

# Smoky Mountains Woodturners NEWSLETTER

Welcome to 2021 SMWTS Meetings!

We had about 50 attendees, including at least members of Tri-Cities Woodturners, some of whom are now members our club.

## 2021 Dues are Due



**TREASURER'S REPORT -- Jack Harris**  
Only 27 members have sent in their dues for 2021. Please send them this month.

Please send your dues check of **\$30.00** to the club post office box to retain your annual membership.

**P. O. Box 50141**

**Knoxville, Tennessee 37950-0141**

Our insurance, covering injuries of members and those being mentored, has been paid. Cash reserves are at about \$5200. A complete report will be

Tri-Cities Folks --Want to become a Remote Member of SMWTS?

1. Send your name and password to use to Jim Vogelsang [jevogelsang@charter.net](mailto:jevogelsang@charter.net).
2. Send \$30 dues to PO Box listed above

Photo by Pauline Bayne



## 2021 Board Members

Rob Smith -- President

Don Adams -- Vice President

Scott Duncan -- Secretary

Jack Harris -- Treasurer

Members-at-Large:

Larry Green -- 2021-22

Dick Hoffman -- 2020-21

John Jordan -- 2020-21

Gordon Fowler -- 2020-21

Ed Lewis -- Program Director-- 2020-21

## Gordon Fowler Multi-axis Coffee Scoop



--See pages 3-5 for details of his presentation

--Jim will upload Gordon's detailed procedural handout on SMWTS.org



**Smoky Mountain Woodturners**

The Smoky Mountain Woodturners Chapter of the AAW meets each month of the year on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month. Our meeting place sponsor is Woodcraft -- Knoxville. Meetings start at 6:30 pm. Guests are always welcome. Woodcraft Knoxville is located at 8023 Kingston Pike in Knoxville, near Trader Joe's and one block from West Town Mall.

---Except at present, we are meeting virtually with ZOOM---

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### President's Message from Rob Smith --Trying to Retire / Need to Turn Wood

Well, it looks like February 2021 is on its way out. I would be in a much happier disposition if not for some mangy rodent in Pennsylvania with poor vision. Yet, year after year we drag him (I suppose that "he" is a "he") out and plop him on a stump to determine the extent of winter still to come or if spring is around the corner. I can't say that I've ever examined the photos close enough to determine if Phil is really a Phil ...as if I would be able to tell with my limited knowledge of rodent plumbing. Nevertheless, we patiently wait the coming of spring just as we patiently wait the coming of our turn at a Covid vaccine.

This week I was introduced to the Social Security Administration. You see, I intend to retire from Oak Ridge National Lab after some 30 years there. My last day of work is to be at the end of March. Which makes my first day of retirement, yes you guessed it, April Fools' Day. I can't say that the thought didn't cross my mind to make it a month later but I had already pushed it back a month to finish up a specific program at work. So, I thought, how bad could it be?

I've been in communication with the retirement folks at work since, last November in some fashion or another. They had sent me a retirement package with all the forms and numbers and words and places to sign not once but twice. And as the date drew nearer, my retirement advisor (whom I later found out was younger than my daughter and hadn't been at the lab for very long at all) said that my next step was to sign up for Medicare. And that I needed to do that before we could go any further in the process. So what did I do, yep, I went online and signed up for Medicare. Not only Part A but Part B as well. Some sort of 2 for 1 sale I think. I was told that it could take 6 - 8 weeks before I could expect to receive my Medicare card. So when I got my card in the mail a short 2 weeks later I thought man, they have got this system down to an art. Although, I did wonder why the card said that my Part B would start on April 1<sup>st</sup> but my Part A had started on October 1 of last year (the month I turned 65). Odd, I thought but what the heck, I was the proud owner of an official Medicare card! The first thing I did was to take that card and laminate it. Just to preserve that fresh card look.

