

# **Chips & Bits**

**Inside This Edition**

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**August 2023**



**David Smith  
Captured Rings**

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

**A Publication of the Peace River Woodturners**

# David Smith

## Demonstration on Captive Rings



## More on Captive Rings

If your interested in trying some captive ring turning and you missed the demonstration, go to good ole YouTube for many, many excellent video's on the subject.

One also doesn't have to spend a lot on the special tools and these can be made using simple handy tools you have laying around. A good start is a large flat blade screwdriver. Make yourself a ring tool called a "Cat's Claw" from a screwdriver. Gets around the under edges to do the undercutting. You can use your small detail gouge to round the top edges. Here's a picture of a cat's claw homemade tool. Mike Peace on YouTube shows the process for making this.



Below are a few more pictures showing sanding the inside of the ring on the lathe along with the undercutting process.



## Left-handed Woodturning by Kay Liggett

A typical wood lathe is oriented for right handed turners with the headstock on the left and the tailstock on the right. Many of us left-handed turners pick up the tool with the left hand, as we would for a pencil or a paintbrush, knife, or tennis racquet. We may think that turning is a matter of fine hand-eye coordination, particularly if we start by making pens, when handedness is less of a challenge.

For making bowls and hollow forms, however, turning is a whole-body sport like swimming. Balance is a key to success, along with firmly anchoring the handle end of the tool to the body for balance and leverage. We swim ambidextrously, and that is good goal for woodturning technique: making the best move at the right time.

It's rare that cuts with the left hand guiding the tool are better. Generally, if you are working near the headstock with a parting tool, spindle gouge, or skew, the small hand dexterity of the lefty is an advantage. It is still much better to learn to use both hands, however, in order to be able to make spindle cuts from a large diameter to a smaller one, regardless of where the cut is needed.

Sometimes, even when picking up the tool with the right hand, we lefties try to steer it with the left hand on the tool rest by pushing or steering it from the front. This will never produce the best cut. Tools have handles for leverage and control, and the hand on the tool handle should always steer the cut. The front hand is there for downward pressure, that's all.

Working inside a bowl or gaining access for hollowing requires a change of position for both left-handed and right-handed turners. You can move around to the end of a short-bed lathe, or slide your movable headstock closer to the tailstock end.

This gets your body in position to cut inside the form. However, even if you can reach inside, you will not have the correct pivoting motion to cut a smooth curve with the left hand. This is the time to use your right hand to extend the handle away from you across the way of the bed and then pull back toward your body. It is like the feel of pulling an oar. With practice, the motion will become as pleasant as it is successful.

# It takes a village to spread creativity



A fish on display at the Pottery Shop in the Trabue House at the Sunday Market & Artisans Village.



PHOTOS BY TOM O'NEIL

Peace River Woodturners member David Smith gives a demonstration during the Sunday Market & Artisans Village June 18 at History Park, 501 Shreve St., Punta Gorda. Smith is turning a coffee scoop out of oak. The market is open 9 a.m.-1 p.m. on Sundays.

## Artisan groups are working together at History Park in Punta Gorda

By ED SCOTT  
STAFF WRITER

**PUNTA GORDA** — Every week, local artisans gather in camaraderie to demonstrate their crafts and sell their wares at History Park.

"Whatcha makin' David?" Cheri Bauer asked David Smith on a recent Sunday.

"Oh, I don't know," Smith replied mystically as he pondered a piece of oak firmly attached to a lathe. "It depends on the wood."

Bauer posited that what started as a small log, that had been picked up on the side of a road, might end up "as a scoop or a salt spoon.

Who knows?" Several examples, including a small scoop, rested on the table near the lathe, for inspiration.

The mystery of what to make unfolds gradually.

"That's the thrill of it," Smith said. "You don't know what you have until you start working

with it." "Get the bark off," Bauer added. "Get down to the interior of the wood."

Bauer serves as president and Smith as treasurer of Peace River Woodturners.

Smith was demonstrating expert woodturning at The Sunday Market and Artisans Village at Punta Gorda History Park at 501 Shreve Street.

Every Sunday the park walkways are lined with food and arts/crafts vendors. Live music is playing. Historical buildings that are open to the public — and full of wood, fiber and pottery arts — comprise The Artisans Village.

**"What's really nice about it is we can bring all of the fiber studio instructors here, different mediums."**

Lisa Gallacet  
VAC executive director

### REALIZATION OF A VISION

It took 18 months for the Punta Gorda Historical Society to create an artisan village with the park as an historical backdrop.

