

Smoky Mountains Woodturners NEWSLETTER

AUG 2021

Issue No. 8

Thanks to all of you for being with us at the August meeting. Our intentions were for this month to be our first meeting with an "in-person" format. Unfortunately, the delta variant of the Covid virus just made that too risky. So for now, and into the foreseeable future, we will stick with our remote "ZOOM" meeting format. And hope that everyone stays safe through this.

--Rob Smith, President

To become a New Member of SMWTS:

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

2021 Dues are Due



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

Call for Entries for Arts in the Airport at McGhee Tyson Airport



This juried show will allow 40-45 regional artists to compete and display work. No entry fee but must join the Alliance by *entry deadline: 12 Sep 2021.*

More information & entry form:

www.knoxalliance.com/airport-entry

or contact Suzanne Cada at:

865-523-7543 or sc@knoxalliance.com

Ray Huskey: Gatlinburg Craftsman

Selections from a DVD issued by American Association of Woodturning

Introduction by John Tarpley



Ray Huskey: A Turning Tradition. AAW video & DVD in their series, *Masters of Woodturning*, 2003.

See SMWTS.org - listed under Handouts/Videos

Woodworking in the Smokies: Charles Ray Huskey by Grace van Rij, his granddaughter.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Eqv5p3dEtGc>



The Smoky Mountain Woodturners Chapter of the AAW meets each month of the year on the 3rd 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.

Smoky Mountain Woodturners
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President's Message from Rob Smith



Unfortunately, we do not seem to be as close to seeing an end to the global Covid pandemic as we thought a month or two ago.

To quote a recent Bloomberg article written by Kristen Brown and Rebecca Torrence, *"For the time being, there are simply more questions than answers. Are breakthrough infections ticking up because of the delta variant, waning immunity or a return to normal life? Are vaccinated people more vulnerable to severe illness than previously thought? Just how common are breakthrough infections? It's anyone's guess."*

Consequently, SMWTS meetings will continue to be online utilizing the Zoom format.

My family and I moved to Knoxville in December of 1990. Most of our furniture was put in storage until we could find a house. In the meantime, we rented a two-bedroom apartment in the Cedar Bluff area. I began my work at ORNL while my wife began the exhaustive process of securing a full-time teaching position with Knox Co. Schools. Then, in a flash, almost 31 years have flown by.

Today has been the same way. Too much to do, too little time to do it. I got my lathe disassembled and moved to the garage. Packed up all the thousands of things that I've strewn around the shop over the last 10 years or so. Sold the potter's wheel yesterday. Things are moving along as we work towards moving to be near our daughter in Medina, Ohio. I try not to think of all the cold and snow. However, I am looking forward to setting up in a new shop and getting back to turning.

Rob

From the Membership:

And to you--Rob--we give our *hearty thanks for your leadership* of the club during this Covid year. We really appreciate your efforts on our behalf and send you and your wife all good wishes in your new location. Happy TURNING !

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)



Update on a Shop for Jason by John Westrup

We would like to thank everyone who helped out with this project. Through your efforts, we have been able to create a safe work environment for Jason. Now it is in his hands and we can't wait to see his woodturning progress.

MENTORING PROGRAM -- GO FOR IT !

-- DON ADAMS

Club currently has thirteen volunteer Mentors. These experienced, skilled, and talented men and women are eager to help individual members learn or improve a new skill. Mentors are listed at the club website members' area. After logging in, go to [SMWTS Mentoring | Smoky Mountain Woodturners](#)

If you are interested in rapidly improving your woodturning skillset at any level, please apply by selecting a mentor who specializes in your desired topic or by calling Don Adams (865.748.2471) for assistance. One-on-one sessions can be arranged and conducted by a simple phone call, a video call, or a meeting in your shop or the Mentor's.

The club continues to seek new Mentors in all aspects of turning. Just call Rob or Don to sign up. The formality of the mentoring program facilitates the Club providing its Mentors with liability insurance for such activities. It also provides documentation to aid in Club reporting to our parent organization, AAW, to apply for awards.

