



Volume 36, Issue 3  
March 2019

Orange County Woodworkers Association

A 501(c)(3) Charitable Corporation

# Sawdust & Shavings

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



It's been a cold, wet winter, but our shops should be warming up soon, so it's time to sharpen those chisels, get those saw blades sharpened, and put on those safety glasses, and start on your award winning pieces for the Fine Art Woodworking Show at the Orange County Fair. The Entry Deadline is May

24th, 2019, and delivery day is July 5th, 2019, so let's get cracking (not literally) on those projects.

### CONTEST

Since humans have started making things there have been boxes. They have come in all sizes, shapes, and configurations, so we're going to have another box contest at our April 4th meeting. The boxes can be any size, shape, or configuration, but you should probably be able to get it through the door at the Senior Center.

**First Prize –\$100.00; Second Prize – \$75.00;  
Third Prize – \$50.00; Honorable Mention – \$25.00.**

### SHOW AND TELL

My favorite part of our meetings is the Show and Tell segment, because we get to see the imagination, and creativity of our members. We get to hear about their successes, and their pratfalls, and most importantly we all get to learn something not to mention the fact that you could win \$25.00 smackeroos in the show and tell drawing. So, be sure to grace our show and tell table with your creations.

### TOY PROGRAM

I don't know about you, but the name "Doc" Crandall sounds like an old west doctor to me, about to pick buck shot out of your rear end without any anesthetic, and with just a slug of moonshine, and a

bullet to bite on, but he is our new Toy Chair, and I'm sure he would appreciate all the help he can get in making toys for the less fortunate children of Orange County. He will have a sign-up sheet at our meeting, so be sure sign up to be a part of a great program, and make some new friends in the process.

James Santhon, *President*



We are so fortunate to have **Mike Mahoney** conduct an all-day demonstration for the Orange County Woodturners. He is a preeminent turner whose bowls are

featured in galleries across the United States and found in collections over the world. He is well known and for his friendly demonstrations at woodturning clubs, craft schools, and symposia. Mike specializes in production salad bowls, nested bowl sets, hollow forms, burial urns, lidded containers, and thread chasing. Come see how he does it.

Demonstration:

**Saturday March 2, 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM**

Location: Anderson International Trading  
1171 North Tustin Avenue  
Anaheim, CA 92807

Cost: \$40 includes coffee, donuts and lunch.

# WOODWORKERS' SAWDUST

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*Contributing photographer:*

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Jerry Knight

### **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](mailto:newsletter@ocwoodworkers.org)

Deadline for submissions is the Monday after the Woodturners meeting.

Visit us on the Web at:  
[OCWoodWorkers.org](http://OCWoodWorkers.org)



Our February, 2019 speaker was Wes King, who demonstrated three of the joinery techniques he uses in his famous boxes and drawers.

First up was a very strong and very easy drawer for storing heavy items in the shop where strength is more important than appearance. The drawer bottom is made from strong, 3/4" plywood and the metal drawer slides wrap around and under the door sides. Essentially, the thick plywood and metal slides provide a platform for heavy items. The sides are just used to keep things from falling out.

Measure the width of the drawer opening and subtract 1" for the slides. Cut slightly narrow to accommodate irregularities and wood movement. A drawer that is too wide won't work and must be remade. You can add shims if the draw is slightly too narrow. The length of the drawer is determined by the cabinet depth and length of the slides.

Make the sides, front and back from 1/2" to 3/4" thick stock. Pre-drill two screw holes, with countersinks for the screw heads, on each corner and glue and screw the 4 drawer sides together. All screws should have at least 3/4" to 1" bite.

It helps to square the corners with 90 clamping cauls. You can buy them at most woodworking supplies, but it is very easy to make your own. Wes brought and displayed some that he had made himself.

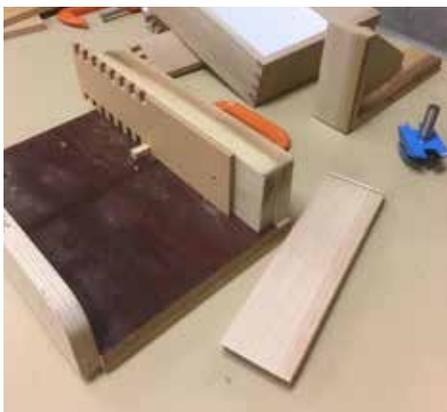
Pre-drill holes for the bottom and screw and glue the bottom to the sides. Attach the slides and the drawer is done. Optionally, you can add a false front to the drawer for aesthetic purposes.



