



# Sarasota Flying Wood Chips Newsletter

Volume 1 Issue 6

June 2018

**T**here was a wild, but totally unsubstantiated report that I had been off in the west somewhere jumping across small canyons on my motorcycle?? In fact, I am back in Vermont after a very soggy ride through the remnants of tropical storm Alberto. We thought we were playing it smart by waiting until the storm had passed before striking out, but while we only got caught in one real torrent, we rode for 2,500 miles through a misty gray drizzle. The direct route from Sarasota to Burlington is about 1,500 miles on very boring and crowded interstate highways, so instead, we plotted a winding and scenic route through the Appalachian mountains in Georgia, North Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia. It added another thousand miles to the journey, but over a week, not a problem, and keeping the daily mileage to a manageable 300. Arguably, this is the best motorcycle riding in our entire country, with smooth, lightly traveled roads, and scenic small towns and valleys. We will do it again, hopefully in much better conditions!

I have commented many times, both here in our newsletter, and in our counterpart published by our Vermont club (<http://woodchucksvt.org/>), about the wonderful diversity in the choice of turning woods in our country, and the differences between northern and southern stock. My fellow woodchucks in Vermont are amazed that we have such an abundance in Florida, thinking that it is pretty much the land of pines and palms. The pieces of Norfolk Pine I have brought north over the

years have always attracted a lot of attention, and when I put a piece of it in the raffle, it is always the first to be taken. I am just finishing up a large Norfolk Pine bowl (photo below) for the next meeting's 'show & tell'. During the summer months we have our meetings (first and third Wednesdays) in my studio, so that gives me the chance to show and talk about other examples of our Florida woods.



Cremation urn footnote: We have talked many times about making cremation urns for the Sarasota chapter of the Veterans Association. At the last 'Turning Tuesday' in April I brought in two I had made, one of Norfolk Pine and one of sycamore (photo below). The sycamore one I brought back to Vermont to show my Vermont colleagues. In a sad and

ironic turn of fate, the day after our meeting it was put to its intended, but definitely not yet planned, use! My friend and neighbor died very unexpectedly, and when the family told me his wishes were to be cremated, I gave it to them. They were very touched and grateful, and I am so happy that it is now doing duty for a much loved and missed member of our close-knit neighborhood!



Footnote to the cremation urn footnote! During my above-described journey a couple weeks ago, we stopped for lunch at a rustic little cafe in north Georgia. Sitting on the bar was the urn shown below. It was about the size of a jar of peanut butter! It clearly makes its point. I have no immediate plans to produce them!



I will be in Sarasota the first week of July and will be at Turning Tuesday, July 3rd. (This, of course, is assuming Lake Johannesen is at low tide!) Hope to catch up with as many of you who are still around during Florida's "slow time".

Cheers,

**Russ Fellows**  
(skunkmen@gmail.com)  
802-343-0393

**Sarasota Woodturner's Club Officers**

**President - Russ Fellows**  
email: skunkmen@gmail.com

**Vice President - Jim Weeks**  
email: jburtonweeks@gmail.com

**Treasurer - Stephen Johns**  
email: steve2515@hotmail.com

**Secretary - Dave Hausmann**  
email: dhausmann@comcast.net  
phone 703-608-4255

**Director at Large - Franck Johannesen**  
email: vikno11@verizon.net  
phone 941-323-4988

**Director at Large - Alan Levin**

**"We are dedicated to promoting the art of woodturning through educational demonstrations and hands-on training. We meet to share our techniques, methods and skills. We provide assistance with tool and equipment recommendations."**

