



# THE TURNING TIMES

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The Turning Times is published monthly as an information source for members of the East Texas Woodturners (ETW). ETW is a chapter of The American Association of Woodturners (AAW) and is committed to serving woodturners in the East Texas area surrounding Tyler, Texas. The ETW Chapter joins with the AAW in its dedication to providing education, information and organization to those interested in woodturning.

Visit us at [www.easttexaswoodturners.org](http://www.easttexaswoodturners.org)

**Meeting at First Christian Church** **January 13, 2024**



Prez says:

Greetings and happy new year fellow woodturners. As we start out the new year, we will be doing so from a new location at First Christian Church in Tyler. The church is located at 4202 S. Broadway (the corner of loop 323 and Broadway). We will be in the Christian Life Center, conference room. We have locked in this location and our meeting dates for the entire year, which means the same room, the same times, and always the 2nd Saturday of the month. Also, the lathe and the video equipment will be stored on site in a locked room. I for one am truly looking forward to our new start in our new location.

Our first demo of the year will be a demonstration on piercing a thin-walled bowl. Our demonstrator will be Stacy Irish-Nehl. Looking forward to seeing this.

Yearly dues are due this month. They are still \$36 dollars and can be paid by check made out to East Texas Woodturners or cash. Also please fill out a new membership form so we can update our member files.

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I hope to see all your smiling faces on the 13th and don't forget your show and tell items or Beads of Courage boxes.

David Chrisp

## CLASSIFIEDS

Classified Ad Policy: Classified ads run for 3-months unless the editor is notified they are no longer needed. At the end of the 3-month period, the ad will be dropped from the newsletter unless specifically renewed prior to the period expiration.

ANNOUNCING!! A new website for one of our members. Please check it out at: [drdonswoodturning.com](http://drdonswoodturning.com) .

Thanks, Don Cutler

**For Sale:** 5 HP, 60 gallon, twin piston air compressor. This is a beast of a compressor! 220V, 30 amp circuit required (21 A running current). It is on wheels and can be moved easily, but it is very heavy to lift. \$800

**Ken Wurtzel 267-884-9326** Bullard, TX

**For Sale:** 7200 watt Diesel generator, it comes with the tools that came with it and a 100' 12 ga. extension cord with 20amp locking plug. Needs new battery. Paid over \$900 for it, asking \$300.00

**Daren Carnes** [d2carnes@gmail.com](mailto:d2carnes@gmail.com)  
903.360.7475



### Personalized Turning Classes

Paul Coppinger - Mineola - 903-638-6008

[paulcop68@thecoppingers.net](mailto:paulcop68@thecoppingers.net)

**LESSONS:** Woodturning classes my shop. Please call afternoons for more info 903-216- 5564.

[cbrooks@suddenlink.net](mailto:cbrooks@suddenlink.net)

**Charles Brooks (Whitehouse, Texas)**

## ANCHOR SEAL FOR SALE

The Club has Anchor Seal end grain sealer for sale at most Club meetings. It is available at \$15.00 per gallon. To obtain it, pay our treasurer, **Walter Tate**, and then see **Dennis Lorenz**. If you need some between meetings, contact Dennis at 903-565-0651 or [dlorenz67@gmail.com](mailto:dlorenz67@gmail.com)

## East Texas Woodturners Fact-Sheet

We meet once a month (usually on the second Saturday) at 9:00 AM at Tyler Junior College West, room 104. At our monthly meetings, there is a show and tell table, an open library (hundreds of DVDs and books), a raffle for tools and/or gift certificates, and a demonstration. Oh, yeah – there is always lots of discussion and opinions – don't be afraid to ask!

Please visit our web page at <http://www.easttexaswoodturners.org/> - also, find us on Facebook – look for East Texas Woodturners. Take a look at the “Mentor Program” on our web page to see contact information on mentors that will help you with turning situations. There is also information on ETW's vast library resources (see “Library”). And for dues information, click on “Membership Form”.

Also once a month (usually one week after our normal meeting), a lot of us gather at Paul Coppinger's shop in Mineola for MOST (Mineola Open Shop Turning). This is a come-and-go “hands-on” event, where you can turn on one of seven mini lathes, ask questions, or just watch. See “MOST Day” on the web page.

ETW participates in the “Beads of Courage” program – this is a national program where kids undergoing various medical procedures (usually cancer) are awarded beads for these procedures and need a container for their beads. See <http://www.beadsofcourage.org/> for additional information.