And then, several weeks later, I got an interesting email from our benefits department. And they were not saying nice things about my pretty new card. No, what they said was that since my Medicare Part A was in effect on October 1, 2020 then as of that date, I could no longer contribute to my wonderful HSA. Not only that, but since the company had kicked in a \$1,000 on January 1, 2021 I would have to give it back. Now the term "Indian giver" did cross my mind but that was one of the milder terms. So, I thought that this could not be right. I mean I had been directed by my company's retirement advisor to file for Medicare. Obviously, some government entity had made an error. So, the next day, technically it was the same day, since I'm working nights, I get on the phone to Medicare to correct it. To my surprise, I actually spoke with a person at Medicare. She was a nice lady but not all that helpful. She said that it was Social Security that assigned the Medicare start dates and not Medicare. Any person of their right mind would have known at that point that this would not end well. So I wrote down the phone number that the nice lady at Medicare had given me for Social Security and at my earliest convenience, I called it. My estimated wait time was 1 and ½ hours. Not bad for Social Security during a global pandemic and I really needed to get this straightened out. So you can imagine how thrilled I was when I heard someone pick up after a mere 75-minute wait. This time, I got a young man in a hurry with an accent but definitely someone who knew what he was doing. Within 2 minutes he deduced that all I had to do was to fill out a form that he was going to text to me and FAX it to my local Social Security office. I gratefully thanked the young man and anxiously awaited the text. Ding, there it was, just like he said he would. So, I filled it out and carefully explained my situation in the space allotted. It even required 2 witness signatures which I had no problem finding. It all looked official and perfect. Although the title, "Request for Termination of Premium Hospital and/or Supplementary Medical Insurance" did cause me some trepidation. Nevertheless, off on the FAX machine it went. A day and one-half later, I got a call from a lady with our Knoxville Social Security office. After nearly 5 minutes of discussion, it became apparent that the form would permanently remove me from Medicare Part A roles, forever. Finally, after about the fourth time she asked me if I was sure if I wanted her to process the form, I responded in the negative. She congratulated me on a wise decision and said that she would "file" it in the no action section. I do hope that she actually did that.

So now, when I think of having to return the \$1,000 to the company and the IRS penalties in my future, they don't seem so bad. I should have listened to the groundhog and stayed underground for another six weeks.

#### Committee Chairs

**Website** – Jim Vogelsang

**Newsletter Editor** – Pauline Bayne

**Video/Zoom** – Jim Vogelsang and Andy Milligan

#### Special Projects

- **Fantasy of Trees** – Jim Vogelsang
- **Beads of Courage & Wig Stands**  
– Drue Hogland
- **Pens for Troops** – Randy Fritchman
- **Education** – WVR Project  
– Bob Law
- **Safety Director** – Richard Hoffman
- **Arts in the Airport**  
– Robert Brown
- **Blount Mansion Project** – Ed Lewis  
Kiln-dried magnolia is coming...
- **SMWTS Display at the Emporium** – Brian Horais (2021 cancelled)

## Gordon Fowler -- Coffee Scoop

Gordon spent about a year analyzing examples of coffee scoops while deciding on his original style and work method.

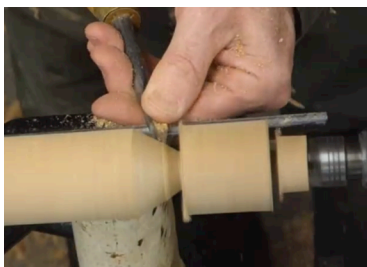
He chose a spherical scoop with an offset handle, and tonight he demonstrated his turning method.



### MATERIALS & TOOLS to use:

- Wood blank, 2x2x8" - fairly plain wood
- Roughing gouge
- Spindle gouge
- Skew
- Left and Right-angled scrapers
- Thin Parting tool
- Round nose scraper
- 2" PVC pipe, cut & smoothed to hold sphere (scoop) in chuck
- Padding to cushion sphere in chuck
- Calipers
- 3/4" electrical conduit to test sphere's trueness

*Gordon's method:* Start the work between centers to turn it round to 1.75" and lay out the scoop area (1 5/8") and handle. Then reduce the end near the headstock to 1" & to 9/16" immediately left of sphere area.



Mark 7/8" to right of sphere, cut with parting tool to 1" immediately right of sphere area. Cut a V from 7/8" mark to the sphere area where diameter will be 3/4".

Gi

## American Association of Woodturners

If you are not a member of AAW, we'd ask you to consider joining our parent organization. A new membership promotion is being offered in 2020 –**Affiliate membership**.

Get full access to all online content, publications *American Woodturner* & Woodturning FUNDamentals, as well as availability of demonstrator, maker and educator profiles on the AAW website.

NOTE: Affiliate membership is offered **FREE** to AAW Chapter members for 3 months. Sign up for the special offer online at [www.woodturner.org](http://www.woodturner.org)

NOW is a Great Time to join, and spend time with all their info, videos, articles – both present and past!