**Upcoming Sarasota Woodturners Events and Demos**

**James McClure** at Advantage Lumber  
June 20, 2018.

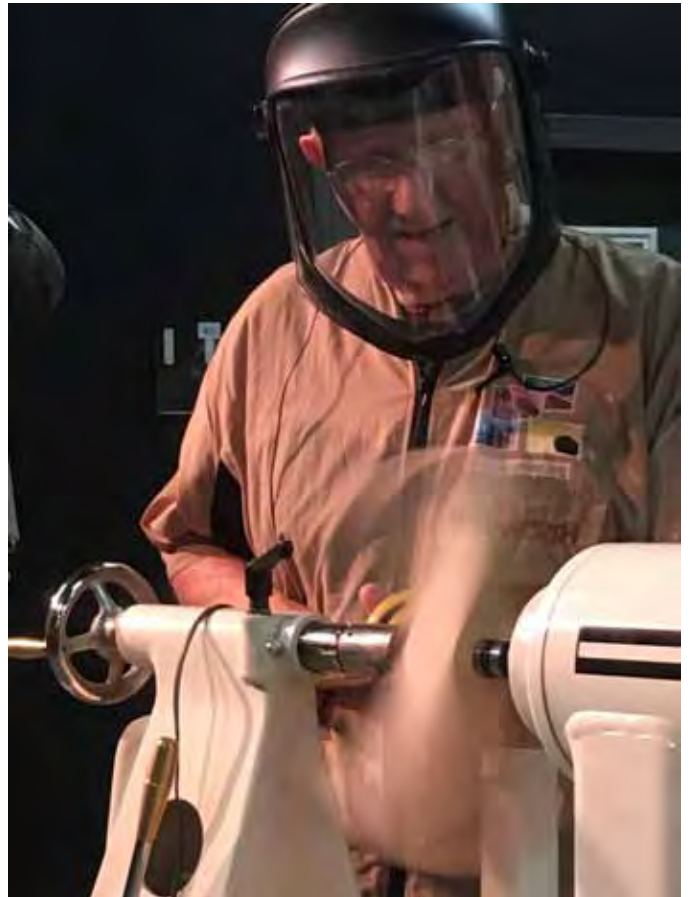
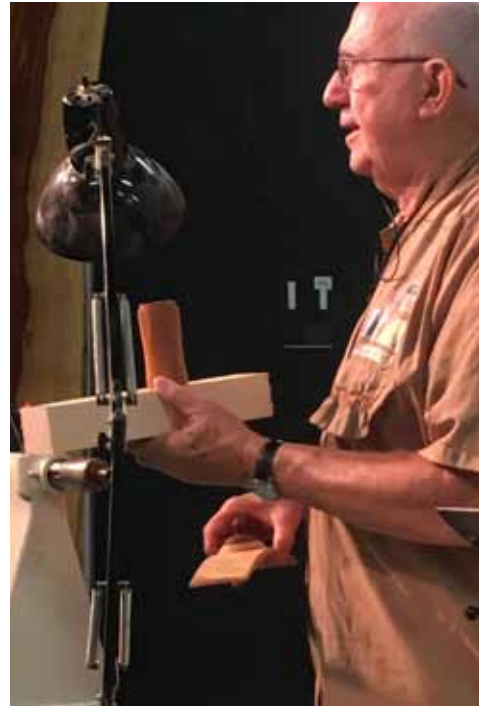
**Michael Gibson** at Advantage Lumber  
July 18, 2018.

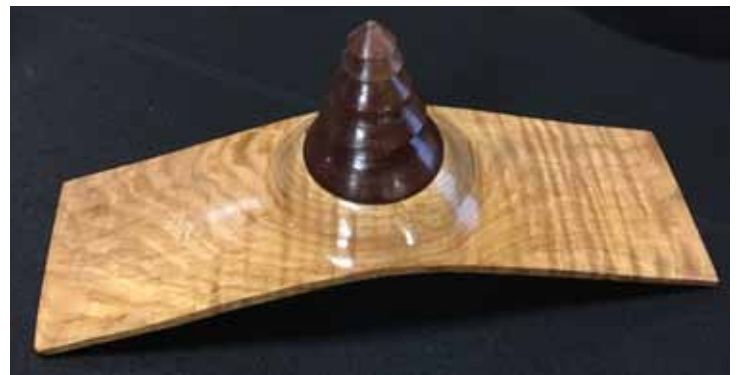


## Art Worth's Winged Lidded Box Demo at Advantage Lumber, May 16, 2018



**Art Worth** is a resident of Palm Harbor and has been making custom cabinets and furniture for many years. Art started wood turning in 1992. He is semi-retired and presently employed part-time as General Manager of a private equity fund and wood turning instructor at Dunedin Fine Art Center. He makes all types of turned items and has won awards at juried art shows and the Florida State Fair. He enjoys transforming an ordinary piece of wood into a functional item or an art piece for display. Art is a member of The American Association of Woodturners and is the current president of the Tri-County Woodturners club.







## Winged Lidded Box

Turning a winged item is not for the light hearted. You need to be comfortable with the lathe turning at 2,000 rpm. It is best to start with a short piece, say 6", to gain this comfort level. Once you feel comfortable at this size you can go longer.

