

SOUTHERN UTAH Woodturners



American Association of Woodturners Chapter Since May 2010

OCTOBER 2023

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From the Office of the President--

Hello woodturners,

First, a great big shout out to our mini-symposium coordinator Jim Pope. Throughout the ups and downs of organizing the program he stuck to his guns and we had three turning stations.

One of our youngest members, Sunny Johnson, presented his first demonstration and he did an outstanding job explaining the process of pen turning. Some of the student attendees were taking notes and looking at the Penn State catalog.

Will Arcularius turned a small twig pot from a branch and a 4" bowl, explaining how to use scraps from the woodshed to good advantage.

I demonstrated the turning of an ogee platter and how to determine the proportions to achieve a smooth curve.

During the break, we all went outside to observe the annular ring eclipse of the sun. Our location was only 40 miles from the epicenter so we were able to see almost the full ring.

Even though the symposium was lightly attended, we all had a great time exchanging ideas and tips for turning.

The executive board has decided to examine the membership list and remove those names who haven't paid their dues.

The next meeting is November 11th and we hope to see a good turnout. Remember, seven days without turning makes one week!!

Turn safe

From the Office of the Secretary-

Due to the Mini Symposium meeting this month, there was not a Show and Tell. This normally provides a lot of information for the newsletter. As you can see the newsletter is very abbreviated this month. Hope to see great Show and Tell for the November 11th, meeting.

Reminder of the luncheon and gift exchange. This event is on December 2nd at 12:00. Please be prepared to sign up and pay at the November 11th meeting.

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: Todd requested we have a mini symposium for the club and his students. There were three lathes set up. Sunny Johnson turned and assembled pens. Will Arcularius turned a small twig pot from a branch and a small bowl from a scrap of wood. Jerry Keller turned a platter with a Roman Ogee and discussed how to achieve a fair curve.



Sunny Johnson turning, finishing and assembling a pen.





Will Arcularius turning a weed pot and a small bowl





Jerry Keller turning a platter with a Roman Ogee



TIPS AND TRICKS
LEON OLSON OCTOBER 2023

Hollowing end grain

I have turned more than a few end grain boxes. Most have been small and not difficult to hollow out. Occasionally I have turned large and deep end grain boxes. One in particular was what I would call an exciting experience. Not the kind of excitement you want. Years ago, I watched Richard Raffin hollow an end grain box in seconds, not minutes. A large and deep box might take him a couple of minutes. He could hollow something in minutes that took me days of stress and grief. Try, fail, recover and adjust again and again. Obviously, there was a better way but there was no one to show me. Reading a book or watching a DVD did not give me the magic secret. Every time I tried to do what I thought Raffin was doing, it was a really exciting experience, like when I ripped that big box out of the Talon chuck.

I made myself a special tool rest that is flat with an offset. It looks like a reverse "L" that allows me to have tool support inside a deep box. I reground my lathe tools. I reground a spade bit so it drills a large radius with no center point. I have tried all kinds of ways to hollow end grain boxes. I even got leather that I cut to fit the bottom of boxes to hid the tear out or point of a Forstner bit in the bottom.

So why didn't I just drill it out with a Forstner bit? Does anyone have a four inch diameter Forstner bit? I don't. When you use a Forstner bits to drill out end grain, you have to be extremely careful. You have to pull the bit out often to keep it from overheating. Cedar High has a Forstner bit still in the chuck that is completely covered with charred wood dust. They really do not cut end grain that well and you do not want to trash the Morse Taper in your tailstock quill. Twist drills, drill end grain dramatically better, faster, deeper and safer. Even a spindle gouge drills end grain better than a Forstner bit.

So how does Richard Raffin or any of the other professional turners I have seen hollow end grain so fast do it? They don't. They cut side grain from the center out. Richard Raffin has his own technique. He drills a hole with his spindle gouge and in the same motion he uses the lip of the opening as a tool rest while the wing of his spindle gouge is cutting side grain inside the box. It really goes fast. I have seen others drill a hole and then use their tool rest to cut from the center out with the wing of whatever gouge they have. Basically, they are doing a pull cut on side grain. Trying to figure Raffin's special technique kept me from figuring that out for years. Eventually I watched a Richard Raffin YouTube video specifically on his hollowing technique about twenty times and was able to do it. Just drill a hole and use whatever gouge you have that has a cutting edge on the wing and cut from the center out on your tool rest.

Can you still have exciting catches, yes. Stay away from the center. Everything on the wrong side of the center is moving up and will lift your tool up and slam it back down faster than you can react, and how do I know that? Do not do a pull cut with your gouge all the way out. I have seen even Richard Raffin have his tool thrown out when he came to the edge of a box or lip of a hollow form. There are so many little moves with tools that we do not see when we watch a demo or video. Really important little moves. Little moves that are the difference between working well rapidly or experiencing disaster. One of the reasons I love woodturning is that those disasters are just new design opportunities.

WHY WE LIVE IN SOUTHERN UTAH



© Gems By Glenn - Glenn Pearson

**Rampart's Overlook Trail, Cedar Breaks National Monument
Glen Pearson Photos**

**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

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 Bob Belkowski 775-340-9043

Bob is closing up shop. Everything is for sale, table saw. Turning tools, Lathe, jewelry items, lots of wood, lots of semi precious stones, everything you could think of that a woodworker or a rockhound would like to have.

Give Bob a call for further details, his shop is close to Mesquite and well worth the drive.

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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 You need to be careful to get it exact. There is another website that is one letter different.