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### AAW Calendar

#### 2021 AAW Symposium

Omaha, Nebraska

July 15-18, 2021

#### 2022 AAW Symposium

Chattanooga, TN

June 23-26, 2021

Check out AAW Remote Demos Screen  
Shot 2021-02-16 at 7.44.05 PM

o WIT Presents: Sally Burnett /Feb 20, 4-5

o &A: Basic Setup of the ATEM Mini Video Switcher / Feb 21, 3-5 pm

o Colouring Wood / Feb 23, 6-8 pm

o Enhancing the Rim / Mar 6, 12-2 pm

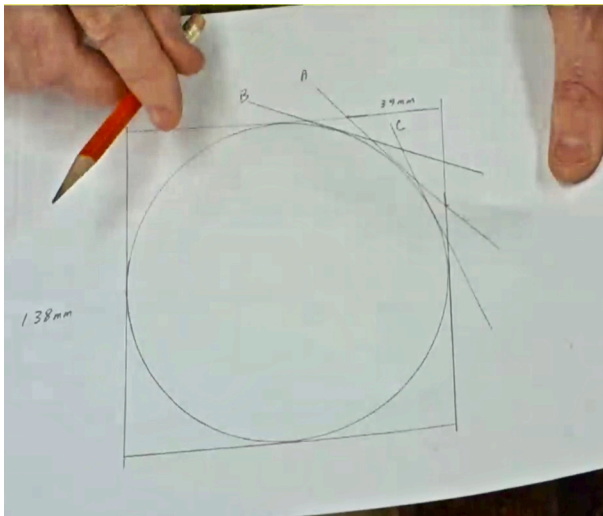
o Sharpening Woodturning Tools / Mar 9, 6-8 pm

**Cancellations:** All 2020 Regional





Now it's time to create the sphere for the scoop.



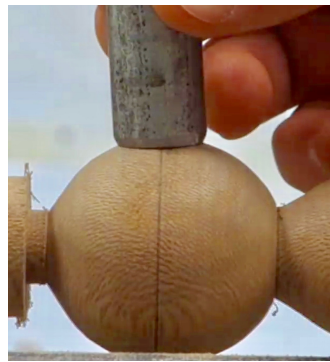
Gordon showed how to measure for the distance to mark on the blank. For his piece, the mark was 13 mm from the end. Then he marked the center of the sphere and started to turn. Below are marks and cuts for Line A (cutting off the corners).



These corners are lines B and C



Now I'm cutting a curved line to connect the dots



Then check to see if sphere is true. Does the full circle of the pipe touch the wood? Can it rock? Identify the flats and correct them using right & left-angled scrapers. Then sand the sphere and V-cut.

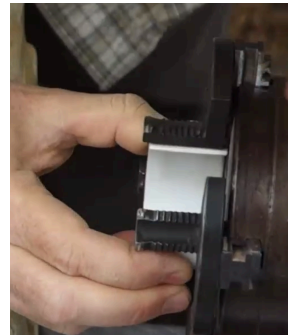


Next, relocate the end of the handle section at the tailstock before turning the offset handle with the roughing and detail gouges. Gordon goes for a long, flowing curve.

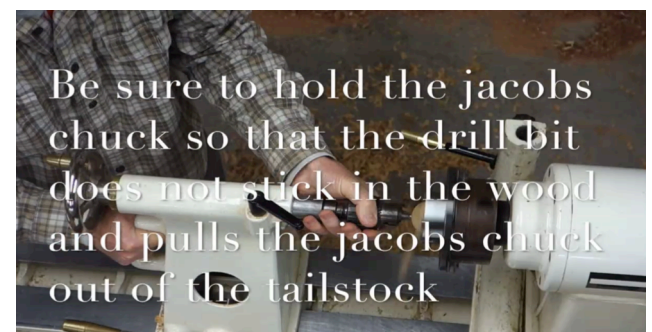


## Gordon Fowler -- Coffee Scoop

This step involves a design consideration. When moving the bottom (handle) end of the piece, decide where the wood patterns should go. Then adjust the angle of the offset, moving it about 3/8" off center, and start removing wood to shape the handle and taper its ends.



Put the chuck on and insert the PVC pipe, padding, and sphere-end of the piece. Set the angle of the handle about 10 degrees, and check to see it does not hit the tool rest. Then dimple the center of the sphere and use a 3/16" drill bit in a Jacob's chuck to drill a depth hole in the sphere. Carefully check the depth several times with calipers.