1. Select a hardwood like hard maple. A softer wood will general produce cut off corners. Crisp clean corners is one of the indicators of a well turned piece. Be sure to have clean cut ends and sides.
2. The piece should be at least 2" thick in order to produce a good curve.
3. The chuck should have jaws that will expand from ½" – 1" and compress at about 1.5" - 2". Usually you will use two chucks or change the jaws.
4. Center and balance the piece between centers before starting to turn a tenon. Use tool rest to judge balance.
5. Turn a good quality tenon for compression that is about 1.5" or one that will suit your chuck jaws. This is a quality step to ensure good grip by the chuck for turning at high speeds. The tenon can be turned at normal speed.
6. This first tenon will be the bottom of the box and will be removed later.
7. Reverse the piece and use your compression chuck jaw chuck.
8. Check balance of the wings. Adjust as needed and **BE SURE THE TAIL STOCK IS ENGAGED. SAFETY FIRST.**
9. Now you can crank up the speed for starting the wings (1,500 – 2,000). Allow for a small dome in the center which will be the top of your box. The dome can be smaller than the width of the piece. Ride the bevel in all cuts. Find the bevel and move out to clear the piece. Move tool in for a push cut. Be sure left hand is securely on the tool rest and right arm is anchored to your body. I use a straight grind 45 degree grind bowl gouge. This makes it easier to keep your arm close to your body.
10. Sand the wings with an orbital sander with the lathe stopped but used as a vise.
11. Produce a small opening for your box. Be sure your chuck will fit for expansion. Again make a quality tenon with flat surface. This is usually a dovetail tenon for better grip.
12. Hollow the box using small hollowing tools. Make a shallow box to allow for the bottom to be removed. This is a keepsake box.
13. Reverse the piece and secure in the expansion chuck. Measure the depth of the box and mark on side.
14. Check balance again and adjust as needed. **TAIL STOCK IN PLACE.**
15. Begin cutting the bottom side of the wings. Cut inward about 2" at a time and ride the bevel. Next do another 2". This ensures accurate cut with as much bulk support as possible.
16. Finish the thickness of the wing before continuing to cut the next section of the wing. The cuts around the bottom of the box can be acute or rounded depending on your desired design. Sometimes you will make the edge of the bottom to match the edge of the top for a symmetrical appearance.
17. Remove the first tenon at slower speed and sand the wings as before.
18. Create a lid of contrasting wood, if desired. This can be an overlapping lid.
19. Make a small finial that matches the size of the piece.

**Sarasota Woodturner Members' Show & Tell, May 16, 2018**



**Norm Stabinski's** Cherry Laurel bowl.



**Art Worth's** Rosewood bowl.



**Chet Orzech's** Norfolk Island Pine bowl finished with wipe-on-poly over two coats of 3408 and 600 grit sanding.



**Franck Johannesen's** Norfolk Island Pine vases with 3408 finish.





**John Henry's Burning & Finishing Techniques Demo at Franck's, May 22, 2018**



Torch burning China Berry and then sanding with 600 grit paper brings out the grain and takes away the burn.







Cedar bowl sanded to 400 grit with first coat of 3408.



Sand second coat lightly 600 grit. One coat 3408 on inside.



Thoroughly blow off.



Apply second coat of 3408. wearing gloves and goggles. Use foam brush and paper towels (not cotton) at 49 rpm. Wipe as smooth as you can get it. Don't use accelerator. Dry over night. Sand 600 grit and super fine 0000 steel wool to smooth. Blow off. Buff @ 1200-1700 rpm with Vonex plastic polish. Brush on polyurethane (Minwax). Let dry at slow spin for 13 minutes. Next day sand 600 + steel wool and coat again.







