

February 2017



# TURNERS TALK

THE MID SOUTH WOODTURNERS GUILD



**AAW** OFFICIAL CHAPTER  
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION  
OF WOODTURNERS



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We received a detailed demonstration of cutting threads in turned boxes from Dennis Paullus at our January meeting. It is very cool to be able to add that additional touch to a lidded box by including a threaded top.

# President's Corner

By:  
Dennis Paullus



Good morning my fellow wood turners. Here we go again starting a new year and I'm so excited about 2017. We started out with a great January meeting. What a great show and tell we had last month. There was some really great stuff brought in. Thank you all for sharing. It is wonderful to watch the progress of we woodturners over the years. Getting better and sharing new techniques is what our club is all about.

The raffle was fantastic too with a really good selection of wood. There are many clubs that do not have a raffle like we do. I really like that we use our raffle to share our wood and woodturning related items with each other. Thank you all for sharing.

Our demonstration last month was on threading for wood turners. Hopefully, it showed several techniques for applying threading to boxes and vessels using a shop made threading device.

This month our demonstration will be on natural edge bowls with carved feet. David Rush from Kingston Springs, Tn. will show his version of a natural edge bowl. David has been a member of Tennessee Association of Woodturners for some time, past President and current Vice President. He brings many years of experience in turning

wood. I look forward to his demonstration.

A new year also starts for our three charities that we as a club have decided to support. Pens for Troops, Memphis Empty Bowl Project and Beads of Courage boxes. Last October at our annual Oktoberfest, we featured demonstrations on all of our charities. If you would like to support the charities and need help on any of them please look to our mentors for assistance, also any of you fellow club members. We have a good start on the Beads of Courage boxes and I have just received 150 new pen kits from Woodcraft in Franklin Tn. I brought several dry rough turned bowls to the raffle last month that would be appropriate for empty bowls and I hope to bring more every month. Green turned bowls are great too if you start soon so they are dry in time to return for the Nov turn in.

Thanks for all of you that continually support the club every month and every year. Without you, we would not be the club that we are.

See you all Saturday,  
February 25th.



# January 2017 Meeting Minutes

Dennis Paullus lead the January 21st meeting. The meeting was held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month to allow several members of the club to attend the MSWG meeting and also attend the Tennessee Association of Wood Turners (TAW) Symposium, January 26<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> in Franklin Tennessee.

January's meeting was well attended with over 54 members present for Fun, Food, Fellowship and Learning.

## OLD BUSINESS:

- The club is off to a good start this year on the Beads or Courage boxes. Several were brought in this month and can be observed in the Instant Gallery Photos.
- There are two other charities the club supports; Pens for Troops and The Memphis Empty Bowl Project. Please take some time to practice & show off your skills by supporting these worthwhile charities.
- 2017 Board of Directors are
  - President Dennis Paullus
  - Vice-President Mike Maffitt
  - Treasurer Matt Garner
  - Secretary Bob Wolfe
  - At Large Larry Cutliff
  - At Large Sam Dawson
  - At Large Rick Cannon
- Club DUES have been raised to \$30 a year. If paid before April, there is a \$5 discount. Please see Matt Garner, the new club treasurer for payment. New membership badges will be issues to paid members.
- 2017 Christmas Party meeting will be moved forward an hour so the meeting would be 10:00 am to 2:00 pm for more of a lunch timing.

## NEW BUSINESS:

- Club meetings are typically on the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of each month. Due to other schedules and to maximize club member attendance, there are several meetings that will be on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday. Please review the Club 2017 Calendar so you don't mistakenly miss a meeting.
- AAW's 31st Annual International Symposium in Kansas City, Missouri, June 22-25, 2017 Kansas City Convention Center. Early Bird tickets before May 7<sup>th</sup> \$325 for AAW members and \$410 non-members, after May 7<sup>th</sup> \$350 for AAW members & \$435 non-members. AAW's super selection of demonstrations and panel discussions that will appeal to wide variety of skill levels—bowls, boxes, vessels, hollow forms,

spheres, spindle turning, multi-axis turning, segmented turning, natural edge turning, ornament, jewelry, finishing techniques, surface design, texture and embellishment, and more. Names such as Trent Bosch, Dixie Biggs, Richard Raffan, Jimmy Clewes and many more will be demonstrating. This is a great opportunity to learn in person from some of the masters of woodturning.

