



Volume 36, Issue 4  
April 2019

# Orange County Woodworkers Association

A 501(c)(3) Charitable Corporation

## Sawdust & Shavings



Spring has sprung, and a young man's fancy turns to, well, you know what a young man's fancy turns to, but an old woodworker's fancy turns to winning the April 4th box contest at the OCWA's general meeting.

It's not time to think outside of the box, but think about what's inside the box. In any case we're looking forward to a good turnout to try and cash in on that Prize money. First Place; \$100.00, Second Place; \$75.00, Third Place; \$50.00, and Honorable Mention; \$25.00.

### MENTOR LIST

With the advent of YouTube there doesn't seem to be much interest in having an actual mentor to talk to about woodworking, but even though there is a lot of information floating around on the web

there also is a lot of bogus info too. That is why we continue to have a mentor's list for you to access.

We also encourage those of you experienced woodworkers to add your names to the list, so our members can learn from you. You would be surprised at how much you learn as you are teaching others.

### SAFETY

One of our missions here at the OCWA is promoting safety, and it is with that in mind that sometime soon I will get together with our Veep, and Program Chair, Mr. Jerry Knight, and hopefully some experts for a safety program at one of our meetings. We may even have members share their stories of their brushes with danger. Stay tuned.

Looking forward to seeing you at the next meeting on April 4th, and be sure to bring those boxes.

James Santhon, *President*

### MICHAEL EVANS AND BILL HASKELL WIN HILLCREST HONORS

Michael Evans won 3rd Place Honors in the Fine Craft Category of the 59th Annual Hillcrest Festival of the Arts in February. His winning piece was called "Segmented Vessel" and was made of Cherry, Walnut, Maple and Blood Wood. In the four years Michael has been showing his work at this Festival, he has won two 3rd place honors and 4 Honorable Mention honors. Bill Haskell also won Honorable Mention in the Fine Craft Category with his piece entitled "Eucalyptus Hollow Form". He has been a woodturning demonstrator for many years at this Fine Arts Festival, much to the delight of all the children who received his turned items.



# WOODWORKERS' SAWDUST

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*Contributing photographer:*

Len Musgrave  
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 March, 2019 speaker was Greg Schultz who demonstrated making replica 1958 Telecaster and 1962 Stratocaster Fender electric guitars.

Greg was a teacher at Centennial High School in Corona when he was approached by the Fender Guitar Company who were looking to sponsor a guitar making program at a nearby High School. Greg agreed to take on the program and Fender adopted Centennial High School.

In the first year, Greg and the High School Staff selected 12 students for a class on making a replica Fender Guitar. By the end of the year, each student had produced their own guitar. In total the guitar program at Centennial High has produced more than 150 guitars and help introduce a new generation of students to fine woodworking.

Students began by making velum copies of the original Fender guitar plans and set about making their own guitars. In the early years Fender supplied roughly shaped necks for the guitars. (Necks are shaped in 3-dimension and are more difficult to make than the bodies.) In 2002 some of the students programmed a CNC machine to mill their own necks from rough lumber. Quite a feat, in my opinion.

The bodies are milled from blanks of non-porous hardwood. Greg says guitars may be made from many varieties of hardwood. Dense, hard varieties, like ash, produce bright sounds. Softer varieties like alder and poplar produce softer sounds. Avoid porous and open grain woods like oak and walnut.

To increase stability and avoid warping and twisting, guitar blanks are made by edge-jointing, and gluing together, two lengths of wood from the same board. One of the boards is flipped end-for-end so that the grain directions in the two halves are opposite one another. Do not try to make a guitar from a single, very wide board. It will not be stable.

Another advantage of using a jointed slab is that the glue line becomes the center-line reference for the guitar and neck-mount.



# WOODWORKERS' SAWDUST

Greg recommends you obtain all of the parts for your guitar before you start working. Most parts must fit into milled holes or placement positions, so don't start cutting the wood until you have your parts for test fitting.

