

# **Chips & Bits**

**Inside This Edition**

July 2021



**Bob Roehrig  
Twisted Box**

**Providing an environment that fosters the art and craft of woodturning**

**A Publication of the Peace River Woodturners**

## PRW President's JULY '21 Notes...

Yes, we are back to live daytime meetings! Those in our group with impaired immune systems will still need to be extra cautious. **So please wear your mask if you have concerns** about the rise in the new variant strains, or are unvaccinated (we were all responsible & got our vaccine shots this spring, right?). In August, **Bob Summers** will demo for us, and **Jerry Jones** is bringing munchies!

There are still a few “humps to sand out”- We need to update portions of the A/V system (any generous donors care to help with this endeavor?), and we need a **Proportional Drawing Ticket Taker!** Most everything went smoothly at the July meeting. And setup help at 10AM is always appreciated...

**Do you want LIVE DEMONSTRATIONS at our meetings?** If so, we need active volunteers for September, October, and November. Create a 3-person team: Three members could each give a 30 minute demo on lathe maintenance, faceplates & chucks, tool storage ideas – You get the idea! Please consider how you can help the PRW “get back in the swing of things” for the rest of 2021 and beyond!

**Have you ever turned a wooden egg?** Turn one, or two, or a dozen! We'll create a display of turned wooden eggs to sell for \$5 each as a fund-raiser in the Club's booth at **The Winter National WoodArt Expo**, January '22 at Harbor Convention Center, showcasing both *woodcarving and woodturning*.

**WE NEED EVERYONE'S PARTICIPATION** for this event – Enter the juried competition, or display your work along with other Members at the Club's table, and at the very least, **turn an egg to support the Club and raise awareness about the joys and fun of woodturning!** A/V Maestro Lou Currier has put together a great plan for our participation in the weekend event. Sign up to help work for the Expo - lots of small jobs & time slots available! You can email Lou at [loucurr@aol.com](mailto:loucurr@aol.com), contact him through the PRW website [About Us/Members List](#) section, or talk to him at the meeting. More information about the Expo itself at <https://flwoodartexpo.com/turnercatpdf.html>.

**The AAW Virtual Symposium on July 17<sup>th</sup> -18<sup>th</sup>** was packed with great international turnings, live demonstrations, panel discussions, sales from Trade Show vendors, and turning tips galore! Replays of the demos should be available online until August 9<sup>th</sup> if you paid for attendance. Hopefully, some of the tips & tricks sections will be reprinted by the AAW soon, so we can share them with everyone.

## PRW Meeting: Thursday, AUGUST 5th - 10:30 at the Cultural Center

Zoom should be operational for the out-of-towners who'd like to join in, so watch for the invitation in your email the weekend before the meeting with online access details.

We appreciate your continuing support and involvement in the PRW. It wouldn't be as fun without you, so stay safe and healthy, and have a great time turning whenever you can!

Cheri Bauer, President send email to: [peaceriverwoodturners@comcast.net](mailto:peaceriverwoodturners@comcast.net)

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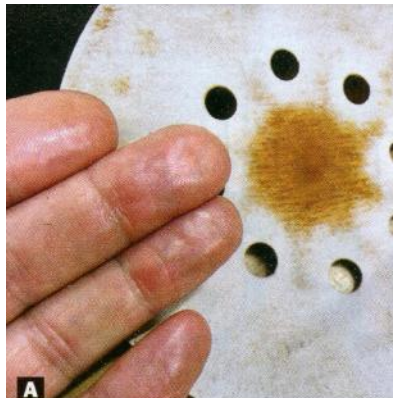
## The Silver Fox Tips from experience...

**A successful woodturning should fulfill 3 criteria:**

- 1) It should look good to the eye
- 2) It should feel good in the hand
- 3) It should do/perform the function for which it was designed by you



# Your Solution to Oily Woods



**A** Ebony contains oils that easily rub off on fingertips and show on the sanding pad.



**B** These solvents remove any surface contamination and the natural oils in many exotic woods. The solvents dry quickly and won't leave any residue to interfere with topcoat adhesion.



**C** Wax-free shellac brings out the inherent color of the stock. Standard shellac contains wax, which can compromise good topcoat adhesion.

The thought of applying finish to a project can be enough to kick up your pulse rate and blood pressure, especially when the project contains an “exotic” wood full of natural oils [Photo A]. That’s because the oils and resins in woods such as cocobolo, rosewood, padauk, purpleheart, teak, and even eastern red cedar can markedly slow or practically stop a finish from bonding or curing. These wood species require different preparation before finishing. Follow these helpful tips to make the process smooth as silk.

