

January 2018



THE MID SOUTH WOODTURNERS GUILD





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Skip Wilbur was presented with an Honorary Lifetime Membership to the Mid South Woodturners Guild at the December 2017 Christmas party. Skip is a past club president and is a tireless supporter of our club. Certainly a well deserved award.

President's Corner

By:
Mike Maffitt



Hello and welcome to the New Year. Happy 2018 to all. I am pleased to have accepted the position of President for the Mid South Woodturner's Guild for the 2018 year and I look forward to a wonderful year of great meetings and friendships. I am thankful for the 3 years of leadership that Dennis Paullus and his board have given and the time they have sacrificed to make this club run smoothly. Each has done a wonderful job and I would hope you would join me in thanking them for a job well done. Dennis leaves this club in a strong financial position and we look forward to a great future.

We have, so far, an amazing line up of talent coming to delight and enlighten you in the coming months at the MSWG meetings. This January we have our own Dennis Paullus demonstrating some wonderful lidded boxes, in February we have Nashville's own Pete Wiens who will be demonstrating a beaded bowl. We have a gentleman from Kansas City we are talking to for May named Anthony Harris who turns smoking pipes and gives a very interesting demo. In July we will be venturing back into the new technology of streaming video with Mike Mahoney, who is a

fabulous turner and teacher. In September I will be demonstrating a 3 piece set of 4 sided weed pots and giving my insight on how to turn and develop these pieces. We are talking to Michael Hosaluk about demoing for us sometime in 2019 but that is in the works and nothing is solid yet. We are looking to fill in the gaps soon and give you an updated schedule as soon as we can so keep your eyes open.

We still have our charities that we support, The Beads Of Courage boxes, The Empty Bowls project and the Pens for Troops that we have been doing for several years now. If you are interested in participating in any of these and don't know how to move forward please see one of our board members and they will help you. If you missed the December Christmas Party and didn't see my December wrap up email, I would like to introduce our 2018 board of directors to you.



President's Corner cont.

President - Mike Maffitt
Vice President - Larry Cutliff
Secretary - Bob Wolfe
Treasurer - Matt Garner
Member at Large - Larry Sefton
Member at Large - Sam Dawson
Member at Large - Jay Lehman

Our library is being kept by a very talented and dedicated person in Richard Hiller and we thank him for his service.

Our club is run completely by volunteers and every facet needs talented people like you to help us run efficiently. Every meeting we have Refreshments, Audio Visual, Instant Gallery

Photos, Lathe and Table set up, Raffle and Clean Up. There are Membership Badges to print and laminate and Rosters to update, there is the Library to stock and track, and there is Equipment to maintain. We have Events to be planned, Demonstrators to be contacted, our Assets Inventoried and our Finances maintained. We have Newsletters to be assembled and Columns written, Websites to be updated and Artwork produced. Ever since I've been a member of the Mid South Woodturners, I've sought to be involved in making this club better, and I think together we can make this club amazing. Let's all get involved and have a wonderful 2018.

VIDEO SOURCE: FLICK OF THE WEEK

In this video, John Lucas demonstrates ways tools can be used to shear scrape turnings for a cleaner finish.

[Shear Scraping featuring John Lucas \(TRT 8:44\)](#)



Meet our new President

By: Mike Maffitt

I have lived in and around the Memphis, TN area for the past 47 years and now reside in Olive Branch, MS which lies just to the south of the Memphis area with my wife Terry. I have been an active member of the Mid South Woodturners Guild, a chapter of the American Association of Woodturners, since 2005. I have previously served a four year term as a board member and joined the board again in 2017. This December I was elected to be the club president by the board of directors. I also edited the club's newsletter for 5 years and won two AAW awards for best newsletter in the organization in 2011 and 2014. I also have managed the club's website for the past 8 years and have won an AAW award for the best website in 2014 and a runner up award for the 2nd best website in the organization in 2011. In 2015 I was awarded an Honorary Lifetime Membership to our club.

I attended high school in the South East Memphis, TN area at Wooddale High School and attended Memphis State and State Technical Institute, both in Memphis. I worked in the construction field and the oil field before settling on a career in 1996 that would evolve into the computerized graphic art career that I enjoyed for decades. I grew up around computers in the late 1960s and early '70s and have been comfortable working with them for over 40 years.

My hobbies are acoustic guitar, (I have played in my church's band since 1996), computer graphics, photography, woodworking and woodturning.

