



Volume 36, Issue 2
February 2019

Orange County Woodworkers Association

A 501(c)(3) Charitable Corporation

Sawdust & Shavings

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



We didn't even get out of the month of January before we had our first accident of the year at my place of employ. A gentleman with more than twenty years of experience assumed that because his router was switched off that the router bit wasn't moving. As he brushed some sawdust off

of the face of the router his finger came into contact with the still moving router bit costing him the tip of his finger. A totally needless accident.

NEVER assume that when you turn off a machine that it isn't still dangerous. Blades can take some time to stop, so don't go brushing the sawdust off of your machine with your hand. Use a bench brush just to be safe. There are many stories of people hurting

themselves on switched off equipment, so please don't add another story to that list.

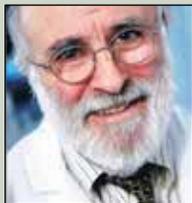
ALWAYS OPEN TO SUGGESTIONS

I would like to remind our members that we are always open to suggestions about demonstrators, types of demonstrations, field trips, and anything else that would add to the woodworkers experience, and enjoyment. Please contact our Vice President, and Program Chair, Mr. Jerry Knight, or myself with your interests.

SHOW AND TELL

Our participation on the show and tell table was up in January, and hopefully will continue to improve, so don't forget to bring your pieces in, so you have a chance at winning \$25.00 bucks.

James Santhon, *President*



REMEMBERING STEVE LAZURAS

It is with great sadness that we have lost one of our members on January 5th 2019. Steve Lazarus was a long time member of the

Association and an Emergency Room Doctor for over 40 years.

He resided in Southern California for 43 years, the last 18 in San Clemente. Over a span of 30 plus years, his woodworking endeavors evolved through building houses, furniture, spiral staircases, and unique custom-designed doors into the realm of woodturning, an activity that helps him define the words passion and excitement. Turning into a blank of wood and exposing its inner beauty in eye-catching, flowing geometry has won him many awards including first place in the Beverly Hills

Woodcraft Festival and first place in the 2009 Orange County Fair open form woodturning competition.

His works have exhibited at the Laguna Beach Festival of Arts, La Quinta Art Festival, Indian Wells Art Festival, La Jolla Art and Wine Festival, Santa Monica Contemporary Craft Show, Laguna Beach Winter Fantasy Sawdust Festival and Provo Utah Fine Woodturning Symposium.

He had an extensive collection of exotic woods from all corners of the world and many he harvested from local orchards and stands. His wine stoppers are pieces of art and no two were alike.

His favorite compliment was the simple question, "How did he do that".

We will miss Steve and I encourage everyone to visit his web site at www.woodforthought.net.

WOODWORKERS' SAWDUST

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Sawdust & Shavings

is the monthly newsletter of The Orange County Woodworkers Association. It is published monthly before the Woodworkers Meeting.

Do you have an idea for an article, shop tip, or tool review? Please send articles to: newsletter@ocwoodworkers.org

Deadline for submissions is the Monday after the Woodturners meeting.

Visit us on the Web at:
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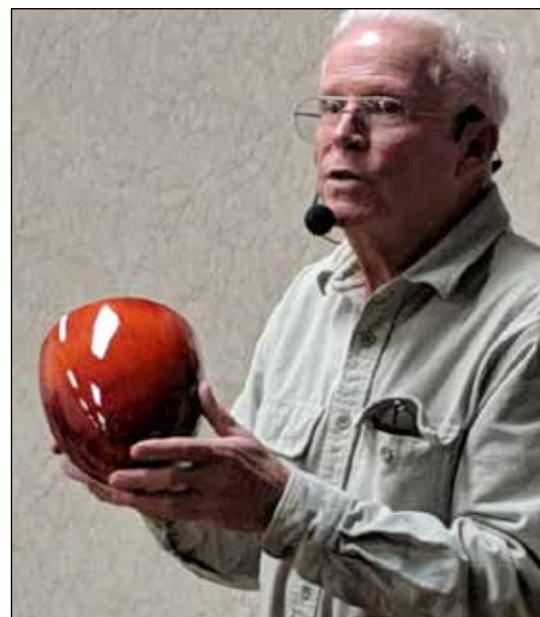
Our January, 2019 speaker was Ross Gilroy, who discussed in detail how he created many of his beautiful prize-winning turnings. Ross has won many prizes at recent Orange County Fairs and at our own Orange County Woodworkers' annual competition, where in 2018 he swept all of the first-place prizes.

