



Piedmont Triad Woodturners Association

Newsletter
July 2026



www.woodturner.org

Calendar

February 10, 2026 - Tool Skills

March 10, 2026 – Alan Leland – chasing threads

April 14, 2026 - Taylor Jones of the NC Cooperative Extension

May 12, 2026 – Andy Gunning

Turning a platter with a multi-axis base

June 9, 2026 – Robert Love - Bowl with a textured and embellished band

July 14, 2026 – Louise Butler – EZ tools

August 11, 2026 – Annie Hogg – Shrinking antiques

September 8, 2026 TBD

October 13, 2026

David Jones – Turning a natural edge bowl

PTWA

Message from the President

July 2026

Hello Woodturners!

A big thank you to Robert Love, our June guest demonstrator from New York. Very cool process of using Chameleon Flakes to embellish turnings. Thanks also to Ed Siegel for putting together an order of discount materials so we can explore that process.

For the next two meetings, July and August, we don't have access to our room until 6 pm because of summer camp. For those that are able, please help get set up quickly once we can access the room.

I will be at Scout summer camp next week so Ed Siegel will be leading the meeting. He has confirmed that he will have new jokes for all of you. That for covering Ed.

Here is what we have planned for our next few meetings:

July 14, 2026

Louise Butler

Make an Urn using Easy Wood Tool products. including the traditional cutters (multiple sizes), hollowing, bead cutters, and the quick-change jaw chuck.

August 11, 2026

Annie Ogg – Guest Demonstrator from Asheville, NC

Honey, I shrunk the Antiques!

September 8, 2026 - TBD

October 13, 2026

David Jones – Guest Demonstrator from Charlotte, NC

Turning a natural edge bowl

I have a few prospects for future meetings but if you know of any guest demonstrators, please let me know. Help me fill out our calendar for the rest of the year!

The **Presidents challenge** for July is any turning with embellishment.

We will continue the raffle and instant gallery for July. If you have any treasures to donate, bring them and a few bucks to try your luck!

A big **THANK YOU** to our membership who continue to make our club a well operating machine! From helping with set up and tear down, volunteering to demonstrate, and everything in-between... you are a great bunch of folks!

Try to stay cool in your shop and turn something! Come out and show your appreciation for our guest demonstrators. See you next week!

Greg Ford

PTWA Minutes

June 9, 2026

The meeting started at 6:28 and Greg Ford was presiding. Greg invited visitors to introduce themselves. Our demonstrator for the evening brought his wife, Michelle, and Ed Siegel also brought his wife.

Greg announced that on July 14th Louise Butler will be our demonstrator. She will demonstrate the use of E-Z tools and also show us a “quick change chuck”. On Aug. 11th Annie Hogg will demo “Honey I shrunk the antiques”. Sept. 8th is open (contact Greg to volunteer) and on Oct. 13th David Jones will demo regarding natural edge bowls from green wood.

This month the president's challenge was to turn a platter. Next month's president's challenge is to do something with embellishing along the lines of what we will see tonight.

We need volunteers for turner of the month for most upcoming months.

We will not be holding a raffle tonight.

Various people were invited to share impressions and insights from the Raleigh Symposium. Just in case you didn't get enough, the Virginia Symposium will be on Oct 24-26, 2026 in Fischerville, Va. In addition, there is the Mid Atlantic Woodturning Symposium on Sept. 25-27, 2026, which is being held in Lancaster, PA.

Greg mentioned that due to our sometimes running late, he is thinking that—starting in September—we should begin our meetings at 6:15 rather than our usual 6:30. Please take note of this.

We then did the president's challenge presentations and the instant gallery presentations.

Tonight, our demonstrator was Robert Love.



Robert showed us the ins and outs of working with colored flakes to enhance textured embellishments.

Here is an example of the sort of thing that you could do with this technique.



Robert gave credit to Emma Cook for teaching him these techniques. He advised us to practice on imperfect forms, you will be less reluctant to experiment with those. He pointed out that this process involves 3 or so easy steps that are repeated over and over and over again. He advised that you use wood that is not highly figured. It would detract from the embellishment and also be a bit of a waste of beautiful figured wood.

He pointed out that it is better to apply the embellishment on that surface of the form that will be most visible. You don't want the beauty hidden under the edge. He advised that we use the golden ratio to mark out a band and to do the embellishment work BEFORE you hollow out the piece. He uses a triangle tool to mark off the band. He then uses a wire to burn the edges of the band. He pointed out a trick that he learned from Troy Greenwood, which is that you can hold a bent glue stick up against the surface of your form to check for any flats. He then advised that you do the sanding and finishing of the outside of the form.

