

Smoky Mountain Woodturners Newsletter

Volume 3, Issue 3

March 2016

OUR MARCH MEETING – THE ANNUAL WOOD AUCTION with John Jordan – Auctioneer and Jake Niedling – Assistant.



Our annual wood auction is always an enjoyable meeting for our Chapter. This year's was no exception. John Jordan and his assistant Jake Niedling did an outstanding job of shepherding the potential buyers through the auction process in record time. Gordon Sloane, our treasurer kept up with the fast paced activities and reported that we took in \$1,008.00! This annual activity is an important fund raiser for the Chapter and this year, once again, the generosity of our members exceeded expectations. We would like to thank the members who donated the wood for the auction. The excellent selection ran from rough turned bowl blanks to dried pieces of exotic woods to green hardwood log sections. Something for everyone, it seems.

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[Click Here to access our website.](#)

Smoky Mountain Woodturners is a regional chapter of the [American Association of Woodturners](#)



COMING UP IN APRIL

We've all seen Jared Bruckner's Puzzle Boxes. Come to the April meeting and Jared will show us how to make one! This will also be our 2nd Quarter Woodturners Challenge Project....

WOODTURNERS SCHOLARSHIP DRAWS FOR MARCH

Our John C. Cambell Folk School scholarship draw was won Robert Brown. The Arrowmont scholarship draw was won by John Jordan (again this month!). Each monthly winner will be entered into the respective grand prize scholarship draw held in December.

SMWTS welcomes our newest member, John Fiet! Also a hearty "welcome back" to John Hampton!

We used the auction to find new homes for the Chapters old library DVD and Books too. John and Jake were able to bundle many of the odds and ends in a way that helped sell every one of the items that were available. The only thing left at the end of the evening was sawdust and pieces of tree bark. Thanks again to all of the members who donated and those as well who participated in the auction.

MEMBERS MARKETPLACE

LATHE AND ACCESSORIES FOR SALE

Richard Andrews has for sale a Jet 1642 EVS Lathe. 1.5hp. It was purchased new in November 2014. **Now \$1,500.** Also for sale are the following: Super Nova II Chuck (Original Box and Never Used) with 1 1/4 x 8 tpi insert and 50mm dovetail jaws. **\$150.** Nova Cole jaws with all original pieces **\$50.** Nova Power Grip jaws (never used) **\$60** Also, a One-way 2mt live center w/ cone and cup at **\$ 85** and a Wood River 2mt live center with cone for **\$40.**

Contact Richard at 865-816-0700 if you are interested. (Voice or Text)

STEEL CITY MINI LATHE AND ACCESSORIES FOR SALE

Wes Loukota has an Electronic Variable Speed Steel City Mini Lathe with a custom-made stand on locking wheels for sale. 15" between centers and 10" swing over bed. Comes with Scroll Chuck, Live Center, Drill Chuck, Two Tool Rests, Three face plates, a Knock out bar and Front Plexi Guard. He'll even throw in some turning blanks. Wants to sell as a package. \$400. Call Wes at 865-414-1265

OUR THANKS TO AN ANONYMOUS DONOR...

When we arrived at the March meeting, George Barber of Woodcraft Knoxville gave us some great news. An anonymous donor has provided, for Wears Valley Ranch, a used Jet mini lathe and stand plus a set of woodturning tools. We presented the gift at the March Meeting and publicly thanked the donor, whoever he or she might be.

WEARS VALLEY RANCH UPDATE

We received our Educational Grant funds from AAW just prior to our March meeting. We've partnered with Woodcraft Knoxville to provide the equipment and supplies that we will be purchasing with those funds. Their generosity in reducing our cost of the items will make it possible for us to fulfill our list. Provided we have all of the items needed available, we anticipate delivering and setting up the equipment in late March.

We're working on a workshop program for the kids at WVR for Spring. More to follow in April so if you'd like to volunteer, just let us know.

AAW SYMPOSIUM



AAW's 30th Annual Int'l Symposium in
Atlanta, Georgia
June 9-12, 2016

Atlanta Convention Center at AmericasMart

[Click Here for Link to Registration](#)

ARROWMONT WORKSHOPS START ON MAY 29TH

Malcom Zander kicks off the 2016 Arrowmont Schedule with “Thin Wall Vessels & Piercing” May 29th through June 4th. Click here to access the [Arrowmont Catalogue for 2016](#) . It is now available on-line.

RESERVATIONS FOR THE SATURDAY DEMO FOR THE SPRING SMOKY MOUNTAIN WOODTURNERS WEEKEND – April 23rd and 24th STILL AVAILABLE

There are still a few seats left for the SMWTS Spring Woodturners Weekend Demo (Saturday) featuring Harvey Meyer! The event will be held at Woodcraft Knoxville. Harvey will demo the basket illusion in the morning and lidded boxes in the afternoon. The lidded box may even be a basket illusion lidded box.

