

# Turning at the Waning of the Age of Corona

Episode #36, June 21, 2021

Looking through the Edge of the Forest

Thanks to all of our members who joined our meeting June 19. I know we can get a handle on the future after John's presentation...which will be posted on the website soon ([www.scwoodturners.org](http://www.scwoodturners.org)). It will be under the Communications tab, and scroll down to Educational...for which it certainly qualified.

Aside from the welcome prospects for our first in-person meeting of the year, July 17, at **Sue Broadston's** shop and orchard, some cool things are going on for us!

First, however, congratulations to **Maarten Meerman** for his remarkable Ma Drone, winner of the President's Challenge for June: "Out of the Ashes."



The other entries in the President's Challenge ranked among our best to date, from both technical and photographic angles. The entire slide show will be visible on the [www.scwoodturners.org](http://www.scwoodturners.org) website under Communications, Educational.

One really neat turning was added to the Out of the Ashes display at the last minute, and tech difficulties intervened to make it hard to appreciate the artistry and the wood. Here's a better look!



**Linda Anderson** turned this urn from several fire damaged woods—black walnut (we think) for the body, manzanita for the base and lid. Linda explains that **John Wells** gently coached her into more ambitious hollowing, and now the fences have been moved way back!

**Craig Wargon** celebrated the opening of his new shop by plugging his new lathe into a 220V socket and firing that baby up!

Thanks to **Jennifer Joy**, too, for connecting Craig with that fine machine!



And here's Craig's first bowl.

Craig, July 17 will be your first "live" Show and Tell. Show us some more!



**John Wells**, who presented the perfect solution to broken, loose, missing, or ugly tool handles last weekend, is fond of reminding us that lathes can make neat things other than bowls.

In fact, the lathe originated in civilized hands millennia ago mostly for spindles...and not just for tool handles. Spinning wheels, chair legs, belaying pins, marlin spikes, spokes...rolling pins, too...the things that made civilization possible.

John's production work involves a lot of spindles, which makes sense in a civilized society, and beyond teaching so many things, he's at it constantly.



Oak spindles in John's shop

Get ready to make a spindle project for a President's Challenge before the year ends!



**Roy Holmberg** has been busy through the pandemic with his unique blend of blacksmithing and woodturning. His President's challenge entry was a fire-damaged redwood burl bowl with a copper belt and gingko leaves.



Meanwhile, Roy delivered his Four Elements Gong to the "Sculpture Is" show at Sierra Azul Nursery. Wind, Sun, Fire, and Water...pretty much sums up Santa Cruz!



Details of the wood turned components of the Four Elements Gong next page!



“Turned Accessories” to the Four Elements Gong...Leather-wrapped gong bonger, and dyed wood finial

Speaking of interactions of **metal and wood**, several of our members have told some interesting stories about the inevitable discovery of a nail...or something much bigger...hiding in a bowl blank. That’s the downside of using wood from the first 6 or 8 feet of a tree that grew up with people nearby.



It’s not always bad...sometimes an iron stain makes things interesting!

On the other hand, it can turn into quite an adventure...and test of creativity.



**Jim Baker** shared this one. He thought at first that it was a nail, so he bent it in order to get a grip with his crowbar. It wouldn't budge. Turns out the hidden portion was a threaded hook, and it simply unscrewed.

If you have a story...and a trick or two to share regarding how to extract unexpected foreign bodies...or how to incorporate them into your turning, **please send me a short story!** A photo would be a splendid bonus!

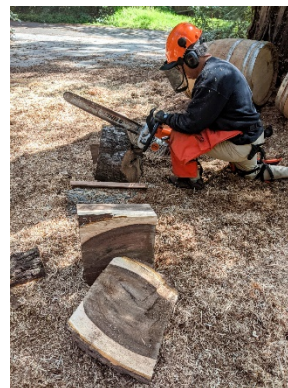
Every member who sends a story will get a raffle ticket for in-person meeting at Sue Broadston's shop and orchard, July 17. That's right! Raffles are *baaack*.

