

Chips & Bits

Inside This Edition

April 2023



**PRW Gallery
Display
Thanks Cheri**

**Providing an environment that fosters the art and craft of woodturning
A Publication of the Peace River Woodturners**

President's APRIL '23 Notes...

Have you turned your **LIDDED BOX** for the May Meeting President's Challenge? If not, WHAT DO YOU HAVE TO GAIN by joining in? You could HONE your box-making skills, ATTEMPT something different, try a VARIATION on a theme, LEARN from a "design opportunity", and maybe even get the Member's Choice Vote for Best Box! **Remember, the Winner of this Challenge gets to choose the Challenge Topic for the June meeting!** If you're stumped for ideas, take a look at the **Boxes & Bowls page** on the website!

Thank you, **Bob Summers**, for your detailed walk-through of your Shop with all the **clever work-arounds** you created to overcome the **limited-shop-space conundrum** and create a **Turning Haven** as our March meeting presentation! So many ideas to ponder on organizing & maximizing space for each of our own shops...

May's Meeting on 5/4/23 will feature **Dave Watson**. It's always a pleasure to see and learn from the ideas that Doc presents when he's at the lathe! You don't want to miss this one...

BTW, **Mother's Day is MAY 14th (hint to the wise)...** Would that sweet little box you're making be a wonderful gift for a Mother in your life? Or make a great piece for the Gallery?

Price House PRW Woodturning Gallery is going gang-busters... Sales are strong, and we're educating our admiring visitors on the Wonders of Woodturning. Running out of space to display your turnings at home? **Please bring your work** and help us refill the displays at the Gallery that have caught the attention of an enthusiastic public! **Sunday Volunteer Members** are always needed to meet & greet History Park Visitors. Both APRIL & JULY have FIVE Sundays, so those who volunteered for the **5th Sunday monthly** get your special day to help !

There's even more equipment in the **Lathe Room** now, so if you need to use a drill press or bandsaw or miter saw and don't yet have your own, stop in and take advantage of our shop!

The Price House Decks Project is just about complete, thanks to all our dedicated helpers. Next up is the Front Porch and stairs Re-Do, but we'll wait for cooler(?) Fall weather to start!

We still need a Vvolunteer sto demonstrate at our **JULY & AUGUST** meetings. What experience or skills can you share? Doesn't have to be fancy or elaborate, just interesting...

PRICE HOUSE WOODSHOP AND GALLERY

The **SWFL Potter's Guild** is opening up in the **Trabue House** (front white building) at History Park this month. They were inspired by the success that we have shown at Price House, and welcomed the opportunity to join in and expand the **ARTISAN'S MARKET** in the History Park on Sundays.

Where else will you ever find a dedicated Woodturning Gallery? **We have sold over \$12,000 in Members' "Turned Treasures"** since January 1st, in only **4 hours every Sunday** while the Gallery is open to the Public from 9 AM to 1 PM!

Want to donate your turnings to the Gallery? All Member Woodworking Art is solicited and appreciated! This Gallery is a showcase for PRW Members, and 100% benefits the PRW – There is nothing else like our Gallery *anywhere* in the local area, and we are quite proud of it!

We constantly need to replenish the Gallery shelves! Have projects you would like us to sell at the Gallery? This is a golden opportunity! Customers come back every week to see the new items, and are searching for gift items – **YOU can bring us works that will thrill them!**

Donate a turning every meeting for the PRW Gallery. Small items are great, like tops & birdhouses & pens & ornaments & small bowls, or anything you'd like to create! Take a look at what's currently in the Gallery – the range of works from Novice to Advanced is incredible!

If you have any "flawed gems" around your shop, sand them, put a coat of finish on them & bring them to the Gallery. The public is **LOVING** our woodturned treasures, small and large!

