

# SOUTHERN UTAH Woodturners



American Association of Woodturners Chapter Since May 2010

September 2024

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

**Grant Johnson gave the club his tools, equipment and supplies because to him the club is important. He knows how much the club can help those who want to learn how to turn. He knows how that help can change peoples lives.**

**Grant is a charter member of SUWT and has been very giving of his time and knowledge to further the craft of woodturning. His commitment to SUWT is greatly appreciated and has helped to make this club a sucess.**

**I was trained as a woodshop teacher and taught students how to turn. When I started turning again in 2008 it was a completely different world. New machines and new tools that did not exist when I was trained. Learning to turn again was a slow process until**

**We delivered the two Vicmarc 120 chucks and two Apprentice chucks to the Canyon View high school woodshop. At some point I will be demonstrating at both Cedar and Canyon View high schools.**

**The December meeting will be the first Saturday in December. We will have a luncheon at the Roadhouse BBQ restaurant with a gift exchange for those who choose to participate.**

**The October challenge is to turn something with a Halloween theme.**

**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 2024, 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: Leon Olson turning finials



Leon began by discussing tools and the different grinds. He discussed how to use the Wolverine system to get a swept back grind on a spindle gouge similar to hand grinding. He showed how to adjust the holding fixture and then return it to exactly where it was before by drilling a hole through the holding fixture and the leg before you adjust it. You can use a pin that fits the hole or the drill (Jim's idea) you use to drill the hole to reposition the leg.

He discussed a variety of ways to hold the blank from one end depending on the equipment you have. That allows you to work from the tailstock end toward the headstock. You turn and finish sand each area as you work your way toward the headstock. You do not need to cut the perfect form. You can sand it to the perfect form. Even a big finial is so small that you can sand it rapidly.

He had aspen, silver maple and mesquite finials. Whatever wood you want to use will work. You just have to be more careful with the softer woods like aspen when you are sanding.

His favorite tool, which he had sharpened the night before, had a ding right in the center of the cutting edge which made turning a little more interesting. He did not want to take time to grind away enough to remove the ding.



## FOR OUR NEXT MEETING

Instead of a demonstration at our October meeting on Saturday October 12, we want to have members share how they dry wet wood for turning. What do you use to seal wood as it dries? Do you use any equipment to dry wood? What other processes, like soaking the wood in alcohol or putting the wood under vacuum have you used. Has anyone created a drying kiln? Cindy Drozda, in desperation, put a piece of wood in her oven at 250 degrees over night. Has anyone tried doing that or other ways. We want anything better and faster than throwing the wood into a pile in some corner and waiting years until it is dry enough to turn.

## Show & Tell



Don Smith with a variety of turned trees

Leon Olson with a mesquite and honey locust box with a finial



Jerry Keller with trees turned with aspen, cedar and mesquite





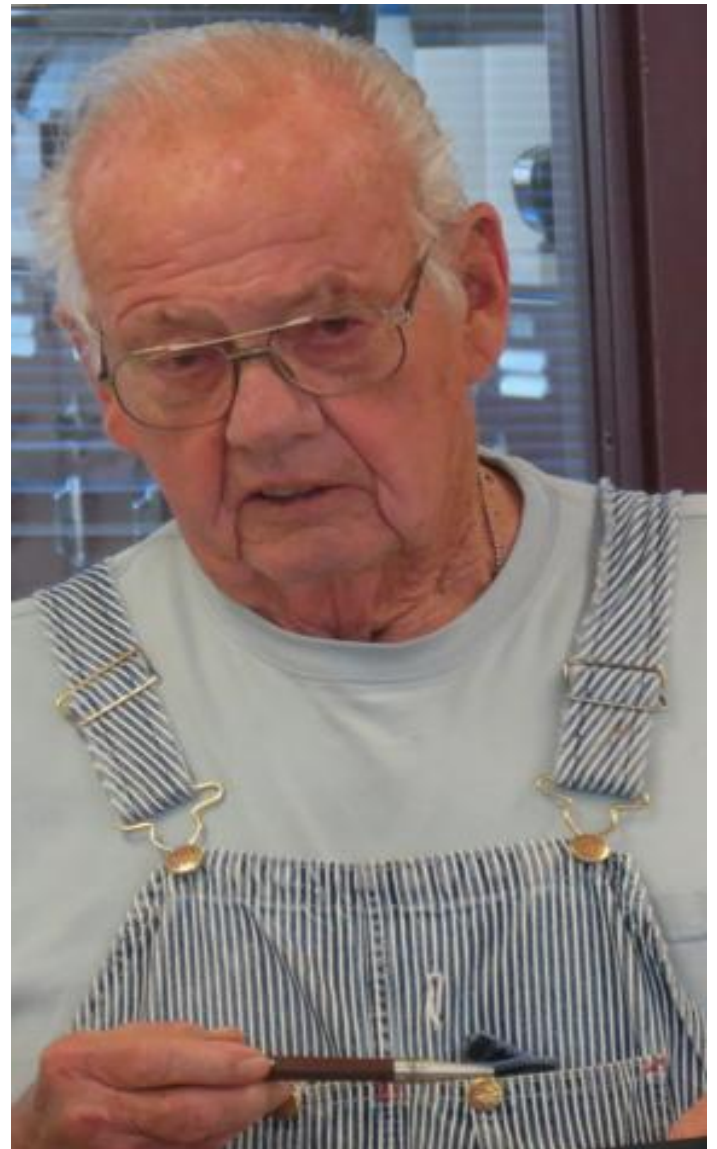
**Joe Peacock with a bowl carved with flames at the top, two honey locust vases and a tamarisk "pitcher" with voids in the side**



