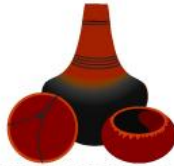


## PRESCOTT AREA



## WOODTURNERS

Post Office Box 11780  
Prescott, Arizona 86304

### **President's Message**

We have all worked green wood in our turning and admittedly it is the most fun. The ease of removing green wood sure beats the effort required in removing dry wood. Who doesn't enjoy large curls of wood coming off your tool? Dry wood requires more time to remove and will also require you to sharpen more often. So what is the happy medium we should try for in the moisture of the wood we are turning?

Wood is a crazy substance. You can dry it down to maybe 8 or 9 percent of moisture, but you cannot raise the moisture back up thru the entire piece of wood. Maybe the outer surface will pick up moisture but the interior part of the wood will remain dry. You can steam bend wood and it will remain in the form you shaped it but it is almost impossible to straighten a piece of wood that grew in a shape other than straight. Some wood is as hard as a rock even before it becomes petrified or as soft as cotton, and each will take a different finish.

With these entirely different characteristics to deal with, moisture may be the one we have the most control over. If we were to ask different turners what percent of moisture they prefer we would get several different answers. Most of the turners in all levels of ability never measure the moisture with a moisture meter. One reason is meters only measure moisture on the surface and not the core of the wood. You can weigh wood before you start to dry it and as it dries it weighs less, but how do you convert water loss to percent of moisture? For furniture projects I prefer moisture percent to be between 6 to 8 percent for the Southwest part of the country but 10 to 12 percent for the Midwest where the humidity runs much higher.

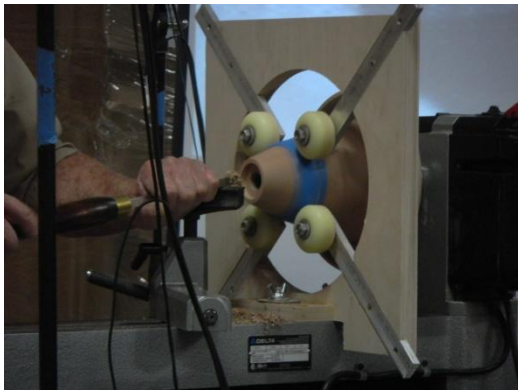
So as turners pick your wood for the project you want to make and use your best estimate as to when it is ready to turn. Experience is the best gage for anything we do and woodturning is no exception. If it doesn't turn out, remember: wood is a crazy substance!

Larry Dorrell

PAW members participated in the annual Mountain Artists Guild Sale on Courthouse Square on **May 7 and 8, 2011**. Our demonstrators attracted much interest, which made this our most successful sale ever! Plans are now under way for the August sale. If you plan to sell in August, Gary Frank will be your new sales coordinator.

## May Meeting

Ed Jones demonstrated the creation of a stave vessel at our May meeting.



## June Meeting



Paul Porter was our guest demonstrator on June 11.

He created an end-grain natural-edge bowl using a slice of wood.

He used a side-grain piece for his second natural-edge bowl.

Here he is demonstrating the use of a



face plate when the piece is reversed on the lathe. You can see that the two pieces are *securely* taped together.

As usual our members showed their creativity during the Instant Gallery.



## **Symposiums Attended**

### **UTAH WOODTURNING SYMPOSIUM 2011**

WE'RE BACK HOME, SAFE AND SECURE.

There were six of us from PAW who attended this year's symposium. Ken Flinn, Ken Fulkerson, Walt Spencer, Gary Frank, Jerry Shugars and (last but not least) Ed Jones. A good time was had by all.