2021 Board Members

OFFICERS

Rob Smith -- President
 Don Adams -- Vice President
 Scott Duncan -- Secretary
 Jack Harris -- Treasurer

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

Larry Green – 2021-22
 Dick Hoffmann – 2020-21
 John Jordan – 2020-21
 Gordon Fowler – 2020-21
 Dick Hoffmann –2020-21
 --Program Committee Chair

SMWTS 2021 Calendar 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 –Hand Made Turning Tools
April 7	2 nd Quarter Board of Directors meeting
April 20	Two-Part Hollowing by Frank Didomizio & Tim Yoder ; public domain videos curated by Dick Hoffmann.
May 18	Graeme Priddle & Melissa Engler - Koru Bowl
June 20	Richard Raffin - Understanding Catches & Kent Weakley - How to Avoid Woodturning Tool Marks
July 20	John K. Jordan - Bandsaw Techniques & Safety
August 17	Charles Ray Huskey , <i>A Gatlinburg Craftsman</i> , introduced by John Tarpley
September 21	Topic: TBD - monthly meeting on ZOOM
October 19	Topic: TBD - monthly meeting on ZOOM
November 16	Topic: TBD - monthly meeting on ZOOM
December 21	Topic: TBD - monthly meeting on ZOOM

The Board of Directors will be completing our annual schedule. Contact any board member if you wish to demonstrate for our club.

Check out AAW Remote Demos

Miniature Teapot: Laurent Niclot / August 28, 3 pm
 German Rings: Simon Begg / September 25, 4 pm
 Using the Lathe to Make Stringed Instruments: Beth Ireland / October 23 / 3 pm

NEED WOOD?

--Donations to SMWTS will be accepted for the club.

Contact John Jordan mailto: jordanjk@gmail.com

John has wood to donate for those needing wood for practice or chapter projects.

Contact Rob Smith mailto: highsky103@gmail.com

For those who need or want it, Rob also has a supply of turning materials.

American Association of Woodturners

If you are not a member of AAW, we 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

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

AAW Calendar
2021 AAW Symposium
 Omaha, Nebraska
 July 15-18, 2021

2022 AAW Symposium
 Chattanooga, TN
 June 23-26, 2021

DEMO: Charles Ray Huskey, Gatlinburg Craftsman

John Tarpley introduced the Demo video, *Ray Huskey: A Turning Tradition*. It is an AAW video in their series, *Masters of Woodturning*, that premiered at the 2003 Pasadena Symposium. We saw a 24-minute excerpt. The focus was Charles Ray Huskey, and in fact, it was John who originally suggested the video topic to AAW leadership. Ray was 62 years of age when the video was made and is now in his 80s.

Charles Ray Huskey was a third-generation woodturner in the "Gatlinburg School of Woodturners". His family was instrumental in starting the Great Smoky Mountains Arts & Crafts Community. In fact, they had two of the original six shops. Lee Huskey, his grandfather, had a broom shop and his father, Carl, started the Village Craft Shop. Carl taught woodshop at the Pi Beta Phi Settlement School for 23 years. Ray grew up in their home wood shop and made his first pieces at the age of 12. Ray had a long career as a woodturner, creating pieces sold at the Village Craft Shop for over 65 years. He taught at Arrowmont, Brigham Young University, and Berea College, as well as the Utah Symposium and various woodturning clubs.

He was a production turner – accurate, speedy, and with a good sense of design. He could turn 150-200 pieces a day, working 8-9 hours a day on the lathe and loving it. The family turning method was to use scrapers instead of gouges, which is unusual. Ray made his own scrapers from used planer blades. He felt scrapers had a less aggressive cut, therefore were more precise and controlled. He also built a machine, originally used in furniture making, called a spindle carver. The key element was a carver made from a washer that had been shaped with a router. This device allowed him to cut small patterns very quickly into his turned items.

Resources:

On SMWTS.org: listed under Handouts & Videos
Ray Huskey: A Turning Tradition. AAW video & DVD in their series, *Masters of Woodturning*, 2003.

On YouTube:

Woodworking in the Smokies: Charles Ray Huskey by Grace van Rij, his granddaughter.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Eqv5p3dEtGc>

Book: Carl Huskey (Ray's father) is pictured in a book, *Wood Turning in America Since 1930*, published by what is now called The Center for Art in Wood.



Ray in his shop --from his granddaughter's YouTube video



His grandfather, Lee Huskey



His father, Carl Huskey



"The Shop"



Ray attended school here

DEMO: Charles Ray Huskey, Gatlinburg Craftsman



Roy's decoration & signature



Hallmark decoration



Spindle carver for decorations



Fan pulls

Eggs for Easter



Christmas Ornaments

Table candle holder



Plates & Bowls

Large candle holder



Roy in Village Craft Shop -- Quality turned items that sold well





What's Happening at the Ranch this Month?

School is out for the Summer!

August marks the end of the 2020-2021 School Calendar. The students are off on their break, returning the week of September 6th. We will start the new year with one new student and then add some additional beginners later in the fall.