The outside shape of the guitar is obtained by rough cutting on the bandsaw and then routing to final shape using the templates and a straight router bit with guide bearing. Edges are softened by a round over bit, also with guide bearing.

All of the positions of the various pockets for the bridge springs, frets, electric pickup, etc. are shown on Greg's plans. Most holes and pockets are routed with a straight bit. Greg has built jigs that precisely position and guide the router for each of the pockets.

Frets are made from bars of aluminum ground flat with

polishing grit on glass (for perfect flatness), then the corners are chamfered with a triangle file

held in a wood block. The fret positions from the plans are marked on the guitar neck using an extra fine Sharpie and fret grooves are cut with a fret saw or with a CNC machine. (pre-made necks come with the fret grooves already installed.)

The most finicky part of the build is aligning the neck to the guitar body and bridge. Greg says a 1/32" misalignment will cause the strings to work improperly or

fall off the side of the frets. It is recommended that you build a jig to help hold the guitar neck while you position it.

Greg starts positioning the neck by predrilling the body for the four screws that will attach the body and neck. He inserts the screws so that a tiny bit of their tip sits proud. He then adjusts the neck so the strings are perfectly

positioned and then taps the neck with a soft hammer so the screw tips mark the positions for the screw holes in the neck. The neck screw holes are then pre-drilled on the drill press.

If you would like to attempt a guitar, Greg will let you copy his plans onto two sheets of Masonite, hardened on both sides. Greg has made the plans, detailed instructions, etc. available on the OCWA website.

Jerry Knight, *Vice President*



April Meeting: Our next meeting is Thursday, April 4, 2019. Cliff Trimble of Cerritos College will speak about making traditional chairs and furniture. Cliff plans to demonstrate decorating furniture with inlay.

# WOODTURNERS' SHAVINGS

Today Len Musgrave showed us another surface decoration technique. Marbling is an old technique, although its application to anything other than paper is less so. A minimalist would describe the process as floating a mixture of paint on another liquid, followed by dipping the workpiece through the paint, which sticks to the surface of your work. Simple enough, yes? As the saying goes, God (or the Devil, depending on your school of thought) is in the details.

There are a few things you'll want to consider for this month's challenge:

- This will work best with a relatively dense, non-porous wood. Maple, birch, and poplar are good choices, but far from the only ones.
- Since we're applying an opaque coating, highly figured wood is wasted. Same thing for those oily exotics, which can have issues with paint adhesion.
- While you can roll your own paints, it's easier to buy a kit where someone has already worked out the appropriate chemistry and viscosities. A really good place to find these (and tons of other fun arty things!) is Art Supply Warehouse (<https://www.artsupplywarehouse.com/>), located at 6672 Westminster Blvd in Westminster. (Bonus: There's a Home Depot right across the street.) Len has got his best results from the Marabu Easy Marble kit, which lists for \$16.99 but is currently on sale at \$10.87.



- You will minimize paint waste if your dipping tank is just a little bit bigger than the piece you're dipping.
- Don't wear anything that can't stand to get dirty.

Things you'll need:

- Paint that floats on water. (Just get the kit, you'll be happier.)
- A container of water.
- Something to dip in the paint.
- Miscellaneous sticks, paper towels, and gloves.

For the demo, Len started with a bowl shape that had a slight dome to it. If you remember his Cosmic Clouds demo from a couple of year back, the shape will be very familiar. Any parts you don't want paint on should be masked off at this point. To ensure an even background, Len sprays a coat of white enamel on the areas to be marbled. The dip tank (5 gallon bucket here) is filled with clean water and given a chance to settle. You'll want to figure out a way to hold the piece you're dipping that keeps your hands out of the water. This can be as simple as a stick hot glued to an unobtrusive place, or a good pair of gloves. When you're ready, place several drops of paint on

the top of the water in the tank. Visually, it works best to start with your darkest color. Once it spreads out (this happens fast), add a few drops of one or more other colors. Using a thin tool, drag the different colors into swirls. This can be as structured or random as you please. Dip the workpiece into the paint at a slow, steady pace. Once

it is fully submerged, use a stick to break up any excess paint so it doesn't stick as you pull the work out. Take a moment to admire the results.