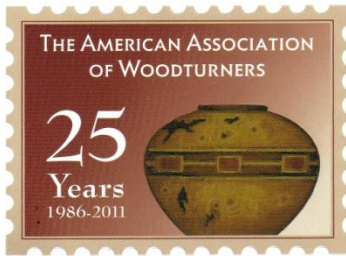
The whole thing was kicked off at Craft Supply on Wednesday. We got there at about 7:15 and stood in line till the doors opened at 8:00 AM. They had a lot of closeout deals and other items at great savings. We all enjoyed spending our hard earned money saving money. The entire day they had free demos every hour or so. We all took advantage of attending some great demos on new tools and techniques as well as basic demos on sharpening, and the proper use of tools. They gave every attendee a raffle ticket for prizes at the end of the day. Of eight prizes, two of them were won by our group. Considering that more than 400 raffle tickets were given away, to win 2 of them, was pretty good odds. The only negative was the lousy rain all day long. We had rain for the 3 days of the symposium too. It cleared about the time we were leaving to drive home on Saturday.

Ken Fulkerson: I attended 2 demos given by Dick Sing from Joliet IL. He has been turning for many years. He has written six books and turns a lot of small intricate pieces. The first demo was on turning a pocket watch with inlaid circular pieces on the back side. The second demo was on how to do the inlays. I have seen Dick before and have learned a lot from Dick's demos. I would like to have him do an all day demo next year.

Gary Frank: This was my first time at the symposium and I attended several outstanding demos, but one that was especially interesting was one by Jason Breach from the United Kingdom on a square edge Pagoda Box. You start with a 3" X 3" by 4" high block and end up with a lidded box with a thin square upswing wing, like a Pagoda, on the lid and a thin square down angled wing on the bottom with the corners being the legs. The technique for turning the wing was interesting. The symposium was well worth the time and I hope to be able to attend again next year.

Jerry Shugars: Whether flying an airplane, performing surgery, pruning a tree, playing a sport, or turning wood, there are certain basics that must be mastered to be successful. As a new wood turner I constantly hear the pro's talk about grinds, bevels, wings, etc. The only term I seem to be intimately familiar with is "catches." At the recent Utah symposium I thought I would go back to the basics. I attended three different sessions on sharpening tools. Each instructor had their own techniques, and reasons, for the way they sharpened tools and of course they all made it look easy. One used nothing but the Wolverine system, another did everything by hand, and the other used different platforms with their own markings. So much for learning "THE" method!! There was, however, one common theme that each stressed, "the sharper the tool, the better the finished product." If you like to use just one or two tools for everything, or subscribe to the tool of the month club, every tool needs to be sharp – constantly. I don't get to turn as much as I would like but I have found since returning that they were all correct. Take the time to keep the tool you are using sharp. Sharp does make a difference.

## AAW 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Symposium



From June 24 through June 27 I attended the annual AAW Symposium in St. Paul, Minnesota. This was my first symposium and I found it almost overwhelming. I had an opportunity to watch demonstrators which included David Ellsworth and Malcolm Tibbetts. J. Paul Fennell's excellent demo made we realize how much I look forward to his demo for us in November. I said hello to Trent Bosch, who wanted to know if it was still snowing in Prescott.

(Smart guy. Of course, it WAS snowing in April when he demonstrated for PAW...) The vendor area was hard to resist, and I saw Molly Winton at her wood burning tools booth. PAW members Jim Muelheisen, Jim Dotseth and Dave Passo occasionally bumped shoulders with me as we made our way through the crowds. It was an intense two and a half days of learning, and I am glad that I was there. Wayne Hunt

### Future Meetings

Extra lathes will be brought in for our meeting on **July 9, 2011**. Members will arrive between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. that day and turn bowls to be donated to Prescott's Empty Bowls event in September.

Mountain Artists Guild Show and Sale on Courthouse Square will take place on **August 13 and 14, 2011**. PAW members will man our booth, perform demonstrations, and offer their work for sale.

**There will be no regular membership meeting in August.**

**Remember our Barbeque Picnic on Saturday September 10, 2011. Mark your calendar NOW!**

*Oak and Juniper Burls for Sale.*

*Contact Roy Hume of Ash Fork  
928-606-3445*