THANK YOU to all of our generous Volunteers, those who place their work in the Gallery, those who enjoy talking with the public about the PRW! So how are the rest of you Members involved? **Pick a Sunday, any Sunday, and help the PRW!** We need your help! - Come & assist, or bring your turnings!

Volunteer to hang out at the **Artisan's Market ONE SUNDAY ONE EVERY MONTH** at the Price House Gallery from 9 AM to 1 PM. Stay for 2 hours, or for the whole time. Help us with setup, or tear-down, at closing, or with crowd control & answering woodturning questions from the Public. You can even **turn something** on one of our **three lathes** - People love to see the wood shavings fly, and the marvel at the work emerging while it happens!

Contact us to take a Class, or to **TEACH** a class! You each have unique talents that can be shared, especially in a small group setting of 2 or 3 students. All Classes for Members will be “cost of materials only” as necessary - no additional fees to Members!

PRW CALENDAR - WHAT'S NEXT?

April

Sunday, Apr 23rd
needed Price House Galley - Open 9 AM to 1 PM - Volunteers

Wednesday, Apr 26th
then PRW Third Wednesday **LUNCH & TURN** – 11:30 at Elena's,

Sunday, Apr 30th
needed Price House Galley - Open 9 AM to 1 PM - Volunteers

May

Thursday, May 4th
House **Monthly Meeting – Doc Watson Demo** – 6:30PM Price

Sunday, May 7th
needed Price House Galley - Open 9 AM to 1 PM - Volunteers

Sunday, May 14th
needed Price House Galley - Open 9 AM to 1 PM - Volunteers

Wednesday, May 17th
then PRW Third Wednesday **LUNCH & TURN** – 11:30 at Elena's,

Sunday, May 21st
needed Price House Galley - Open 9 AM to 1 PM - Volunteers

Sunday, May 28th
needed Price House Galley - Open 9 AM to 1 PM - Volunteers

June

Thursday, June 1st
House **Monthly Meeting – David Smith Demo** – 6:30PM Price

Sunday, June 4th
needed Price House Galley - Open 9 AM to 1 PM - Volunteers

Sunday, June 11th
needed Price House Galley - Open 9 AM to 1 PM - Volunteers

Wednesday, June 14th Third Wednesday **LUNCH & TURN** – 11:30 at Elena's, then PRW

Sunday, June 18th
needed Price House Galley - Open 9 AM to 1 PM - Volunteers

Sunday, June 25th
needed Price House Galley - Open 9 AM to 1 PM - Volunteers

Club March Picnic

Great selection of food and Croquet equipment at the March Picnic. Picnic was held on the History park grounds where our meetings are held.



Great day for a picnic and the clubs porch was delightful with many members attending.

Show off time for the Croquet Balls



Bob Summers



Bob Shaffer



Michael Metivier



Peter Simard



Lou Currier



Gary Sutton



Ruth Carteaux



Outside Play

Why Does Your Wood Split

"Why does my wood keep splitting?"

We all know how frustrating this can be.

After a big wind storm, I acquired a fresh-felled black cherry tree.

The wood was beautiful, blemish-free and almost immediately cracked after turning... EVERY TIME!

It made me want to cry!

So I left the cherry wood and turned other material.

What I discovered was that the sapwood was so wet it basically had no option but to crack.

After leaving the logs to rest a couple of months, the sapwood "mellowed" out and stopped cracking.

OK, so how to address your wood cracking issues...

Why does wood split?

Let 's count the ways...(sigh)

- different tree species are more prone to cracking than others
- the pith is included in the bowl
- there are natural fissures in the wood
- uneven wall thickness
- base thicker than bowl walls
- moisture escaping too quickly from end-grain
- environment too dry
- environment too breezy
- placed in warm/or sunlit area

So let's reverse engineer this.

Solution Option – Green Wood: Try to turn an even-walled bowl from top to bottom. There should be no areas thicker than others. If you are "once-turning" the piece, place it in a paper bag. You can add shavings (from that turning) to the bag if it is very wet wood. Place the bag in a cool, dark area.