While you can leave things at this point, for the demo Len remounted the piece on the lathe for finishing. To

# WOODTURNERS' SHAVINGS

make it a useful bowl, he cut a hollow in the middle. The marbled section can be visually framed by trimming a shallow band on its edges and coloring it. Len used a black marker for that.

Like I said at the beginning, it's pretty simple. Let's see if we can fill the challenge table in April. Embers have answered the call to volunteer to share their expertise.

## MIKE MAHONEY WORKSHOP

The Mike Mahoney Workshop held on March 23 was a HUGE success and was the most attended workshop in the history of the OCWA with 52 people.. Mike is a full time wood turner and has spent a lot of his time remodeling and expanding existing farm buildings on the property near Mount Aukum, Calif. The Mike and his wife spend time caring for existing crops and prepping land for new plantings. He has mostly fruit trees figs, olives, avocados and some got grapes on our 53 acre property and he only makes wine for his family and friends. Wine making is my hobby and woodturning is my business.

Mike primary products is making plates and platters from oak. He sells the finished product to wholesalers and craft stores. He turns them wet to about 1/2 inch of the finished dimensions and then sets them aside to dry. This takes about 9 months to a year to dry and he told us he has about 2500 blanks drying at any one time. This sounds like this is a full time job for us hobby wood turners but to a professional it takes less than 3 minutes to rough out a plate from a wet blank. This sounds impossible to us, however, when you see chips flying off the piece that are 1/2 inch wide x .020 thick and a continuous stream landing 8 feet

behind the lathe it is a real treat. Mike made one of his signature plates and then made a burl hollow form that would of taken me at least two days to hollow out and several trips to the confessional for the many catches. Mike turned the entire piece even with a void at the centerline in just over an hour. It was amazing to see how relaxed and at ease he was and how he used the tool to make sure it was cutting at the perfect angle and how easy it was. He went over several times how to make it easy to hollow out the inside and to take your time and visualize the tip of the tool and where it is at all times. He numbered the sections to start with and referred several times to the white board to make sure we all understood there are no shortcuts.

He also demonstrated the McNaughton Center-Saver System that allows you to get more than one bowl from a blank.



Most of us have never seen this technique in person and it worked like a charm. Several people have the system and he was able to answer their questions.

Be sure to check out Mike Mahoney on YouTube

It was a great day and we learned a lot and Mike had some stories of his life on the farm. Mike's life is what we all dream of. Living on a farm, being among nature, hearing the birds chirp and the rooster in the morning and having your own workshop, having a great lathe and a unlimited wood blank supply. Now where is the money for this coming from? I better get back to reality and start rough turning those 400 blanks I just chained sawed.

Len Musgrave

# MENTOR PROGRAM



Most of you are aware that the OCWA has a mentoring program that encourages you to call or email someone when you have a specific problem or need help with a skill or a tool. The program exists because lots of very talented club members have answered the call to volunteer to share their expertise.

If you have a specific problem or need help with a skill or tool, you can find help by going to the OCWA website's member/mentor section ([www.ocwoodworkers.org/Members\\_Mentors](http://www.ocwoodworkers.org/Members_Mentors)) where there are currently 14 volunteer club members willing to help with training or problem solving. Fred Wilmott is the mentor chairman and his contact information is also on that page. For our newer members especially, linking up with one of our mentors could result in a valuable one-on-one learning experience, which is offered freely.

