



# Southern Piedmont Woodturners



August 8, 2024

# H

ello woodturners. First, my apology for not getting the newsletters out promptly. I have not been able to get a newsletter out to the membership since the one covering the April meeting. Consequently, this newsletter covers 3 meetings—May, June, and July 2024. To maintain the size of the newsletter at a reasonable length, where possible a consolidated report for the 3 meetings is provided, particularly the business section, to avoid repetition.

## *Club Business*

### Election of officers

- Per the club bylaws, the board of directors of SPW includes the 4 officers, President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer, and 4 at-large directors. They serve 2-year terms, with half, 2 officers and 2 at-large members, elected in alternating years to provide continuity. The election is held during the July regular meeting. The current VP (Ric Erkes) and Treasurer (Cindy Boehrns) are the 2 officers and Vince Keipper and Mike Martins are the at-large members whose terms expire this year. Both Rick and Cindy have elected not to continue for additional terms, while Vince and Mike have agreed to continue. Having established that a quorum, including in-person and remote video attendees, was present, President Phil Goodman conducted the election accordingly. Phil first acknowledged Gina Brown, who has volunteered to run for the position of Treasurer. He then explained the duties of the Vice President and solicited volunteer(s) to run for this office. With no volunteers for the Vice President office forthcoming, and having no opposition for the remainder, Mr. Goodman proceeded with a vote of acclimation via show of hands for Gina Brown – Treasurer, Vince Keipper and Mike Martins – at-large members. Having received unanimous positive vote of acclimation, they were so elected.
- Additionally, Phil is looking to step aside, as he has now served as President for 7 years. His term will expire in 2025, at which point he has decided not to continue. So, we will be in search of a new President over the course of the coming year.
- Having identified no volunteer to date to serve as Vice President, we are still in need of filling this position. The duties of VP are relatively simple. VP conducts the meetings in the absence of the President

tion. The duties of VP are relatively simple. VP conducts the meetings in the absence of the President and coordinates the demonstration program. Ric Erkes, further explained the latter as follows: arrange demonstration for 10 monthly meetings, with none in July due to the election at that meeting and none in December due to the Christmas party. He currently has some set for the upcoming year and will assist with others. Additionally, we have an extensive list of demonstrations and presenters provided to us by another club.

- We are also in need of a club photographer and mentors for the open turning sessions.

### Other Club Business

- 2024 dues are \$55 annually and are now payable for 2024 – if you have not paid your dues yet, please do so ASAP.
- Raffles – items are needed for the monthly raffles.

### *Tops for Kids Challenge*

Everyone is requested to make and turn in a minimum three (3) tops each month so that we don't get caught short and have to scramble when they are needed. As of this newsletter, we have one jar completely full and a second well on its way to being full. We need to have 3 full jars to support the needs over the course of the year. So, please keep 'em coming.

### *A/V Operators Needed*

As you should have noted by now, Bill Joyce's wife, Debra, volunteered to learn how to operate the A/V equipment and conduct the remote meetings. She

has pretty much been the full time operator ever since. Thanks so much Debra. That said, we would still like to have a couple additional operators trained so that we have some backups available when the currently trained operators are unavailable. Volunteers will be appreciated.

### *Coming Events*

- Holiday Market – Sarah Gay, Coordinator for ClearWater Art Center and Studios, attended the July meeting briefly to announce a holiday market to be held at the Center on December 7, 2024. The Center hopes that all studios will get involved. They will additionally have food trucks present and other makers present to stimulate interest. This will provide a great opportunity to gain exposure for the club and, for those interested, to sell some of your turnings. More of this to follow as the time approaches.
- County Fair – The fair will run from Friday, September 6 through Saturday, September 14. Hours will be: Fridays – 4:00–10:00; Saturdays – 1:00–10:00; Sunday – 1:00–9:00; Monday – Thursday, 4:00–9:00. Our participation will be the same as in prior years. We need volunteers to set up and breakdown our booth and turning equipment, plus someone to pull the trailer for set up and breakdown. Setup is on Thursday, September 5, 9:00 – ?? (whenever complete), and teardown is Saturday, September 14, immediately following close of the Fair. Additionally we need turners (approximately 5) to man the turning stations during fair open hours, plus 4–5 people for the sales tables, raffle tables, etc. Also, and this is very important, we need products to sell and for the raffles, and to give away

(mostly tops). We have only one more meeting before the County Fair, so a lot of the planning and coordination must be done behind the scenes. Please step up and volunteer – this is our largest fund raising event of the year, and we need everyone to support the effort in order to make it a success.