Cut off the top end of the sphere with a scraper, and begin hollowing with a round-nose scraper until the drill hole disappears and the wall measures an even depth. Gordon sets his calipers to 3/32 less than the desired diameter. Sand inside the sphere and its top edge. The final length of the coffee scoop is about 7.25" with the scoop's volume at about 2 tablespoons. Gordon's choice of finish for kitchen items is Mahoney's Walnut Oil.

Gordon Fowler's Multi-Axis Coffee Scoop and an upsized version, Soup Ladle --THANKS, for a great demo!



## 2021 Calender of Events

January 6 1st Quarter Board of Directors meeting  
 January 19 **Jake Niedling** – Small Thin Goblets  
 February 16 **Gordon Fowler** -- Multi-Axis Turned Coffee Scoops  
 March 16 **Dick Hoffman – Toolmaking**  
 April 7 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Board of Directors meeting  
 April *SMWTS Exhibition of Knoxville Art and Alliance, Emporium Bldg.- Cancelled*

*The Board of Directors will be completing our annual schedule. Please be in touch with any board member if you would like to do a demo for our club.*

*Jim Vogelsang: Website is Coming Along. Give it a try to experience improvements.*

### Website Update

- Log in
  - Password reset request if required
- New Site use and navigation
  - Recommendations welcome
  - Adding Show and Tell pictures
  - Editing your information
  - Membership list
- Demonstration Handouts and Videos
  - Old ones before 2020
  - New 2020-2021
- Newsletters

PLEASE ADD YOUR PHOTO to your account on SMWTS.org

1. Choose MEMBERS LIST from the MEMBERS MENU (bottom of HOME)
2. Find your NAME and click on the link
3. Choose EDIT on your member's info
4. Scroll down until you see PICTURE
5. Click on CHOOSE FILE (best if you have your photo on the "desktop") and on your photo's filename
6. Watch the circle go around until you see your photo
7. Scroll down to the bottom of your info and click on SAVE--*must do this!!!*
8. Go back to MEMBERS LIST to see photo





## What's Happening at the Ranch this Month?

In **February**, Our students turned potpourri bowls using beautiful wood blanks provided by John K. Jordan. (Thanks John!) Each and every one of them produced a real work of art that they can give as a gift or use to aromatize their rooms. We even provided the potpourri to fill the bowl 😊.



We also worked on producing some beautiful pens for the Ranch's Legacy 145 Planned Giving Program. Donors who graciously include



Wears Valley Ranch in their estate planning are sent one of these pens made by the Students and Instructors as part of our educational program.

Our friend and all around Mr. Fixit at the Ranch, Pat Brown is recovering from an operation and stopped by the Shop this week to say "hello". He's anxious to get back to opening the shop again for the students.

We learned this past week that Pastor Jim Wood, the Executive Director at the Ranch is retiring. Pastor and his wife, Susan are the founders of Wears Valley Ranch.



If you have questions about our SMWTS educational program, contact Bob Law:

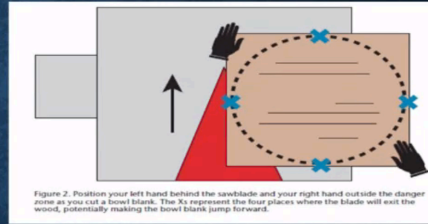
<mailto:rockytopbob1@gmail.com>



## AAW Monthly Safety Message – Dick Hoffmann

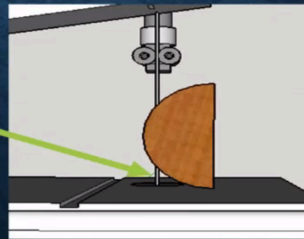
### BAND SAW SAFETY FOR TURNERS

- Know where the danger zone is and keep hands out of the zone when cutting.
- Most accidents are caused by trying to cut unsupported stock.



Position your hands as shown--left behind the blade & right outside danger zone.

Four Xs show where blade will exit the wood, possibly making



#### Choice of blade is critical

- Use a wide thick blade (3/8" or 1/2" wide)
- To clear waste, use a blade with 3-4 teeth per inch.
- Make sure the blade is sharp
- Properly tension the blade...
  - The gage on the saw is not accurate. Use a purchased gage.
  - A good estimate is with the guard up, press the blade with your finger... it should move about 1/8".