Cost for the Saturday Demo is \$20.00 per person for the Saturday Demo. Lunch will be available for \$10 but must be pre-ordered when you register. To register, simply eMail Bob Law rockytopbob1@gmail.com. Please indicate in your eMail whether or not you would like to purchase lunch?

JOHN C. CAMPBELL FOLK SCHOOL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

To access the complete catalogue of upcoming workshops, just [CLICK HERE](#). Coming up in April...

4/3 to 4/8 – Tom Jeanes – Get Started on the Mini Lathe.

4/8 to 4/10 – Tom Jeanes – Got Weekend? Learn to Turn. (Weekend)

34/10 to 4/16 – Steve Cook – Lets Turn Some Great Gifts.

4/17 to 4/23 – Jim Bliss – Decorative Bowls, Boxes & Ornaments.

4/24 to 4/29 – Joe Ruminski – Bowls Shapes & Hollow Frames

4/29 to 5/1 – Joe Ruminski – Turned Wood Jewelry (Weekend)

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

It seems that each month in 2016 gets busier and busier. Thanks to our auctioneer extraordinaire, John Jordan and his assistant, Jake Niedling the wood auction at our March meeting was a resounding success!

Our grant check from AAW arrived just before the meeting and we will be able to purchase and install the equipment included in our grant application at Wears Valley Ranch before the end of March.

Thanks to an anonymous donor, we will be able to install both a mini lathe and a larger lathe at the Ranch along with the necessary tools and accessories to make the woodturning shop safe and functional.

Our Beads of Courage Project has thus far produced 15 lidded vessels with more on the way in April.

There’s a special feature in this month’s Newsletter as a result of my visit to Dave and Malinda Stricker’s house for the March “Welcome to my Shop” Article. Dave showed me a number of very useful “gadgets” that he engineered and made for his shop. I thought our members might be interested in seeing them. I know there’s more than one that I’m making to use in mine.

Look forward to seeing everyone at the April Meeting...

Bob

2016 DUES ARE PAST DUE

To keep your membership in the Chapter active, please bring your check for \$25.00 to our April Meeting or mail your check to our Post Office Box.

PHOTOGRAPHS FROM OUR 2016 MARCH MEETING SHOW & TELL

(Check out the Gallery Page on our Website for more Photos!)





BEADS OF COURAGE PROJECT UPDATE

The new shipment of beads arrived towards the end of February and were mailed out to those members who requested them.

Our commitment is now to produce 43 vessels for the Beads of Courage-AAW Program.

At the March meeting the following members turned in their Beads of Courage lidded vessels... John Jordan (2), Tom Sciple, Bob Law (2) and Jake Niedling. They join those members who turned in their Beads of Courage Vessels in February; Brian Horais, Dan Peters, Dave Stricker, Dick Hammat, Norm Roy, Jim Vogelsang, Randy Fritchman and Gordon Sloane (2). We still a long way off from our commitment with only 15 vessels turned in thus far.



These are examples of the Beads of Courage Vessels that were donated at the March Meeting.

Next month's meeting (April) is our deadline for turning in your Beads of Courage Vessels....

CHRIS RAMSEY COLLECTABLES FOR SALE

When Chris Ramsey presented the Demo for our Fall Woodworkers Weekend last year, he donated a set of finished and signed wooden cowboy hats (large and small) as well as one of his beautiful mirrors to the chapter so that we could use them as a fund raising project. For those of you who attended the Demo, you'll remember that the three items were all turned from the same piece of wood.

Chris sells these hats all over the world. Even at wholesale, his large cowboy hats routinely wholesale for \$750.00 or more. They are featured in private collections and galleries throughout the United States. When made to order (sized to the individual), they retail for double that or more.

Before the chapter offers these incredible signed art pieces to the general public, we'd like to provide our members with the opportunity to purchase them. Any purchase would be considered a donation to the Chapter and may have tax deduction potential for the individual. If you are interested in obtaining one or more of these items, please contact Jake Niedling or Richard Andrews. If you know of a collector who might be interested in obtaining one or more of the items, please let them know as well.

Prices are negotiable.