# WOODWORKERS' SAWDUST

All-in-all, this technique produces a strong storage drawer in just a few minutes.

Wes uses box joints for his commemorative boxes and for drawers that need a look nice. The squares fingers of the box joints can be interchanged with dove tails, but Wes warns that dove tails take a lot longer and don't substantially improve the strength of the joint.



Box joints can be cut on a table saw with a dado blade set or on a router with a straight bit. Wes often uses the table saw equipped with a Freud box joint dado set that makes perfect 3/8" and 1/2" fingers. Both table saw and router methods require a simple jig to insure the spacing between the pins is uniform.

Many commercially made box joint sleds are available for making box joints. Several audience members said they used one made by Rockler. As is his style, Wes made his own. The jig consists of a sturdy, flat bottom, a perfectly-perpendicular

front fence and a back fence that insures the bottom does not split in two. An attached finger pin is used to control pin spacing – the previous pin is placed onto the pin and the next pin is cut.

The sides of the drawer are inserted into the jig vertically, with the joint end down, and a backer board is added to avoid tear out. The pieces are clamped to the front of the jig and the jig is run over the blade to cut a new finger slot. The new slot is shifted onto the jig-pin and the next slot is cut.

Wes always cuts his pins a little too long (saw blade a little high) and then sands or pairs them back for a flush fit. Proud pins are also attractive and provide a touch of elegance to exposed pins.



The third type of joint presented was a lock miter. These require a special router bit that costs about \$90 and Wes says they are the most finicky to set up of all the joints he uses. Lock miters are very strong and guarantee a perfect 90° joint. They are very good for the corners of picture frames.

Wes uses a pair of jigs for his lock miters – one for the sides and one for the tops and bottoms. (He cautions to double check your setup before every cut to insure the cuts are facing the correct way. (A couple of boo-boos were on display.)

First, set up one sled to make the sides. Adjust router bit height until the corner is a knife-sharp edge. Then set up the other jig to cut matching top and bottoms. Again, adjust until you get a knife sharp edge and the joint locks in place. Again, Wes recommends that you use a fresh backer board for every joint to prevent tearing.



## March MEETING

Our next meeting is Thursday, March 7, 2019. Greg Schultz will talk about making Fender-style guitars. Greg tells me that he has templates for some of the early Fender models and that you can trace them for yourself if you bring one or two 'masonite' boards 1/4" x 15" x 20", tempered both sides.

Jerry Knight, *Vice President*

# WOODTURNERS' SHAVINGS

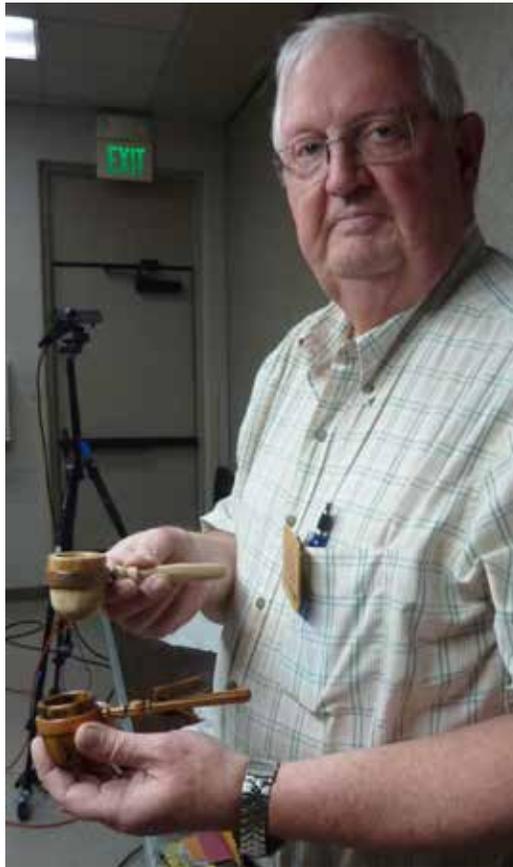
Judging by the number of challenge entries, this group is not easily intimidated. This month we keep up the pressure with Jerry Nininger's presentation of coffee scoops with a contrasting accent ring.