- Cutting a log down the pith is safe because the cut is supported.



#### Use a Sled



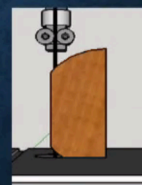
#### Use a pattern



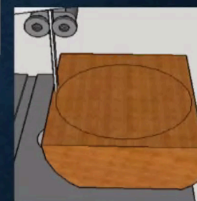
#### Cut Flats



1<sup>st</sup> cut



2<sup>nd</sup> Cut



3<sup>rd</sup> Cut

Safely Cutting Bowl Blanks



## ***Where you can find it ...***

### **Sources for Bandsaw Blades**

Holston Gas Co. -- from John K. Jordan

Custom blades at about half price

Located off I-275 at Baxter Avenue exit

545 W. Baxter Ave, Knoxville, TN 37921 / 865-573-1917, best to call in the morning

Bibb Tool in Macon, GA -- from Dick Hoffmann

About \$10

[http://www.bibbtool.com/bandsaw\\_blades.php](http://www.bibbtool.com/bandsaw_blades.php)

### **Other Bandsaw issues**

Buy a Band Saw Tensioning Gauge --John K. Jordan

ITURRA Design / [KALLL@comcast.net](mailto:KALLL@comcast.net) / 904-642-2802 / Jacksonville, FL

1/8" movement is right --comment by Dick Hoffmann

Band Saw gumming up? --Dick Hoffmann

Use blade lubricant (by Lennox or candle wax) and a good brush to keep the inside clean

**NEED WOOD?** --Donations to SMWTS will be accepted for the club.

#### **Contact John Jordan**

mailto: [jordanjk@gmail.com](mailto:jordanjk@gmail.com)

John has wood to donate for those needing wood for practice or chapter projects. He also has new trees down:

- Dogwood
- Black Locust
- Asian Pear
- Crepe Myrtle

#### **Contact Rob Smith**

mailto: [highsky103@gmail.com](mailto:highsky103@gmail.com)

## ***Mentoring Program Goes Virtual*** -- Don Adams

One purpose of SMWTS is to provide education and information to its members. To that end, SMWTS formalized a Mentoring Program in 2019. Some of our members, who are skilled in teaching as well as the woodturning craft, volunteered. A list of Mentors and their respective expertise was published, and the Club purchased insurance through AAW for members in mentoring sessions. A Mentoring Policy was developed to provide guidance for the process and the requirements to initiate the insurance coverage.



We are currently working to reenergize the Mentoring Program. As with Club meetings that have moved to Zoom meetings, we would like to encourage members who want to engage with a Mentor to use a non-contact method. Such sessions could be accomplished with Zoom, FaceTime, Skype, or even a phone call. These methods will provide a form of mentoring while still protecting our membership during the pandemic.

If you are interested in being a mentor, please review the Mentoring Policy and send your name, expertise, phone number, and location to Don Adams ([don-adams@tds.net](mailto:don-adams@tds.net)). The current Mentoring List and Policy will be maintained on the website. Members who would like to engage with a Mentor can contact one on the list or contact a club officer who can help suggest matches. Mentors genuinely enjoy helping others learn aspects of woodturning and sharing their experienced knowledge. Novice or advanced, you are encouraged to use the program. You will learn a lot faster and safer and your Mentor will enjoy knowing he or she has passed on skills that were so hard to develop.

## Show & Tell Gallery



### **Larry Bass**

Ambrosia Maple Bowl / voids & cracks filled with blue lapis, blue calcite & metallic glitter / bowl finish

Plum Natural Edge Bowl

Square Cherry Platter with Gecko Mineral Inlay & bowl finish

### **Dick Hammat**

Japanese Maple Patter with Natural Colors  
7" diameter x 1" thick





## Show & Tell Gallery



***Dick Hoffmann***

Spiral Segmented Closed Bowl  
Padauk & Maple / 13" d x 9" h

4 Thin-Stemmed Goblets in Cherry

## Show & Tell Gallery



### **Scott Duncan**

Thin Stem Forest  
Cherry, Mimosa, Ash

*Scott says there is a big  
difference between 3/16  
and 1/8" stems*

--I count 18 of 'em !  
Now he's made 20.

### **Brian Horais**

Thermed Chair/End Table

Made from variety of Shop Wood

Inset shows therming rig and  
table legs on the lathe.