**Sarasota Woodturner Members' Show & Tell, May 22, 2018**



**Franck Johannesen's**  
Norfolk Island Pine vases.



**Chet Orzech's** Norfolk Island Pine vase.



**Steve John's** home-made vacuum pump.



**John's - Fancy - Wood - Work**  
Norfolk Island Pine vessel.



## Fanck Johannesen Demonstrating the Trent Bosch Hollowing System, May 29, 2018



**Franck Johannesen** demonstrating the Trent Bosch Hollowing System which he now sells.



The stabilizer gives your tool extra support but still allows the control and finesse that you get by tucking the tool handle into your body and using your body to manipulate the tool. Use it as if you are hollowing by hand, but get the support of a captured type system. It is simple, easy to set up design which lets you move back and forth between tools easily. This new tool allows for smooth operation and the ability to enjoy the hollowing process without fighting with the tool or jig. The 3/4" stabilizer comes complete with tool rest, pin, and bushings to allow you to use 5/8" and 1/2" hollowing tools with the 3/4" stabilizer. It also comes with a 5/32" Super Allen Wrench. The 3/4" Stabilizer is generally suited for lathes with a 16" or larger swing.

**Show & Tell at Franck's Studio, May 29, 2018**



**John Henry's Chinaberry Sarawood box.**



**John Henry's Blood Wood & Maple segmented bowl.**



**Franck Johannesen's Norfolk Island Pine one-piece wig stand.**





**Show & Tell at Franck's Studio, June 12, 2018**



**Alan Levin's** China Berry bowls.



**Steve John's** Elm bowl.



**Steve John's** Sycamore bowls with curl inside.



**Franck Johannesen's** vase turned on Trent Bosch Hollowing System.



**Dave Hausmann's** Norfolk Island Pine lidded vessel.



**Franck Johannesen's** Norfolk Island Pine vase sealed with 3408 then finished with wipe-on-poly.



**Dave Hausmann's** Norfolk Island Pine side grain turned vase.

## Woodturning Tips, Techniques, Ideas & Information

### Sarasota Woodturners' Library

The board has asked **Allen Coppes** to pursue his interest in the holdings that Sarasota Woodturners has regarding DVDs and other instructional materials provided by previous demonstrators or club members. He has provided us with a list of videos that will be available. If you are interested in purchasing any videos, please send Allen an email with your request. The price is \$5 per DVD.

*Here's the list:*

Al Caton, Larry Hasiak, Russ Fellows, Ron Browning, Franck Johannesen (a number of demo's), Michael Mode, Al Hockenberry, Ashley Harwood, Harvey Meyer, Johannes Michelsen, Don Watson, Rudy Lopez, Adam Hood, Trent Bosch, Alan Lacer John Jordan, Jimmy Clewes, Richard Morris, Mark St. Leger, Cindy Drozda, Mark Sillay, Lee Sky, Hans Weissflog.

**Allen's email address is: [lcoppes@yahoo.com](mailto:lcoppes@yahoo.com)**

### Woodturner Meetings...

Sarasota Woodturners monthly meeting and woodturning demonstrations feature well-known local and national woodturners. Meetings and demonstrations are held at **Advantage Lumber Company's** Sarasota facility Hardwood Showroom on the 3rd Wednesday of each month from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The public is welcome. 7524 Commerce Place, Sarasota, FL 34243

Tuesday night sessions are at **Franck Johannesen's** studio, 1051 Racimo Drive, Sarasota, FL 34240 beginning at 6:30 p.m. Racimo Drive is a left just a mile or two east of I75 traveling on Fruitville Rd.

**Sarasota Woodturners Club** has three particular areas of emphasis; education, camaraderie, and community service. We currently have four ongoing service projects. The first is the Freedom Pens Project through which club members are asked to make pens using kits provided at no cost by the club. The pens are then distributed along with a note of appreciation to worthy veterans. Last week I sent in an additional 26 pens for a total of approximately 200 to date. The second project is making wig stands in support of our local chapters of the American Cancer Society who supply them to women with hair loss during chemotherapy treatment. The Empty Bowls program provides bowls turned by club members to assist in the fund raising efforts of local area charities serving the hungry. The next event will be early in November so please continue making bowl over the summer with hopes that we can do even more than last year. Finally, we are helping provide cremation urns for deceased veterans.

Each of these projects is supported with education and supplies through our club. (More specific instructions are available for each project.) The Saturday morning Introduction to Bowl Turning Class that was so well attended this season was in response to our participation in the Empty Bowls program. It was a great way for club members to meet, enhance their skills, and become prepared to benefit our community.

**Jim Weeks**, Club Vice President



*This newsletter was designed and produced by club secretary **David Hausmann**. Articles, digital photos and information that you would like to share with Sarasota Woodturner members are welcome. Please contact me at [dhausmann@comcast.net](mailto:dhausmann@comcast.net).*