



Southern Piedmont Woodturners



May 6, 2024

H

ello woodturners. Welcome to the Southern Piedmont Woodturners' Newsletter for the April 2024 meeting, held at our home in the Clearwater Arts Center and Studio on April 16, 2024.

Club Business

Club President, Phil Goodman, called the meeting to order at 6:30 sharp with 21 persons present including guests Dot and Ralph Green and Chip and Chris Scholz, all from Hickory, NC . Phil kicked things off with a few short announcements:

- 2024 dues are \$55 annually and are now payable for 2024 – if you have not paid your dues yet, please do so ASAP.
- We have been invited to visit Cannon School and Winecoff Elementary School, so we need tops to distribute. Actually, as of this newsletter, we have participated in the Cannon School Art Jam festival on April 25 and will get a report on that at the next meeting.
- Election of officers – The current VP (Ric Erkes) and Treasurer (Cindy Boehrns) have decided not to continue as officers, so we are looking for replacements for the ballot at the next election in July. Additionally, Phil is looking to step aside, as he has now served as President for 7 years. Additionally, we are in need of a club photographer and mentors for the open turning sessions.
- Raffles—Items are needed for the monthly raffles.
- Phil reserved a table for SPW to attend the Cabarrus Arts Council's breakfast fundraiser on May 1. As this date has passed by the time of this newsletter, it can be reported that SPW was represented at the breakfast by 7 members and guests.

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. We already have the two mentioned requests for school visits. As of the April meeting, we have one jar completely full and will need two more jars full to support the needs over the course of the year. So, please keep 'em coming.

A/V Operators Needed

Much thanks to Bill Joyce's wife, Debra, who volunteered to learn how to operate the A/V equipment and conduct the remote meetings. She operated the system at the March meeting and will go solo again at the May meeting. 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.

Judged Art Show

On behalf of the Cabarrus Art Guild (CAG), Debra Joyce announced the CAG Spring/Summer Judged Art Show. The show will feature two prize categories, 2-D art and 3-D art, the latter of which will include turned wooden art objects. The show will be held at ClearWater, with registration deadline of May 20, intake on May 1, and take down on July 26. For further information go to Cabarrusartguild.org.

AAW International Woodturning Symposium

The 2024 AAW Symposium is being held May 24–26 in Portland, OR. For those who cannot make it to Portland, AAW also offers remote attendance via streaming, and there is a discount for groups of 5 or more. Bill Joyce is organizing a group to take advantage of the discount, so if interested, please contact Bill to get the details and make arrangements to join the group.

Demo Time

The demo for this meeting, entitled "Dread Knot and Make Something!" was presented by Darryl Jones. Darryl is a professional woodworker/turner from Spartanburg SC, and you may have seen him previously demonstrating at the Klingspor Extravaganza or any of a number of Woodworking shows representing various manufacturers, inclusive of Nova and Robert Sorby. He is one of two national demonstrators for Robert Sorby.

Darryl joined us this month in the studio to demonstrate making a hollow form with a finial. Darryl is an exceptional demonstrator who emphasized tool control and proportions throughout and provided details on tools and techniques that made it easy to follow his presentation. Darryl provided tips throughout the demo to help others get started in making similar forms. His first tip was to start small and don't be afraid to make mistakes. By

starting small, you don't need to be concerned about wasting a prized, large piece of wood and you avoid the challenges of deep hollowing until you get the basics down. Darryl prefers using steb centers for both the head and tail stocks to start each of the two pieces, body and lid, and he first cuts a tenon on each – top of the lid piece and bottom of the body. He next works the lid, mounted in a chuck using the tenon, and finishes the fit and inside of the lid.



Here Darryl has the finial/lid mounted in his chuck, with tail stock engaged, and is turning the lid fit. By proceeding in this manner, he can add embellishment to the inside of the lid while the piece is still structurally sound and able to withstand the force of, for example, a texturing tool, as shown in the next photograph. Here you can

see the inside of the lid with rim finished and texture added.



Next, he turns the body, hollows it, and finishes the rim fit. This requires some finesse, slowly sneaking up on the fit and testing until the perfect fit is achieved. Darryl says that he prefers cup carbide cutters for hollowing because they leave a better surface compared to conventional carbide cutters. For the swan neck tool used to hollow immediately below and behind the rim of the body, the tool is made with the cutter aligned with the centerline of the straight part of the shaft. To minimize torque, it is important to keep the tool rest far enough back from the turning such that the tool is supported on its straight part, not the bend. After achieving the lid fit he wants, he then mounts the lid into the body while still held in the chuck and brings up the



steb center in the tail stock to support the assembly while turning the finial, as shown.

For the finial, Darryl uses the wing of a bowl gouge oriented similar to a skew chisel relative to the finial surface.



He finishes the finial, all but the tip, parts off the excess wood beyond the tip, and then supports the finial with his fingers as he finishes the tip.



At the top of the next column is a picture showing a couple of Darryl's finished forms. Thanks for a great demonstration, Darryl.



You can check out more of Darryl's work on Facebook and Instagram. @dreadknotwoodshop

Show and Share

As per usual, Ric Erkes was our most prolific turner, having brought in a number of his recent turnings.

Here is a lidded bowl with significant embellishment on the rim of the bowl and on the lid.



Ric also made this beautiful cherry (??) burl bowl with epoxy inlay and, pictured on down the page, a similar platter & Ric's 3 tops for this month. Further down the page is another very distinct turned, carved, and textured platter. As always, very, very nice work, Ric.



Next up was Bill Truitt with a small bowl he turned from a 155 year old cypress beam re-

moved from an 1870 farm house in Hyde County, NC during a renovation.

The finish is



oil and lacquer.

Gina Brown made a lidded box from sugar maple and



showed off her Mandala dotting technique skills. Outstanding work, Gina. That takes a lot of patience and a really steady hand.



Last, but certainly not least, Darrell Rader brought in a freeform turning/carving made from wet ma-drone. While this is not a particularly recent work, Darrell brought it in at this time because there was an article in the most recent American *Woodturner* magazine by the turner that taught Darrell on making this piece. Darrell took a course from him several years back, and this was the result.

While this may appear to be purely sculpture, it started out as a solid turned center with thin, larger diameter, rings extending from



the solid center and spaced along its length. The

middle was then carved out, leaving just the legs that connect the rings and support the structure. The wood was then allowed to dry, upon which it experienced significant shrinkage deformation, resulting in the final sculpture shape. A pretty unique and amazing process resulting in a unique and amazing form. Thanks for bringing it to show, Darrell.

Ric's Tips, Techniques, and Jigs

This month, Ric provides some concepts on how to hold turnings for additional work without marring



finished surfaces. In the first example shown, he cut a plastic tube into appropriate lengths, split them along their lengths, and then covered his chuck jaws with them so that he could squeeze the turning without

marring the outer surface. In the second example, he removed the chuck arms and added screws, in-

serted through plastic tubing. This method is typically used by expanding the new "jaws" inside the rim of a turned vessel.



Raffle

Bill Truitt donated the extra piece of Cypress wood from the old farm house for the raffle, and it was won by one of our guests. We really know how to treat our guests!!!

General club info just so you have it:

SPW Board of Directors:

Phil Goodman – President
Ric Erkes – Vice President
Cindy Boehrns – 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

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