Continued:

A cabinet works well. Check it day to day and change the bag for a fresh one if it's moist. This process lets the wood dry slowly, under control and reduces the risk of any stress cracks.

Solution Option – Seasoned Wood: Now, if the wood is not that wet and you're still getting cracks, be sure to avoid leaving the pith or any branch knots in the piece. Turn the piece in one "sitting." This means don't turn the bowl blank exterior and then return a few days later to turn the interior. Even if it appears dry, there is moisture inside and the wood will crack on the end-grain if left half-turned.

Final Option – Poor Wood: If the wood is cracking and nasty, get rid of it and find better wood to turn. If the grain pattern is outstanding, and you can't bear to pitch it, you can always soak it in Pentacryl or some other wood wood stabilizer, but this may just be another waste of money & materials.

Words of Wisdom from Richard Raffan – "Life is too short to turn rubbish wood".

John Jordan: "Life is too short to turn Crappy Wood"

SHOP TIPS

SHOP TIPS

AAW | woodturner.org

Duct tape in the shop

When I remove a natural-edge bowl from the chuck to reverse chuck to finish the bottom, I use a roll of duct tape with the jaws expanded into the inside of the roll. This provides a little cushion inside the bowl and protects the work from marks from the jaws. Align the live center into the center mark of your tenon and secure the tailstock. Continue the flow of the outside bowl curve and make sure the bottom of the bowl has a little concave to it, allowing the bowl to sit flush on a flat surface. Use a saw to remove the final nib and then sand.

*J.P. Neff's article, Natural edge bowl, was featured in Woodturning FUNDamentals, September 2015, volume 4, issue 5, pages 2-5.

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SHOW & TELL



Lou Currier



Dave Watson



Michael Metivier



Bob Roehrig

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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



AAW site can be found at:
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

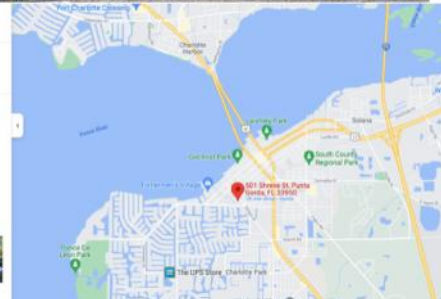
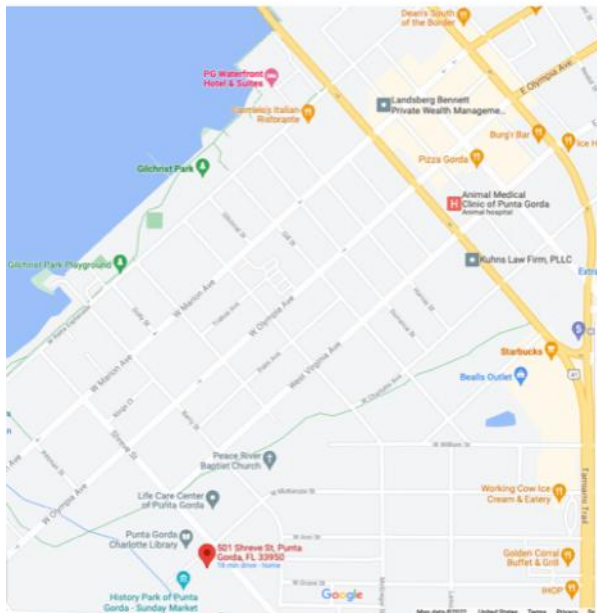
Membership

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 6:30 PM and ending by 9pm. We meet at the Punta Gorda History Park at **501 Shreve St.** in Punta Gorda, Florida.

Our next meeting is: Thursday May 4, 6:30 PM



Upcoming Events

PRW meeting: May 4, 2023

Demonstration: Dave Watson

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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.peacriverwoodturners.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.