The most important point that I took from Ross's presentation is that his work is outstanding because he takes the time and puts in the effort to make

each piece perfect. A common theme to the creation of every piece is that each piece at some point had some flaw in form, construction, sanding or finish, but Ross took the time to correct the flaw and perfect his creation.

Again, and again Ross explained how a piece required 10, 15 or 20 coats of finish or how he started finishing, but had to stop, re-sand and restart the finishing process – sometimes, multiple times.

A number of Ross's pieces were created by embedding materials in epoxy or another bonding agent to create the bowl blank. As everyone who has tried this knows, there are always small "bubbles" and holes in the casting. Ross makes the effort to correct or remove every flaw – filling holes, sanding, filling holes, sanding -- again and again until the problems are fixed.



WOODWORKERS' SAWDUST



Ross uses a variety of finishes including wax, oil, lacquer and wipe-on polyurethane. Most recently he has been moving away from lacquer in favor of wipe-on poly because lacquer always has a tendency to stick to the display surface. Whatever the finish, Ross uses many coats and carefully hand sands and polishes between coats. He typically sands his pieces to 320 grit before finishing and then sands between coatings with the same or slightly finer grit.



FEBRUARY MEETING:

Our next meeting is Thursday, February 7, 2019. Wess King, who is well known for his beautiful presentation and keepsake boxes, will speak on techniques for producing stable and attractive joinery for boxes and drawers. Come and learn how to make perfect miter joints that are attractive and strong. Wess tells

me he will be bringing a number of his famous jigs for you to examine and copy.

Jerry Knight, *Vice President*

PEN PROGRAM – SUPPORT OUR TROOPS



Hello fellow turners,

A new year promises new challenges and, of course we hope, improvements.

This year, as I said last month, would be great if every member could just give a pen a try. See what makes it at first seem easy and then make it into your own challenge, to improve the design. We would love to have and share design changes that would make our "Support Our Troop pens" stand out. Just like our award winning turner's other projects. We need the

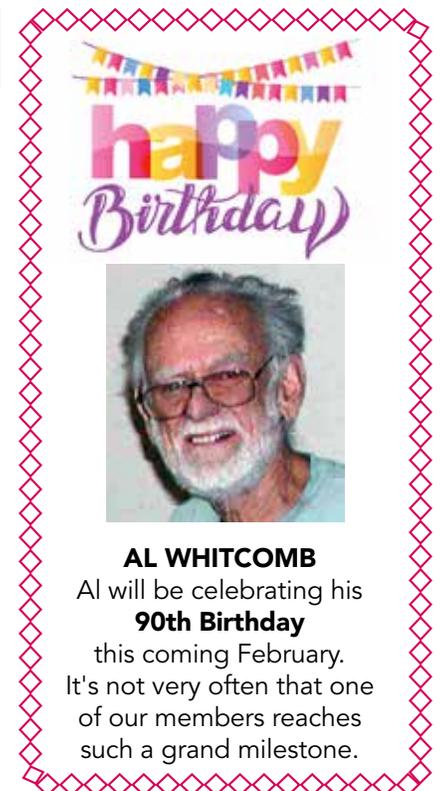
more skilled members to help us expand our horizons from simply 7mm straight line to something..., well, else!

Thanks.

Keep turning and remember

"NEVER WRITE WITH AN UGLY PEN!"

Gary Phipps, *Chairman, Support Our Troops Pen Program*



AL WHITCOMB

Al will be celebrating his **90th Birthday**

this coming February.

It's not very often that one of our members reaches such a grand milestone.

WOODTURNERS' SHAVINGS

First, a request from Jerry Nininger: The Demo Day at Rockler is Saturday, Feb 9th, and he still needs people who are willing to spend a couple of hours turning in public. If you are interested, please call him at 949-735-4081.

The key word in the Ironman Challenge is "Challenge", and we're starting the year off with a humdinger. Our demonstrator was Craig Sobel, who made the trek down from Glendale to tell us how he makes some truly impressive segmented turnings. We've all seen segmented work where each ring is solid all the way around, as well as open segmentation where there are gaps between each segment. I'm going to call what Craig does "Interrupted Segmentation", because each ring can have multiple, variable gaps. The effect is rather like a stereotypical hockey player's smile, with large gaps. If you said that it looks like some of the bits have been knocked out, you'd be more correct than you might think.