#### DEMONSTRATION:

This month our very own Dennis Paullus (President of the MSWG) demonstrated techniques for treading boxes. He showed the preparation of the boxes on a traditional lathe for threading and applied the threads to the lids and body on a "fairly inexpensive" jig adaptation to a mini lathe. Also shown was the making of threaded adapters that could be cut and installed in boxes and larger vessels that would be difficult or challenging to apply directly to the turned pieces. Thank you Dennis for sharing these techniques.

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## Food for Thought

From: Larry Sefton

Tip: Why NOT to use a low-cost metal wine stopper base.

Years ago, I made bottle stoppers and gave them to family members and even sold a few.

I am now issuing a "Silent Recall" on those original bottle stoppers because the metal parts are corroding. All recalled bottle stoppers are being replaced with 18-8 304 FDA kitchen grade stainless steel.

The attached photo of a "Recalled" bottle stopper shows convincing evidence why using cheap stopper parts is not a good idea.





This is the original version of the platform

In the grand scheme of woodturning, my contributions to the craft have been very limited, perhaps restricted to showing a beginner the importance of ABC when touching a tool to spinning wood. However, I am pleased with my invention of the simple Wood Processing Platform, a device which has been well accepted by those who have used it to convert logs and limbs to turning blanks, especially bowl turning blanks. The following description was published in the TIPS section of the June, 2010, issue of American Woodturner.

***After numerous chainsaw fights with wobbly and rolling logs, I designed a log processing platform which not only holds logs steady but the drop down feature prevents the saw from sticking or hitting the ground or other wood.***

***As the saw passes through the middle of the log, the kerf behind the cut begins to***

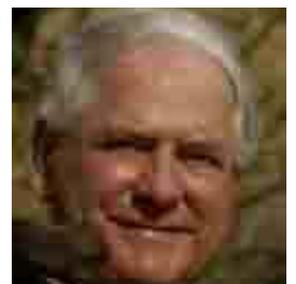
***close and frees the bar allowing the cut to move to completion. The log then remains in its original position ready for removal or further processing. Of course the platform can be used to make stable cross cuts as well as longitudinal slices.***

***A heavy base is essential but it can be just about anything -- a large piece of timber (as shown), a flattened log, a weighted down frame, etc.***

***The 45 degree cut 2 x 4's are bolted to the base. I am using a 7" gap between the four upper supports, and, for smaller limbs, a 4" gap over to the two shorter supports.***

***The height of the platform can be designed to your***

By: Emmett Manley



## Wood Spin cont.

***comfort level -- my upper points are about 33" from the ground.***

***This platform will make your chainsaw processing quicker, easier, and safer.***

Following publication of the wood platform description, I was contacted by several woodturners for more information.

One Englishman said there was no way the platform could operate as described, that the saw would have to be pinched and bound up as it passed the center of the log. I asked him to just try it and that I guaranteed it would work. He got back with me in a few weeks and said, "I still don't understand it, but the proof is in the pudding."

Another gratifying response came from Minnesota.

*FYI ... I gave a brief demo to our Minnesota Woodturning Assoc. last night on the log processing platform and, of course, gave appropriate credit recognition to you for your original idea and your article in the June 2010 AAW magazine. A few of us have now volunteered to make these in kit form for our members. About 30 club members immediately ordered one for themselves.*

The Minnesota folks have continued to work with the platform over the years, adding support boards which allow splitting shorter or smaller diameter logs, and, in their deluxe model, they have even added a fold out section for securing the bowl blanks while removing the corners of their bowl blanks.

One Minnesota woodturner reported that he spent a week with David Ellsworth and that when they went out to David's woodpile, he

watched David try to stabilize a log on a pile of wood and he told him about the wood processing platform. Ellsworth said, "let's make one," and they did, and David was delighted with the result.

I have made five of these platforms, each slightly different. The first ones were retrofitted with the "Minnesota" log support boards between the main uprights, and all of my "full size" platforms now have the log supports. I made one small platform to use with my electric chainsaw on limbs 6-8 inches in diameter where the supports are not needed. I round my blank corners with a bandsaw or on the lathe so I have not incorporated the fold out "corner cutting" device on my platforms.

These wood processing platforms (or centers) can be made any size in order to correspond to the size logs/limbs you need to split for the size bowls you intend to make. They sure have made my chainsawing life easier and safer.



