

# Smoky Mountains Woodturners NEWSLETTER

MAY 2021

Issue No. 5

## Welcome to 2021 SMWTS Meetings!

We had 34 attendees at our May ZOOM meeting with turning artists Graeme Priddle & Melissa Engler. We enjoyed the virtual video demo and live discussion. Join us next month and enjoy the socializing from 6-6:30.

## 2021 Dues are



Please send your dues check of **\$30.00** to the club post office box to retain your annual membership.

**P. O. Box 50141**

**Knoxville, Tennessee 37950-**

## Want to become a New Member of SMWTS?

1. Send your name and password to use to Jim Vogelsang  
[jevogelsang@charter.net](mailto:jevogelsang@charter.net).
2. Send \$30 dues to PO Box listed above

## 2021 Board Members

Rob Smith -- President  
Don Adams -- Vice President  
Scott Duncan – Secretary  
Jack Harris -- Treasurer

### Members-at-Large:

Larry Green – 2021-22  
Dick Hoffmann – 2020-21  
John Jordan – 2020-21  
Gordon Fowler – 2020-21  
Dick Hoffmann – Program Committee  
Chair– 2020-21



## “Koru Bowl” with Graeme Priddle & Melissa Engler



pages 4 - 7



The Smoky Mountain Woodturners Chapter of the AAW meets each month of the year on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month. Our meeting place sponsor is Woodcraft – Knoxville. Meetings start at 6:30 pm. Guests are always welcome. Woodcraft Knoxville is located at 8023 Kingston Pike in Knoxville, near Trader Joe’s and one block from West Town Mall.

Smoky Mountain  
Woodturners  
P. O. Box 50141  
Knoxville, TN 37950-0141  
Website: [smwts.org](http://smwts.org)  
Email: [info@smwts.org](mailto:info@smwts.org)

Contact: Rob Smith, President  
Email: <mailto://highsky103@gmail.com>

Newsletter Editor: Pauline Bayne  
Email: <mailto://paulinebayne@comcast.net>



### President's Message from Rob Smith

Our online meeting this month was a video with live commentary by Graeme Priddle and Melissa Engler. Their presentation and discussion with us was superb. However, like many first attempts at something new, the outcome was less a little problematic. The audio was great but the less-than smooth video was a problem depending on band width. Sometimes it takes a few times through to work out the kinks. To their credit, though, we were given online access to the "Koru Bowl" video for two weeks afterwards. I watched the video and had no problems like we saw last Tuesday night. I came away with a much better understanding of the steps that they go through to produce their very organic design effects. First off, I want to try boiling my turning stock to see if that greatly reduces cracking issues. I also just browsed through "Rio Grande Jewelry Supply" and "MDI Woodcarvers Supply" websites and saw a lot of things that could prove quite useful. Additionally, the use of a storyboard to develop, document, and highlight the steps in a process seemed intriguing. Lastly, I have to try some of "Daddy Van's Hemp Oil".

It appears that our days, weeks, and months of seclusion and isolation may be nearing an end. The CDC has this statement on their website, among others. I've also included a graphic from the CDC. They are basically pronouncing that it is "safe" to resume normal activities IF a person is FULLY VACCINATED.

*Risk of SARS-CoV-2 infection is minimal for fully vaccinated people.*

*The risk of SARS-CoV-2 transmission from fully vaccinated people to unvaccinated people is also reduced. Therefore, fully vaccinated people can resume activities without wearing a mask or physically distancing, except where required by federal, state, local, tribal, or territorial laws, rules, and regulations, including local business and workplace guidance. Fully vaccinated people should also continue to wear a well-fitted mask in correctional facilities and homeless shelters. Prevention measures are still recommended for unvaccinated people.*

