

A Busy Day in the Life of a Santa Cruz Woodturner

February 21, 2021

Dan Aldridge didn't have a lathe until 2019...but he found a big one—the Moby Dick white whale Oneway, and he keeps that leviathan busy.

Here's yesterday's output. Other than the beauty of that walnut, still oxidizing to its eventual warm chocolate color, note that each core is labeled and dated precisely. Dan's developing quite a queue of these, so we can expect some nested Hershey hued finished bowls in less than a year.



Bill Hopkins, owner of a lathe for barely 3 months and quite possibly the closest competitor to Dan and Tim for pure zeal at the wheel. (Well, I don't think he made the cubical candle in the frame....)



Bill is a retired podiatrist, and one of the icky things foot surgeons occasionally do is use a stainless steel curette—a sharp edged miniature ice cream scoop—to remove icky stuff from diseased bones.

It turns out that a curette also works great to remove frass from insect burrows in Bay Laurel platters, too. See photo next page.

Bill's headed to Provo in March, so fasten your seat belts!



These burrows are probably destined to be filled with turquoise.

Meanwhile, if you want a curette of your very own, Bill tells me they're available from Amazon for about \$5. If you're going to use it on your foot, however, see a professional.

Craig Wargon, a decidedly not-yet-retired podiatrist, has been distracted from turning tutelage by his responsibilities in coordinating Northern California's Kaiser-Permanente COVID outreach.

Cement mixers, however, also go around and around, and if you look at the concrete on the right side of this frame, you'll see the back wall of his new shop-to-be. There will be room for a lathe, and that career of manual dexterity and technical aptitude will assure precocious progress!



Enjoy the weather for a few days, but hope we get more rain before it gets all summery.



Monterey Cypress

Grow a beard if you want, but make shavings daily

Wells

Wells Shoemaker, President, Santa Cruz Woodturners
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