

April & May 2024 Newsletter

South Central Pennsylvania Wood Turners



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Club Web Site

www.PAwoodturners.com

SCPWT is a group of wood turning enthusiasts with differing abilities, but likeminded in our attraction to spinning wood. We meet on the first Tuesday of most months of the year at 6:30 PM at The York Town Craft Guild at 639 N. Franklin St., York, PA 17403 (parking on street or in grass lot across the street).



President Joel Persing demonstrates the use of his shop made router fixture and indexing system at our May club meeting

April 2nd 2024 Meeting Notes

18 attended this meeting.

Joel Persing opened the meeting at 6:40 pm after members were offered wood that was donated to the club by Bill Fordney's family. Members were asked to make a contribution to the club for the wood they took. Joel thanked Barry Stump, who picked up the wood and did some trimming to ease transport and production. Barry told members that there remain some tools that had belonged to Leo Dwyer for sale and some of the tools from Bill Fordney's estate.

New members were welcomed: James Nellis from Dillsburg, formerly from Illinois. Gary Jones was originally from Alaska but a long-time contributor to Habitat for Humanity and the Horn Farm. And Theresa, a friend of Gary's, who is learning to turn.

Joel noted that last year the club did not have a picnic but asked members to think about options and discuss them at the next meeting. Hopefully we can return to the social gatherings we used to enjoy in July in lieu of a meeting.

Treasurers Report: There is \$2520.14 in the account plus \$70. Outstanding bills of \$100 per month for rent and trailer parking at the Guild for February and March.



Mike Volkert's Box Elder platter

Show and Tell:

Phil Reed: Medallions from different woods including holly and walnut, (members were challenged to take one and incorporate it in a project for next month).

Mark Coons: Small bowl made of ash from western New York.

Joel Persing: Spalted Mimosa and Cherry Bowls.

Mike Volkert: Box elder platter finished with Sealcoat and carnauba wax.

John Henty: Oak fruit bowl and Spalted Norway maple bowl.

Jerry Rogers: Pond water soaked walnut bowl

Evening Program by Rich Conley: Rough cutting blanks from logs with a chain saw.

Rich began working with a lathe after taking classes with Don Wilson at Woodcraft in 2018. Rich now does production turning six to eight bowls rough turned at a time. Using a chain saw, he trims ends that may be cracking by about 4 inches. He cuts lengths equal to the diameter of the log. Rich likes to work with walnut, but has developed an allergy and must be cautious by using gloves and masks.

He uses a 3-inch forsnor bit to go through bark. Then uses a worm screw to hold on the chuck. Alternatively, he uses a 4-prong spur center. He has premade blank rounds to identify the circle to be cut. He uses a handheld planer to cut flat spots. He works about 50 % with sap wood up and 50 % down.

April 2nd 2024 Meeting Notes (continued)

YouTube Video: Joel showed part of a video by Reed Gray, the Robo Hippy on chain saw/chop saw technique.

There was a general discussion about coring systems. The One-Way system doesn't allow for deviation in size. McNaughton coring is more flexible in shape and size. End grains and side grains were also discussed. Mark Coons said he uses an angled cut when chain sawing end grain (easier than cutting perpendicular to grain) - It was noted that cutting parallel to the grain creates long ribbons of shavings that can clog up a saw.

Rich said that Tom Deneen has built a cross form buck that will handily hold logs for cutting and trimming. Mark uses a modified pallet to hold logs in place. Rich noted that fruitwoods are harder to keep from cracking. Member Paul Miller was applauded for winning the Mt Gretna Arts and Crafts show in 2023 with his Sassafras bowl.

Tips and tricks: Suggestions to use epoxy resins, putty, coffee grounds, or brass shavings to fill cracks for interesting effects. Use cheap plastic bowls to hold resin and be sure to always clean bed ways after turning with resin so as not to permanently damage the bed. The meeting concluded at 8 PM.

Craig Zumbrun, Club Secretary



Rich Conley demonstrating preparation of bowl blanks using a chainsaw

April 2nd 2024 Show & Tell



Phil Reed's hardwood medallions



Mark Coons' small Ash bowl

April 2nd 2024 Show & Tell (continued)



Joel Persing's Cherry bowl (above) and Mimosa bowl (below)



April 2nd 2024 Show & Tell (continued)



Mike Volkert's Box Elder platter



John Henty's Oak fruit bowl (L) and Spalted Maple bowl (R)

Editor's Note: Regretfully, we do not have a photo of Jerry Rodger's April bowl

May 7th 2024 Meeting Notes

The club met at the York Town Craft Guild. President Joel Persing opened the meeting at 6:45pm. 22 members were in attendance.

Joel asked if members had any interest in a July picnic. No one stepped forward to offer suggestions or locations. Item tabled.