My father was involved in woodworking my entire life and always had a shop where we were welcome to tinker. In his later life he began working on the lathe and turning out projects and attending all of the craft fairs, selling his wares, until his passing in 2002.

When my father died I looked at all of the kits and materials he had left and began working with the woods and finishes. I joined a local turning club and began attending regional and national symposiums and learned how to properly use the tools. I've really enjoyed the process and the ability to take large and small pieces of wood and create extremely beautiful pieces of art and functional items for the home. The colors, textures, variety and physical beauty and warmth of wood is what draws me into working with this medium. What you can create is limited only by your imagination.

I can be contacted at
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Wood Dust and the Woodturner

John English



The most complete protection is offered by full-face visor/mask/shroud systems such as Triton's powered ventilator, which was specifically designed for woodworkers.

At the U.S. Department of Labor, somebody has a cheerful way with words. According to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), "wood dust becomes a potential health problem when wood particles from processes such as sanding and cutting become airborne. Breathing these particles may cause allergic respiratory symptoms, mucosal and non-allergic respiratory symptoms, and cancer."

Of course there's a lot of truth in what OSHA is saying. And while the government is primarily concerned with people who create dust as a byproduct of their jobs, every woodturner is exposed to some level of risk. Even among turners, those risks vary. As humans grow older, we are less able to combat the effects of environmental hazards. For example, our lung capacity decreases as the elasticity of our lungs declines. And it's not just our lungs we should



be concerned about. According to OSHA, "exposure to excessive amounts [of wood dust] is considered to have an irritant effect on eyes, nose, and throat, in addition to pulmonary function impairment, and is considered a human carcinogen."

We should make responsible decisions, so let's get informed.

The nature of dust

Anybody who has perused *The Art of War* is familiar with the phrase "know your enemy." Writing in the sixth century, Sun Tzu, a Chinese military strategist, held a philosophy that is still widely taught; it is as applicable in a basement workshop as it is in a combat zone. The smart way to fight, according to Tzu, is to learn as much as possible about the enemy in order to create an advantage for yourself. So, let's do that by beginning with a discussion of the type of waste product that woodturners generate.

Turners create three distinct types of wood waste, and two of these are essentially innocuous. Large chips and gross dust particles are extremely difficult to inhale. While they may be hazardous as projectiles flying through the air, their collection and control is more a matter

Whether the dust collector has a fabric or a canister filter on top, it can usually be equipped with a clear plastic disposable collection bag below; this offers the distinct advantage of allowing the woodturner to see at a glance when the bag is getting full.

of workplace tidiness than a health issue. Fine dust particles, on the other hand, can be dangerous, and this is the enemy that we need to learn about.

There are two aspects to fine dust that determine risk. First is the size of the particles, and second is the concentration of them in the air. Sawdust is generally in the area of less than 1 micron to 600 microns in size. A micron (μm) is one-millionth of a meter ($1/25,400$ of an inch) in diameter. To put that in perspective, particles smaller than 40 microns cannot be seen with the naked eye. Our lungs deal well with foreign bodies that are more than 7 microns in size. So, when a ray of sunlight reveals floating dust in the shop's air, we're only seeing particles that are five or six times larger than the ones that can hurt us. Those invisible enemies are so small that our natural respiratory filters can't catch them.

But size isn't everything. The number and concentration of particles in the air is the real key. Jobsite exposure to wood dust causes significant increases in respiratory problems at exposure levels as low as $2 \text{ mg}/\text{m}^3$ (just 2 milligrams per cubic meter). The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) recommends exposure limits that are half that: $1 \text{ mg}/\text{m}^3$. So, here's a sobering thought: Sanding a bowl with fine grit paper produces a concentration

Many smaller dust collectors now offer canister filters rather than fabric ones. The filters replace the top fabric bag and any buildup of powdered dust can be removed by simply turning a lever (on top), instead of trying to beat the dust from the inside of a bag.



several hundred times the NIOSH level in the immediate vicinity of the work.

It is not just the cellulose debris that needs to be addressed. Adverse health effects also come from biological organisms such as mold and fungi that grow on or in the turning blank. Scraping and sanding wood while it is on the lathe will release these particles, and will also free the residue from adhesives used in segmented or repaired work. Furthermore, concentrations of wood dust may create a mixture with air that can explode and will also burn readily if ignited by a spark or flame.