#### Committee Chairs

**Website** – Jim Vogelsang

**Newsletter Editor** – Pauline Bayne

**Video/Zoom** – Jim Vogelsang and Andy Milligan

#### Special Projects

- **Fantasy of Trees** – Jim Vogelsang
- **Beads of Courage & Wig Stands**  
– Drue Hogland
- **Pens for Troops** – Randy Fritchman
- **Education** – WVR Project  
– Bob Law
- **Safety Director** – Richard Hoffman
- **Arts in the Airport**  
– Robert Brown
- **Blount Mansion Project** – Ed Lewis  
Kiln-dried magnolia is coming...
- **SMWTS Display at the Emporium** –  
Brian Horais (2021 cancelled)

While not all of our state and local entities have yet to acknowledge this, they seem to be moving rapidly in that direction. Consequently, I believe that we should pursue a resumption of our in-person meetings in the near future. I estimate that July may be a reasonable start if all indicators continue to be "green lights". I WOULD ENCOURAGE ALL OF OUR MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES TO GET VACCINATED ASAP, IF AT ALL POSSIBLE.



President’s Message from Rob Smith, continued

# Choosing Safer Activities

Accessible link: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/participate-in-activities.html>

	Unvaccinated People	Examples of Activities	Fully Vaccinated People
<b>Outdoor</b>			
Safest		Walk, run, wheelchair roll, or bike outdoors with members of your household	
		Attend a small, outdoor gathering with fully vaccinated family and friends	
		Attend a small, outdoor gathering with fully vaccinated and unvaccinated people	
Less Safe		Dine at an outdoor restaurant with friends from multiple households	
Least Safe		Attend a crowded, outdoor event, like a live performance, parade, or sports event	
<b>Indoor</b>			
Less Safe		Visit a barber or hair salon	
		Go to an uncrowded, indoor shopping center or museum	
		Attend a small, indoor gathering of fully vaccinated and unvaccinated people from multiple households	
Least Safe		Go to an indoor movie theater	
		Attend a full-capacity worship service	
		Sing in an indoor chorus	
		Eat at an indoor restaurant or bar	
		Participate in an indoor, high intensity exercise class	

### Get a COVID-19 vaccine



**Prevention measures not needed**



**Take prevention measures**

Wear a mask, stay 6 feet apart, and wash your hands.

- Safety levels assume the recommended prevention measures are followed, both by the individual and the venue (if applicable).
- CDC cannot provide the specific risk level for every activity in every community. It is important to consider your own personal situation and the risk to you, your family, and your community before venturing out.



## SMWTS 2021 Calendar of Events

January 6	1st Quarter Board of Directors meeting
January 19	<b>Jake Niedling</b> – Small Thin Goblets
February 16	<b>Gordon Fowler</b> -- Multi-Axis Turned Coffee Scoops
March 16	<b>Dick Hoffman</b> –Hand Made Turning Tools
April 7	2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter Board of Directors meeting
April 20	Two-Part Hollowing by <b>Frank Didomizio &amp; Tim Yoder</b> ; public domain videos curated by Dick Hoffmann.
<b>May 18</b>	<b>Graeme Priddle &amp; Melissa Engler</b> - Koru Bowl
<b>June 20</b>	<b>June Meeting - TBD</b>

*The Board of Directors will be completing our annual schedule.  
Contact any board member if you to demonstrate for our club.*

**NEED WOOD?** --Donations to SMWTS will be accepted for the club.

### Contact John Jordan

mailto: [jordanjk@gmail.com](mailto:jordanjk@gmail.com)

John has wood to donate for those needing wood for practice or chapter projects. Newly cut and available: freshly-cut red oak, dogwood with 12" diameter trees to be cut, and coming soon: sassafras. Let him know if you want some or want to help with the cutting.

### Contact Rob Smith

mailto: [highsky103@gmail.com](mailto:highsky103@gmail.com)

For those who need or want it, Rob also has a supply of turning materials.

## Check out AAW Remote Demos

- Live with Lyle, Thin-Walled Goblet / June 5, 3-5:30
- Women in Turning: Joey Richardson / June 12, 4 pm
- Manhole Cover Box: Keith Gotschall / June 19, 3 pm
- Women in Turning Virtual Exchange: Presentation of Projects / June 19, 3 pm

## American Association of Woodturners

If you are not a member of AAW, we ask you to consider joining our parent organization. A new membership promotion is being offered in 2020 – **Affiliate membership.**

Get full access to all online content, publications *American Woodturner* & Woodturning FUNDamentals, as well as availability of demonstrator, maker and educator profiles on the AAW website.