## ***Speaking of Volunteers***

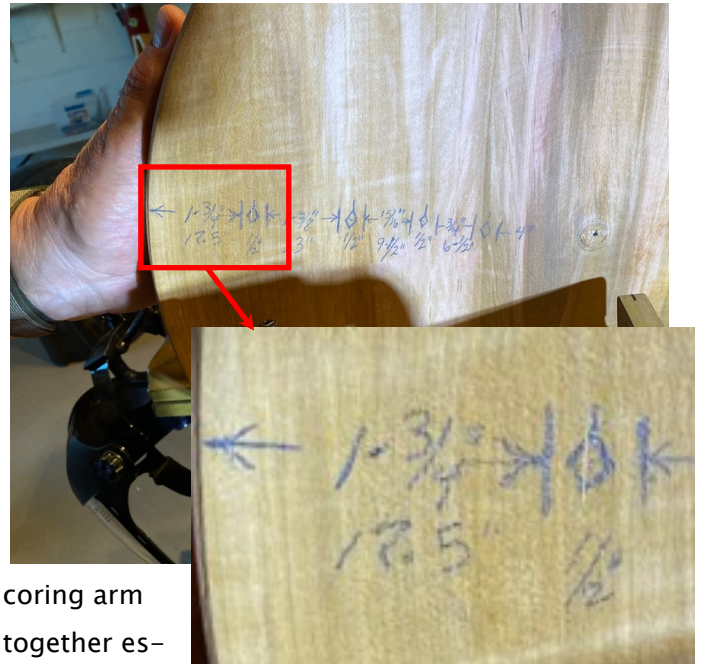
Thanks to mentors Bill Joyce, Michael Martins, Ric Erkes, Cindy Boehrns, Darrel Rader, Walt Hazelrigg, Lan Brady, Bob Moffett, and Vince Keipper and to Zoom operator Deborah Joyce. In the truest sense, these members (and wife) continue to carry the load.

## ***Demonstrations***

May 21, 2024—The demo for this meeting, entitled “Coring can be the answer” was presented by Tim Tucker, member and past President of Carolina Mountain Woodturners, Asheville, NC. Tim uses a Oneway coring system with Hunter KorPro cartridge and Hunter carbide cutters.

Tim started with a 17-3/4” diameter piece of wet, figured Bradford Pear. He explained that, as with other turning, it is easier to turn the wood when wet. However, it is very important when coring wet wood to place the cuts to leave each piece with a thickness that is equal to about 10% of the diameter to allow for distortion as the pieces dry such that it can be final turned when dry. This means that the location of cuts must be carefully placed to coordinate thicknesses and diameters. as shown with Tim’s layout on the demonstration piece. The distance of the coring system from the object is also important, as this axial position, along with the ra-

dial position of the cutter and the curvature of the



coring arm  
together es-  
tablish the

depth of the cut into the object, which is important in maintaining wall thickness throughout the cut. Tim also explained that the coring can proceed from smaller (innermost) piece to the largest, or starting with the largest and proceeding through the different sizes to the smallest. Each approach has advantages and disadvantages. When starting with the smallest and moving toward the largest, you don’t have to mount a new blank each time, i.e., work can proceed without removing the initial blank from the lathe. If starting at the largest and proceeding to the smallest, a new tenon must be made on the removed blank so that it can be mounted to the lathe to then proceed to the next smaller blank. However, when complete, using this approach, all cored blanks have tenons and are ready for drying and remounting later.

This photo (top of next page) shows a cored blank reverse-mounted in the larger blank that it came from being turned to add a tenon.



And, Tim explained and demonstrated (photo below) that it is not necessary to exert a lot of force to make the cut if, that is, everything is setup and implemented properly.



Thanks, Tim, for a very informative and well-presented demonstration.