SWAT (Southwest Association of Turners) has an annual symposium in August – it is a 2-1/2 day event usually held in Waco at the convention center. The 2022 meeting had over 800 attendees, 32 vendors, a variety of demonstrations, and a gallery of beautiful turnings. ETW is responsible for the Art Gallery See <http://www.swaturners.org/> for more details and cost information.

Member discounts are available from several vendors – please ask the vendor if a discount is available. Please remember that most discount lists are usually updated only once a year, after the dues are collected in the Spring.

Have questions? See the Newsletter for club officer contact information.

## Mentor List

|                |              |                 |  |
|----------------|--------------|-----------------|--|
| Charles Brooks | 903-216-5564 | Whitehouse      | <a href="mailto:cbrooks@suddenlink.net">cbrooks@suddenlink.net</a>           |
| Paul Coppinger | 903-638-6008 | Mineola         | <a href="mailto:paulcop68@thecoppingers.net">paulcop68@thecoppingers.net</a> |
| Ed Heuslein    | 903-834-3838 | Kilgore/Overton | <a href="mailto:heuslein@gmail.com">heuslein@gmail.com</a>                   |
| John Wood      | 936-875-6100 | Lufkin          | <a href="mailto:twowood6@yahoo.com">twowood6@yahoo.com</a>                   |
| Ken Wurtzel    | 267-884-9326 | Bullard         | <a href="mailto:kenwmo@gmail.com">kenwmo@gmail.com</a>                       |

## East Texas Woodturner's Supporters

The following businesses have graciously provided support for the activities of the East Texas Woodturner's club. Please show your gratitude by giving them your business when possible.

### Craft Supplies USA

1287 E. 1120 S., Provo, UT 84606  
1-800-551-8876  
FAX: 801-377-7742

<http://www.woodturnerscatalog.com/>

### Hartville Tool

13163 Market Ave N Hartville, OH 44632  
800-345-2396

<http://www.hartvilletool.com/>

### Johnson Wood Products

34897 Crystal Rd., Strawberry Point, IA 52076  
563-933-6504 CST

<http://www.johnsonwoodproducts.com/>

### Klingspor's Woodworking Shop

3 Locations in North Carolina  
1-800-228-0000 EST

<http://www.woodworkingshop.com/>

### Packard Woodworks

P.O. Box 718, Tryon, NC 28782  
1-800-683-8876  
FAX: 828-859-5551

<http://www.packardwoodworks.com/index.html>

### Rockler

584 W Interstate 30  
Garland, TX 75043  
(469) 329-0971

<http://www.rockler.com/retail/stores/tx/garland-store>

### Thompson Lathe Tools

5479 Columbia Road North Olmsted, OH 44070  
440-241-6360 CST

<http://www.thompsonlathetools.com/>

### Woodcraft

Suite 145 601 W. Plano Parkway Plano, TX 75075  
(972) 422-2732

<http://www.woodcraft.com/stores/store.aspx?id=317>

### Woodline.com

111 Wheeler St., LaVergne, TN 37086  
615-793-0474 CST

<http://www.woodline.com/>

### Wood World

13650 TI Blvd. #101, Dallas, TX 75243  
972-669-9130 CST

<http://woodworldtx.com/>

### East Texas Hardwoods

Pittsburg Texas  
Joe Hallonquist  
Cell- 936-577-4306

### Carter & Son Toolworks

Woodturning Tools 206-878-7672

<http://www.carterandsontoolworks.com/>

(see Dennis Lorenz or Paul Coppinger for discount code)

From Mike Connolly:

Be sure to bring your wig stand to the meeting on Saturday.



### Wood Turning Fundamentals – opinions of Dennis Ford

**Turning wood on a lathe is as safe (and as dangerous) as you make it. Some things you can do to be safe:**

- Be familiar with the machine **BEFORE** turning it on and turn it on empty (no wood or chuck) the first time.
- Do NOT turn while **upset, tired or medicated**.
- Know what speed it is set for **before turning it on**.
- Verify headstock, tailstock, banjo and tool rest are secure before starting **EACH TIME**.
- Keep tool rest close to work.
- Turn at an appropriate speed (see below)
- Use a face-shield to keep chips and dust out of your eyes, do NOT think of a face-shield as complete protection from flying bowl blanks.
- Stand out of the “**Line of Fire**” as much as possible.