The government has come up with a lovely acronym for this weighty topic: LEV (local exhaust ventilation). LEV describes the three main dust solutions available to turners: powered masks and helmets, ambient filters (those large, ceiling-hung boxes that scrub the shop's air), and dust collectors/shop vacuums equipped with filters to handle fine particles. The latter is the most effective and perhaps the least understood of the three, so let's begin there.

Dust collectors and shop vacuums

Dust collectors are all about volume, while shop vacuums are into speed. Dust collectors pull large amounts of air through their

Oneida has created an aftermarket add-on cyclone that can be attached to a single-stage dust collector, in effect transforming it into a two-stage unit that separates the dust from the chips. A two-stage filter keeps filters cleaner and more efficient, and is easier on impeller fan blades.



filters, while shop vacuums have more suction but move far fewer cubic feet per minute (cfm). Power in both types of machine is measured in terms of static pressure, which is the ability to pull up water in a controlled test. A dust collector can raise a column of water about a foot up a tube, while a shop vacuum can pull the same column perhaps five times as high.

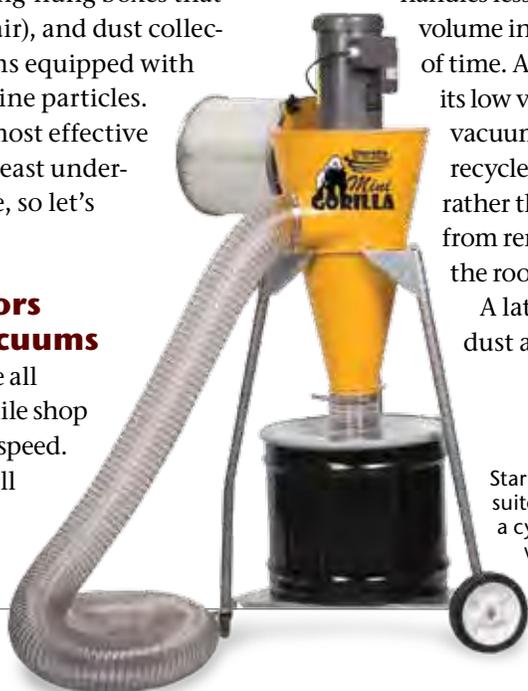
However, the average woodshop dust collector has a 4" or 6" (10cm or 15cm) inlet and it will move between 650 and 2,000 cfm, while a shop vacuum hose is only 2½" (64mm) in diameter and can pull less than 200 cfm (and about a quarter of that with a smaller, 1¼" [32mm]-diameter hose). A typical one-car garage workshop contains about 2,000 cubic feet of air. A larger dust collector can filter that much air about once a minute, while an average shop vacuum handles less than 1/10 of that volume in the same amount of time. And because of its low volume, the shop vacuum will primarily recycle air close to it, rather than scrubbing air from remote corners of the room.

A lathe generates dust about halfway

between the floor and the ceiling in most shops, so the contaminants are well distributed through the workshop and especially around our mouths and noses. During turning, sandpaper is static while the work revolves, and that motion tends to spread the dust around. Because of its small hose and ▶



Collectors equipped with two pairs of bags are designed to share a single, larger motor. The airflow is split, allowing twice the room for waste in the lower bags and twice the amount of fabric filter in the upper ones.



Starting at just 1 HP, the Mini-Gorilla dust collector from Oneida is ideally suited to space-challenged shops, where a turner needs high efficiency, a cyclone separator, and 600 cfm of airflow to collect the fine and coarse waste from a single lathe.



Combining the benefits of cyclone separation with an exterior two-stage filter and a large debris bucket, the 2 HP Super Gorilla from Oneida is a unit well suited to turners who take on larger bowl projects, and therefore need more than one dust port.



Oneida Air System's portable collector is designed for woodworkers and turners who don't have a central dust collection system with lots of ductwork already in place. The cyclones create a vortex that uses centrifugal force to separate dust from chips.

lack of volume, a shop vacuum is fairly ineffective at collecting fine particles around a lathe, no matter what kind of dust port is used on the end of the hose. It'll get the big bits, but the harmful ones can enter our lungs.

