

# Richmond Woodturners

## Newsletter June 2019



### Meeting Notes of the Richmond Woodturners 5/16/19

Welcome New Members/visitors and guests:

New Members: Kathaleen Wright, North Prince George; and De'Jah Wright. North Prince George

1st Time Visitors: Darrell Talbott, Aylette; Ryan Ahlin, Glen Allen; and Jenna Ruby, Glen Allen

Red Shirt Order: See Bill B.

Announcement for AAW Symposium in NC – still time to sign up

Upcoming Demos,

Today - Phil Fuentes, Embellishment

June - Cody Walker, Vessels with feet and handles

August will be A. Samuels. It was decided to make Aug 16th a “hands on” day, 6-8 folks said they would be interested. Aug 17<sup>th</sup> will be an all-day demo day with about 20 saying they would be interested.

Quarterly Challenges, June will be Surface Embellishment

Forestry Camp – June 18<sup>th</sup>, need volunteers. See Lee S.

“Show and Tell”

Today's DEMO

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## Phillip Fuentes—Embellishments

Phillip Fuentes hails from Greensboro, NC, and has been turning for over 15 years. He is a woodturner, furniture maker, and a bladesmith. As a bladesmith, he has crafted carving knives, chef's knives, and oyster knives from railroad spikes. He has a shop in North Carolina where he fashions small furniture, wooden kitchenware, wooden utensils, and turned artistic and practical items. He also sells turned blanks and parts of furniture to furniture makers. Phillip teaches at the John C. Campbell Folk School in Brasstown, NC. He also is a member of the 205 Collaborative in GSO, NC.

Mr. Fuentes brought some samples of his work: tops, Christmas tree tops, a spoon, toys, bowls, and something that looks like a pendulum or set of scales. The Christmas tree sat on a stand, could come apart, and spin as a top. A second top turns on its own stand. Yet another top was a multi-axis, as was a candlestick. He also demonstrated his proficiency with spinning tops on his fingers. The trick being to put a slight divot in your finger in which the top can spin.

He also bought several of his tools to show. Of note was the bedan, the Sorby texturing tool, and the negative rake scraper. A bedan is a type of parting tool with a square or trapezoidal cutting section with one bevel. The Thompson negative rake scraper has a bevel on the top and the bottom. One is able to control it better than other scrapers. Since it is less aggressive, the grain of the wood does not get torn as easily.

To begin the demo session, Phillip, as is his habit and to warm up, turned several tops. While turning the tops, he gave a quick safety guide. Depending on the type of turning, he suggested that everyone wear a face shield or, at minimum, safety eyeglasses. The safety eyeglasses should only be used with small turnings. In conjunction with this statement, one of the members of the Richmond Woodturners stated that one could buy Safety prescription glasses for \$100.00 at Walmart. If one does a lot of sanding or works with exotic woods, a dust mask or respirator is useful. Keeping your beard trimmed will prevent some accidents. The lathe should be stopped before making adjustments to it.

Per Phillip, tops are a great way to learn tool control, make good gifts, and uses up scraps. In making the tops, he used a  $\frac{1}{2}$ " spindle gouge, a Thompson gouge, and a French bedan.

During much of Mr. Fuentes demo and whilst he turned his pieces, members of the Richmond Woodturners volleyed questions and comments at him.

Richmond Woodturner: How high above center do you approach the piece?

Phillip Fuentes: Just above center.

Richmond Woodturner: Does the bottom surface ride the bevel?  
Phillip Fuentes: It can.

Richmond Woodturner: How do you sharpen a gouge?  
Phillip Fuentes: I use a Wolverine sharpener, then finish with a diamond hone

Richmond Woodturner: Do you do the back as well?  
Phillip Fuentes: Yes, just to take it off. I try not to do just the end.

Richmond Woodturner: At what speed do you turn?  
Phillip Fuentes: Really fast. I turn between 2000 rpm – 2200 rpm for the small stuff



He turned a variety of different tops.

### French Style Top

The French style top is one in which there is a point slightly recessed in the center of a turned hollow. He started off with a  $\frac{1}{2}$ " spindle gouge (Thompson). He left the rim heavy and thinned the area behind the rim. He switched to a smaller gouge to do the curve on the back of the bell.

