



Monthly Newsletter Smoky Mountain Woodturners MARCH 2024

AAW
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION
OF WOODTURNERS

FEBRUARY 2024 MEETING @ KNOXVILLE WOODCRAFT

PRESIDENT'S MARCH MESSAGE:

After a slow start to the year with the January meeting cancelled and me being in Florida in February. I am hoping we're back on track and ready for a great year ahead. The March meeting was very well attended with some new faces in attendance. I hope to keep the momentum going in April with a pretty full schedule. Starting on April 3 with the Board of Directors meeting via Zoom, our monthly meeting, April 16, and our event at Arrowmont the 26 – 28. Please contact Andy Milligan if you're interested in attending the Arrowmont weekend. I think we have at least 7 spots left. If we can't fill them in the next couple of weeks, we're going to open it up to the Crossville and Tri State AAW clubs. Last time we held this event it was a great success, and a good time was had by all.

For our April meeting Mike Anderson will be providing a demo called "Eggception" which I am looking forward to seeing. I hope we get a great turn out for Mike and the club.

I had a conversation with Bob Law regarding the Wears Valley Ranch program and our ongoing support. There is a need for some new chucks and jaws. I've asked Bob to provide a detailed list of what chucks and jaws they need. I will present that at the next BOD meeting. There is also going to be a need for volunteers for the annual shop cleanup and prep for the upcoming season. I asked Bob to give me a Saturday date to share with the membership. It's my hope we get a good turnout for Bob and his team.

I want to acknowledge Bill Thurman for volunteering to be our Beads of Courage and wig stand liaison to

Childrens Hospital. Also, many Thanks to Drue Hogland for his years of service to the club and the Beads of Courage program. This is a worthwhile effort, and I would ask anyone with spare beads to bring them to the next meeting. I have three or four I can hand out at the next meeting, and I'll try to get more. I am hearing from some folks they're on backorder.

SMWTS President

Ron Comtois

March Demonstration

Bruce Pharis gave an outstanding demonstration of the complex production of ring making. Bruce showed the different ring blanks in use today and the many materials (wood, acrylic, minerals, etc...) used in making them. His use of photo-sensitive CA glue was a great time saver in the production of the rings. The Ring-A-Ding-Ring demonstration will go down as one of the more unique demonstrations this club has ever witnessed. Thanks for a great job Bruce.

Scholarship Draw Results

Our winner's of the monthly Scholarship Draws for March are:

Arrowmont - **Randy Gleckler**

J.C. Campbell - **Randy Gleckler**

Bring Back Box Result

Our Winner for the March monthly drawing was: **Sam DeLozier**

February Wood Donations

1. **Jim Vogelsang**
2. **Gordon Sloane**
3. **Tom Knight**
4. **Drue Hogland**

*The editor just found the Feb. list of donors and who ever has the March (left at meeting) list please be sure to see that the editor gets that list. I will post it in next months Newsletter.

If you have questions about our SMWTS educational program at the Ranch or would like to participate as an instructor, contact Bob Law - rockytopbob1@gmail.com



What's Happening at the Ranch in March?

March's workshops fell within the same week again this month due to schedule conflicts (Spring Break).. Our students tackled new challenges in this month's workshops. The beginners groups turned their first lidded boxes. They did an outstanding job of turning, hollowing and then fitting the lids.

The Intermediate students turned square votive candle holders. It was their first project that didn't start with turning the blank to round. It was a great exercise in project design and interpretation. Combining square corners with rounded top and bottom was a great exercise in conceptualization.



Officers: And Board of Directors:

Ron Comtois, President 2024-25

Bruce Pharis, Vice President 2024-25

Bill Thurman, Secretary 2024-25

Jack Harris, Treasurer 2024-25

Members at Large:

Maria D'Elio, 2024-25

Jerry DeLaurentis, 2024-25

Colin Chambers, 2024-25

Randy Fritchman, 2024-25

Frank Huscroft, 2024-25

Past President: Andy Milligan

Special Assistants to the Board:

Website – Jim Vogelsang
Newsletter Editor – Gordon Sloane

Video/Zoom – Jim Vogelsang and
Andy Milligan

Program Director – Bruce Pharis

Special Projects:

Fantasy of Trees: Don Adams/J. Vogelsang
Beads of Courage: Bill Thurman

Pens for Troops: Randy Fritchman
Education: WVR Proj.: Bob Law
Mentoring: Don Adams

Smoky Mountain Woodturners 2024 Meeting

Schedule

Jan. 16	Presenter: Cancelled due to weather
Feb. 20	Presenter: Dennis Smith Program: 3-D Wave Bowl Description: Dimensional Illusion
March 19	Presenter: Bruce Pharis Program: Ring-A-Ding-Ding Description: No Clue
April 16	Presenter: Mike Anderson Program: Eggception Description: Surprise
May 21	Presenter: Collin Chambers Program: Textured Bowl Description: A process used to add interest to bowls
June 16	Presenter: Gordon Sloane Program: Form and Proportion in Turning Description: Looking good
July 16	Presenter: Ron Comtois Program: Baker's Lane Description: Good to eat???
Aug. 20	Presenter: Wood Auction Program: Bowls, Platters, Blanks, etc... Description: Bring Money
Sept. 17	Presenter: Jake Niedling Program: Platter Challenge Description: What you need to know.
Oct. 15	Presenter: Randy Fritchmab Program: Glenn Lucas – Course Review Description: One week with Irish Turner Glenn Lucas

Nov. 19	Presenter: Bruce Pharis Program: Grind Away Description: Surprise Demo
Dec. 17	Presenter: None Program: Holiday Party Description: Christmas social event

Arrowmont Weekend:

SMWTS is partnering with ETWG to hold a weekend of Woodworking at Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts in Gatlinburg. Dates noon Friday April 26 through noon Sunday April 28. Turning instruction by club mentors with ample time for hands on practice. Cost \$75 per person for materials to SMWTS. Meals and lodging register with Arrowmont. Meals Friday dinner, Sat. Breakfast, Lunch, & Dinner, Sun. Breakfast is \$85 per person. Lodging varies by accommodation per person per night maximum \$125 for new dorm single to minimum \$45 for Teacher's dorm triple. See Arrowmont Website for full listing. Space is limited; first come first served.

SMWTS April Board of Directors Meeting:

April 3, 2024 @ 6:30pm will get an email out to all members reminding them of this event and the ZOOM data to enter the meeting.

March 2024: Instant Gallery





*Okay this month's pictures are all together because Randy and his wife were out of town and Gordon's camera work is lousy. Please forgive not having names with the pictures. Next month we should return (if Randy and his Terry come back) to a more professional look.

Safety Notes

(Dick Hoffman)

Lathe and Turning Equipment

- ▶ Read, thoroughly understand, and follow the label warnings on the lathe and in the owner-operator's manual.
- ▶ Keep lathe in good repair. Check for damaged parts, misalignment, binding of moving parts, and other conditions that may negatively affect its operation.
- ▶ Ensure that all guards, belt covers, and other safety features are in place.
- ▶ Keep the lathe bed, tool-rest holder (banjo), and tailstock mating surfaces clean and operating smoothly.
- ▶ Remove rust or debris that would cause binding.
- ▶ Keep turning tools sharp and clean for better and safer performance.
- ▶ Inspect them frequently for cracks or defects. Don't force a dull tool. Never use a tool for a purpose for which it was not designed or intended.