The vision was realized in April, said Sandy Moon, Punta Gorda Historical Society executive director. To explain the vision and the significance of The Artisans Village, she harkened back to a time more than a century ago.

"What arts did we rely upon in the late 1800s, early 1900s to live our daily lives? Wood, ceramics or pottery and things made from fibers, cloth or yarn," she said.

Smith, a retired industrial arts teacher from Buffalo, N.Y., was demonstrating woodturning in The Peace River Woodturners Gallery. Its located in the Price House (brown building) at the

park, which has a three-room display/sales area with intricate, member-created woodturned items (big and small, artistic and utilitarian, such as pepper mills and lazy Susans). Many items are for sale. In the back is a lathe room and a wood-working tools shop.

The club, which previously had meetings, classes and demonstrations in the now closed Cultural Center of Charlotte County, offers



Item in the Peace River Woodturners shop in the Price House at the Sunday Market & Artisans Village.



Mikayla Phillips looks through a mini kaleidoscope inside the Peace River Woodturners shop in the Price House. Mikayla is from Illinois and was visiting her grandparents in Punta Gorda.



The Pottery Shop, part of the new Artisans Village, is in the Trabue House at History Park at 501 Shreve St. in Punta Gorda.

### VISIT THE MARKET

The Sunday Market and Artisans Village is at Punta Gorda History Park at 501 Shreve St. The market is open 9 a.m.-1 p.m. every Sunday, with parking next door at the Punta Gorda Charlotte Library at 401 Shreve St.

SEE ARTISAN BE



The Fiber Arts Studio, part of the new Artisan Village, is in the Quiliana-Hindman House at History Park at 501 Sherwin St. in Punta Gorda. The Sunday Market & Artisan Village is open 9 am-1 pm on Sundays. Music and food vendors also are at the event.



Sandy Moon, Executive Director of the Punta Gorda Historical Society, attends the Sunday Market & Artisan Village.

**"We started the guild because there are so many potters in this area. ... We were all throwing at different places. This brings us together and gets our craft out to the people, because pottery is our passion."**

Clare Abb  
park facilities director



At left: Seta Wood Fingerprint Bowties displayed at the Peace River Woodturners Shop in the Price House at the Sunday Market & Artisan Village.

At right: Cheryl Bantz, President of Peace River Woodturners, talks with visitors at the Sunday Market & Artisan Village on June 18.



## ARTISAN

FRONTPAGE 12

woodturning demonstrations and lessons. (You can purchase a block of wood and be trained to turn it, all on site.)

"It's made from wood that would have gone to the landfill otherwise," Thayer said of some of their projects. "We will teach you the tools and the techniques, and we will show you ideas on how to let what you have in your head translate itself into something that you can create."

The Fiber Arts group, part of the Visual Arts Center, is in the Quiliana-Hindman House (yellow building) and offers displays and classes through

### LEARN MORE ABOUT THE ARTISAN GROUPS

**Southeast Florida Pottery Guild**  
sfguild@seflpottery.com

**Visual Arts Center of Punta Gorda**  
vaccenter.org

**Peace River Woodturners**  
peaceriverwoodturners.org

**Punta Gorda Historical Society**  
pghistory.com

the VAC.

"What's really nice about it is we can bring all of the fiber arts instructors here, different mediums," VAC executive

director Lisa Colucci said.

"So we have fabric-dyeing, (spin needle) basket weaving, looms and weaving; we have felt and we have a person who makes wearable art. So (we have) all of the different kinds of uses for textiles."

The SWFL Pottery Guild, which is only about five months old, recently moved into the Tribune House (white building) which features a three-room pottery sales gallery.

"This (building) is a way to bring pottery to the people," park facilities director Clare Abb said. "We started the guild because there are so many potters in this area. ... We were all throwing at different places. This brings us together and gets our craft out to the people,

because pottery is our passion."

### A WIN-WIN

Moon said supporting the three artisan tenants is "important because each one is a nonprofit, as we are. When nonprofits can support each other to bring something to the community, that's what counts."

It's a win-win for the community. While the organizations now have new venues, the historical buildings have new purpose.

History Park opened in 1999 as an outdoor museum of historical structures in a garden setting.

"Every building has its own significance," Moon said. "To

save these buildings from being demolished ... and to keep them from being torn down, we had to bring them somewhere.

"Five years it's been a struggle to maintain the buildings, especially after the hurricane (Ivan). So we put in a lot of work. We're grateful for the people we have in each building because they have all helped in preserving, restoring and rehabilitating the structures."

