

# SOUTHERN UTAH Woodturners



American Association of Woodturners Chapter Since May 2010

June 2024

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## From the Office of the President--

Occasionally we need to ask ourselves why we do things. Things like why do we go to club meetings. Making it more personal, why am I a club member, why am I an AAW member. My first reason for being a club member and an AAW member is that I want to learn more about woodturning.

As I have told you before, I was turning for two years in my own little world. I wasted my money because I did not know who to ask for good information. I did not know about the AAW and local clubs until I saw the February issue of the American Woodturner in Barnes and Noble in late January of 2010. I immediately joined the AAW and the Minnesota Woodturners. There was a Peter Exton turning on the cover and Barbara Dill turnings were highlighted just inside the cover. They had my instantaneous attention. They still have my attention.

This month our three daughters came to visit. The first was our daughter in Minnesota. She wanted to turn a small vase. I had everything she needed and showed her things that made it easier for her to accomplish her goal. Today our daughter from California wanted to turn a large vase. I had the perfect piece of wood and all the things that made it easy for her. She wanted a specific design and was able to make a beautiful big vase. So, how did I get all the tools and wood they needed. I have learned about tools at club meetings and sources I have found through the AAW. I have the wood because our club includes people who own property where the wood grows or they know those people and they let us harvest it. If I was still all by myself would that have happened? No, it would not have.

**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 2022, 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: Finishing with Mike Mahoney. With permission we showed Mike's YouTube video on finishes.**

**Mike started by discussing the issues when using a bad or the wrong finish and gave personal examples.**

**Next, he discussed two categories of finishes.**

**Film, which include: waxes; lacquers; polyurethanes; acrylics; paints; shellac; epoxy**

**Penetrating oils: Danish oils; linseed; tung; mineral; natural oils**

**Then he talked about considerations: toxicity; skill to apply and repair; marketability; durability; cost**

**The issue of toxicity is for the person applying the finish, not the end user. He also discussed the "end use" determining which finish would be most appropriate and the characteristics and considerations for each finish.**

**He started with waxes and ended with natural oils. Most of what he makes will be used to serve food. For "treenware" his preference is walnut oil because it penetrates and stays in the wood. He also talked about when and where other finishes would be his choice.**

**Last he talked about how he is asked to judge at various wood turning gatherings and that 90% of the flaws in the turnings are flaws in the finish.**

**He also mentioned a book, "UNDERSTANDING WOOD FINISHING" by Bob Flexner for those who want to really understand wood finishes.**

**You can watch this video on YouTube as often as you like.**



**Show & Tell, this month's challenge was**



**Kim Christopherson with beechwood candlesticks and black walnut flower vase**



**Leon Olson with multi axis trees in sycamore and hop hornbeam. He also had two steel rod mandrels for finishing weed pots and the vases made using the mandrels**





**Bruce Sharp with a peach wood bowl and a vase of unknown wood**

**Joe Peacock with a phone amplifier on a Pinewood Derby car, a 3 piece multi axis puzzle and a vase of unknown wood with an ebonized lip**







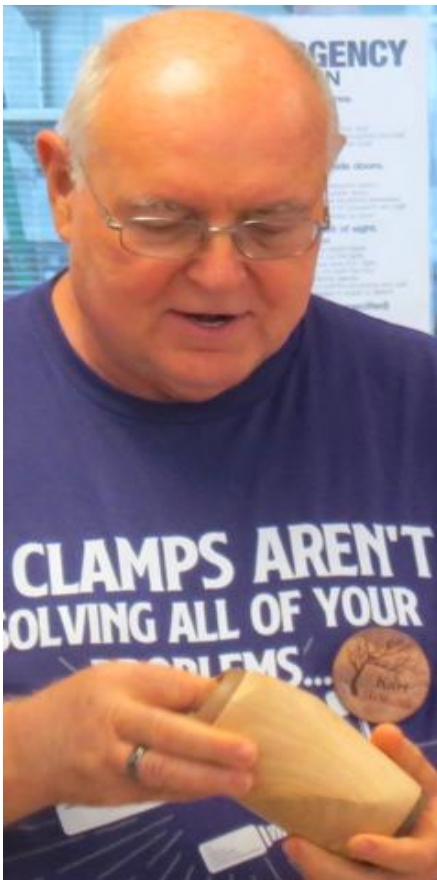
Jeff Blonder with a purpleheart and maple segmented vase, a bowl of highly figured wood, a large segmented bowl made with black walnut, padauk and yellowheart and a lidded box not shown.