## Prep, seal, then topcoat

Typically, I sand to 150 grit for projects receiving stain. But because we prize exotic woods for their inherent color, skip the stain and apply a clear topcoat. For oily exotics, sand instead to 220 grit for a smooth surface that allows any finish to bond well. Remove all sanding dust between grits.

Eliminate any oils from the wood by wiping down the freshly sanded surface with a fast-evaporating solvent [Photo B]. Then, apply one or two coats of dewaxed shellac, such as SealCoat, sealing the wood and preventing additional oils from migrating to the surface [Photo C]. A very light sanding with 400-grit sandpaper between coats smooths the surface and removes dust nibs. The prepped surface is now ready for your choice of topcoat.

Choose the best topcoat by considering the intended use of the project: Furniture subjected to heavy use benefits from varnish or a durable oil- or water-based polyurethane finish. A sprayed catalyzed lacquer is also a good choice for experienced finishers.

For decorative pieces and projects that see less wear, try a simple buffing [Photo D], regular nitrocellulose lacquer, or additional coats of shellac. A quality paste wax also suits those projects.

## Troubleshooting

If you apply finish to an exotic-wood project and discover a sticky or tacky finish days later, don’t lose faith: Try these options.

First, be patient. The oils and resins can delay the curing process, so with a little more time, the finish may harden. But be aware that the tacky surface will trap dust during the wait.

Second, a vigorous wiping of the surface with a fast-drying solvent may remove the uncured finish. If that works, follow with a light sanding and a couple of coats of dewaxed shellac to seal the surface and prevent any additional bleed-through. After the shellac cures, reapply the topcoat.

As a last resort, consider it a lesson learned, and scrape, sand, or strip the old finish completely and start over. An out-of-date finish may not cure, so test-apply the finish on scrap to check for freshness before recoating.

The beauty and character of exotic woods should increase interest, not angst, in your projects. Now that you know how to handle those oils, you’ll find finishing Nirvana. 🌳



**D** For decorative projects that aren’t handled frequently, simply buff the natural oil with a lamb’s wool, left, or a synthetic buffing pad, right, on a random-orbit sander. This provides an incredibly smooth—though not very protective—surface.

► Nothing, including glue, sticks to an oily surface. Before gluing exotic woods, clean all mating surfaces with a solvent.

► Catalyzed lacquer has a shelf life of about 6 months. It chemically cures, creating a more durable finish than nitrocellulose lacquer, found in spray and cans on home-center shelves.

► Learn more about the benefits and uses of shellac.  
[woodmagazine.com/shellacfinish](http://woodmagazine.com/shellacfinish)

# We All Make Mistakes

Anonymous Author

We all make mistakes. Most of us don't like it, and many of us won't even admit to it. They throw us off balance and open us to our own imperfections. And maybe we have to accept that sometimes we really don't know what we're doing. Mistakes interrupt our vision and presumed path to completion: some mistakes can be fixed and covered up, others are complete disasters and a waste of time. But the reality is, we all make mistakes and they are simply a part of the process of creation and life in general.

It's taken me a few years to realize that my mistakes are an opportunity to try something new. Once I accept that I won't end up where I initially wanted to go, I let this "mistake" take me to a new place.

Here's an example: Many years ago, I was working on the hardwood edging of a round table. I'm in a hurry, I want to get it done, and I cut the last piece short. I didn't have any more of the figured hardwood and I had 80 hours into the veneer table top. I was so frustrated with myself!

So, I took a deep breath, thought about how I could "fix" it, and came up with a new idea.

The cut gap was so close—it was practically paper thin—so I recut it with my dovetail saw, overcut it into the veneer top, and glued in a piece of black veneer as inlay detail (filler). Voila! Now there's a fine detail where the gap was! It worked so well that I cut open all the hardwood seams and filled them with this new design element. The piece now had clock-like tick marks around the entire table. "Fine woodworking" indeed.

So, when you're slogging through learning a new technique; you're creating a new piece of work; or you're just in a hurry and you make a mistake, try to be persistent, embrace your failures, learn from them, and run with it. Granted, not every one will be a winner, but you might just get a flash of brilliance and save the day.

And I still make mistakes—they always throw me off balance, but they push me in new directions. My advice in woodworking is that of life: keep your mind open, flexible, and active. Educational and creative growth keeps us young. And who knows? Your mistake can be a blessing in disguise.