NOTE: Affiliate membership is offered **FREE** to AAW Chapter members for 3 months. **Sign up** for the special offer online at [www.woodturner.org](http://www.woodturner.org)

NOW is a Great Time to join, and spend time with all their info, videos, articles – both present and past!

\*\*\*\*\*

**AAW Calendar**  
**2021 AAW Symposium**  
Omaha, Nebraska  
July 15-18, 2021

**2022 AAW Symposium**  
Chattanooga, TN  
June 23-26, 2021

## Professional DEMO – Graeme Priddle & Melissa Engler

After introductions, Graeme and Melissa began by discussing their backgrounds and artistic inspiration / directions. Graeme, who is from New Zealand,, is inspired by the sea, natural forms, wood carving of NZ, and boats. Melissa grew up in the Rocky Mountains of Canada and finds her artistic inspiration in the wildness of nature, mountains, and color. Both were so personable and articulate.



Then Graeme told us about the Koru Bowl and the New Zealand fern fronds that inspire its spirals and textured decoration. The bowl is created by turning the form, texturing with relief carving and wood burning, and painting. After all decoration is done, they return the piece to the lathe, sand the natural (undecorated) wood

### Contact Information

Graeme Priddle: [graemepiddle@xtra.co.nz](mailto:graemepiddle@xtra.co.nz)

Melissa Engler: [mengler13@hotmail.com](mailto:mengler13@hotmail.com)

Studio website: [grovewood.com](http://grovewood.com) (located at Grovewood Village, 111 Grovewood Rd., Asheville, NC 28804 --gallery & studios in Asheville, NC)

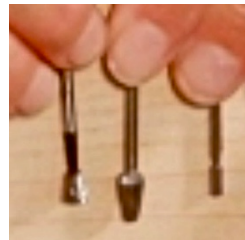
Specific website:  
<https://www.grovewood.com/artist/melissa-engler-graeme-priddle/>

### Woods & Tools for the Project

- **Preferred Wood:** close smooth-grained wood is best such as cherry, maple, sycamore, or walnut if it has a tight grain.
- **Magnifying Loops:** Optivisor makes some of the best glass magnifiers and has various magnifications depending on your needs.



- **Relief Carving:** *Master Carver Micro-Pro* --speed to 45,000 rpm, giving fast and smooth cut while keeping handpiece cool



#### Burs:

- 1) 4.7mm Inverse Cone,
- 2) 2.3mm Lynx Square cross-cut bur cylinder (both from [riogrande.com](http://riogrande.com)) and
- 3) 5mm Bud Stump cutter, pear-shaped, from ([mdiwoodcarvers.com](http://mdiwoodcarvers.com)).

Priddle has the set of 3 burs for purchase at \$25 + \$2 tax & shipping. Order by email.

- **Woodburning:** They make their own burning tips from 16 and 18-gauge nickel chromium wire, cut, bent, & shaped on a small anvil. Graeme recommends sharpening the tips on the **BCS** grinding wheel.
- **Wire brush** to scrub the carbon out of textured surfaces so paint will stick to wood, not carbon. They do this also use a brush during woodburning to keep the tip free of carbon.
- **Cleanup of texturing:** 3-M bristle brushes. Put a stack of 6 on an arbor, mount in the microcarver, run at half speed. They use 120 grit for this application; 80/220/400 grit for other things. From Harvey Klein at [Woodturns2@hotmail.com](mailto:Woodturns2@hotmail.com)
- **Acrylic Paints:** Melissa recommends Golden Artist Colors, which are professional acrylics in tubes. They use carbon black for the background and various color schemes for surface decoration.
- **Safety:** Wear a face mask; use dust collector system

## Professional DEMO – Graeme Priddle & Melissa Engler



Graeme recommends a relaxed, comfortable, and supported position for the texturing process. He sits in a stressless chair with knees bent to support his arms. He turns the piece as he carves or burns his designs. If this type of position is not possible, he recommends using a large beanbag to support the work.