**Mike Russell with two bowls with basket illusion on the sides and a wide rimmed bowl with basket illusion on the rim**



**Karl McMullen with a mulberry vase and a olivewood vase made using multiple axes**



# GALLERY

**Leon Olson**  
Multi axis trees made  
with sycamore and hop  
hornbeam



**Sean Lovell**  
multi axis candlestick and  
vase in Russian olive



**Joe Peacock**  
multi axis puzzle turning and  
a vase of unknown wood  
with an ebonized rim







**Will Arcularius**  
Fence post weed pot,  
aspen vase, candle  
holder and an aspen  
bowl with laser  
engraving







**Jeff Blonder**

**Segmented vase with purpleheart and maple, small bowl of highly figured wood, a lidded box and a large segmented bowl made with black walnut, yellowheart, maple and padauk**





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

### Lathe alignment, lathe tools and tool rests

Two of our daughters came to visit for the 4th of July. One has a coworker who has started turning. The coworker enjoys turning so much that she totally loses track of time. She missed a family gathering while turning. When her husband came into the garage she asked if it was time to go. He said, "we just came home from your family gathering." The result is my daughter wants to know how to turn.

As I was showing my daughter the various parts of the lathe, I put the tailstock next to the headstock and said that they should be aligned. She looked at it and said the tailstock is low. It was. Evidently the wear of ten years use on the bottom of the tailstock has worn away the milling marks and the tailstock has dropped. Fortunately, when I got the lathe, I had shimmed the headstock up to match the tailstock. I just removed the shims and they matched again. How many of you have aligned the headstock and the tailstock of your lathe? The process is reasonably simple. Put a drive center and or live center with sharp points in both the headstock and tailstock. Bring them close together and see if they align horizontally and vertically. Even bench top midi lathes need to be aligned. Yes, it is possible to adjust our lathes so that they align. How to accomplish that depends of the alignment issues. If you have alignment issues ask me about how to adjust your lathe.

My daughter started by rough turning a vase/weed pot blank round with a roughing gouge. Next, she drilled it with a half inch drill hole and turned the top surface smooth around the hole with a spindle gouge. After finish sanding the top, she put a cone live center in the hole and started turning the vase to shape with a spindle gouge. She had minor catches and then one that scared her. That is when I decided to follow Mike Hunter's advice and get out the scrapers. I had her use negative scrapers since they are the friendliest tools to use. There were no more catches, just some extra sanding. After I told her to look at the top edge, not where she was sanding, the surface improved rapidly. She now has a lovely vase, her first turning.

When I got my lathe, it had the cast iron tool rests. I do not like them and gave them away. I have had three lathes and have replaced all the tool rests with steel tool rests I made. Now Robust Lathes make really nice tool rests. Trent Bosch Tools and Steve Sinner also make very nice steel tool rests. Steve Sinner was the first to have hardened and ground steel rods on the top edge of his tool rests. Vicmarc has added hardened ground steel rods to the top of their tool rests as well. Earlier this year I saw a D-Way Tool YouTube video on adding a hardened ground rod to the top of Powermatic cast iron tool rests. I found some hardened ground rods of an appropriate size on Amazon and ordered them. D-Way Tools sells M42 hardened rods for Powermatic tool rests. I paid less and got enough to do multiple tool rests. I really like the hardened ground rods on the top of my tool rests. I have a lot easier tool movement and there are no high or low spots. There is also no more filing to remove dings in the edge.



## WHY WE LIVE IN SOUTHERN UTAH



Navajo Lake, Dixie National Forest Glen Pearson Photos

### *Attendees to regular meeting January, 2023*

Gayle Adams, Will Arcularius, Steve Ashworth, Roger Bender, Jeff Blonder, Elroy Bryant, Gordon Card, Ken Carter, Kim Christopherson, Les Gray, Chad Humphries, George Mason, Karl McMullin, Leon Olson, Joe Peacock, Glen Pearson, Jim Pope, Mike Russel, Bruce Sharp, Don Smith, John Spevak, Bill Vincent, Chuck Zimmerman.

Students: Sunny Johnson, Sean Lovell

Visitors:

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) 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




**MOTION**

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 St. George, UT 84790  
 Motion.com

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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

635 W. 2675 N.  
 Cedar City, UT 84721

Ph: 435-531-0077  
[mikestoolandnail@yahoo.com](mailto:mikestoolandnail@yahoo.com)  
[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 gets 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.