He held the top of the bell of the top to turn the upper spindle section. This top can be spun on a finger tip.



### Exotics

Bocote wood is from Mexico. Exotics are expensive and becoming more so. The source of some exotics sold can be vague. For these reasons, Phillip has started using less of them. He likes using dogwood and maple.

### Box with Top

After warming up with tops, he fashioned a box whose lid was a top. He used a soft maple blank. Initially, he turned a tenon and rounded the blank. Then, he placed the tenon in the chuck. He used a  $\frac{1}{2}$ " spindle gouge to rough out the interior of the box. He tilted the gouge at around 45 degrees. The shavings came off just left of center. The lid inside the box had a fairly heavy rim. He used a Thompson negative rake scraper to hollow out the inside a second time.

He made the rim true and used a skew chisel as a scraper to cut straight into the piece. He flipped it over to scrape the lid's lip and angle the shoulder. He recommended that one should scrape this area lightly to reduce leaving marks. Next, he used a pencil to mark the bottom of the box on the outside. He used a gouge to shape the bottom of the box. He used a skew to make a better curve on the side. He left plenty of thickness in the wall. He used a Sorby texturing wheel set to 4 to embellish the middle of the outside of the box.

Initially, the Sorby texturing wheel did not leave a deep mark in the wood. One of our members suggested that Phillip slow the lathe to between 300 rpm – 400 rpm to get a better cut. Following the individual's advice, Phillip re-scored the piece and produced a more pronounced pattern.

Richmond Woodturner:

Do you mark the line before or after?

Phillip Fuentes:

After making several cuts. Otherwise the cut will remove the mark line.



To do the touch up and to mark the lines, he used a small skew. Next, he turned the lathe down to 130 rpm and used a green marker to paint over the engraved markings. Lines in black marker were used to border both sides of the green, engraved space.

For the lid, he started with calipers to measure the box opening. He made a tenon on the wood blank left on the lathe after the base of the box was removed. It took a couple of tries reshaping the tenon before it fit the chuck.

Phillip gave another piece of advice. Do not grab the chuck to slow it down.

Because the tenon seemed to be getting too loose, Phillip used toilet paper to check the fit. He used a push cut to hold it on the chuck then removed a pointy bit from the bottom of the box.

He used a gouge to scrape the side of the top and used a parting tool and small gouge to separate the lid from the spindle.

Depending on the effect he is trying to achieve, Phillip will use water based or alcohol-based markers. Alcohol based markers will blend as one works them.

## Salad Spoon Made from Mahogany

Using a blank he had ready, Phillip created a tenon and placed it in the chuck. He set the lathe at 1000 rpm and attempted to offset the block to 30 degrees. Should the blank spin off the lathe, it will travel in a path perpendicular to the length of the lathe and away from the turner. The audience members who might be in its path moved slightly out of the way. Starting the lathe slowly might prevent this from occurring. As a slower speed causes difficulty in cutting the wood, Phillip bumped up the speed after a while.

When doing an offset turning like this one, Phillip warns that one should be aware of the inside shape of and the type of teeth in the chuck. A good set of sharp teeth is needed to hold the blank at the correct angle. Also, one should stop the lathe prior to changing the tool rest. To see if the piece will hit the lathe while it is turning, one should test by turning the lathe by hand.

Using the offset technique, Phillip turned the spindle as the handle of the spoon. Before doing anything else to it, he sanded the handle using 1/8 of a piece of sand paper folded into thirds. One can also fold it into a half circle. Sanding paper should be trailing on the turner's side at the bottom. Placing one's hand on top is dangerous.

Once he finished sanding the handle, Phillip re-positioned the tenon, so it sat level in the chuck, eliminating the offset. He gouged the side of the spoon. Once finished there, he re-positioned the tool rest, so he could gouge out the inside of the spoon. Due to the small size of the blank which necessitated a reduced diameter, he was unable to hollow out the spoon. He said he might make a backscratcher out of it.