### Deciding how fast to run the lathe:

• Knowing what an appropriate speed is can be a challenge. If you have electronic speed control, start off extra slow and gradually increase speed up to vibration or your comfort level, whichever comes first. The same idea works with belt changes although most will not go to the trouble. Another option is to divide 6000 by the workpiece diameter (in inches). Example – 10” diameter piece –  $6000 / 10 = 600$  rpm. This is just a starting number, not a limit. For a workpiece that is severely out of balance, you might have to go as slow as  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the formula above. For a round and balanced workpiece, you may end up with twice the formula above.

### Mounting wood on the lathe:

- Between centers - Be sure that the centers are in solid wood, not bark or punky sapwood. Tighten tail-stock securely before starting and **re-tighten frequently** as you turn.
- On a face-plate - Face-plate mounting is generally the most secure of all options. There are lots of disagreements about what type and length of screws to use. Remember that there are two ways for this mounting to fail, screws breaking and screws pulling out of the wood. A strong screw that pulls out is no better than a weak screw that pulls out. Long screws resist pull-out better than short screws the same size. Large face-plates put less force on the screws than small face-plates.

- Chucked with a tenon – The tenon shape **MUST** match the chuck jaws, have a clean shoulder **AND** be short enough that it does **NOT** bottom out inside the jaws. This is stronger than a recess **when turning end-grain**.
- Chucked with a recess – The recess shape **MUST** match the chuck jaws, have a clean shoulder **AND** have enough wood around the recess to prevent splitting the wood. This is stronger than a tenon when turning side grain **IF** there is plenty of wood around the recess.
- Jamb chucked with tail-stock pressure – Good for light cuts near the tail-stock end only.
- Double-faced tape – OK for light cuts **IF** the piece is small and the tape has a relatively large surface. If you have no fear of this method, you should not be using a lathe.
- Hot glue – OK for special circumstances, if you have no fear of this method, you should not be using a lathe.
- Vacuum chuck - ranges from very weak to strong depending on surface area, vacuum strength and wood porosity

### Deciding if the wood is sound enough to turn:

- Sometimes, you will not know for sure until you are finished, and it is intact, or it comes apart before you are finished. If there is **ANY** doubt, stop often and examine the workpiece for defects that may have been exposed by cutting. If there is more than the slightest doubt, **why** are you turning this wood?
- If the piece has ring-shake defects, **DON'T** turn it.
- If the piece has cracks perpendicular to the lathe axis, be **VERY** concerned.
- The two biggest hazards are pieces that the mounting surface fails and the whole thing flies off the lathe and pieces that break apart while spinning and part of the work flies off the lathe.

### Turning wood with minimal cracks:

- For small projects and segmented work, use kiln dried wood.
- For larger size items, kiln dried wood is **NOT** available, you will need to start with fresh (green) wood. Understanding how wood distorts as it dries will be very helpful. You have two options:

1. Turn the piece to finished thickness. It **WILL warp**, how much it warps will depend on the species, the thickness and whether the pith or any knots are included. Those same things (species, thickness, pith, knots) will also influence whether it cracks or not. If you avoid using the pith, knots **AND** turn to a consistent thickness, most pieces can be dried without cracks. If it is very thin, drying is fast and easy. For thicker pieces, you need to control the drying process. Wrapping the piece in brown paper and drying in a non-heated space is an easy way. Note that “thin” and “thick” are not defined, it depends on size and species. Just for example, I would consider a 10” diameter bowl to be “thin” if it is ¼” wall and “thick” if it is more than ½” wall. Neither of these are wall thickness are “Bad”, but they do affect drying. Final sanding and finishing will have to wait until it is dry.

2. Rough turn the piece to a thickness that is 10% of the diameter and control the drying process so that it does not dry too fast. My method is to coat the piece with Anchor-Seal and dry it outside under a roof. Once the rough-out is dry, mount it on the lathe and turn it to final shape and thickness.

- With either of the above methods, there is a learning curve. If a piece cracks, try to determine if the crack is a result of issues in the wood (pith, knots, etc), drying too fast or it was too thick.
- When a rough turning warps so much that it can not be turned round, it was too thin.
- Drying large pieces whole is **NOT** an option although it might work occasionally. Note that “large” is relative, for some species, 2” thick is “large” and for more stable species, 4” thick is approaching “large”.
- Storing large blanks for long time periods is frustrating, most will crack or rot eventually. Coating them with Anchor-Seal and storing them out of the sun and rain will delay the inevitable.