The Punta Gorda Historical Society also owns the Historic Punta Gorda Train Depot at 1300 Taylor Street and the Punta Gorda Woman's Club at 118 Sullivan Street, which serves as the society's headquarters and offers a community center in the heart of downtown Punta Gorda.



The Cigar Cottage is one of the historical buildings that make up the outdoor museum at History Park, 501 Sherwin St., in Punta Gorda.



Clare Abb inside the Pottery Shop at the Tribune House.



Marlene Jones displays her work at the Pottery Shop in the Tabern House.



At right: Mini kaleidoscopes on display at the Peace River Woodturners shop in the Price House.



Pottery shop display in the Tabern House.

## President's AUGUST '23 Notes...

've learned that the scariest thing for an adult to be is a **Beginner at anything!** Back when we were kids, *everything* was new and exhilarating. As adults, we're used to knowing at least some of the basics. Self-doubt seems to be a "negative head-voice" when climbing out on that skinny limb with something totally new and outside our wheelhouse! The quest for knowledge is exciting, but actually going that next step to take a leap of faith and **TRY IT?** Experience is not always the kindest teacher, but it is usually the best one. Then surround yourself with Mentors, and learn from the best you can find!

Have you turned your **5" - 10" Trees** for the **September Meeting Challenge** yet? Bob Roehrig and Paul Bartlett were our August Mini-Layered Vessels Member's Choice Winners, so I used my executive privilege and picked our **EXPO Invitation to join the Woodcarvers in a Miniature Village Display** for our September Challenge. You can turn great little trees using your scraps! **Check out the PRW website Resources page with ideas for mini-trees.** Since our Northern Members should be back in town by the January Expo to drop off their other Entries for the Expo (hint, hint), please turn a few trees to help support this Collaborative Exhibit endeavor!

**A special THANKS to David Smith** for his Thursday night demo on Captive Rings! Several Members are now making their own Captive Ring tools to use this technique on candlesticks, vases, goblets, and even baby rattles! Hope to see some of these handcrafted tools at the next meeting's Show & Tell.

**The September Meeting on 9/7/23** will feature PRW Member Paul Bartlett showing his Sphere Turning Jig setup. We've all seen his marvelous hollow spheres, so this will be a fantastic night of "Behind them Magic" discoveries for everyone!

**Price House PRW Woodturning Gallery** is still going gangbusters, thanks to the many unsung Volunteers who help out on Sundays. We're having fun educating our admiring visitors on the "Wonders of Woodturning", and also sorting through retired Member Chris Buckbee's newly donated items. Some of our other tools and equipment will be advertised to the Members, and then to the public to make space in the Training Room.

**Bring your "Fun \$\$\$"** to the September 7th meeting... We have NEW and unusual wood bits & chunks, logs, and larger pieces available, and other stuff for sale, too.

# Gallery News

We have sold over **\$18,600 in Members' Turned Treasures** this year alone, in only 4 hours every Sunday, thanks to your talent, imagination, and skills in woodturning!

## **IT'S TIME TO THINK ABOUT YOUR TURNINGS FOR THE HOLIDAYS! WHAT CAN YOU CREATE?**

**Do you turn toys of any style?** Many children visit the Price House Gallery, and they love to take home something as a memento of their trip to the Punta Gorda Artisans Village!

**Want to donate your turnings to the Gallery?** Every Member's Woodworking Art is solicited and appreciated! This Gallery is a showcase for PRW Members ONLY—There is nothing else like our Gallery *anywhere* in the local area, and we are quite proud of it! Take a look at what's in the Gallery – the range of works from Novice to Advanced is incredible!

**We constantly need to replenish the Gallery shelves! 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! Large items are impressive, and generate lots of conversations about the art form.

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

**We are continually updating the equipment** in the woodshop, thanks to donations and acquisitions. Take a look at what's new any Sunday, or during a monthly meeting.

**Volunteer** to hang out in the Artisan's Village **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 five lathes - People love to see the wood shavings fly, and the marvel at the work emerging while it happens!