Holding the bowl in a supported position.

### Process for the Koru Bowl

#### TURN

- Turn a tenon on the back of the piece and turn the form of the outside of the bowl
- Turn the inside, aiming for a wall thickness of about  $\frac{1}{2}$ " or a little thicker because the carving is about  $\frac{1}{4}$ " deep.
- Blend the top rim into the back
- Do not sand



#### EMBELLISH

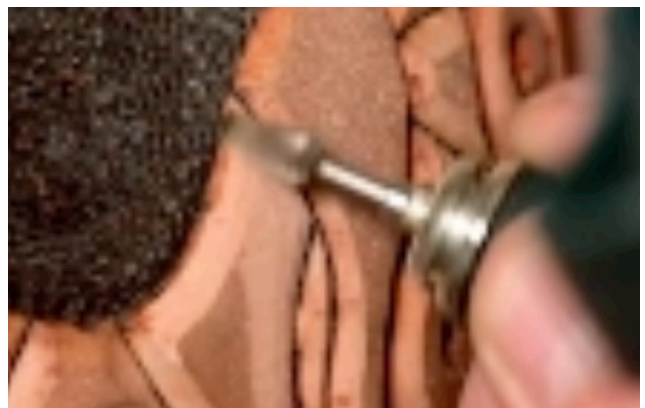
- Draw lines to divide the bowl into sections & then draw the spirals
- Carve spirals using 3 different burs



Inverse Cone for initial cuts



Square Cross-cut Cylinder Cutter



Pear-shaped Bud Stump Cutter

## Professional DEMO – Graeme Priddle & Melissa Engler

- Woodburning
  - Burn to define the bottom of carved spirals
  - Texture the spirals by woodburning
  - Stipple the background --medium depth dots in a honeycomb pattern

Starting to burn the bottom of the grooves



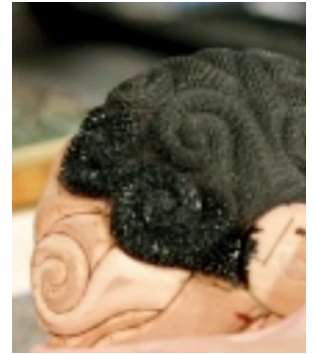
Texture the spirals



- Wirebrush to scrub carbon out of the textures



- Paint with good quality acrylic paint
  - Background - Carbon Black applied with a toothbrush



- Color coats: work light to dark. Melissa uses a small flat angled brush.



- *Dry Brushing Technique*: use a minimum amount of paint that is not watery.
- Work colors into detail of the carving, not too much to start, putting colors in the low & high spots. "Feather it in" to blend colors on the piece.

### FINISH

- Return bowl to the lathe
- Sand natural wood areas (not carved)--inside & rim
- Reverse the bowl to turn off the tenon or change it into a foot.