June 18, 2024—The demonstration for this meeting was presented by Emiliano Archaval from Maui, Hawaii via Zoom link. He is the President of the Maui Woodturners Association, a chapter of AAW. His presentation was entitled “Turning and Repairing a Traditional Hawaiian Calabash Bowl”. The Hawaiian Pu’ahala Calabash bowl is a traditional wooden vessel typically used to hold food. Historically, the bowls were carved, not turned, and they came in a variety of sizes and shapes. Emiliano typically turns

his Calabash bowls from Koa wood, which is one of the species traditionally used for these bowls. Many of the bowls, particularly tall bowls such as that shown in the photograph below, were made from end grain wood, i.e., with the height of the bowl in the direction of the grain. Because of this orientation, flaws such as cracks and other grain-oriented imperfections, were common and repairs became a standard part of the process. Shown here is one of Emiliano’s bowls, with typical bowtie repairs known in Hawaiian as pewas, which translates to “fish tails”. Other repairs might involve dowels and other shapes to best take care of the particular flaw. As part of his



demonstration, Emiliano showed how the recess for a pewas is made using a router and template. From the general dis-

cussion of this presentation, it appears that this was one of the most interesting demonstrations ever performed for SPW. Thanks, Emiliano.

July 16, 2024 – Because the election of officers and board members was held during this meeting, a less formal demonstration and discussion was felt appropriate due to time constraints. Consequently,



Ric Erkes volunteered to provide a discussion on “TENONS, techniques for sizing these rascals”. Here we are talking about tenons made to fit inside a specific diameter hole in the mating part, not tenons to mount into an expandable chuck. So, the tenons of this discussion must be, by design, accurately cut to a specific diameter. As an example of an application, Ric said that he often makes hollow forms by starting with a large hole drilled into the form using a 2-1/8” Forstner bit. He then turns and inserts a collar of a different wood that reduces the opening size and embellishes the top of the vessel as well. So, here are several methods for making a precisely sized tenon that fits the hole in the vessel:

In the first method, Ric uses the Forstner bit that was used to drill the hole in the vessel to make a scratch scribe mark on the collar. Then he simply turns to the scribe mark and test-assembles using the hole in the vessel itself until he achieves the perfect fit.

Method #2 is similar, except it employs a caliper, set to the diameter of the hole, to scribe the collar. Then, as in the first method, he sneaks up on the ring OD and test fits using the hole in the vessel itself.

In the third method, he cuts a hole in a sizing ring using the same Forstner bit used to cut the hole in the vessel, as in the photograph. The sizing ring is then mounted over the live cen-



ter in the tail stock, which is engaged to the finishing ring, so that he can alternately turn and test by bringing the sizing ring forward until achieving the perfect size to fit. Here is a photo of Ric using a



ring – granted, you must look pretty closely to see it – look in the red circle.

In method #4, Ric uses a drill bit sizing guide made of metal, not only as a convenient sizing check guide, but also as a cutter to achieve the final diameter. This must be made of metal or it will not work, and it is typically effective only for small diameter tenons, for example a tenon on a finial to fit a hole in a box lid. You can turn the tenon until it is only slightly oversized and then complete it to size by forcing the metal sizing guide over the tenon. As an associated tip, Ric turns the finial shape, leaving the bottom scrap material, then uses a jam chuck with a hole through the center for the finial to turn the bottom tenon.

Method 5—Using a Forstner bit as a tool guide. In this method, mount the appropriate size Forstner bit in the tail stock and bring into proximity with the

end of the tenon. Use a Bedan cutting tool to cut the tenon with it extended over the Forstner bit and stop when the Bedan contacts the Forstner.

Method 6 involves the use of specially prepared, open end box wrenches to confirm size and make



the cut. This photo shows one such wrench that has been prepared by reducing one of the tangs on the open-end box to make it into a cutter. With the lathe in the normal rotational direction toward the turner, put the uncut tang under the tenon and the cut tang against the upper material and cut with the shortened tang until the wrench slips onto the tenon. For this to work properly, the length of the cut tang must be long enough for the inner flat surfaces of both tangs to contact the tenon when fully extended onto the tenon. If it is cut too short, it will not achieve the proper size.

Method 7—This method is specific to making sea urchin Christmas ornaments. Rather than making tenons that fit the sea urchins perfectly for glue-ups, make the top and bottom finials with dowels extending into the shell and make a male tenon on one and female socket on the other. Make the lengths of the fits sufficient to allow them to be

tightened while closing on the shell such that, when glued, the finials are snug to the shell.

## *Show and Share*

Several items were brought in for the May 21 meet-

ing. First up for show and share was Richard Redding, who brought a small, round, lidded box made from walnut with a cherry lid and walnut finial. He also made a very nice natural edge bowl from ambrosia maple.



Really beautiful turnings.