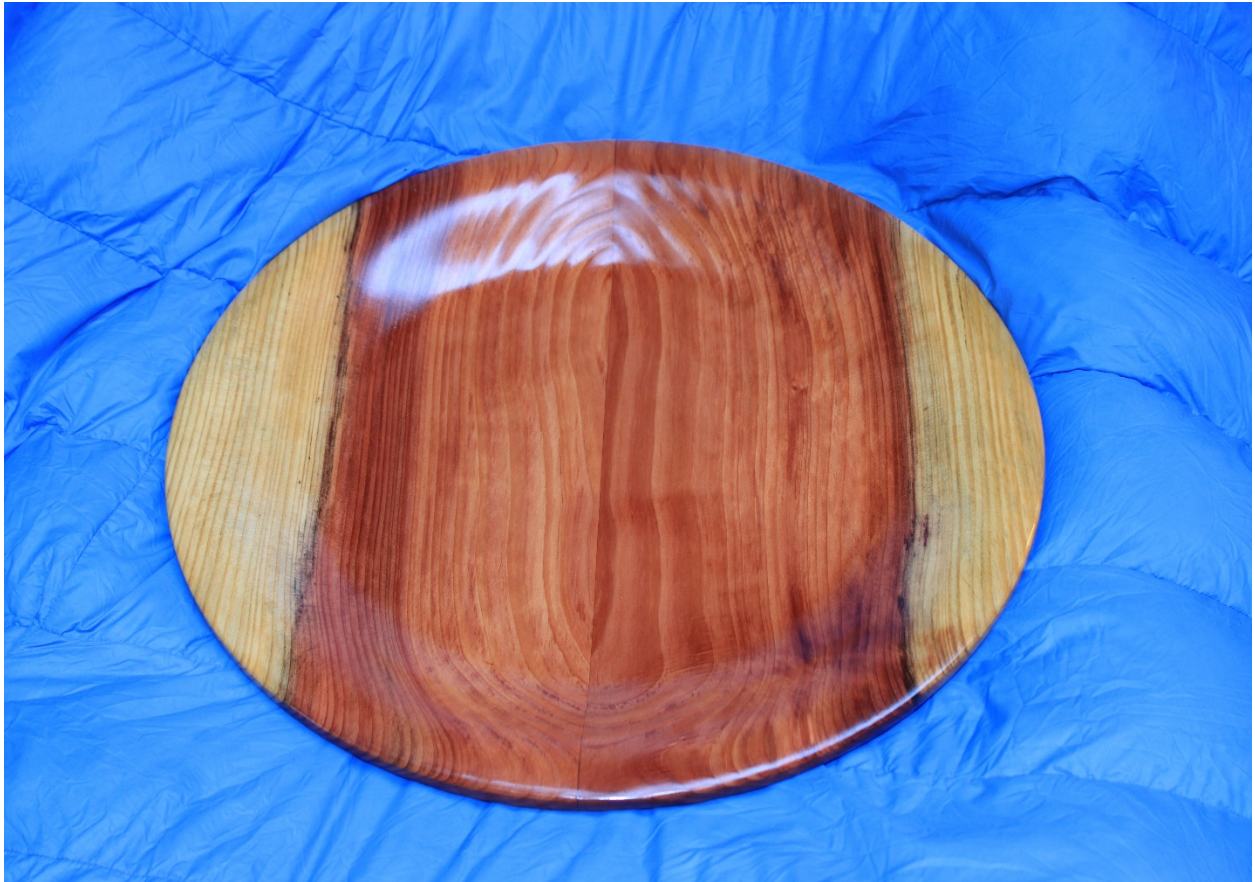
Everybody who brings a show and tell exhibit gets a raffle ticket. You'll get an extra ticket if the turning illustrates how you applied the lessons from one of our COVID era remote demonstrations!

Enjoy the first day of summer, and turn something cool!

Wells Shoemaker

President, Santa Cruz Woodturners





*“Yer not from around here, are ya, son....”*

*Sequoia gigantea*. Looks like redwood, but substantially lighter. 10% of the Giant Sequoias on the western slope of the Sierras were lost in one fire last year...the Castle Fire. Thank you, **Bill Hopkins**, for bringing this salvaged slab down to the coast.

No more fires, please.