On the other hand, dust collectors usually force the air back into the room through a large fabric bag rather than through a small cylindrical filter. The weave on the bag determines what size particles are returned to the room. Bags are available aftermarket for most collectors, and many handle dust down to one micron or less. There is a point of diminishing returns, where the filter openings are so small that they restrict the airflow to the point that the dust collector loses much of its volume. For most machines, that watershed is in the neighborhood of one to two microns, while some manufacturers recommend staying above four microns, just to maintain airflow. Some of the high-end shop vacuums now come with cartridge filters that will scrub the air down to a very respectable level. These high efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filters are required to remove at least 99.97% of airborne particles 0.3 microns in diameter. However, they simply can't handle high volume, and that's what turners need to address their dust.

Storage is important, too. A shop vacuum's waste tank is generally in the 5 to 10 (20 to 40L) gallon range, while a dust collector bag doesn't need to be emptied until it has accumulated several times that. Many are even set up for 30- or 55 (110- or 210L)-gallon drums. That encourages people to use the machines. Nobody wants to stop working every few minutes just to empty a dust bag.

There's one more health concern with shop vacuums: most models are very noisy. However, there are mufflers made for most shop vacuums, including a fairly universal one from Sears.

The bottom line is that dust collectors serve turners better than shop vacuums, primarily because of the

sheer volume of waste that we generate and the number of air exchanges we require to protect ourselves.

Selecting a dust collector

The critical numbers to look for in a dust collector are volume and static pressure. Volume is described in cubic feet per minute (cfm). While the horsepower rating gives some indication of a unit's abilities, different manufacturers measure horsepower in different ways and that often leaves the woodturner comparing apples to oranges. But the volume of air that a fan can move is a fairly reliable number.

If the lathe is the only tool hooked up to a dust collector, or all the other machines can be isolated with blast gates so that only the lathe is being served, a collector with volume in the 600 to 1200 cfm range is quite adequate for most work, if it isn't located too far away. Turners with large bowl lathes who are turning vessels that exceed 16" (41cm) or so in diameter will need more volume.

The second half of the equation, static pressure (SP), can be confusing. For example, Grizzly offers an excellent two-horsepower cyclone dust collector (model G0440) that pulls



The Dust Deputy from Oneida turns an ordinary shop vacuum into a two-stage unit, where the larger particles are sent to the bucket and the fines are trapped and collected in the unit's standard bin.



Filtering up to 1,400 cfm, the G9956 from Grizzly can scrub all the air in a two-stall garage shop in an impressively scant three minutes, providing twenty changes an hour. It runs on a 1/3 HP, 110-Volt motor with remote and three speeds.



Weighing just 18 lb (8kg), this freestanding version of a ceiling-mounted whole-shop filter is offered by Shop Fox. It filters down to an impressive 0.3 microns, and because it is unattached, it can be placed close to the lathe, especially during sanding tasks.

Ceiling-hung shop air filters such as Grizzly's G0572 usually have a remote control for the three-speed motor, an automatic timer, and two filters (in this case a 5- and 1-micron). The 1/5 HP motor runs on standard 110 Volts.

1,354 cfm at 2.5" (6cm) SP. That is, it moves 1,354 cubic feet of air per minute at 2.5" (6cm) of static pressure (the amount of suction required to raise a column of water that high). However, the specs on this machine also note that the maximum SP is 10.4" (26cm). In other words, the machine will not move air at a higher suction level. The key here is that, as the static pressure rises, the volume of air falls. So, when comparing two dust collectors, one needs to compare their volumes (cfm) at the same SP. If a salesperson is touting an impressively high volume of airflow, the odds are that he or she is not mentioning a very low suction rating.

Beware of a SP number that is quoted without cfm. If a machine is rated at, say 16" (41cm) SP, it's a safe bet that this is the maximum SP it can generate, and at that pressure there is absolutely no airflow. The bottom line is that a good two-horsepower dust collector should be able to draw about 1,500 cfm at 12" to 14" (30cm to 36cm) maximum SP; a three-horsepower unit should handle 2,000 cfm; and a four-horsepower machine should be in the 3,500 cfm range.

Aside from airflow, some other design aspects are worth noting. Two-bag collectors have a filter bag on top and a collection bag on the bottom. Four-bag units simply double the filter and collection areas. Clear poly bottom bags (as opposed to canvas ones) really help, as they make

it immediately obvious when the collector needs to be emptied.

Machines with canister filters have a pleated filter instead of a fabric bag, and the big advantage here is that, when dust cakes on the inside, it's just a matter of moving a handle to knock it loose and regain full airflow. The canister filter is usually made of polyester, and many filter down to less than 1 micron. The pleats allow for a larger filtering surface in a smaller physical area.