For a video on turning an offset spoon  
copy/paste this URL  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tw5kxyB1XVg>

More about Phillip and his creations can be found at [www.phillipfuentes.com](http://www.phillipfuentes.com)  
Unfortunately Mr. Fuentes' website is down as of today (June 16, 2019) and his Instagram feed is private. The only way to actually see any of his work is via Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/325sqft/>



Turning a simple two axis cherry spoon. I use a NOVA DVR, and a NOVA G3 chuck with a Vermec/Vicmarc eccentric adaptor. Tools used are 10mm and 12 mm shallow gouges, a 5mm bedan, a shear scraper, and a 1/16" parting tool.

## Bibliography

- [http://www.cindydrozda.com/handouts\\_Pdfs/handouts/demo%20handouts/negative%20rake%20scrapers.pdf](http://www.cindydrozda.com/handouts_Pdfs/handouts/demo%20handouts/negative%20rake%20scrapers.pdf)
- [http://www.lavieenbois.com/html/bedane\\_eng.htm](http://www.lavieenbois.com/html/bedane_eng.htm)

## Letter from the President: June, 2019

First of all, an apology: With another out-of-town commitment that seems to schedule at about this time on an annual basis, I will not be able to make our June meeting. But . . . The show will go on as V.P Jim Bumpas has graciously agreed to stand-in to keep things running smoothly. Thank you Jim!

Like many turners, the thought of “free wood” can be very enticing. With the threat of storms, some folks go running away to hunker down, while other come running like storm chasers. Those two words are full of potential and allow our imaginations to run wild. Recently a friend called to say she had two trees coming down and asked if I wanted them . So with a thank you, I had to ask what kind? As half expected, the answer was “big brown ones”. Yep . . . So glad I asked. Well at least for now I was semi- committed. I then had a flashback to the last free wood experience. You know the drill; the hours if not days of limbing, lifting, rolling, chain sawing , loading hauling, unloading, storing and blank turning. As reality set-in, the glow of excitement dimmed. After loading up my gear and mounting the small truck crane onto the trailer, I headed on out. As it turned out this time around, one tree was a long slender Virginia pine and the other a long-dead poplar with considerably more rot than sound lumber. You win some & lose some. I lost . . She won. As it was a friend with a good heart, I again said thank you before hauling most off to the bone yard. Also as it turned out, it was probably a blessing in disguise - to not be left with the haunting need to turn it all before it goes south. As a hobby turner, I think the evolution has evolved; from “OH, free wood?” to “Oh no, free wood ”. . . That is, at least until next time. Perhaps the next round will be more promising.

I'll close with just a little food for thought: Have you ever had a serious accident in the shop? Have you ever had a near miss? How about a physical reaction to sanding dust, certain lumber species and/or spalted wood spores? What did you learn from it and what do you now do differently? With a bit of luck, I hope your answers go something like: No ,heck yes, probably , a lot, and finally “everything” to include, but not limited to safeguards, focus and PPE .

We'll see you in July

Bill Buchanan,

President

## SHOW AND TELL



Robert Gundel, Osage Orange, Danish Oil, Buffed and Waxed, 14" X 6"



Ray Deyo, Ambrosia Maple, General Finishes Oil Urethane, 14" X 6"



Ray Deyo, Ambrosia Maple, General Finishes Oil Urethane, 14" X 6"



Chuck Moser, Holly, Acrylic, 3.5" X 8"



Bob Silkensen, Maple, Spray Lacquer, 6", Basket Illusion



Steve Schwartz, White Oak, Poly, 6" d, Variegated Metal Leaf



Georgia Wood, Hand Wrap/Cast, Wet Sand to 12,000, Hut Gloss, Aussie Oil



Chuck Moser, Holly, Acrylic, 7.75". X 2.5"



*Steve Kellner, Red Bud, BLO & Carnauba Wax,  
4.5" d X 3", Trimming from Tree in Back Yard*



*Dave Murray, Maple/Walnut, Poly, 8.5" X 13"*



*Jim Bumpas, Maple, Waterlox,  
10 "h X 8"w*



*Dan Luttrell, Red Oak, CA, 2 Pc Barware*



*Terry Moore, Maple, General Small Trinket  
Boxes*

*Bill Buchanan, Pecan, Danish Oil, 10" dia.*





Amos Peterson, Tulip Poplar, Salad Bowl Finish,  
15" dia, #72, Signed by Amos on bottom



Barbara Dill, Box Elder, Kyron Spray, 24" h X 17.5 t, Conceptual Piece for  
the "HOME" Event May 19th