# Twisted Box Demonstration

July meeting featured demonstration was making a twisted box with Bob Roehrig

The twisted box required a jig that helped with consistency in getting the twists evenly spaced and in the right order. The jig can be a little time consuming, but once it's made you can make loads of boxes. The key is different embellishments on the different boxes. Lots to come up with such as burning, stippling, color, and inlays. Use of your imagination can make this fun. Check the clubs Resource Page on the web site for a detailed PDF on making the jig and the box.



# SHOW & TELL



**Dave Brethauer**



**Jay Buckbee**



**Lou Courier**



**Bob Summers**  
**From Display case**

# SHOW & TELL



**Frank Didomizio**



**Ted Beebe**



**Dave Brethauer**



# SHOW & TELL



2nd Place:  
"Rib Bowl" by Paul Barlett

## Congratulations Paul Bartlett Venice Art Show Award



Gary Sutton



Ted Beebe



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## Chapter Information

Peace River Woodturners Inc. (PRW) is an organization formed for individuals interested in woodturning and was formed on Oct 1, 2007. The primary purposes of the PRW are consistent with the fundamental purposes of the American Association of Woodturners: To provide information, education and an organization for those interested in turning wood.



The PRW web site can be found at:  
[www.peaceriverwoodturners.org](http://www.peaceriverwoodturners.org)



AAW site can be found at:  
[www.woodturner.org](http://www.woodturner.org)

## Photo's

Photographs for this months "Chips & Bits" were provided by Bob Roehrig. If you have digital photo's that you would like to have considered for use in the newsletter, please send them along with any articles to the editor at:

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

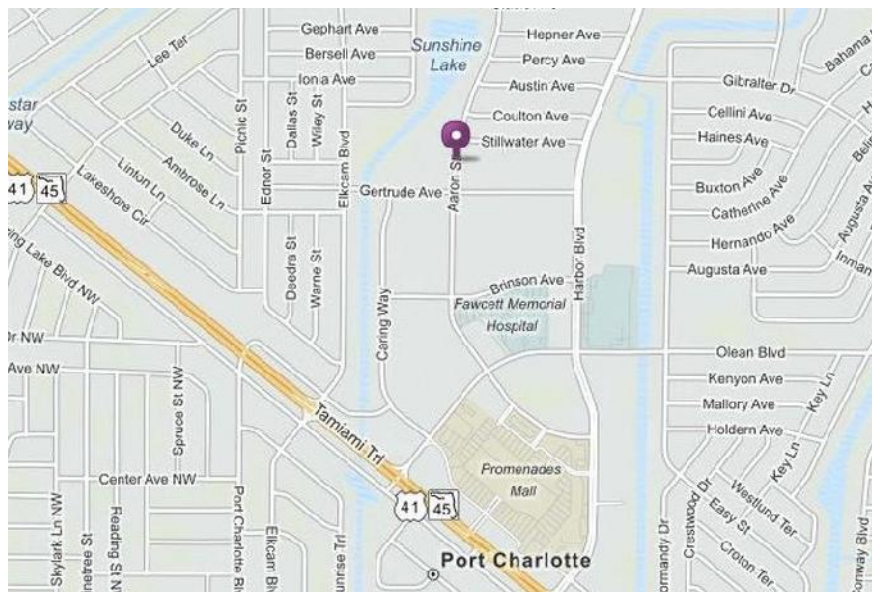
## Membership

Yearly chapter dues are \$50 per individual or \$60 a family. Membership is for the calendar year. These dues help the club provide tools for our monthly demonstrations, bring in outside demonstrators, pay room rent, have a yearly picnic and other club related activities.

## Meeting Location

Our Meetings are on the first Thursday of the month starting at 10:30 am and ending by 12:30 am. We meet at the **Charlotte County Cultural Center Rm 34** 2280 Aaron St. located in Port Charlotte, FL

**Our next meeting is: August 5, 2021**



## Upcoming Events

**PRW meeting: August 5, 2021**

**Demonstrator: Bob Summers**

## Library

The Library is available for all current club members. The club library contains Books, magazines, and DVD's available to check out.. A list of materials is available on the PRW website:

[www.peaceriverwoodturners.org](http://www.peaceriverwoodturners.org)

Please help us maintain the library by returning checked out items promptly. The library is maintained by Mark Yates. New material can be ordered by request.