To keep with the demonstration topic of coring multiple bowls from a single board, Darrell Rader brought in





a set of 4 nested bowls that he made earlier from a walnut crotch wood, See the picture below.



Photograph of Darrell's 4 nested walnut bowls.  
Great work Darrell.

Next up was Bob Moffett with a small, lidded, cherry box and two natural edge bowls, one made from Osage orange and second from plum, and both having very distinctive coloration. Also some very nice turnings.



Last but by no means least, Claud Shealy brought in three very nice clocks that he made from pine and finished with polyurethane.



Just truly outstanding work, Claud.



The June 18 meeting also produced a number of very fine forms turned by various club members. Vince Keipper brought in a twice-turned cherry bowl finished with polyurethane. Very nice, Vince.



Eugene Schlaman brought in a series of segmented bowls with different patterns in their bottoms. It looks like these are made from maple, walnut and oak. Very unique and interesting works, and well executed.



Ric Erkes showed three bowls having three different foo patterns



Tops

Bottoms



As usual, Ric did an outstanding job on these.



Chris Morgensen presented an oak, natural edge quaich, which is a two-handled, Scottish drinking cup used to share drinks, hence the two handles. The quaich is engrained in tradition and celebration and is used, for example, in wedding ceremonies to signify the joining of two entities.



It is very interesting how the turning was taken from the log to create the two handles in the turning process.

Chris also brought along a pine laminated (segmented) bowl. Both bowls are finished with butcher block oil.



Thanks for sharing Chris—very nice.

For the July 16 meeting, Ric Erkes kicked off with two large bowls, both made from ambrosia maple. The first was a large vessel with surface texturing performed using a texturing tool. Ric also add-



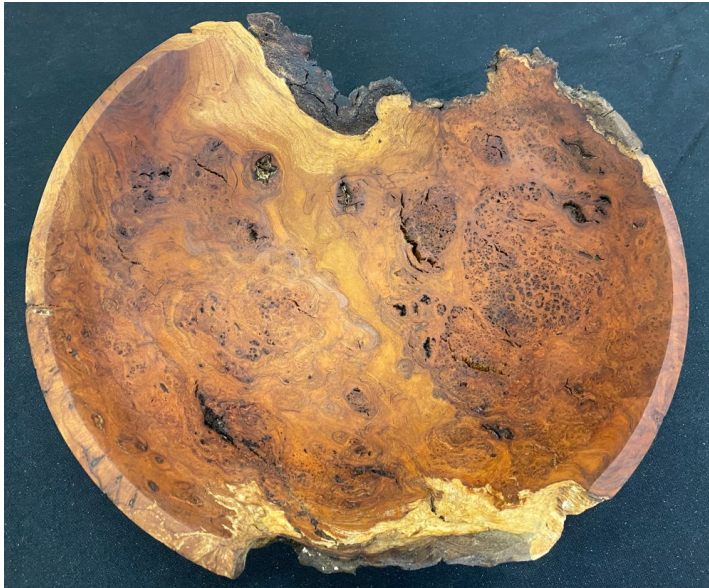
ed a tie wrap around the neck as a means of adding interest to the piece. The second bowl, also from ambrosia maple, has a scalloped rim, and Ric explained how he form that shape.



Walt Hazelrigg brought in two bowls to share. The one to the right in the picture is made from a gorgeous piece of cherry burl – it's all about the wood. The second, to the left of the picture, is made from camphor wood, the same that is used to ex-



tract camphor oil to make, for example, camphor phenique. Walt said it took a week for the smell to dissipate.



Walt's cherry burl bowl – an amazingly gorgeous piece of wood.



And finally, Darrell Rader brought in a whimsical woodpecker tooth pick holder, made using multi-axis turning techniques. Great job as usual, Darrell.

Gina Brown – Treasurer

Larry Nottingham – Secretary

Michael Martins – at large

Darrell Rader – at large

Vince Keipper – at large

Bill Joyce – at large

In case anyone wants/needs to contact the President about anything club-related, here is his contact info:

Phil Goodman – [pmgoodman1951@gmail.com](mailto:pmgoodman1951@gmail.com)

Cell phone – (704) 796-0803

That's it, folks. I look forward to seeing you at the next meeting.

Best and keep 'em turning,

Larry Nottingham

Club Secretary

### ***General club info just so you have it:***

SPW Board of Directors:

Phil Goodman – President

Vice President – Open





