation at their August 18 event at the Drumore Estate, Pequea, PA.



### Clark Snyder

Clark Snyder's widow sent thanks to all who sent him cards, visited him and kept him in their prayers.

## July 2012 Demonstration

By President Don

The demonstration was on using the indexing function of a lathe that is a standard feature on many lathes.



Indexing is used to lay out a turning in equal segments for the purpose of doing something more with the wood turning. It can be used to position the holes for



rungs on a chair or stool leg or maybe for decorative carving or design layout.



Don demonstrated three different items with different indexing needs. One was how to layout a vase or bowl for carving fluting around the edge. This required indexing on the inner surface as well as the outer surface to create the reference lines for the fluting pattern. The finished piece is shown below.



The second was on a bowl that might have a design around the outside. Indexing was done to segment the bowl for carving or wood burning a design so that the design would be spaced properly when finished. With the bowl marked with many lines around as well as indexed he demonstrated how to lay a spiral on the outside of the bowl. This would be very similar to making a finial with a spiral.



The third indexing was marking and drawing cut lines for carving the top of a vase. This was done with long and short lines alternating to allow a petal pattern to be drawn on the wood prior to cutting and carving. Don then cut one petal and parts of two more to show how it would look before the carving started. The finished piece is shown below.



Again Don has demonstrated one of his many artistic talents. Thanks Don!



## YorkFest - August 25 & 26.

The club had a booth at the York Arts Festival. Loyal members demonstrated turning and had an opportunity to enrich their pockets with items for sale.



One young on-looker almost got one until the parent hurried him away.

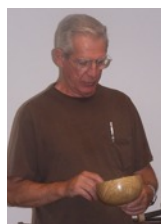


Tom D's granddaughters were hard at work selling his many turned items. They deserved at least a 10% commission.

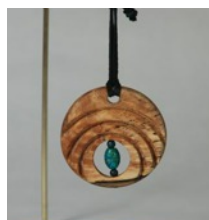


## SHOW AND TELL

Photos by Phil Reed



**Phil Reed**  
Yellow Birch  
Bowl



**Tom Deneen**  
Winner of the London Olympic's Pendant Turning event



**Barry Stump**  
Spalted Maple Urn



**Bryan Sword**  
Spalted Red Oak  
Mushroom Box.  
Donated to the  
YMCA Camp High  
Rock, MA fund raiser



## August Picnic Snapshots

Taken by Phil Reed



Many thanks to our hosts  
Joan and John

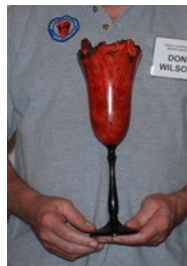


## August Show & Tell



**Don Wilson**  
English Walnut  
Carved Vase

Large Goblet  
Natural edge dyed Maple  
Burl with Ebony stem



**Phil Reed**  
Hawaiian Kalabash  
Bowl  
Lilac Tree

Large bowl  
Martin's Yellow Birch



**Al Herner**  
Walnut/Spalted Maple  
Ornament  
100/1000 diameter  
w/ 140/1000 diameter icicle

**Clark Bixler**  
2 natural edge bowls  
Maple from the Baltimore turners'  
wood raffle



\*Clark won the certificate for Show  
and Tell

## An Update on Finishing

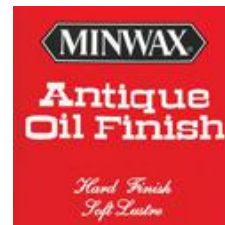
From the studio of Don Wilson

I have run across a product that is a sleeper, and I thought you should all know about it. It is about the easiest finish I have worked with. It will give you anything from a soft luster like Phil produces with his home brew finish to a shiny hard finish.

To get the soft luster look, you put the finish on and then wipe it off after letting it sit for 3-5 minutes. Let it dry and repeat the process. By the third coat you will have a very nice finish with a soft luster. On occasion you may need to put on additional coats of finish.

If you want a shiny finish don't wipe it off, just let it dry. I use a 4" square of an old T- shirt to apply the finish. The finish can be brushed on, but wiping it on almost guarantees that you won't have runs in the finish unless you really put it on heavy. For the first coat put it on fairly heavy and go back over the "end grain" areas that are really soaking the finish up. Go over the whole piece one more time at the end of the first coat to try to get as even a finish as you can. The next coats will use a lot less finish.

While this finish is called an "Antique Oil Finish" it acts more like a refined polyurethane wipe on finish. It is a "specialty product" of Minwax and you can find it at True Value in Loganville and other places that sell Minwax products. It comes in a red can that is of a different size than any of the Minwax products and may be sitting off to



the side.

It can be buffed with polishing compounds. The drying time is about 4 hours, so you can build coats in one day if you want to.

## Charles Stuhre's Pen Blank Jig

Another clever home made jig for truing the ends of pen blanks. See Charles for a more detailed explanation.