Craig began by explaining there are 3 ways to glue up rings in open segmentation. First is one block at a time with a placement jig and indexing wheel. I can recall Jim Driskell doing a demo of this process a couple of years back. The second way uses a jig that holds all the blocks for a ring in a jig with spacers that lets you add an entire ring in one shot. As both of these methods build the rings with the gaps already open, there is a subtle issue with turning them. In addition to being a bit delicate to turn, the block edges are susceptible to dubbing over when you sand them. Craig's method fills those voids right up to the end, so all your turning and sanding is done on a continuous surface.

The design starts out like any other segmented vessel, with the final shape and ring sizes planned out. You do this old-school with pencil and paper, or use a computer. Craig prefers a program called Woodturner Pro, (<http://woodturnerpro.com/index.htm>) which looks like a superb helper if you want to start doing

intricate designs. When laying out a design, you might make a pattern with blocks of different species, like a checkerboard of maple and walnut. The fun starts here by adding a void as another element. Craig refers to these as spacer pieces, and the reason becomes obvious shortly. Just lay them out as you would another color/species.

Cutting out your segments is, again, like any other segmented work, and keeping them organized is important. Try for a clean surface on the cuts, so as to minimize cleanup sanding. While you can use just about any sort of saw, Craig uses a sled on his table saw. Rather than using an adjustable jig, his has a set of fixed blocks screwed in place, one for each number of segments per ring. It certainly cuts down on setup time, and you're always assured that the angle is correct. There was some discussion of safely catching the segments as they are cut. Some of the suggestions from the floor included the eraser end of a wooden pencil, an offcut ramp (ala EasySeg), and a shopvac pulling through some old pantyhose. Whatever method you choose, remember to keep any body parts you value away from the blade.



Once the segments have been cut, you will want to clean up any waviness or torn fibers. Craig feels that your typical disk sander is too aggressive for his methods, instead using a WorkSharp horizontal disk sharpener. He didn't mention what grit abrasive he uses, but I'll guess it's around 150-220. The goal is to get the surfaces that will be glued together smooth and flat. The angles should be already set from the cutting jig, so all that is needed is a quick dab.

The ring glue up begins with a rubbed joint between individual segments, with each color glued separately. Use some waxed paper (or whatever your preferred nonstick substance is) on a flat surface to keep the ring face as flat as possible. It's also important to get the outer edges of the segment faces flush. Don't worry too much about the inner edges, as they have little effect on the process. You will wind up with a set of arcs that will form the complete ring. Remember

those spacers? We want to make sure they don't stick to the other parts, so now it's a good time to apply some wax to the ends of the spacer arcs. Once that's done, arrange them according to your plan and hold them in place with a hose/band clamp. When you put the clamp on, pay attention to the direction that ring will rotate when you spin the work on your lathe. You want the screw assembly to come around before the tail end of the band. That way it will tend to just slap your wrist instead of digging in. (If you're careless. Don't be careless, because even that slap hurts.) Also be sure to keep the band clear of the bottom of the ring for now so it's out of the way when we true up the bottom. Gaps between the spacers and keepers aren't a cause for concern as long as the ring clamps up into a completed ring.

Using some sandpaper on a flat surface, get the bottom of the clamped ring good and flat. Do the same with the top of the previous ring so the two will fit without those unsightly inter-ring gaps. We're almost ready for glue, but first you need to break out the wax again. Any place where a spacer will contact a keeper segment in the adjacent ring needs to be well waxed. Switch over to your glue brush, and apply glue to the areas that don't contact a spacer. Try for just a little bit of squeeze-out, and none on the spacers. For small rings, Craig uses a large cone center in the tailstock to keep the ring centered while applying pressure. If the ring is too large for this, you can use clamps (if there is enough of a ledge to grab) or set the whole assembly upright and put some weights on top. In either case, you'll have to eyeball the centering.

Once the glue has set, turn the top ring down to its

finished height, and get it flat. This may require sliding the band clamp down so it's out of the way. Just don't remove it yet. Now is a good time to do some initial smoothing of the interior as well, just enough to knock off the high spots and make a smooth cut. Once you're happy with the top surface, loosen the clamp and make sure the spacers can be removed. If there is any squeeze-out, remove it. Put the spacers back in and retighten the band. Using a generous bead of hot glue, fix the spacers in place. The idea here is to keep them from flying out when we turn the exterior.