Work is progressing on the new shop building addition. This month the septic system was installed, and the water supply was connected to the building.

We are looking forward to indoor facilities before the cold weather arrives. Our beginner students finished their poplar platters/plates, completing the last project of the school year. Platters were turned from a piece of poplar lumber and gave them the opportunity to work with some texturing tools as well. Everyone seemed to enjoy the projects and is looking forward to continuing with us next semester.

Our intermediate students finished their hand mirrors. All of them were able to take the completed mirrors with them at the end of the workshop.



If you have questions about our SMWTS educational program at the Ranch, contact Bob Law
- mailto: rockytopbob1@gmail.com

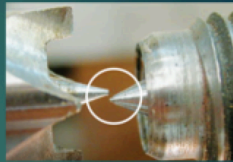
SAFETY MESSAGE: Dick Hoffmann

5 Easy Steps in Tuning Your Lathe

AUG 2021

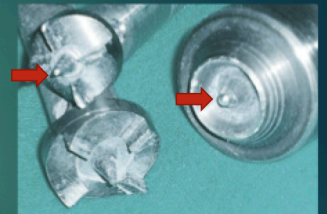
1 ALIGN HEADSTOCK & TAIL STOCK

- ▶ Insert Spur Center in Headstock
- ▶ Insert Live Center in Tailstock
- ▶ Bring Head and Tail Stock together
- ▶ If points don't match...
 - ▶ For rotating head lathes adjust rotation
 - ▶ For some lathes, there are adjustment screws (check your manual)
 - ▶ For others, shim the corner of the tailstock with 1-2 sheets of paper or tape.



2 CHECK THAT LIVE CENTER RUNS TRUE

- ▶ Worn bearings on inexpensive live centers can wear out, especially if head and tail stock are out of alignment.
- ▶ Check by spinning center and watch point for wobble
 - ▶ replace the bearing if possible
 - ▶ If not purchase a new live center



3. TOO MUCH PRESSURE APPLIED TO THE MANDREL IN PEN TURNING

- ▶ Replace bent or damaged parts
- ▶ If pen blanks spins, first check that problem is not with the tube spinning in the blank.
- ▶ Use just enough pressure to turn the pen blank without it slipping.
- ▶ Back off if mandrel starts to bow.



SAFETY MESSAGE: Dick Hoffmann

4. POOR CENTERING OR HOLD WITH VACUUM CHUCKS

To improve centering, try

- ▶ Replace the hold material (closed cell foam works best)
- ▶ Readjust the material,
- ▶ Buy thicker (or thinner) material
- ▶ On a finished edge bowl, consider using a flat plate as a vacuum chuck, thus spreading out the hold over a large area and minimizing the problem.



5. HOLE-DRILLING ERRORS

- ▶ Properly seat the Morse taper in your tailstock
- ▶ Run the quill out far enough that the drill chuck completely seats—no further.
- ▶ Bring the tailstock up into close proximity of the work and lock down the tailstock before drilling
- ▶ To avoid the drill wandering from hard, winter-growth grain and into softer summer growth
 - ▶ use a drill center
 - ▶ creating a small pilot hole for the drill point
 - ▶ Using Brad-point or Forstner bits also reduces drifting
- ▶ Always be sure that the bit you select is sharp.

TIPS TO IMPROVE YOUR ACCURACY

- ▶ Always clean the female Morse tapers before inserting any access
- ▶ Remove all defects or burrs from the surface of male Morse tapers.
- ▶ Store and protect spur drives and live centers from scratches and dings
- ▶ Find a place near your lathe where these valuable attachments won't get beat about by lathetools, hammers, and accessories

Show & Tell Gallery

John Tarpley

- Anvil Pens
- Redhart Wig Stand with walnut, oak, & white veneer
- Rose Engine-Decorated Tape Measures



Show & Tell Gallery



Brian Horais

Round It's Not -

10-inch diameter bowl turned from an irregular plank of walnut. The outer edges were cut on a bandsaw and the center section was turned on a lathe. Carving and sanding created the triangular shapes in the bowl to match the outer shape. Finish is Watco oil buffed on the Beall system.



Threaded Jar with a Twist -

This 5-inch tall threaded jar was turned from Maple. I created it as a basis for an upcoming article I am writing. A multi-axis twist was added on the bottom along with feet. Colors and embellishments were added to enhance to the overall look.

Show & Tell Gallery

Rob Smith

Pens for Troops



Pauline Bayne

Coffee Scoops -

Handles are walnut, cedar & maple;
bowls of some spalted wood, walnut,
& ash



Sandy Pittard

Ode to Jake