**Mike Russel with a platter with colored bead illusion**



**Dave Layton with a multi axis Christmas tree, a tamarisk vase and an apple vase**



**Chuck Zimmerman with a pen**



**Chuck Zimmerman giving the pen to Don Smith as a thank you for Don's contributions to SUWT.**

# GALLERY



**Joe Peacock**  
Two honey locust  
vases, a bowl with  
flames on the edge  
and a tamarisk  
pitcher with voids in  
the sides and inlay in  
the cracks.





**Jerry Keller**  
**Aspen, cedar and mesquite Christmas trees**



**Leon Olson**  
**Mesquite and honey locust box with a finial**





**Mike Russel**  
Platter with colored basket  
weave illusion

**Don Smith**  
A variety of Christmas trees designs  
made from different woods





**Dave Layton**  
Tamarisk vase, a spalted apple vase and a  
multi axis Christmas tree

## TIPS AND TRICKS

Leon Olson

There are a number of professional woodturners who have influenced how I turn. Richard Raffin and Mike Mahoney are the two I think of first. Robert (Bob) Rosand showed me how to turn ornaments. He also got me to think about having special tools that I could make myself. Alan Lacer taught me to use a skew. Cindy Drozda made me think about finials and their design elements. Her YouTube videos are always worth the time. I just learned from Jim that if you register for her YouTube videos, you can watch them at another time as a recording instead of live.

I remember being interested in off center/multi axis turning when I was teaching over fifty years ago. The February 2010 American Woodturner really got my attention with an incredible multi axis turning by Peter Exton on the cover. That is when I joined the AAW and then the Minnesota Woodturners. Just inside the cover of that issue are turnings by Barbara Dill. She has had a profound impact on my turning. Her articles and book make multi axis turning comprehensible. I can look at a multi axis turning and tell you how it was turned. I may not be able to turn it, but I know how it was done. Recently Barbara Dill retired from demonstrating and teaching classes. Instead of demonstrating or teaching classes she has made multiple YouTube videos this year, 2024, to teach people how to understand multi axis turning and how to do it. She shows you the tools she uses. She shows you how she holds blanks to turn them. She has videos on the different types of multi axis turning. So far there are chapters 1, 2, 3, 4. Eventually there will be more as she gets requests on specific types of turnings. If you have any interest in multi axis turning, watch her videos on YouTube.

Evidently I started turning again during the golden age of live demonstrations, 2010 to 2020. Covid basically ended professionals traveling to do demonstrations. They discovered they can stay home and do remote demonstrations with the right equipment. They learned that they can put demonstrations on YouTube and generate income. That allows them to spend more time with their family.

The question with YouTube is how good is the information. Anyone can post videos to YouTube. They can have the best tools and equipment and not know how to use them. I can usually tell in two or three minutes if they know how to turn safely let alone turn well. The woman who turns the trees that look like they grew in a strong wind is not a good turner, she admits that, but her concepts/designs are wonderful. The important thing is how ever she does it, she makes beautiful turnings. It took some time to get the information needed to turn the tree and then rewrite it with a different procedure and different tools. I love her design. Take the good information and ideas from where ever you find them.

**WHY WE LIVE IN SOUTHERN UTAH**



**Brian Head Peak Trails**

**Glen Pearson Photos**

*Attendees to regular meeting September, 2024*

**Gayle Adams, Will Arcularius, Steve Ashworth, Roger Bender, Karl Bradshaw, Les Gray, Ross Henshaw, Chad Humphries, Reiner Jakel, Jerry Keller, Dave Layton, George Mason, Karl McMullin, Leon Olson, Joe Peacock, Jim Pope, Ken Ragsdale, Mike Russel, Don Smith, Noel Wells, Susan Wells, Chuck Zimmerman.**

**Students: Jared Barlow, Sunny Johnson**

**Visitors: Morley Holm, Wyatt Holm, John Jessop, Kollin McMullin, Bryan Thompson**

**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




**MOTION**

Dennis Gledhill  
 Customer Service Representative  
[dennis.gledhill@Motion.com](mailto:dennis.gledhill@Motion.com)

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3284 E. Deseret Drive, Suite 15  
 St. George, UT 84790  
 Motion.com

P: 435-705-7660  
 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.