A cyclone dust collector has a large funnel-shaped plenum that forces the incoming air to swirl in a circle, so that large and small particles are separated by centrifugal force. In general, there is a canister for large chunks and a bag for fine particles. For turners, there isn't a whole lot of advantage, considering the extra expense, as we generally don't create large waste on the lathe. A more budget-sensitive solution is to create a two-stage collector by adding a garbage can and a special lid to a single-stage unit (the lids are available at nosawdust.com/cyclone_lid.htm).

Ambient filters

These are also known as air scrubbers or whole-shop filters. They most often take the form of rectangular, ceiling-hung metal boxes with a fairly powerful fan that is located behind one, two, or even three stacked filters. The salient factors

Several manufacturers now offer custom and aftermarket high efficiency filters for shop vacuums and most of them are capable of trapping more than 99% of the small particles that cause pulmonary problems.

to consider when choosing one of these air filtration systems are the same as those used to decide on a dust collector: how much air does it move, and how efficient are the filters? The higher the volume (cfm) on the outfeed side of the unit, the quicker it will scrub the air in your shop. Try to find a unit that will recycle the cubic feet in your space (length × width × height in feet) at least every ten minutes.

Most of the newer units come with a remote control, which is handy for people who are less than 7' (213cm) tall. They usually have three speeds (in the neighborhood of 400, 600, and 800 cfm), and will cycle the air in a ▶

A freestanding dust port that has its own independent, adjustable stand and a wide funnel-shaped mouth is ideal for collecting dust on the lathe. These units can be placed so close that they almost touch the work, and angled upward a little to catch falling chips.





The 11121 Lathe Dust Hood from Big Horn Corporation has a hinged, clear viewing shield that swings completely out of the way. It comes with universal mounting brackets for a custom fit on many different brands of lathes, and it works with a 4" (10cm) hose.

two-car garage between five and ten times an hour. There are generally two filters, a coarse one that collects dust in the 5-micron plus range, and a fine one that works all the way down to 1 micron or less. Better models come with timer settings (they can be run for several hours and then they shut down automatically), and the motors are almost always 110 V that generates less than 1 HP, so they can be plugged into a standard ceiling or wall outlet. (Make sure the ceiling outlet isn't designed for lighting, and is controlled by a switch.)

Depending on the thickness of the sheet metal housing and the size of the motor, ambient ceiling-hung filtration systems weigh between 40 lb and 80 lb (18kg and 36kg), so they need to be anchored soundly to the underside of floor joists or trusses.

For some very impressive guidelines on building an inexpensive, shopmade

Lightweight face and lung protection is provided by three sizes of battery-powered ventilators offered by the 3M Company, the 6700, 6800 and 6900PF masks.

ambient filter and downdraft sanding table combo, visit woodworkersworkshop.com/plansshare/air_filter_downdraft_sanding_table.htm.

Pressurized dust masks

In addition to running a collector, a great many turners now wear a pressurized mask system (also called a powered respirator) while sanding or doing other tasks that produce dust or vapors. These units can seem a bit pricy, but they work very well. There are two types: a small breathing mask that pumps air out faster than the operator can breathe it in, and a full-face unit that incorporates a Plexiglas face screen, and sometimes a helmet, too. The latter provides face protection from impacts, and allows the user to wear eyeglasses without fogging. Beards can be a problem with conventional dust masks, but they're not an issue with most powered respirators.

Perhaps the most popular respirator is one made by the Australian company, Triton. This is more of a system than just a mask: it has a helmet designed to guard the head from impact, a faceshield to save eyes from flying debris, and a shroud and filter to protect lungs from fine dust. The shroud is a soft plastic fabric that rests on the shoulders, sealing the bottom of the system.

The key component in Triton's respirator is an air filter that sucks in air through a belt-mounted, battery-operated filter that hangs on the user's waist. The batteries are rechargeable. The filter usually

contains two or three separate filters that meet US N95 NIOSH standards (P2 in Australia). They eliminate up to 99% of the dust particles that are under one micron in diameter, and 95% of particles down to 1/3 of a micron in size. At around \$210, Triton's system delivers 4.23 cfm without any accessories. For more information, visit tritontools.com.

Smaller versions of the powered respirator are available. One of the more popular ones is made by the U.S.-based 3M Company (3M.com). The company refers to its model 6800PF mask as a Powered Air Purifying Respirator. It uses a single filter and delivers four cfm of clean air. The system includes a faceshield, motor blower unit, belt, battery pack, flow meter, and high efficiency filter. A small version (6700PF) and a large one (6900PF) are available. Typical prices run about \$400.

