

PAW General Meeting March 22, 2025

42 Prescott Area Woodturners met in person at 2708 Corsair in the Prescott Airpark on Saturday March 22, 2025. 2 members joined via Zoom, and there was 1 guest. President Chuck Brown called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

Membership Director Dave Henderson said that we now have 108 members.

Treasurer Dennis Egan was not present, but Chuck Brown said that we do have money. Chuck thanked Marge and Wayne Hunt for hosting the Board meeting this month and for taking notes at today's meeting, since Kathy and Ken Allen were out of town.

Early in the meeting, there were problems with the sound system. Chuck said that the Board is researching an upgrade to our sound system.

Dean Humphrey talked about the Prescott Farmers Market, scheduled on Saturday April 5. Help is needed on Friday evening, to load items from the shed, then on Saturday morning to set up, throughout the morning to demo, then at 1:00 to reload the items and take them to the shed. He emphasized that it is only half a day, and is fun! Dean also mentioned that he had information about the summer session at Yavapai College.

Chuck Brown listed the various ways that PAW makes generous donations, then reminded us that the local Kiwanis Club will have their annual Auction from March 27 to April 2. PAW has participated in this event for years. Members were urged to take donations to the Armory any afternoon this week, or bring them to a Board member.

Chuck said that we have a good start in bowls donated toward the Empty Bowls Event in September. Chuck asked for suggestions as to the goal set for this year. The number 125 was agreed upon. Dean Humphrey said that if PAW donates 100 bowls, his woodturning students would donate 25.

Susan Murphy reported that the Women in Turning (WIT) recently met at her house. In April Heidi DeFazio will demo segmenting for the group.

Brown announced that we would have a special guest at our April meeting. Kate Hanni, Manager of Philanthropies and Major Gifts for YRMC Foundation, will accept the wig stands made by WIT and members of PAW.

Marge Hunt reported that the Woodettes had lunched at the new restaurant The Fat Frog. 13 of us enjoyed the food. Not so much the noise level.

Chuck Brown then introduced member Heidi DeFazio by sharing that Heidi was drawn to working with wood because the smell of freshly cut wood brought back memories of her

grandfather. Chuck reminded us of the class on ornaments that Heidi previously taught at Yavapai College.

When Heidi took the stage, she said that she would be demonstrating a Traditional Fine Finial. She displayed examples of ornaments using finials, and explained that she used a ratio of one-third to two-thirds, also called the golden mean or divine proportion, when creating a finial. The piece would be 1/3 of the object and the finial 2/3. The finial itself would have the same pleasing proportion. She also created a large finial as an example for today's demo.

Heidi likes to use color differences when adding finials: a light finial on a dark piece, or a dark finial on a light piece. She suggested using hard woods with a tight grain.

We were instructed to find the center of the blank before affixing the blank to the lathe. After deciding the length of the finished finial, Heidi marked the blank into thirds.

Using a spindle gauge, Heidi began turning the top of the finial in an "onion" shape, and explained that she would use the same shape on the bottom. She suggested sanding the finial as you go along. Since most finials are very small and delicate, Heidi often uses parts of a Trader Joe's grocery bag as sandpaper.

When she had finished the top of the finial, she worked on the bottom third, finally parting it off the lathe. If you want to color your finial, you would do that while it is still on the lathe.

When asked if her ornaments were hollow, she said that hollowing was a question of weight, done only if the finished ornament would be too heavy to hang on a tree branch. Her conclusion was followed by appreciative applause.

President Chuck Brown brought up a few more announcements.

- On Saturday March 29 Larry Dorrell, 7925 N. Fair Oaks in Prescott, will give away his remaining stash of wood.
- Ginnie O'Brien would like any RESIN shavings made by a Forstner bit
- Remember Chips & Grits on April 10. It will feature highlights of the recent Oregon Symposium
- The April General Meeting will feature a demo on hollowing

Safety Coordinator Dan Hall discussed Bench Grinders. He stressed the importance of safety glasses and/or a face shield. It is important to check the stone for cracks and to use a jig when grinding small pieces.

Show & Tell is always inspiring.

The meeting closed with the spinning of the Wheel of Fortune, that awards prizes to members in attendance.

The meeting adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Marge Hunt, Acting Secretary