

Santa Cruz Woodturners

## Turning in the Age of Corona

*Episode 9, May 31, 2020*

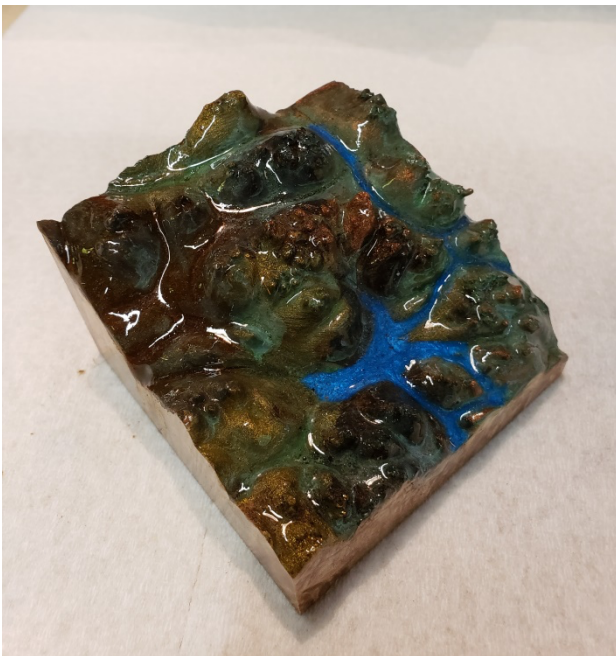
Today is the last day of May, closing perhaps not the best month our country has seen on many fronts. However, turners have been coping through acts of generosity, creativity, education, and, in the case of SCW, reinforcement.

Our Club now has a strong financial and legal footing, thanks especially to Raf's initiative in obtaining our 501c3 non-profit status and the financial proceeds from a donated cache of fabulous turning blanks and tools.

We've managed our first Zoom meeting, featuring Mickey Singer's succinct presentation of glue types and features. The shrouds on some of those mysteries have been lifted, although it remains a challenge for turners to make tight joints in radial symmetry.

It has been a special privilege to showcase the work of our members with photographs. It's not the same as feeling the heft, delicacy, and texture of these works in your own hands, but the inspiration keeps us busy. Let's have a look at the work of **Larry Dubia, Morgan Taylor, John Wells, and Dwain Christensen** for Episode 9!

**Larry Dubia**, the Club's original visionary founder and persistent prompter, has expanded his work with burl, resin, and resourceful turning. The objects below reminded me of satellite views of mountain terrain in some Tolkein-esque world.





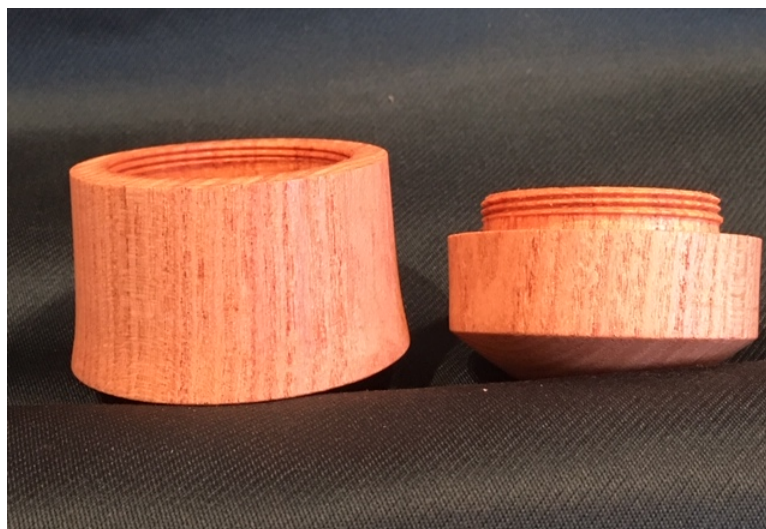
Let your imagination off the leash! Larry does.

**Morgan Taylor**, along with **Tom Eovaldi**, **John Wells**, and others, has brought Santa Cruz Woodturners, if not into the ring, at least into the boxing business.

During the doldrums of the shutdown, Morgan stretched his skills to make threaded lids.

Recall that John did a neat demo last year of the Sorby threading tool and the technique championed by Alan Batty. Aside from the precision and practice required to master the skill, that technique requires wood with hardness found in select species...many of them slow-growing, tropical exotics. In softer woods and those with looser grain, including most temperate climate hardwoods, the male threads tend to crumble.

Morgan purchased the Baxter *Threadmaster* jig to make threads in some of the woods we find locally available without devastating rain forest sanctuaries. Here is his first one, made with honey locust and finished with Mahoney's walnut oil and beeswax.



Nice work, Morgan!



**John Wells**, needless to say, rarely endures a non-productive day. Challenging the boundaries between turning, carving, and sculpture seems like a daily enterprise, too. Here are a few new projects from his shop under the Boulder Creek redwoods.



Fluted legs with “bun feet.”

If we can't have donuts at a club meeting, John makes great buns. High in fiber, too!

But John's done flutes before. For Mother's Day, he restored an antique chair, which required him to learn how to do caning...and along the way, make caning pegs.



(Those are not "bun feet" at the bottom of the photograph.)

These are the caning pegs.

Tim, I bet you could crank these out by the dozen!





18 months ago, **Dwain Christensen** was taking lessons to learn the basics of a new hobby. Six months ago, he was coring English walnut blanks. Recently he sought advice from fellow SCW members on finishes. This week, he finished this!



We'll hear more from Dwain from the lathe over the years...but also the camera...in the coming summertime!



Let us know what you've been doing! I know Dan Albrige is creating a mound of roughed out bowl blanks, and we'll be seeing some of those this fall in finished form.

I spent the last 2 weeks in Southern Utah doing rustic cabin carpentry for a friend... living blissfully without a computer but, alas, without a lathe, either. Nearby, there is a marvelous panel of 1000 year old Fremont culture petroglyphs, featuring sheep, elk, dogs, spirals, snakelike bands, and, of course, guys with unusual proportions and gaudy head gear.

I assembled this "lignoglyph" in their honor.



Big Creek redwood learning to live in a late May snowfall at 7300'

Stay in touch, and remember we're going to be doing our June 20 meeting via Zoom, starting at 8:30 and wrapping up around 10:30. Send me photos of your shop-hacks! We'll feature a Round Robin display for our demonstration...and we'll have a lively discussion.

Wells Shoemaker  
President, SCW. May 31, 2020