Wearing a powered respirator feels a bit strange at first, but it doesn't take long to get used to it. Most are quite lightweight and ergonomic. There's a small rush of claustrophobia the first time it's worn, but once the air starts moving and the face shield stays clear of fog, it actually feels reassuring. One wouldn't wear it to the grocery store, but in the private confines of a workshop, this strange garb is literally a lifesaver and can extend the joyful years of turning. It can help avert the onset of numerous pulmonary problems, and can also help make turning possible for folks with asthma, mild emphysema, various allergies, and susceptibility to dust-related illnesses.

Dust masks: A word of caution

One of the great misconceptions of dust control is that inexpensive white

Inexpensive nuisance masks offer virtually no protection whatsoever against fine sanding dust, and lull some turners into feeling so safe they don't use a dust collector.





The Dust Bee Gone reusable dust mask is available in several sizes.

fabric or paper nuisance masks offer some protection while turning. It's worth noting that reputable companies such as 3M place a warning label on their version of these, and it literally reads: "*This mask will not protect your lungs.*" (Less scrupulous manufacturers print the label in small print on the package rather than the mask, or not at all.) Nuisance masks not only allow almost all of the dangerous small particles through, they also impart a false sense of security. People using them for wood dust filtration feel as though they are doing something to

protect themselves (which, of course, is completely false), so they don't bother taking any other real steps such as installing an air scrubber, hooking up to a dust collector, or investing in a powered respirator.

Beyond the cheap, disposable versions, there are some nuisance masks such as the Dust Bee Gone that, although not NIOSH or OSHA approved, still filter down to 3 microns. The mask accommodates to most faces, even those with beards, has two straps to help close gaps around the edges, won't fog up glasses, and is actually made in America. For more information, visit dustbeegone.com/dustmask.html.

After all is said and done, woodturners who take precautions against inhaling wood dust will be able to enjoy their time at the lathe without fearing respiratory health hazards. The consequences of exposure are just too risky to take casually. ■

Many additional fact sheets and articles on the hazards of wood dust exposure can be found online at a number of websites, among them:

Ohio State University Extension Service
ohioline.osu.edu/aex-fact/0595_1.html

State Compensation Insurance Fund
scif.com/safety/safetymeeting/Article.asp?ArticleID=125

WoodBin Woodworking
woodbin.com/misc/wood_dust_toxicity.htm

Health and Safety Executive
hse.gov.uk/pubns/wis1.pdf

John English is the author of The Woodworker's Guide to Sharpening and How to Choose and Use Bench Planes. He teaches furniture building and cabinetmaking at the Black Hills School of Woodworking.

For additional information, see AW, vol 16, no 2, "Wood Dust," by Pat Matranga and vol 21, no 4, "Battling Dust," by Peter Fedrigan.

Dust control Malcolm Zander

In a past issue of *AW*, I described the use of a polyethylene sheet tent around the lathe to isolate the dust and shavings from my workshop (vol 22, no 4). This enclosure keeps the workshop clean, but I still have to stand inside the tent and breathe sanding dust—even with the best dust extractor system.

To help remedy this problem, I bought a Triton powered respirator helmet (upgraded from a now-defunct Racal helmet), but found that the daily cleaning and replacement of the inlet air filters was a major hassle. So I eliminated the belt-mounted battery pack/fan/filter and replaced it with clean air ducted in from another room in the house.

Clean house air arrives through a 5" (125mm) duct that is connected to a 200 cfm bathroom-type blower in

another room of the house. A furnace filter is placed over the fan intake.

By using standard plumbing hardware, the ducting diameter is reduced to 1¼" (30mm) to fit the Triton hose. The central vacuum hose extension allows me to reach anything within a 10' (3m) radius of the lathe with good ease of movement.

The duct run is 20' (6.5m) long. To give the proper airflow rate required inside the respirator, a 200 cfm (5.7m³/min) blower with a squirrel-cage



centrifugal fan (as opposed to an axial fan) was needed to overcome the resistance of the ducting and the smaller diameter hose restriction.

This system blows clean room-temperature air directly into my helmet. When sanding, I am unaffected by the dust cloud inside the tent. The respirator is comfortable and very quiet, and I wear it virtually all the time when turning. One additional advantage to this setup is that when my wife is baking muffins in the kitchen I can tell within seconds.

