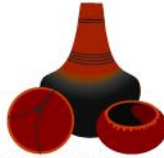


PRESCOTT AREA



WOODTURNERS

Post Office Box 11780
Prescott, Arizona 86304

President's Message

HISTORY REPEATS ITSELF

We have all heard this saying hundreds of times. I had the opportunity this past September to actually experience history repeating itself. I turned wood on a lathe that was 120 years old.

In September I visited Jim and Pat Dotseth in their Wisconsin home. While there Jim and I spent two days at the "Anderson Rock Creek Relics Threshing and Sawing Show". We had a special purpose for being there, and that was to spend time turning on an 1890 pattern lathe. This is no ordinary lathe, not only because it was 120 years old but also due to its size and how it was powered.

The lathe weighs in at 5,000lbs and you move it with a large fork lift. The condition of the lathe is extremely good. The head stock is a 2.75 inch threaded shaft, with the tail stock being a very large block of steel that you move only after you loosen two bolts and push it forward. Once you drive the spear point into the wood you tighten the bolts again. The spear point cuts into the wood leaving a large hole. The tool rest is 16 inches long and has enough bulk to handle any tool or bar placed on it. The lathe was manufactured by Fay & Scott Builders in Dexter Maine. The current lathe owner is John Schneider in New Hope, Minnesota. John found the old lathe in an alley and paid only \$150.00 for it. What a find! The history about pattern lathes and their use explains why their size was so large. The lathe turned very large wood pieces that were then used to make sand castings for foundries to pour steel into. The turnings needed to be exact or wheels, gears and other parts wouldn't work. After the pattern maker finished with his turnings the part would be passed on to another process such as cutting teeth on gears.

Jim had provided a very large section of a white oak tree for us to turn on. The oak was fresh cut and was about 28 inches in diameter and 10 inches thick. I mounted a face plate on the oak, which in itself weighed about 10 to 15 pounds. When we were ready to put the wood on the lathe, it required three men to lift it upon the lathe bed. With me using a pry bar, a second man to line up the threads and Jim to turn the shaft we were able to mount the oak on the lathe. With the oak mounted it was time to power up the lathe. History again played a part as we powered the lathe with a 5 hp, four stroke gas engine. The engine was close to the same age as the lathe. The engine was located about 25 feet away

and a large belt carried the power to the lathe pulley and shaft. When you pushed the friction clutch in place things begin to move.

The lathe turned the large chunk of oak at a surprising speed. We could not use normal gouges to smooth out the surface as the shear masses of the wood break your tool or the arm holding it. Due to the accuracy that was required in pattern making the lathe was equipped with a turret much like a metal lathe that would move inward or outward as well as down the bed. Movement was done with a threaded shaft. The cutters were 1 inch square bars ground to a point. This cutting arrangement allowed Jim and me to true up the wood to a 24 inch diameter by 8 inch thick piece.

Jim and I spent two days working on the lathe and when it was running we would draw a crowd. When people would watch the lathe work they begin to admire and respect what our earlier generation accomplished. What you could accomplish with this lathe makes my lathe in the shop look a little inadequate.

Jim and I never completed turning the piece of oak but left it on the lathe for Jim to complete next year. The cold winter in Wisconsin will help to dry out the oak. What will it be when completed only Jim will know. He will advise us later. Thanks to John Schneider for saving a part of history for all of us to enjoy. What fun!



**Granite Peak Unitarian Universalist Church
and the
Prescott Unitarian Universalist Fellowship**

Thank you for your generous support and participation in

*Please thank all the Wood Turners
Empty Bowls for the great job you
all did.*

Sally Archardo

Receipt for Donated Items

Donor: *Don Jordan / Prescott Wood Turners*

Address: *310 Morning Glory Cir.*

City/State: *Prescott* Phone: *775-4066*

Description of items donated: *Wood art objects*
Donor received no goods or services in exchange for this donation.

Note: I.R.S. regulations require donor to establish value on donated items.
Please keep this receipt as we do not keep donor files.

With your assistance, Granite Peak Unitarian Universalist Church
and Prescott Unitarian Universalist Fellowship raised \$*17,000*.
These funds were paid to: Prescott Community Cupboard Food Bank, Inc.,
Chino Valley Food Bank, Prescott Valley Food Bank, Yavapai Food Bank
and CCJ - Open Door Program.

The Prescott Area Woodturners can be proud of their part in Prescott's annual Empty Bowls event. Our donation of well over 60 empty bowls played a large part in the total donations collected during the September event.

BBQ/PICNIC

44 of us gathered at Ed and Twilla Jones' home and shop for a most successful Barbeque and Picnic on September 10, 2011. It was a beautiful day to be outside and we all took advantage of the porches around their house. Everyone ate well. Not only was the meat that Twilla prepared delicious, but all the salads and desserts that everyone brought were wonderful.



Ed's shop is in the background.



We ate well indeed!

OCTOBER 8 MEETING

Our regular October meeting featured a demonstration by Roger Harlow. Roger taught us how to use a mathematical formula to create a pleasing shape in the vessels and bows we turn.

COMING EVENTS

HASSAYAMPA SHOW AND SALE

The Mountain Spinners and Weavers Guild and the Prescott Area Woodturners will work together to present a Holiday Show and Sale on Saturday November 12. The sale runs from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the Marian Rob of the Hassayampa Inn in downtown Prescott. Several of our members are going to be selling at this show. We wish them well!

J. PAUL FENNELL

J. Paul Fennell (www.jpaulfennell.com) will give a day-long seminar on **Sunday November 13**, 2011. The registration fee for this special event is \$35.00, and it is due on November 4. Lunch is included at this bargain price.

J. Paul Fennell has demonstrated around the country. He was one of the demonstrators at the AAW Symposium in St. Paul this summer. His work features thin-wall turning and piercing, with designs based on leaf and sea patterns and Chinese lattice work.

The seminar begins at 9:00 a.m. at our usual meeting place: 6640 Intercal Way, Prescott, AZ 86305.



The **Stocking Stuffer**, an eagerly awaited event in Prescott, happens on Saturday December 17. Our members donate items to be sold that day, and all the profits go to our club. It is a major fundraiser for the Prescott Area Woodturners.

The event is held at the Grace Sparks Activity Center (the old Armory) from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.



The final event of the year is the Christmas Party on Monday December 19. We will again gather with our spouses at Antelope Hills Country Club for an excellent dinner. Details will follow, but be sure to set the date aside.