



February 2015



TURNERS TALK

THE MID-SOUTH WOODTURNERS GUILD





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Sammy Long Thin Wall Piercing



President's Corner



Hello
everyone,

here it is another month of 2015. Well I had a great Jan, I hope you did too. I did some turning and I did some traveling. One of the symposiums I went to was the Tennessee Association of Woodturners in Franklin Tn. I think it is one of the premier regional symposiums in the country. MSWG was well represented with 22 of our members there. There were great demonstrations, a fantastic instant gallery and a good vendor area. Then there was the Banquet Auction, Good fellowship, good food and a chance to acquire great art at reasonable prices. I had a really good time.

Last month we had Sammy Long as our guest demonstrator and he did a great job showing us thin turning, and his piercing techniques.

This month at the MSWG club meeting we will have one of our own members giving the demonstration. Jonas Nemanis will be showing us how he does an end grain natural edge vase with stem. I'm looking forward to it.

I want to remind you members to bring something for the instant gallery, look through

your shop and bring a little something for the raffle. I like to think of raffle items as sharing the wealth with your fellow club members. Also it helps to fund the general operation of the club.

See you all Sat the 28th, come early and leave late.

By:
Dennis Paullus



General Meeting Minutes

MIDSOUTH WOODTURNERS GUILD
General Meeting, January 24, 2015

Call to Order 9:00 AM

Dennis Paullus: President

Treasurer's Report: Joseph Voda

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----------|
| Expenses for Dec: | \$227.00 |
| Total Balance (as of Jan 1) | \$3404.73 |

Announcements from the President:

1. Dennis has business cards for club
2. Dennis urged members to buy raffle tickets and bring items to support the club Auction
3. Certificates of appreciation were passed out to retiring officers.
4. TAW is next weekend. They are collecting pens for troops and Beads of Courage was also discussed as gifts for children undergoing cancer treatment which could be turned in at TAW. Dennis also supported joining AAW and listed some of what he viewed as benefits of membership.
5. It is time for payment of dues. Failure to renew by March will result in being dropped from the roster.
6. New members and guest were recognized.

Demonstration

The program was presented by Mr. Sammy Long of Magnolia Woodturners from Brandon MS. Demonstration consisted of thin wall turning and piercing of the thin walled bowls.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 PM

Submitted by Rich Williams: Secretary

Wood Spin

Yellow Bellied Sapsucker, Friend or Foe?



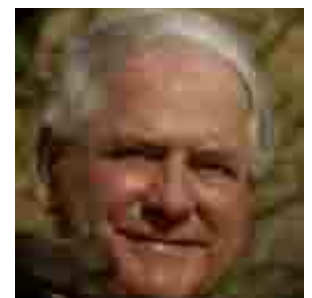
Without keeping you in suspense any longer, the answer is... it depends. For the woodturner who does not make a living selling timber, this beautiful member of the woodpecker family can add some dramatic embellishments to his woodturnings. However, in the past, the tree farmer and the lumber dealer have considered this bird a serious pest. Other woodpeckers also have caused problems but this little sapsucker especially likes to drill a ring of holes in trees and then return to a favorite tree, or trees, to keep

drilling and keep the sap flowing. These holes are usually about 5 mm in diameter and extend through the bark and several mm into the sapwood.

Why do sapsuckers like to drill holes in trees? Their name is a dead giveaway as tree sap is a favorite food of these birds. They also feed on the insects attracted to the sapwells and which may be stuck in the drying sap. Unlike most woodpeckers, the sapsuckers are migratory, spending the winter in the southeast, then move back north when sap begins to flow and insects fly. Hummingbirds are



By:
Emmitt Manley



Wood Spin cont.

also attracted to sapwells where they feed both on the nectar and insects.

Although dozens of species of trees may be attacked by the common yellow bellied sapsucker, mockernut hickories (our most common hickory) is a favorite. Other hickories, birches, most maples, and sweet gums are also commonly tapped. These trees yield lots of sweet sap and, as woodturners, we know how pleasant it is to work with these non-irritating woods.



