

# SOUTHERN UTAH Woodturners



American Association of Woodturners Chapter Since May 2010

February 2025

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## **From the Office of the President--**

The main purpose and goal of the club is to help people become better woodturners. That is why we responded to Mike Russell's request and have a part of our meetings for members to ask questions that they need help with. At our February meeting we had a good discussion on beading techniques. I look forward to more similar discussions.

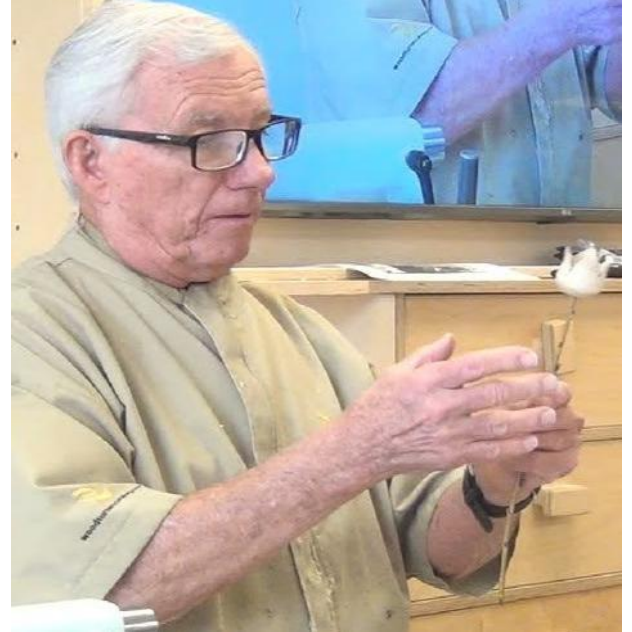
The reason I like to visit turners in their shops is that the advice they need depends on what they have, what they are trying to do and what their resources are. The tips, techniques and advice we get in our meetings usually apply to "The Ideal Situation." Few of us have the ideal situation. Beyond that we are each at different levels of experience. Going to an individual's shop allows me to give them information specific to their needs and situation.

The fastest way to learn about woodturning is to use as many sources of information as possible. Beyond our meetings there are books, magazines, videos, symposiums, social media and more. The easiest and cheapest to access is YouTube. Unfortunately, anyone can post anything about woodturning on YouTube. Expensive equipment does not make anyone a good turner. Sometimes even watching professionals using expensive equipment is not helpful. I remember watching Mike Mahoney turning a bowl on a 3HP Vicmarc 300. I wanted my 1HP Delta 46-460 to cut like his lathe. If I had scaled the size of the tool I used to the horse power of my lathe I would have done a lot better.

We are making the application for membership to Southern Utah Woodturners available on our website as well as including with the newsletter mailing as a separate attachment. Please mail form, with dues check (\$30) for 2025, to Glenn Pearson at the address on the application so he may update our records for the membership roster.

The demo of the month was: Joe peacock turning flowers. He made two types of flowers.

First he turned a solid wood flower. He rough turned a blank. Turned the outside shape and then drilled the inside with a Forstner bit. Then he finished turned both the inside and the outside of the flower. Next he marked lines on the outside for cutting the petals. He used a Dremel tool with a metal abrasive wheel to cut the petals. Then he sanded the edges to finish the shape of the petals. Last he cut the flower off of the blank and then drilled a hole for the stem. He used small branches for the stems.



For the second flower Joe used wet wood and a skew to cut flakes of wood for petals. Ken Kofoed said he had more success using a screw driver rather than a lathe tool. The idea is to make a series of layers that look like flower petals. It takes practice but it does work. After he created the flower, he dyed it red using alcohol dye and his "Bic Pen" air brush. The video of Joe's demo will be on the club website soon.





## Show & Tell



Leon Olson with an aspen vase with four silver maple flowers which are inside out turnings, three very large aspen candlesticks or pedestals. The finish on the candlesticks is Polycrylic. You can see the ends of the handles of three tools Leon made for Grant Johnson's son that Leon made with tool steel Grant gave to Leon with his metal lathe and mill.

Ken Kofoed with a hollow form with a spectraply feature ring and a basket illusion bowl with a display stand





**Joe Peacock with six flowers which he dyed with alcohol based dye using his Bic pen air brush, two small bowls with decorated edges and a flower shaped box**







**Jeff Blonder with a rolling pin with a handle that spins, a Christmas tree and a bowl made with four kinds of wood**



**Don Smith with a basket weave illusion bowl and salt and pepper shakers**





**Wyatt Holm with a large ash bowl and a small honey locust bowl**



**We evidently did not get a photo of Karl Bradshaw and his knife with a turned handle which he made with a knife kit he got from the raffle table.**

**Ken Ragsdale with a myrtle hollow form with a natural side surface area and embellished with beading and inlay**





**Reiner Jakel with a walnut bowl that includes the graft area between the black walnut base of the tree and the claro walnut top of the tree, a large aspen natural edge bowl and a large natural edge maple bowl with inclusions**





**Mike Russell with a segmented box with beading on the side.**

**John Spevak with pens and a bowl made from wood left by his brother in law, Vernile Prince**





# GALLERY

**Joe Peacock**

Six flowers which he dyed with alcohol based dye using his Bic pen air brush, two small bowls with decorated edges and a flower shaped box



**Ken Ragsdale**

A myrtle hollow form with a natural side surface area and embellished with beading and inlay