1 Large Hat



2 Small Hat



1 Mirror

A VISIT TO DAVE STRICKER'S SHOP



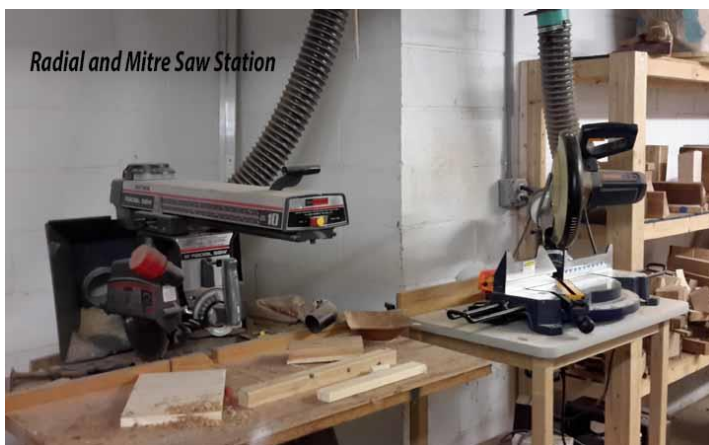
Dave's background is Mechanical Engineering. His area of specialization gravitated to the aluminum industry. Over the years, Dave worked for Alcoa and retired in 2007 from their Davenport, Iowa facilities. He and his wife Malinda moved from Davenport to Harriman, Tennessee that year to a home on the shores of Watts Barr Lake.

Dave began turning back in 2000 and started with a Dunlap Lathe, the precursor to what we know as Sears Craftsman Lathes today. He progressed to a Jet and then made the leap to his equipment of choice today, a Powermatic 3520.

Dave's shop is located in the lower level of his house. That provides the opportunity for him to work in a heated and air conditioned space. His vacuum system and his air compressor are located in a separate room so the noise level is kept at a minimum.

Dave likes to turn green wood. He especially enjoys cherry and maple. His projects of choice are bowls. Square edge, natural edge bowls in particular. Malinda is a quilter and so Dave has produced a number of items for her to use. She even sells some of them to other quilters. Items include seam rippers, seam pressers, stilettos and pin cushions.

His engineering background has come in handy as he developed "gadgets" for the shop to make turning easier. The photos are included at the end of the article. If you would like to make any of them for your shop, we're sure Dave would be glad to provide more information. These items include a "no lifting" tail stock storage device, a sanding extension for a 2" or 3" pad so you can get to the bottom of a bowl, a device to measure bowl depth while turning and a movable exhaust head to catch lathe chips and sawdust. Dave uses magnets strips to hold tools in his shop and developed his own tool and accessory rack to keep everything neat and close to the lathe.





Drill Press Station

Dave is a prolific turner and enjoys selling some of the items and donating others to charity. He maintains a lending library of completed projects for his family (the Kids). They can exchange items he's given them for different pieces anytime they want. It's like rotating the art in a gallery.

Dave enjoys tackling projects that are different from what he's turned before. He told us that he's always enjoyed solving problems and fixing things. That's obviously led to formulating project ideas in woodturning and then bringing the idea to reality in the finished project.



Wood Storage



Project Medallions



Custom Tool & Accessory Rack



Some of Dave's Projects

Dave's Woodturning Gadgets

We all have a woodturner's jig or two in our shops but Dave Stricker "engineered" some real helpful "gadgets" that went beyond the norm. Here's a photo and brief description of what they do. If you'd like more information on how to make them for your shop, just give Dave a call.



Here's Gadget #1.... Dave wanted something to make removing the heavy tailstock on his Powermatic possible without having to carry it. He developed a wood rail extension, hinged to the end of the bed rail. He just lifts the extension, slides the tailstock over and then lowers them both to a storage position on the end of the lathe. Simply reverse the process to re-install the tail stock.



Gadget #2 is a simple device to measure the depth of your cut when you turn a bowl. Dave cut a block of wood the size of the distance from the headstock to the outside edge of the chuck. He has 2 different sized chucks so the block of wood has a long and short side. The other part of the gadget is a stand with a dowel rod positioned so that the edge of the dowel and the base of the stand are equal distant. When you place the dowel to the bottom of the bowl, the distance between the wood block and the base of the gadget measures the wood left in the bottom of the bowl.



Gadget #3 lets you sand the bottom and sides of a bowl without binding the drill/sander. Dave took a bit extension and mounted the 2" sanding disc holder into the extension. The other end goes in the drill chuck. Simple but effective when you are sanding the sides and bottom of even a deep bowl.



Gadget #4 is Dave's method for setting up his One-Way Sharpening jig. He cut a "pattern" that is based on the angle degree he wants to grind on a tool (curved to match the grinding wheel). The bottom of the "pattern" fits in the notch on the grinding jig. With Dave's patterns, the set up process is the same, even when the tool begins to change length due to sharpening.



Gadget #5 is the lathe exhaust hood that Dave built to remove chips and sawdust. Connected to his vacuum system, his is unique in that it is connected to a rail that allows the hood to slide from left to right so it is efficient no matter where he is turning along the lathe bed.



The 6th Gadget is Dave's lighting system. He's attached two lightweight LED lights to an articulated arm so that he can swing them into position to light the project he is working on. The LED lights (IKEA) have a magnet on the bottom but didn't hold effectively to anything else that was metal on the lathe headstock.

Then there are the magnets. Dave has made extensive use of magnets and magnetic strips to hold his accessories and tools throughout the shop. It makes his chuck keys, drive center's, punches etc. handily positioned near where they are most often used.