Bonnie Wood, Unknown Specie  
Lacquer, 8"



David Bushman, Waldmere Battlefield  
Cherry, General Finish Woodturners, 6"  
X 7.5"

## Board Officers

Bill Buchanan - President  
Jim Bumpas - Vice President  
Bob Silkensen - Secretary  
Cody Walker - Treasurer

## Directors

Bob Marchese – Newsletter Editor  
Dan Luttrell – Membership Director  
Georgia Wood – Activities Director  
Stan VanDruff –Information Director/Webmaster  
Chuck Bajnai – Resource Director  
Ray Deyo – Past President  
Lee Scarbrough – Past President

## Committee Chairpersons

Jim O'Hanlon – Turning Competition  
Jared Parker – Audio/Video  
Charlie Hamilton – Social Media  
Meg Turner – AAW Women in Turning Liaison

## June Snacks & Drinks

## Providers

Georgia Wood	Ice/Cooler
Gene Milstead	2liter Coke
Gordon Kendrick	2liter Pepsi
Greg Glennon	2liter Diet Coke
Greg Gorbet	2liter Caffeine free Soda
Herb Walke	Chips
Herbert Hausmann	Cookies
Jared Parker	Salty Snack
Jeff Lohr	Salty Snack
Jerry Fisher	Sweet Snack

Please Text Georgia if you cannot bring assigned snack @ 804-525-8291

## 2019 Demonstrations

June 20: Cody Walker. Vessels with feet and handles.

July 18: Max Brosi + Luke Deroux AAW presenters. Multiaxis. Presentation of their works and discussion.

August 15: Avelino Samuel. In cooperation with Woodcraft and Tidewater Turners. Presentations at the Club meeting on Thursday night. There will be all day sessions on Friday and Saturday – format is being developed.

September 19: Instruction by several experienced turners with hands-on opportunities for members

October 17: Bruce Robbins. Tops, basic to advanced.

November 21: Deane Cox. Tops from the master. May include some hands-on instruction by other volunteers.

December 19: Holiday Party and Tops Competition

## Financial Report

Our current balance is \$7452.93. The change in the budget is associated with payment of demo expenses.

## Quarterly Challenges

The Challenges are regularly scheduled for the third month of each quarter (March, June, September, and December). Entries will be placed on a table separate from the Show-n-Tell table.

3rd Quarter, 2019 – Something with feet or handle

4th Quarter, 2019 – Tops

1st Quarter, 2020

2nd Quarter, 2020



Join Us  
RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA  
JULY 11-14, 2019

### AAW's 33rd Annual Int'l WOODTURNING SYMPOSIUM

Demonstrations, Panel Discussions,  
Exhibitions, Auctions, Trade Show, More!

## Richmond Woodturners Info

Our club meets on the third Thursday of each month at the Richmond Woodcraft Store (see last page for directions). Dues are \$25. per year and due each January. Guests are welcome. Special rates for those who join late in the year. See Dan Luttrell (Membership Director, [danluttrell@verizon.net](mailto:dnluttrell@verizon.net)) or at the meeting for more information. Our events are now incorporated into the Richmond Cultural Arts Calendar which is a community-based organization that supports local arts organizations and individuals by highlighting events, performances, etc. Our current page can be accessed at the following link:

[http://calendar.richmondcultureworks.org/event/richmond\\_woodturners\\_monthly\\_meeting](http://calendar.richmondcultureworks.org/event/richmond_woodturners_monthly_meeting)

or at: <https://www.richmondwoodturners.org>



**Contact the store at:**

Phone: 804-355-3945

Fax: 804-355-2532

Email: richmond-retail@woodcraft.com

9862 West Broad Street

Glen Allen, VA 23060

Organizations such as the Richmond Woodturners, Richmond Pen turners and James River Woodcarvers would not exist if it weren't for the kindness of their sponsors. We are blessed and grateful to have the Richmond Virginia Woodcraft store supporting us and our activities. Members get a 10% discount on meeting nights for most turning related items.

Please remember this and support them at every opportunity!

For the classes provided at this location see:

<https://www.woodcraft.com/stores/richmond/classes> Look for classes taught by Ray Deyo, Clark Brummett, David Sterling, Brian Noble-Marx and others