(A condensed version of this article was published in *Woodturning*, September 2008, p. 51.)

In order to see the duct setup, I have removed the plastic tent around the lathe.

Christmas Party 2017

Well, it was another great Christmas party this year. Let's all thank Bob Wolfe for putting it together for us. The food was great as it always is with plenty for all. My favorite of course was the desert selection.

The highlight of the party was the annual auction. Each year we auction off items donated by the monthly demonstrators throughout the year, as well as items donated by our members, and items submitted for judging in the various President's challenges. The auction is the primary fund raiser for our education fund which is used primarily to pay for out-of-club demonstrators. This year's auction was the best ever, raising around \$2,000. The bidding was lively and fun. A total of 14 people purchased something at the auction. I think we should recognize the top four bidders for their generous contributions. They are in the order of money spent; Rick Cannon, Larry Cutliff, Dennis Paullus and Ron Wickens.

It looks like we were having so much fun that every one forgot to take pictures. I was able to find a few though so they are included below. I hope to see you all again at next years party.





Meet the Demonstrator

January 20, 2018

Article from RSVP Magazine
January 2018

STREETSEEN | DENNIS PAULLUS



Photo by Steve Roberts

Dennis Paullus: Woodturner

Story by Emily Adams Kephlinger

Dennis Paullus is a native Memphian who began working with wood when he was a teenager.

"When I started high school I wanted a car and some pocket money," recalled Paullus. "So, I started working after-school and summer construction jobs."

After graduating from Frayser High School, Paullus said he went straight into full-time construction work.

"I was in construction of one kind or another all of my life and eventually I started working with green reclaimed logs to create art," said Paullus. "When I was 42 years old, I got my first lathe and started working with green wood. What was a hobby 21 years ago, became a full-time profession. Seven years ago I started making my living as a professional woodturner. I enjoy taking reclaimed wood and giving it a second life."

Paullus lives in the county in Arlington. He said that he spends a lot of his time looking for wood, mostly wood that has come down after a storm. Often people call him when a tree is going to come down.

Paullus said, "Instead of being cut down and mulched or hauled to a dump, folks call me to reclaim the wood as art."

To begin his artistic process, Paullus takes found wood and turns the fresh green wood into bowls and sculptural pieces. Then the items are dried for six to eight months. Next the pieces are finished.

"My favorite woods are cherry, maple and walnut," said Paullus. "Almost everything I work with is a type of domestic wood, not an exotic. Some of my designs are whimsical in shape and I try to bring patterns to life in my work."

Paullus developed a signature style about 10 years ago that involves carvings and textures as embellishments for his work. He described it as a "tears pattern."

"I enjoy incorporating all kinds of tactile and visual interpretations that make my work look like it is in motion," said Paullus.

As an artist, Paullus is often on the road, traveling across the country to teach at regional and national symposiums. There are many woodturning schools, a regional one is the Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts in Gatlinburg, TN. He also teaches at woodturning clubs around the country. Other travels include going to art shows to sell his woodturnings.

Paullus, current president of the Mid-South Woodturners Guild, explained, "I've been a member for 25 years and the associations with the guild has helped bring me to my current level. We learn from each other and teach each other — then at some point we become the teachers."

Paullus is also a member of three other woodturning clubs; the Tennessee Association of West Tennessee Woodturners, the Ohio Valley Woodturners and the American Association of Woodturners. He is also a member of the Tennessee Crafts Association, an artisan club.

"The value of these types of memberships is the association with like-minded people," said Paullus. "Being a part of a group that

specializes offers the chance to share techniques and experiences."

To learn more about Dennis Paullus and his designs, visit his website www.dennispaullus.pro/. Information about the local guild can be found at www.midsouthwoodturners.com.

From Dennis:

I'm a woodturner and carver. I started my woodturning in 1996 when I received a lathe for Christmas. I struggled trying to learn how to turn until I joined a local woodturning club in Memphis Tn. Since then I have been on a journey of learning and discovery of the woodturning world. I am a product of the woodturning world, I have been taught and mentored by my fellow club members and I have attended many national and regional symposiums.

I turn functional and sculptural work. I have turned many, many bowls and hundreds of boxes, both lidded and threaded. Hollow vessels have become a favorite project of mine too. Carving, texturing and embellishing has also become a big part of my work today. The simple and even extraordinary embellishments can be accomplished with surprisingly simple tools and techniques. I'm a full time professional turner and have taught and demonstrated at local clubs, regional symposiums and at the national level too.