Beginning a cut on dogwood

# Wood Spin cont.



Almost complete cut on cherry



The cut goes through honey locust, but the log does not move



Latest version of the Wood Processing Platform



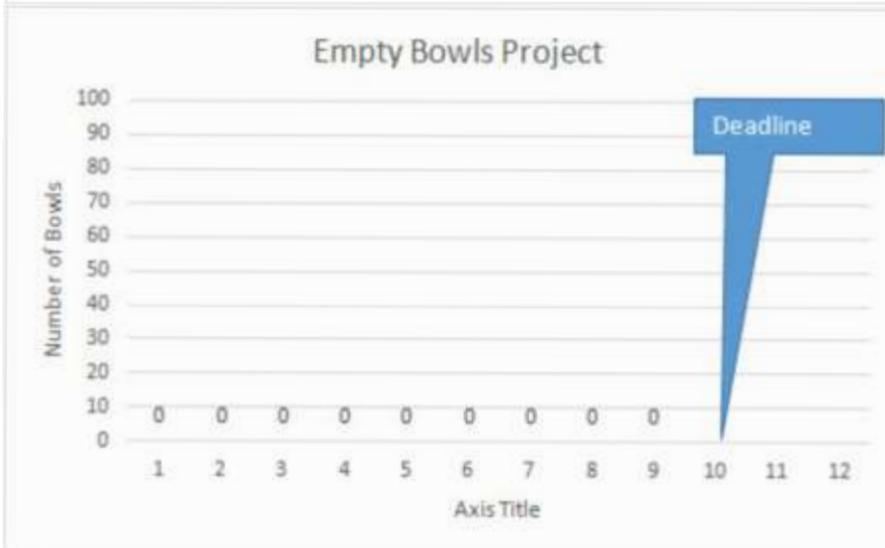
Bowl blanks ready for the lathe

# Club Supported Charities for 2016

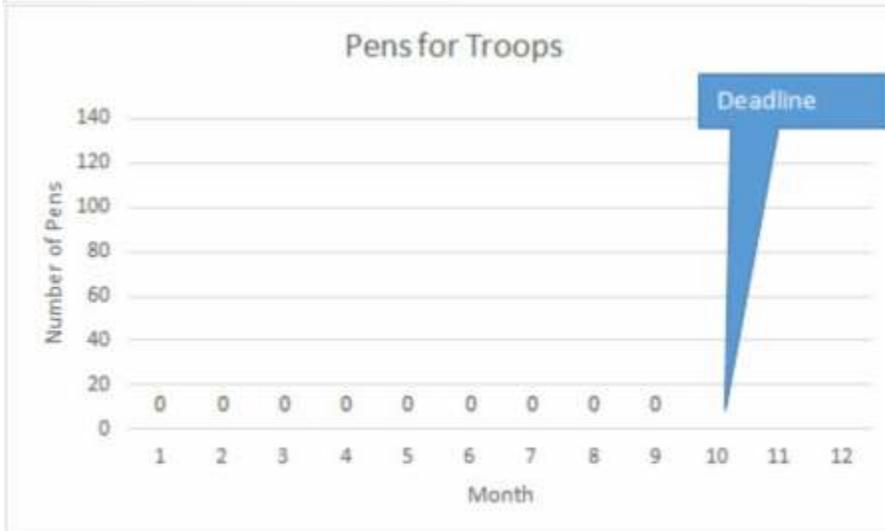
## Running Total of Turned Items



Eight Beads of Courage Boxes last month, WOW. Great work Larry Sefton, Bob Wolfe, Dennis Lissau, and Skip Wilbur.



Free pen kits are available from the treasurer. Plenty of kits are available. We just got in 150 more kits.



# Meet the Demonstrator

David Rush February 25, 2017



We last saw David in July, 2015, when he demonstrated for us natural edged bowls. It was a great demonstration and I look forward to another informative session.

David Rush Bio - I have been blessed to live in middle Tennessee with my wife and son where I have been turning in my shop for the last 15 years. It is more of a sanctuary where I get to take local materials, most of which would end up in the landfill and let them speak. I spend a lot of time letting a piece come to life and enjoy all the hurdles that are involved in doing so. Everything has a story if you take the time to listen. In the past I have been a Tennessee Association of Woodturners president and had fun demonstrating for various clubs.

Demo- bowl with carved feet

Attendees will learn from demo- It is my intension to show some of the processes I use in my work in making the feet so they can carry ideas over into their own work.