Treasurer Report: Barry Stump provided the Treasurer's report. The club has \$2,402.14 in checking and \$70 cash. Rental fees to the guild have been paid.

Show and Tell:

Barry Stump made a box of spalted maple and one of walnut, each with a lid medallion furnished last month by Phil Reed.

Phil Reed made a cherry box with one of his medallions in the lid.

John Vlah made a plum wood shrink box. He also made a natural edged vase of plum (these pieces did not get photographed).

Rich Conley made a large mulberry bowl with a dyed interior, and a bowl of weeping willow.

Tom Deneen made two bowls of Bradford pear, one with natural edge.

Don Wilson made a quilted maple square edged bowl with a high gloss antique oil finish. He also made a beaded pear bowl.

Jon Amos made a large ironwood burl platter.

John Henty made a spalted maple bowl (this bowl did not get photographed).

Mark Coons made a spalted maple box with a lid medallion furnished last month by Phil Reed.

Joel Persing showed a camphor bowl.

Program by Joel Persing: Using a router to incise objects on the lathe

Joel began by showing the indexing system he created and mounted behind the chuck to allow for exact cutting by the router. He showed the jig he built to hold the router in place and the table bed with channels to allow movement of the jig holding the router, while keeping it in tight relationship to the object being cut. Using this system, Joel demonstrated how he cuts bowls to allow for precise installation of the cherry "wings" that then hold the bowl up. He uses a carbide ¼ inch bit.

Don Wilson noted that trim routers and wood burners can be used in a similar way and that there are a variety of indexing wheels available on the market. He noted that to do the basket weave pattern such as in the bowl he brought, a 120-line index is needed. He passed around the tools that can be used to cut the patterns.



Joel Persing with the winged bowl from his router demonstration



Members gathered around Don Wilson as he demonstrates the use of the skew chisel

May 7th 2024 Meeting Notes (continued)

Using a skew by Don Wilson: Don demonstrated a variety of techniques he has used with the skew. He uses a large skew and showed how it can do very fine detailing work, essentially shaving the wood. Using an edge, he can cut coves, and do more aggressive work by slightly changing the position of the tool rest.

Opportunities:

Dan Spackman's son is selling a 10 inch Delta/ Rockwell table saw and a 6 inch jointer. Walnut and Scarlet Oak wood is available on Scott Street (near Romberger's).

The meeting concluded at 8:20 pm.

Respectfully,
Craig Zumbrun, Secretary



May 7th 2024 Show & Tell



Barry Stump's Spalted Maple and Walnut boxes

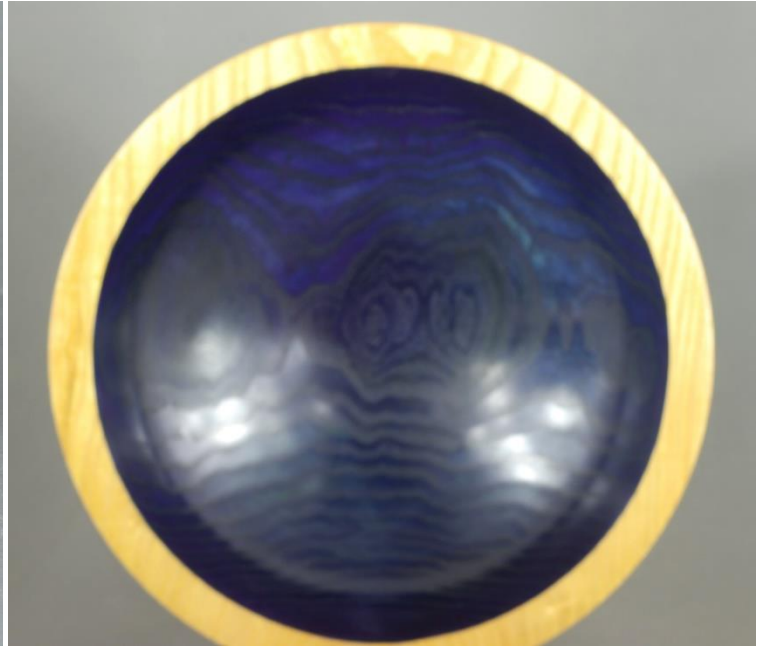
We're on the Web!

www.PAwoodturners.com

May 7th 2024 Show & Tell (continued)



Phil Reed's Cherry box



Rich Conley's dyed Mulberry bowl



Rich Conley's natural edge Willow bowl



Tom Deneen's Bradford Pear bowls

May 7th 2024 Show & Tell (continued)



Don Wilson's Quilted Maple square bowl and beaded Pear bowl



Jon Amos' large Ironwood burl platter



May 7th 2024 Show & Tell (continued)



Mark Coons'
Spalted Maple box



Member Challenge: Above boxes all have Phil Reed's turned medallions in their lids.
Thanks to Phil for providing these medallions in April and challenging the group!