# PRW CALENDAR - WHAT'S NEXT?

## August

Sunday 20th Price House Galley - Open 9 AM to 1 PM - **Need Volunteers**  
Sunday 27th Price House Galley - Open 9 AM to 1 PM - **Need Volunteers**

## September

Sunday 3rd Price House Galley - Open 9 AM to 1 PM – **Need Volunteers**  
Thursday 7th **Monthly Meeting – SPHERES DEMO** – 6:30PM Price House  
Sunday 10th Price House Galley - Open 9 AM to 1 PM - **Need Volunteers**  
Sunday 17th Price House Galley - Open 9 AM to 1 PM - **Need Volunteers**  
Thursday 21st Third Thursday **LUNCH & TURN** – 11:30 at Elena's, then PRW  
Sunday 24th Price House Galley - Open 9 AM to 1 PM - **Need Volunteers**



2024 SOUTHWEST FLORIDA  
**WOOD ART  
EXPOSITION  
AND COMPETITION**  
JANUARY 12 & 13, 2024  
CHARLOTTE HARBOR EVENTS CENTER 9 AM - 4 PM  
75 TAYLOR STREET, PUNTA GORDA, FL 33950

Woodcarving & Woodturning Competitions  
To get Competition Entry Forms and more information, go to!

**SWFLWOODARTEXPO.ORG**

WOODCARVING and WOODTURNING COMPETITIONS  
Displays and Judged Competition, Vendor Booths - Wood, Tools, and more  
Daily Technique Demonstrations, Raffles, Silent Auction, and Wood Art Sales



**WOODCARVING & WOODTURNING  
ENTRY DEADLINES:**  
\$5 per Entry Application Deadline:  
**December 12, 2023**

AFTER December 12, 2023:  
\$15 per Late Entry Application Fee

Find Forms, online at [swflwoodartexpo.org](http://swflwoodartexpo.org)

# SHOW & TELL



**Bob Roehrig**  
**Layered Bowls**



**Paul Bartlett**  
**Layered Bowl**

**Lou Currier**  
**Pens**



# SHOW & TELL



**Rosin Beals  
Clock**

**Contact Us**

**President:**

Cher Bauer: 941-743-5140

**Vice President:**

Lou Currier 863-258-8334

**Past President:**

Bob Summers: 941-460-9627

**Treasurer:**

David Smith: 716-679-8482

**Secretary:**

Bob Roehrig: 941-888-5142

**Webmaster:**

Cheri Bauer: 941-743-5140

**Newsletter Editor:**

Bob Roehrig: 941-888-5142

**Librarian:**

Mark Yates: 941-423-0444

**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)

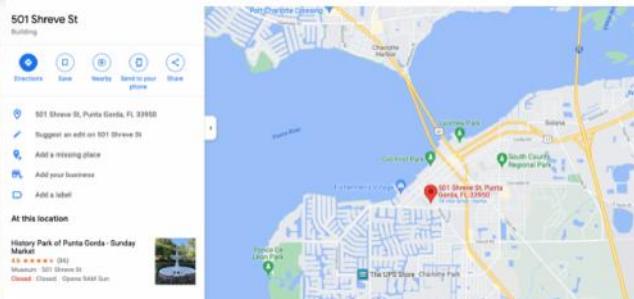
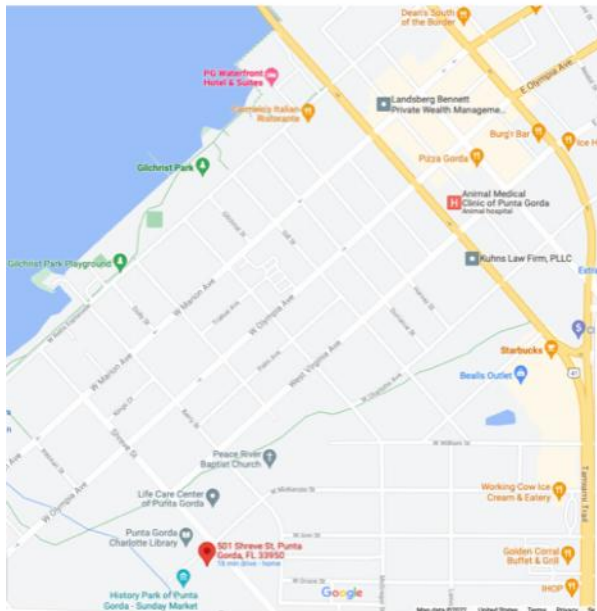
**Membership**

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 pm. We meet at the Punta Gorda History Park at **501 Shreve St.** in Punta Gorda, Florida.

**Our next meeting is: Thursday Sept 7 , 6:30 PM**



**Upcoming Events**

**PRW meeting: September, 7, 2023**

**Demonstration: Paul Bartlett  
Sphere Jig uses**

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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.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.