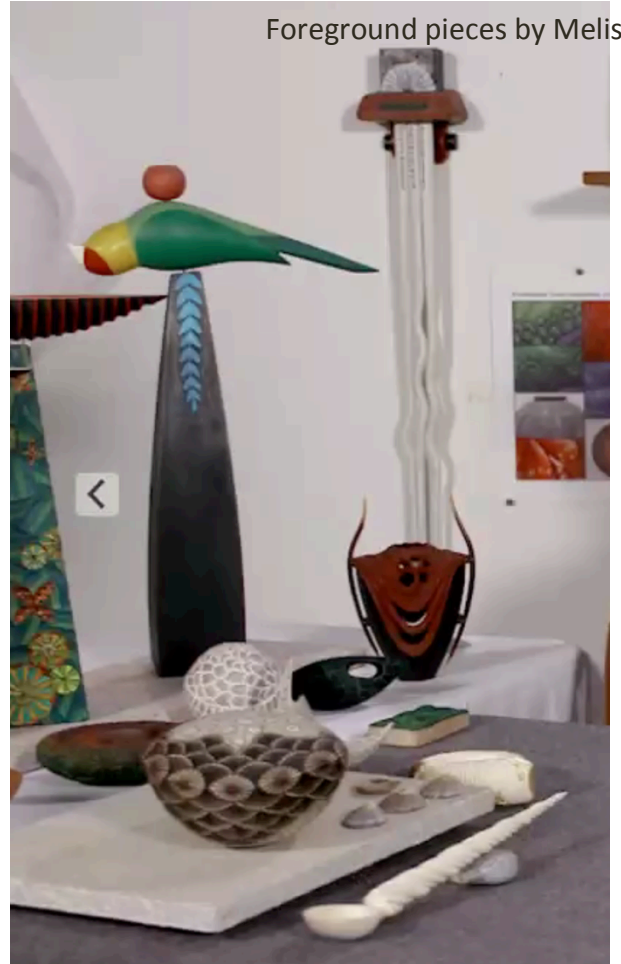
Use an oil finish on the inside wood and bottom.

**Professional DEMO** – Graeme Priddle & Melissa Engler

**The finished Koru Bowl**

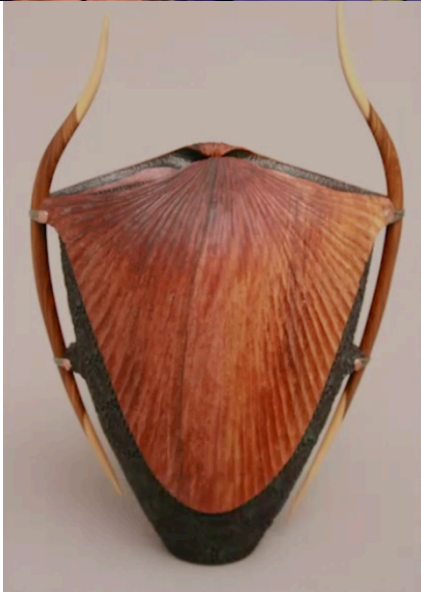


Background pieces by Graeme



Foreground pieces by Melissa

Other work that Graeme Priddle showed us---





## A Safety Minute: Check Your Locks

Check that all the locks on your lathe work correctly (smooth action and secure) before turning on the lathe

- Head stock lock
- Tail stock
- Tail calendar lock
- Banjo lock
- Tool rest lock
- Head stock lock



### Show & Tell Gallery

**Brian Horais**

“Reptilian Twist” vase



# Show & Tell Gallery

## *Jake Niedling*

Walnut Box, a gift for WVR graduating student who participated in woodturning program



## *Larry Bass*

Box Elder Bowl



Box Elder Platter



Mulberry Platter with Inlaid Rim



## *Dick Hoffmann*

Pierced 4 x 8"  
Gecko Cherry Vase

Tiger Maple Vase  
14 x 4" with  
1/16<sup>th</sup>-inch wall thickness





## What's Happening at the Ranch this Month?

**May** brings great weather for turning at the shop. We were able to open the doors and let the breeze blow through the building. The ranch has had two volunteer work groups in this month and they've been working on our building (more to follow). Our intermediate students have been working on the second turning of their Black Gum Bowls this month. They started the project in January, rough turning the bowls and then packing them away in sawdust and brown paper bags until last month. We took them out of their cocoons and let them finish air drying. They had minimal cracks and the bowl blanks dried with minimal warping. Most of the students completed the second turning and were able to begin the finishing process. They are producing some beautiful bowls that we'll complete in June.



Our beginners group is working on improving their tool handling skills by making a foot massager later this month.





**Work Continues on the new addition at the Shop.** The walls are up, exterior is painted and the new addition is “dried in”. The roof was removed and a new wood layer & insulation were added. Next up, the plumber and electrician are due any day. We are anxiously awaiting the indoor “facilities” 😊.

If you have questions about our SMWTS educational program at the Ranch, contact Bob Law - rockytopbob1@gmail.com