Next you carve texture into the banded area. This texture enhances the reflected colors that will be applied later. Robert prefers to use the “chameleon flakes” from The Walnut Log company. (see link--<https://thewalnutlog.com/product/chameleon-flakes/>). He suggested that these are somewhat more vivid than the alternatives that are available on Amazon. To show this, Robert had a sample board with these different colors side by side. (See photos).



Robert suggested that the sky is the limit on texturing and coloring. You can drybrush one color over a background color. You could just texture or you could just texture OR you could both texture and color.

He does his texturing with a MicroMotor and mostly Dremel bits. Robert shared one clever thing with us (that I—Nim Batchelor—have already implemented). He told us that he cut strips from election yard signs (the corrugated plastic ones), put them on edge in a box and used the corrugation segments to organize his bits. (see photo)



Quite clever!! He said that he prefers to use bits from The Rotary Chisel company (<https://therotarychisel.com/>). In particular, the 3 wing carbide tip bit.

He said that he uses an OSMO finish (stored in a “stop loss” bag) and a scotch bright pad at the end.

Robert suggested MDI Woodcarvers Supply company (<https://mdiwoodcarvers.com/>) to get bits, cup cutters, burrs, etc.

Your aim in texturing is to avoid repeating patterns—you want randomness. Give your texturing ideas free reign. If you don’t like what you get, you haven’t hollowed it out yet, so you can just turn it down and start over. [By the way, if you have a brass piece that you keep dropping, you can glue a steel piece to it so that you can find it with a magnet.] You can use a brass brush to clear away the “fuzzies” after carving and before you paint.

Robert told us that you need a base color under the flakes. He uses black acrylic as his base. Use cheap brushes. Cover the entire banded region with texture and paint. A red background with gold leaf also looks neat.

You then apply “size”, which is a kind of glue. You paint it on, wait 15-30 minutes. It will remain tacky for 24-48 hours. Using a fluffy brush from a beauty supply store, you then apply the flakes over the size. Please note, that anything that will hold the glitter will also hold dust. So, keep your area clean. You apply it by dabbing the brush into the flakes and then onto the surface. Of course, you don’t put a finish over the flakes and you don’t buff them. Give it 24 hours to dry and then you can blow off any excess.

Overall, this was an interesting evening, and Robert was a pleasure to get to know.

Available at the Club Meeting Store:

Mercury CA Glue – thin, med, thick in Regular, thin and medium in Flexible (2 oz, 8 oz) Mercury Accelerator (2 & 8 oz.); Mercury Debonder; CA Glue extension tips (10 pk); Mercury Epoxy (5, 15, 30 Min); Oak & Teak Epoxy; Application pads (60 ea.); Niles wine stoppers and bottle openers; Pipettes bag of 20; Syringe 5 ml bag of 5; lidded plastic cups (2 oz.); Sandpaper, package of 100, 120, 150, 180, 220, 320, 400.

PTWA STORE Price list September, 2025

Mercury CA

Regular

1oz, black..... \$6.00

1oz, any viscosity..... \$4.00

2oz, any viscosity..... \$6.00

8oz, any viscosity..... \$19.00

Flex

1oz, any viscosity..... \$7.00

2oz, any viscosity..... \$10.00

Foam

1oz, any viscosity..... \$10.00

2oz, any viscosity..... \$16.00

Accelerator

2oz..... \$5.00

8oz..... \$13.00

12oz aerosol..... \$15.00

Debonder 2oz..... \$5.00

Tips..... \$3.00

Epoxy

Mercury

Any set time..... \$12.00

Smith's O&T..... \$24.00

Bottle Stoppers..... \$7.00

Stain/dye applicators.... \$3.00

Sandpaper bundles..... \$8.00

Pipette/Syringe..... \$2.00

Lidded Containers..... \$1.00

Photos from the June Meeting



Nim Batchelor – pierced maple bowl



Tim Jobe – Ambrosia maple bowl





Ken Sunshine – peach bowl with foot



Roy Carlson – ambrosia maple bowl



Steve ST Cyr – walnut/maple bowl



Alan Creedy



Alan Creedy



Ed Siegel – thin chery bowl



Mike Loebenberg – ambrosia maple bowl



Cliff Peschansky – ambrosia maple platter



Jason L – side table, mahogany, wenge, marble, ceramic





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Librarian – open