As I start the 20th year of sharing the techniques that I have learned from the woodturning world to my students and fellow woodturners, I find that my passions have not dimmed but burn ever brighter with every year.

Upcoming Events 2018

January 20	Dennis Paullus - Lidded Boxes
February 24	Pete Wiens - Corded Bowls
March 24	Larry Sefton and Bob Wolfe - Vacuum Chucking
April 28	TBD
May 26	Antony Harris - Smoking Pipes
June 23	TBD
July 28	Mike Mahoney - Streaming demonstration
August 25	TBD
September 22	Mike Maffitt - 4 Sided Triplet Weed Pots
October 20	Oktoberfest
November 24	TBD
December 15	Christmas Party

Don't forget to see Matt Garner to pay your 2018 dues if you have not already done so.

Mentor Program

All members of MSWG are invited to contact the following mentors to learn a new technique, improve their turning skills or turn something different. Mentors are volunteers and do not charge.

Contact information is on our website under Members Only and the Roster. Sessions should last no longer than 3 hours and be scheduled at the convenience of the mentor.

Benson, Joel	Wood Selection, Turning Green Wood, McNaughton Coring, Chain Saw Sharpening/Maintenance, Chain Saw Use/Safety
Cannon, Rick	Segmented Bowls
Maffitt, Mike	Bowls, Platters and Native American Flutes
Manley, Emmett	Basic Woodturning, Small Bowls, Tool Handles, Hand Mirrors, Stick Pens, Eggs, Wine Bottles, Miniature Birdhouses, many other small items
Pillow, Wright	Inlaying: Marketry, Inlace, Epoxy
Sefton, Larry	Milk Paint, Make Your Own Pyrography Unit, Hollow Forms
Stone, Rick	Finials, Bowls (incl. Natural Rim), Boxes, Spindles, Carving, Finishes, Pyrography, Making Tools, Turning Tool Basics (incl. Sharpening)
Tusant, Jim	Bowls, Hollow Forms, Pyrography, Carving, Dyeing, Tool Use
Voda, Joseph	Spindle Turning (e.g. Ornaments)
Wilbur, Skip	Bowls, Hollow Forms, Goblets, Finials



When

Friday, January 26, 2018 at 7:00 AM CST
 -to-
 Saturday, January 27, 2018 at 10:00 PM CST
[Add to Calendar](#)

Where

Marriott Hotel and Convention Center
 700 Cool Springs Blvd
 Franklin, TN 37067



Driving Directions

To make reservations with the TAW group discount code visit the TAW website www.tnwoodturners.org and click on the symposium tab or click on the red button below - Lodging at Group Rates. The TAW has reserved a block of rooms for the symposium at the special rate of \$118.00 per night. Please make your reservations early has the Marriott will sell out. The special rate of \$118.00 per night is available by phone call 888-403-6772 and the code is WODWOODA.

Lodging- at Group Rates

Contact

Jeff Brockett
 Tennessee Association of Woodturners
 615-673-3339
symposium@tnwoodturners.org



**Tennessee Association of Woodturners 2018
 Woodturning Symposium**

Early Registration Now Open!

The Tennessee Association of Woodturners (TAW) presents its 30th Woodturning Symposium January 26th and 27th, 2018 at the Marriott Hotel and Convention Center in Franklin, TN. The 2018 Symposium features these leading woodturners and turning artisans: Stuart Batty, Jimmy Clewes, Mike Mahoney and Betty Scarpino. In addition to 16 woodturning rotations each day there will be a large vendor area, a gallery of wood turned art will be on display throughout the symposium and a Saturday Night Auction and Banquet.

TAW 2018 Featured Demonstrators - Click on demonstrator name for bio



Betty Scarpino



Stuart Batty



Jimmy Clewes



Mike Mahoney

Club Sponsors

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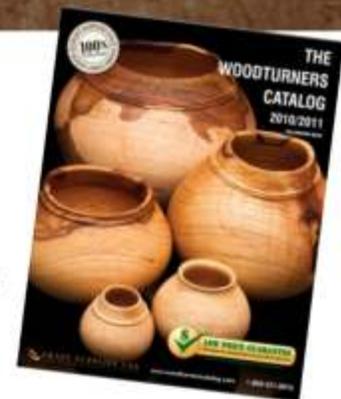
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