

PAW General Meeting Minutes

January 25, 2025

The Prescott Area Woodturners met on Saturday, January 25, 2025 at YEI, 6708 Corsair Avenue in Prescott. The meeting was attended by 59 members, including 2 new members, 2 guests and 4 members on Zoom for a total of 65 attendees.

President Chuck Brown called the meeting to order at noon, introducing himself as the President for 2025. He listed his goals for the year as increasing involvement and engagement by the club's members, enhancing the website by including more members' work on the gallery and increasing the use of technology. He suggested that members could get involved by adding their work samples to the Gallery on the website, attending Tuesday breakfast at Backburner in Prescott Valley (7 am!) (20 members showed up one recent Tuesday), attending Chips 'n Grits discussions, or helping with set up and take down of meetings or sales events.

He recognized and thanked several people who give him support: Ric Davis as past president and chair of the Adler committee, Walt Spencer as his Vice President, Kathy Allen as secretary and newsletter editor, Dave Henderson as membership, and Ken Allen as technology lead and program director.

Membership Director Dave Henderson gave the membership update and introduced some guests and new members. His wife Connie had made PAW mugs that are dishwasher and microwave safe that were for sale at \$15 each. He brought 25 to sell and all were sold. He plans to bring 25 more next month.

Assistant treasurer Susan Murphy stated that she was collecting dues and the cup money. She was able to collect those payments with cash, check, Zelle and with credit card. An additional \$2 was added if a credit card was used.

Chuck stated that there are 36 club positions that are filled by volunteers. The only opening in 2025 was the chair for Farmer's Market sales. Dean Humphrey volunteered to fill that position. Chuck suggested that members consider filling some positions that will be open in 2026: Vice President, Assistant Treasurer (since Susan Murphy will move to Treasurer if elected), and Safety Chair since Dan Hall will resign at the end of the year after serving under four presidents.

Program Director Ken Allen talked about the PAW calendar that had been emailed to members the previous week. He's arranged for a demonstrator for every general meeting and for Tuesday demos. The Tuesday demos will be related to the general meeting topic to give members a chance to learn more about that topic. He's also arranged for three IRDs (Interactive remote demonstrations) to be given by Laurent Niclot, Dave Landers and Stuart Batty.

The password for the year for the Members Only part of the website was given: Spalted

Members were reminded that the Hold Harmless agreement is on the PAW website and member's presence at meetings shows their consent.

As part of the partnership with YEI, a few members are helping them complete their recent air compressor room addition. YEI has allowed space for PAW to store the lathe and sharpener there.

A vote was taken on whether to have a tool auction in August or a demo that month. The demo was chosen by the majority so Ken Allen will schedule a demo for that month.

A Members Only classified section may be added to the website this year.

Gary Frank shared that he'd received texts from a gentleman in Virginia about his wavy bowl demo. After contacting Jay Loden, the club's website chair, he learned that his demo has had over 1,000 hits on YouTube and that the PAW YouTube site has over 700 subscribers who watch the videos posted from meetings and Chips n Grits.

Chuck asked that members who plan to attend the AAW symposium let him know. If over five people plan to attend, he can arrange for a group discount.

Board members recently started using new email addresses at prescottareawoodturners.com. At this time, a spam warning can pop up, but Chuck reassured the members that those messages are not spam. It may help to add those addresses to your contacts list.

Safety Chair Dan Hall gave a safety talk about using chain saws. He's forbidden from using his when his wife is not home. He stressed that you should keep your phone nearby, wear ear and eye protection and wear no baggy clothing. He described how to safely start and use a chain saw.

Chuck then introduced the WIT (Women in Turning) group who gave the demo during the meeting. This group was organized last May and wanted to present a challenge to the club of joining them in making wig stands for cancer patients who lose their hair. He introduced Kathy Allen who is the organizer of the group and liaison to AAW. She then introduced the eight WIT members who were participating in the demo. She gave information about the initiative to make wig stands that has resulted in woodturning clubs around the nation making over 1,750 wig stands since 2023. This demo showed the process of making this project. (Instructions are included with these minutes.)

During the meeting, WIT members Savannah Murphy and Violet Mitchell-Enos sold knotty alder wig stand kits for \$5 each. In support of this project, Chuck said the Board of Directors is supplementing part of the cost. Thirty-nine kits were sold and the remaining 27 will be available at future meetings.

The demo itself was given by four of the WIT members. Sally Kasner started by describing the sizes of wood included in each kit. She then described the tools that are used on this project and showed the process of rounding the top and base blanks and adding a tenon. Those steps are common to both pieces.

Kathy Allen followed her to demonstrate the process of turning the base. She demonstrated and talked through the processes of shaping the bottom and sides of the base, making a mortise to

reverse the piece in the chuck, shaping the top of the base and drilling a hole for the spindle into the reshaped tenon.

Donna Richardson then demonstrated the process of forming the mushroom or dome shape of the top piece of the wig stand. She showed that the hole for the spindle is drilled into the mortise area of the top before turning the piece around and mounting it into the mortise. She then demonstrated how she shaped the dome to include part of the tenon.

Susan Murphy focused on the spindle and how important it is to shape the tenons accurately and carefully at each end so the spindle rests securely into the holes in the base and the top. She talked about leaving enough room for the Tite Bond glue to have a place to move into a valley near the tenon. She said the fun of making beads and coves then begins as you shape the spindle.

After a wig stand is made, the woodturner has to decide if it will be embellished or left as only beautiful wood. Heidi DeFazio described different ways the WIT ladies had finished their wig stands as she showed the stands that had been displayed on a separate table during the meeting.

Susan Kissel concluded the demo by talking about a friend with Alopecia to whom she'd given a wig stand. She challenged the club to join the group in making wig stands and to bring them to the April general meeting. A picture will be taken of everyone who participated with the completed wig stands before the WIT group delivers them in late April or early May.

Chuck gave his endorsement to this project before calling for a short break. The demo was recorded and the link will be sent to members when it has been posted.

After the break, show and tell time captured the interest of the members. Some projects were shown that didn't turn out as expected. Bowls, platters, and lidded containers with various finishes and embellishments were shown and explained as well as some unusual and clever pieces. It's a time to learn from others' woodturning experiences.

Chuck had a prize wheel on the screen, through the computer, that was spun to give away a gift certificate to someone who attended the whole meeting. He said that there will be a similar drawing each month.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Allen, Secretary