After the last ring is in place, Craig uses a final sacrificial layer of plywood to add a bit more stability. Remove all the clamps and carefully turn the outside to finished shape, all the way to final sanding. Make sure it's right, because once you move on from here you will not want to touch it again.

Wrap the outside with blue painters tape. Try to keep it as smooth as you can, but strive for complete coverage. Once we move to the interior, this is all that will be holding the spacers in place. As with the clamp tails, direction of wrap is important so it doesn't unwind during turning. An easy way to do this is feed the tape onto the bottom as the lathe turns slowly. If you plan on using a steady while you turn the inside, make sure the tape layer where it bears on the work is extra smooth.

Carefully turn the interior to finished wall thickness. A neat way to gauge this is by drilling holes to that depth in the spacers. If you do this, be sure you mark where they are before wrapping things with tape. In any case, try to minimize outward pressure as you turn. Better to take several light cuts than blow out the side trying to go fast. Sand the interior as well as you can. Carefully cut off the stabilizing ring and finish the top rim.

Magic time! Peel off the tape and remove the spacers. Start at the widest part and gently push them outwards. Any residual glue should be cleaned up with a sharp blade. Take your time doing this. Finally, cut the bottom free and finish it.

Chuck Phillips



SHOW AND TELL



MONTHLY CHALLENGE



The Challenge for the February turners meeting is to turn a segmented piece. Feel free to include an accent ring, contrasting woods rings, and rings of different thicknesses. Create a piece which you feel can be done safely. I'll add a note here from Ross who suggests "the challenge is to get as many people involved in turning as possible, not to intimidate them".

TOY STORY



We had a great turn out for the first workshop of 2019 and the historic last workshop at Bill's house. We had 33 people in attendance and did they get the job done. Ed's group put together 36 boxes and Harold Hardy "the hinge man" installed hinges in over thirty boxes and they were moved to the spray department for spraying. Len brought 17 cradles to assemble and others were busy sanding boogie coasters parts and installing ears of the dogs. There was a group sanding a million parts to the dancing bear toy and one table was applying Tung oil, wiping oil and Watco Oil to over 100 basketball games. One of the Tung Oil cans was from Standard Brands Paint that went belly up in 1995 and had a price tag of 2.29 dollars and it was still good.

I want to thank all those who joined in on the relocating caravan that moved all of Bill's plastic tables, the three bowling alley tables (my back still aches), saw horses, chairs, supplies, coffee pot and many other items to my shop in Anaheim Hills.

Several months back, Bill Rogers, myself and I believe one other Toymaker visited a man who had some wood to donate to our program. Among it was a stack of rough-sawn, 2"x 4" x 48" finger-joined glue-ups. I wish to talk to him to see if they are still available. If you know of whom I speak, give me a call at (714) 281-9329.

In my neighborhood we don't have sidewalks and everyone has a mail box at the end of one's driveway. Since we get our mail delivered on Saturday mornings I would ask that everyone not park in front of someone's mail box. This one action would be the gentleman and lady like thing to show woodworkers are nice people too just like horse people.



Hope to see you all at the February 9th from 9am to 12 noon at my house (Ken Crandall).

Ken "Doc" Crandall,
Toy Chairman





IRONMAN

Four club members completed all of the monthly challenges for 2018: (l-r) Roy Reaser, Ralph Crowther, Don Winans, and Ross Gilroy. There are a couple of others close behind. A shout out to Ralph who has completed every monthly challenge for the past 6 years.



NEW MEMBERS

A big welcome to our new members:

David Chung, *Irvine*
 Brad Erdosi, *Laguna Hills*
 Bill Diamant, *Seal Beach*
 Todd Lewandowski,
La Palma
 Jacob Yanikian,
Long Beach

MEETING LOCATION AND DATES:

Tustin Senior Center

200 S. "C" Street
 Tustin, CA 92680

Woodworkers' Meeting

Thursday, Feb. 7, 7:00 p.m.

Woodturners' Meeting

Thursday, Feb. 21, 6:30 p.m.

Board Meeting

Thursday, Feb. 7, 6:00 p.m.



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