# Instant Gallery

**Avi Pelc**



Cherry Bowls



**Rich Pohland**

Pepper Mills



# Instant Gallery cont.

**Bill Bleau**



3 Sided Bowl



Ash Bowl



Osage Orange

**Jerry Burch**

Crepe Myrtle



# Instant Gallery cont.

**Bob Wolfe**



Beads of Courage Boxes

# Instant Gallery cont.

Sweet Gum



Natural Edge

**Bob Wolfe**



Pepper Mill



Sweet Gum

# Instant Gallery cont.

**Larry Sefton**



Beads of Courage Boxes

**Mark Maxwell**



Ash Bowl



Ash Goblet

# Instant Gallery cont.

**Rick Stone**



Bottle Stoppers

**Mike Maffitt**



Pepper Mills

**Dennis Lissau**



Beads of Courage Box

# Instant Gallery cont.

**Dennis Paullus**

Honey Locust Vessel



Walnut Vessel



Small Boxes



# Instant Gallery cont.

**Jim Donham**

Segmented Bowls



# Instant Gallery cont.

**Jonas Nemanis**

Oriental Boxes

Ash



Pecan



Sweet Gum

# Instant Gallery cont.



Cherry Segmented Form

## Skip Wilbur

Beads of Courage Boxes



## Instant Gallery cont.

**Tom Brouillette**



Red Maple Bowl

# Upcoming Events 2017

Please look at the dates carefully. The Board of Directors voted to move several meeting dates this year away from the normal 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday in order to avoid conflicts with other meetings, craft fairs, holidays, etc.

- |                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| <b>February 25</b>  | David Rush - Thin Natural Edge Bowl with Carved Feet   |
| <b>March 25</b>     | Bob Wolfe - Irish Platter  |
| <b>April 22</b>     | Mike Maffitt - Wood Canteen  |
| <b>May 27</b>       | Rick Cannon - Staved Vessel  |
| <b>June 17</b>      | TBD  |
| <b>July 22</b>      | Larry Sefton - Carving and Embellishment   |
| <b>August 26</b>    | Various club members - Finishing and Finishing the Finish  |
| <b>September 23</b> | TBD  |
| <b>October 21</b>   | Annual Oktoberfest (Skip Wilbur, Joseph Voda demos)  |
| <b>November 25</b>  | TBD  |
| <b>December 16</b>  | Annual Christmas Party and Auction <b>Note: We will be moving the start time back by one hour this year. Setup at 09:00, meeting start 10:00</b> |

Note: Schedules may change throughout the year, so keep a close watch on this page for changes. This year's demonstrator schedule will focus on the skills of our club mentors.

# Mentor Program

All members of MSWG are invited to contact the following mentors to learn a new technique, improve their turning skills or turn something different. Mentors are volunteers and do not charge.

Contact information is on our website under Members Only and the Roster. Sessions should last no longer than 3 hours and be scheduled at the convenience of the mentor.

Benson, Joel	Wood Selection, Turning Green Wood, McNaughton Coring, Chain Saw Sharpening/Maintenance, Chain Saw Use/Safety
Cannon, Rick	Segmented Bowls
Hosier, Jerry	Basic Stone and Wire Inlay, Woodturning Basics (Beads & Coves), Use of Spindle & Bowl Gouges
Maffitt, Mike	Bowls, Platters and Native American Flutes
Manley, Emmett	Basic Woodturning, Small Bowls, Tool Handles, Hand Mirrors, Stick Pens, Eggs, Wine Bottles, Miniature Birdhouses, many other small items
Pillow, Wright	Inlaying: Marketry, Inlace, Epoxy
Sefton, Larry	Milk Paint, Make Your Own Pyrography Unit, Hollow Forms
Stone, Rick	Finials, Bowls (incl. Natural Rim), Boxes, Spindles, Carving, Finishes, Pyrography, Making Tools, Turning Tool Basics (incl. Sharpening)
Tusant, Jim	Bowls, Hollow Forms, Pyrography, Carving, Dyeing, Tool Use
Voda, Joseph	Spindle Turning (e.g. Ornaments)
Wilbur, Skip	Bowls, Hollow Forms, Goblets, Finials

# Sponsors and Suppliers

**The Woodwork Shop, Inc**  
8500 Wolf Lake Drive  
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**Phone:** (901) 755-7355  
**Fax:** (901) 755-2907  
**Email:** [thewoodworkshop@bellsouth.net](mailto:thewoodworkshop@bellsouth.net)

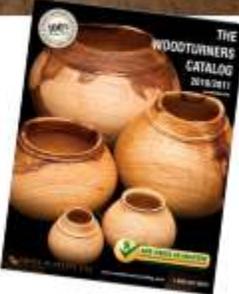


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