**Wyatt Holm**

A large ash bowl and a small honey locust bowl





**Leon Olson**

**An aspen vase with four silver maple flowers which are inside out turnings, three very large aspen candlesticks or pedestals.**

**Ken Kofoed**

**A hollow form with a spectraply feature ring and a basket illusion bowl**



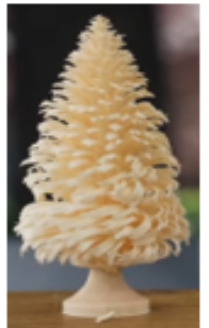


**TIPS AND TRICKS**  
**Leon Olson**

Over sixty years ago I bought three carved wooden birds in Sweden, a chicken, an owl and a hawk. The wings and tail feathers are curled wood shavings. Each bird is one piece of wood. The wings and tail carvings have always fascinated me. I have seen Christmas trees made with curled shavings. German craft woodturners make Christmas trees by cutting shavings. There is a YouTube video of a tree being turned in a few minutes. The turner in the YouTube video used a skew. Joe used a skew to turn the second flower.



Yes, both the flower and the Christmas tree are difficult to turn until you master the technique AND have the right wood. Then it takes minutes to create beautiful turnings. I found a description of the lathe tool the German craft turner used to turn trees. I made the tool and then spent hours using it and finally managed to create curled shavings on the side of a blank. I gave up before I could make anything resembling a tree.



I tried to make a flower like Joe. I cut off some branches of an apple tree. A wet blank is not enough. Apple wood is too hard. You need a wet fibrous wood like aspen, linden or willow.

At our meeting Ken Kofoed mentioned that he used wet tamarisk, salt cedar, and a screw driver to make flowers. He had tried various lathe tools and finally tried a screw driver, which worked. I know where salt cedar grows and cut some. Trees normally start drawing water up sometime in January. The apple tree wood is wet. Unfortunately, the tamarisk was absolutely dry. Evidently this is a good time of year to harvest tamarisk for other turning. Saturday, March 1, I cut some willow from the bank of the irrigation ditch near my home. It only took a few tries to create this flower. After I make a Bic pen air brush, I will be able to color the flowers. With some practice I should be able to make the Christmas trees as well.



I have half inch diameter HSS tool blanks that I made for a hollowing tool. I tried the tool against the wet apple blank. The tool works even if the wood did not. The part of the tool that “cuts” is similar to the tip of a screw driver. It would be easy to create a tool with an old lathe tool, even high carbon lathe tools.



## WHY WE LIVE IN SOUTHERN UTAH



Deertrap Trail, Zion National Park  
Glenn Pearson Photos

### *Attendees to regular meeting February, 2025*

Lyman Abbott, Gayle Adams, Steve Ashworth, Roger Bender, Jeff Blonder, Karl Bradshaw, Elroy Bryant, Ken Carter, Kim Christopherson, Wyatt Holm, Chad Humphries, Reiner Jakel, Jerry Keller, Ken Kofoed, George Mason, Karl McMullen, Leon Olson, Joe Peacock, Glenn Pearson, Jim Pope, Ken Ragsdale, Mike Russell, Don Smith, John Spevak, Eric Walker, Noel Wells, Susan Wells

Guests: Haven Grey, Mckynlie Newton, Ember Gunter, Olivia Gunter, David Smith

Dedicated to promoting woodturning in Southern Utah through  
educational demos, classes & fellowship between members.

"Learning Through Turning"

**Turn Often & Turn Safe**

Meeting the 2nd Saturday of each month



Visit our website at :

<https://www.southernutahwoodturners.com>

Email-- [suwtclub@gmail.com](mailto:suwtclub@gmail.com)

### **ITEMS FOR SALE BY MEMBERS**

**Please submit items for sale to Leon Olson ([leonolson@aol.com](mailto:leonolson@aol.com)) before the 15th of the month to be included in the newsletter. Include SUWT Newsletter in the title of the email**

**FOR SALE**

**Fishlake Lumber Co.**  
 Rough Sawn Lumber Specialists  
 Full Line of Building Supplies  
 Ace Hardware & IFA Dealer



435-438-5454  
 800-304-5454  
 Fax 435-438-5477  
 1627 N. Hwy. 357  
 P.O. Box L  
 Beaver, UT 84713

Lynn Anderson  
<http://fishlakesawmill.com>  
[fishlakelumber@infowest.com](mailto:fishlakelumber@infowest.com)



**The Foundation**  
 of Valley View Medical Center

**SUU** SOUTHERN  
 UTAH  
 UNIVERSITY

LEARNING LIVES FOREVER

**NEVINSTOOLS.COM**  
 508.846.4512

CANYON CREEK SERVICES




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 D: 435-705-7664

FREE ESTIMATES ALL BRANDS

Mike's  
**TOOL & NAIL** LLC  
 CONSTRUCTION SUPPLY  
 Sales • Service • Fasteners

Mike Finn  
 Owner

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[www.mikestool.com](http://www.mikestool.com)

Motion Industries is near Costco. They sell belts and bearings among other things. This location is a sales office but they get things quickly.

Mike's repair is not far from Canyon View High School but it is on the north side of the freeway. There is a road under the freeway from the school. The website is [mikestool.com](http://mikestool.com) You need to be careful to get it exact. There is another website that is one letter different.