One of the most important roles of a mentor is to serve as a teacher to the novice woodworker. Mentors share their body of experience, relating what they have learned in ways that will connect with the member. Mentors also function as advisors; by providing the member a feasible solution to a challenge. In a sense a mentor can be thought of as a Coach, who provides active feedback and guidance. Each mentor can also learn something from helping others. By teaching others, the

knowledge they have acquired over the years is recognized by you and by others. It is also a way to reinforce what they know and that mentoring experience will help them consistently apply what you are teaching. We are always looking for club members to act as mentors. If you feel you have a special expertise in a particular skill or tool and would like to be on the mentor list please call or email Fred.

Some general guidelines to remember:

- The program is strictly voluntary between both members.
- You may have more than one mentor.
- The amount of time spent will be determined by the parties.
- The number of meetings will be determined by the parties.
- The meeting locations will be determined by the parties.
- If feasible, it is recommended that the mentor visit the member's workshop.
- The mentor should establish a baseline of knowledge that the member possesses.
- Mentoring can take several paths in assisting and needs to be determined between the parties.
- Informal - may be just telephone calls when assistance is needed, or
- Semi-formal - may include meeting to watch, assist, and answer questions

Fred Wilmott, *Mentor Program Chair*

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## ANOTHER GREAT SOURCE: OUR LIBRARY

This is a great resource for any woodworker. The following items have been added to YOUR Library:

- 10127 Electric Guitar & Basses Maintenance & Setup Vol. 1
- 10017 Electric Guitar & Basses Maintenance & Setup Vol. 2
- 10044 How To Make a Solid Body Electric Guitar 2002
- 10070 Guitar Spray Finishing Basics Part 1 & 2
- 10148 Tremolo Install 2001
- 10191 Basic Inlay Techniques Vol 1 of 3
- 10192 Intermediate Inlay Techniques Vol 2 of 3
- 10193 Advanced Inlay Techniques Vol 3 of 3
- 10194 Beyond Fret Basics - Advanced Techniques Part 1

- 10202 Advanced Fretting Part 2
- 10165 The Taming of the Skew Disk 1 of 2
- 10184 The Taming of the Skew Disk 2 of 2
- 10186 Metal Spinning - Penn State Industries
- 10508 Monthly Challenge & Show& Tell 5/5/18 - 8/9/18
- 10509 Woodturning Magazine Articles 2011 (PDF files COMPUTER ONLY)

Remember: you can reserve up to 3 titles Online and please remember to return your disks in a timely manner to make them available to other members.

Roy Reaser, *Librarian*

# TOY STORY



The weatherman gave us a break this month with a beautiful sunny day for the inaugural work party at my house. A record crowd of 42 toymakers showed up ready to work. Several newcomers came for a look-see and I hope that they enjoyed themselves and will return. After a short orientation to the new layout and a group picture, we all got to work with the usual sanding, spraying and assembling of parts. It was nice to see Bill Rogers actually sitting down and working on a project. Perhaps he will make the Toymakers a regular part of his life. I spent the morning running hither and yon getting this and that. Our new location, and me, are works in progress, and with a little tweaking, things should smooth out soon. I hope that everyone had a good time and will come back for our next work party at 9:00, Saturday, April 6th See you then.

Ken "Doc" Crandall, *Toy Chairman*



# SHOW AND TELL





## MONTHLY CHALLENGE



The Challenges for the April meeting are to use swirl painting or marbling on wood turnings. Alternatively you can use a technique and paint of your choosing to apply paint to your turning. Len Musgrave's handout is on our website now and it lists resources and details on techniques which he demonstrated.



# WELCOME

## NEW MEMBERS

A big welcome to our new members:

James Doti, *Villa Park*

Debbie Tracy, *Costa Mesa*

Kim Ogletree, *Laguna Niguel*

Glen Hackler, *Irvine*

Charlie Lupul, *Laguna Niguel*



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, April 4, 7:00 p.m.

### Woodturners' Meeting

Thursday, April 18, 6:30 p.m.

### Board Meeting

Thursday, April 4, 6:00 p.m.



## FRIENDS OF OCWA

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