Well, what's the problem with sapsuckers? The problem, to the lumber dealer, is wood damage. Some trees may be attacked to such an extent as to gird the trunk or a limb and kill that tree or limb. Or slow the growth. Or, and this is the primary concern, to introduce "iron streaks" in the form of dark brown areas, even inclusions of bark and decay. The term "iron streaks" was coined before it was appreciated that the color and wood weakness was the result of woodpecker introduced fungal activity. These fungal streaks may be localized or extend many feet down the tree trunk as the tree grows. Individual trees may become favorites of individual sapsuckers and such trees can be highly degraded over a



period of years. The iron streaks often weaken the wood and they certainly add colors which may not be desirable in wood used for flooring, cabinets, etc.

There was so much concern by lumber dealers in the early 20th century that it was proposed that yellow bellied sapsuckers be eliminated.



Wood Spin cont.

Forestry publications provided formulas for making your own strychnine paste to place on sapsucker holes. It was recognized that a lot of hummingbirds and warblers would also be killed but this was believed to be acceptable collateral damage to rid the forest of sapsuckers. Fortunately, this effort failed and now the ornithologists tell us that there is a good population of these little beauties so they are in no danger of extinction.

Let's assume you are a woodturner, not a wood dealer (and this seems a safe assumption for most of the readers of this article), and the perspectives change. It is a fortunate woodturner who possesses mockernut hickory wood well colored by streaks subsequent to woodpecker attack. By matching the diameter of your turning to the location of the "iron streaks" it is possible

to incorporate the colors into your product. See accompanying photos for woodturned examples, all made from mockernut hickory trees which had been attacked by yellow bellied sapsuckers.

Once again, the efficient (lazy?) woodturner has enlisted a force of nature to provide embellishments that compare well with those produced by artificial means: air brushes, burnings, paintings, texturings, etc.

Upcoming Events

February 28

MSWG member **Jonas Nemanis** will be demonstrating a natural edge goblet with stem.

March 28

MSWG member **Jim Tusant**, will be presenting Tips and "Techniques on Steroids #2"

Please contact a club board member if you would like to volunteer to present to the club, or if you have suggestions for future events.

Cliff & William Valentine



Hackberry



Silver Maple

Dennis Paullus



Carved Hidden Box



Threaded Sphere Box



Beads of Courage Box

Instant Gallery

Don Farage



Cherry Egg



Ash



Spalted Bowl

Jonas Nemanis



Red Oak Box



Redbud



Spalted Maple Hollow Form

Instant Gallery cont.

Marcus Boyd



Square Edge Bowl



Mark Maxwell



Colorado Aspen Cup



Osage Orange Bowl

Instant Gallery cont.

Mike Maffitt



Maple Ornament



Ash Bowl

Rick Stone



Walnut Carved Vase



Megavita Vase



Pencil Holder



Brass Mallet

Instant Gallery cont.

Skip Wilbur



Pepper Mills



AAW TIPS

If you are not a member already, the **TIPS** section from the **AAW** web site might be just the reason to join. Below is a screen capture of a unique idea from their tips site.

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Tips: High-Build-Up, Finish-Drying Tool

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High-Build-Up, Finish-Drying Tool

This is a drying device that I made, copying one that Jan Panek had made. The device allows thick finishes to dry evenly. With the piece attached to a chuck, apply one thick coat of finish and turn the machine on. It rotates at 10rpm and will keep the finish from running. The pieces I've finished on this device have a thick, deep finish and look as if I have applied twenty-five coats. Parts needed:

- Slow-speed motor (I use a barbeque rotisserie motor)
- Chuck one large bolt with a 1" (25mm) x 8tpi and nut to fit your chuck
- Two 1" (25mm) bearings
- Two brackets
- 1.375" (10mm) bolt, with the end squared to fit the motor



Drill into the end of the 1" (25mm) bolt so that the .375" (10mm) bolt sets .75" (19mm) into it. Drill and tap the inside of the 1" (25mm) bolt to hold the .375" (10mm) bolt with a setscrew. Loosen the setscrew when applying finish. The 1" (25mm) nut, which is also drilled and tapped, serves as a stop for the chuck.

- Lou DeMola, Clifton Park, NY



<http://www.woodturner.org/?page=TipsFinishDryTool>

Sponsors and Suppliers

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