It all starts with a piece of wood that will form the main body of the scoop. Something about 2 to 2 ½ inches long and big enough around to make a cylinder about 1 ¼ inch in diameter will do. Hold it between centers, cut a tenon that will fit your chuck on one end, and preliminarily shape the cup. Take the piece out of the centers and hold it in your chuck. (Alternatively, you could just start with the block in your chuck if the dimensions are right, or mount it on a glue block.)

Next, add what will become the accent ring. Begin by cleaning up the face of the cup to be smooth and flat, just like when you add a ring to a segmented piece. The wood for your accent ring should be big enough to be around 1/8" larger than the cup once rounded, and about 1/2" thick. Glue it to the cup and rough it to round. Once again, face it flat and glue on another piece for the top rim.

At this point, you may be wondering why Jerry doesn't just glue up the blanks all at once before turning them. The answer lies in that facing operation, which ensures that the accent ring will be dead perpendicular to the axis without having to be super fiddly about getting it on center.

We now have the cup ready to finish shaping the upper parts. Leave the lower portion a bit thick for now. Also, drill a hole 1/4" deep in the accent ring that will hold the handle. When you like the outside, hollow out the inside. Take a measurement of how



deep the cup is and transfer that to the outside. Part off the cup a bit beyond that mark. Reverse chuck the cup with either small jaws or a jam chuck and finish shaping the bottom of the cup.

The handle is a small spindle that can be shaped however you like. Just remember to put a tenon on one end, sized to match the hole you drilled earlier. If you leave a small shoulder at the end of the tenon it will make a good visual transition. When you have a handle you're happy with, part it off and glue it to the cup. Jerry recommends using a strong epoxy for this joint, as it is the weak point of the scoop.

That's all there is to it!

Chuck Phillips

## MARCH TURNERS DEMONSTRATION

The March 21st meeting will feature a demonstration of swirl marbling on wood turnings and other items by Len Musgrave. The photo shows the effects of swirl marbling and to get a better idea go to swirl marbling on you tube. Even if you are not a turner and you have young grandkids and you enjoy doing crafts and fun projects with them they would have a great time doing marbling.



# TOY STORY



In spite of the threat of inclement weather, a dozen or so stalwart toymakers showed up for the Saturday work party. In anticipation of a small gathering, I had set up some tables and chairs in my garage so we were able to get to work. We finished the assembly of the hundred plus basketball games made by Rex Bullock and did some sanding and assembly on some log

truck beds. We managed to muscle the last of the ten foot long bowling alley tables into the garage and load it with a ton of white oak cut offs donated to us by Jeff Bennett. All-in-all a successful morning. I hope to see a full crew on March 9th from 9am to 12 noon at my house.

Ken "Doc" Crandall, Toy Chairman



# SHOW AND TELL



## MONTHLY CHALLENGE



The Challenge for the March turners meeting is to turn a coffee scoop using the techniques demonstrated by Jerry Nininger at the February meeting.



# WELCOME

## NEW MEMBERS

A big welcome to our new members:

John Prange, Irvine  
Charles Linpsey, Irvine  
Bill Hartman, Orange  
Ken Tipton, Ladera Ranch  
Kristine Sisterhen, Ladera Ranch  
Serafin Zasueta, Long Beach  
Sandra Smolinsky, Laguna Woods  
Jeanne Rogers, Aliso Viejo  
Ken Tipton, Ladera Ranch



## amazonSmile

OCWA is now registered with AmazonSmiles which allows OCWA eligible to receive a .5% donation from all eligible purchases through the AmazonSmiles.com. If you'd like to participate, simply go onto Amazon.com, search and click on AmazonSmile, and once on the AmazonSmiles site select Orange County Woodworkers from the list of charities. There is no need to change settings – all your account info/settings remain the same. You'll have access to the same products as found on Amazon.com. Thank you for participating.

For more information please contact  
Ralph Crowther.

## MEETING LOCATION AND DATES:

### Tustin Senior Center

200 S. "C" Street  
Tustin, CA 92680

### Woodworkers' Meeting

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

### Woodturners' Meeting

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

### Board Meeting

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



## FRIENDS OF OCWA

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