

Knothole News

www.greencountrywoodworkers.org



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



The price of lumber getting you down? Fear not, fellow wood lovers!

This month we're tackling the high cost of buying wood – and the hero of our story is reclaimed wood. From barrel staves and old fence boards to surprise finds like fallen logs, we'll have three members sharing

tips, tricks, and tall tales about hunting and using salvaged timber. Bring your questions and your curiosity – this one's going to be a good time!

Last month we visited the NEOWTA (Tulsa Wood Turners) clubhouse – what a scene: over 100 members, non-stop chatter, and serious energy. My takeaway: thriving clubs don't happen by accident – they're powered by active, committed folks.

Toys4Tots planning is revving up. Last year our club made 494 toys – including 150 concrete trucks from our November group build! We're kicking off planning with breakfast on Friday, June 19 at 8:00 AM at Sunrise Cafe (near 101st & Yale) to map out this year's group build. Want to help? Come share ideas (and coffee).

Vinton Knarr

THIS MONTH'S MEETING

Thursday, June 8, 2026 @ **6:30 PM**

Hardesty Regional Library, **Pecan Room**

8316 E 93rd St, Tulsa, OK

Reclaimed Wood and Uses

Officers

President

Vinton Knarr 918-508-5898

Vice-President

Jeff Reinwand 918-728-1904

Secretary

Bill Morgan 918-760-7456

Treasurer

Mike Ruttgen 701-207-0712

Club Committees

Luncheon

Bill Morgan 918-369-6435

Membership Management

Joshua Lee 918-859-3063

Newsletter

Ray Hucek 918-619-2980

Toy Wheels & Axles

Jim Rouse 918-636-9286

Webmaster & Photographer

Arthur Barber 918-671-2437

Toys 4 Tots Coordinator

Jeff Reinwand 918-728-1904

Minutes from Last Month's Meeting

The GCWW club met on 5/14/26 at the Northeastern wood turner's association at 10117 east 50th street in Tulsa. Arthur Barber is a member there and had offered to host the group and give us an overview of the wood turner's club.

In attendance were Arthur Barber, Vinton Knarr, Gregg and Betty Zumwalt, Bill Nay, Marc Morgan, Joshua Lee, Rick Davis, Gary Smith, Earle Smith, Michael Sekerak, Jim Karim, Robert Karl Rothenbucher, Stan Townsend, and Bill Morgan.

Vinton called the meeting to order, thanked Arthur for the invitation and introduced the visitors to the group.

SHOW and Tell:

Marc Morgan recently purchased a new Turbo wood mill. He circulated the brochures for the unit and discussed its capabilities. He's been very pleased with the unit so far and is able to render large logs into 8" widths - - so he's able to produce 2x8s, 4x8s and 8x8s.

Vinton announced that the June meeting will be at our regular meeting location (Hardesty branch library) and will deal with reclaimed wood. The July meeting will be held at Woodcraft and focus on hand saws.

Arthur welcomed everyone to the wood turner's club facility. They have had their own building for the last 12 years thanks to the generosity of one of the members. The building consisted of just one large room originally but the club has added walls, furniture and fixtures and the result is a really attractive and functional meeting place.

We met in the spacious "Demo Room " which is equipped with a Powermatic lathe and multiple cameras and large screens so that the audience can see close up views of the demonstration.

In addition to the main meeting room, the facility has a sophisticated room set up to photograph turned projects, a separate room for a large band saw and air compressor, a kitchen where drinks and snacks can be prepared and a large display room with display cabinets and stands.

The club has a "learn to turn" program where new turners can learn the basics with volunteer mentors.

These classes are held in a separate room equipped with several lathes (both Jet and Powermatic's). Each lathe is equipped with its own set of tools.

During our visit, a group of women turners were turning wig stands which are donated to local hospitals where they are given to cancer patients who are going through a period of baldness.

The turners are obviously a well organized group who contribute a lot to the Tulsa area. Visitors are welcome to their meetings and memberships are available and their dues are \$120/ year

WOODWORKER INTERVIEW – STAN TOWNSEND

BY VINTON KNARR

Stan Townsend, 93, is a Tulsa woodworker, carver, and woodturner. I wanted to learn more about his woodworking journey, so I interviewed him.

When and how did you first become interested in woodworking? What was your training?

I got started when my dad and I built a house together when I was 14. I took shop class in both junior and senior high school in Duncan, Oklahoma; I still have wood turnings I made back then. One semester the shop class built a three bedroom house for a school coach. We worked in the afternoons and did all aspects of the build, including the foundation, plumbing, and electrical. That was an extremely valuable experience.

I attended the University of Oklahoma in Norman, where I studied industrial engineering. Besides woodworking, I learned the tool and die trade. There was a jeweler in town and I made dies for class rings; that involved making a pattern in wood first. In my free time I worked for a professor doing machine shop work. I also built a china cabinet out of mansonia (similar to a light walnut or mahogany).

What was your involvement in clubs in Tulsa?

I moved to Tulsa in 1979. Since then I have participated in the woodworkers club, the woodcarving club, and the woodturners club. I held every office in the carving club over the years and chaired the woodcarving show seven times. I was director of the turners club for about five years.

What was your biggest influence in learning your woodworking skills?

A professor at the University of Oklahoma – from him I learned how to use the various shop machines and processes.

What types of projects have you made most often (furniture, cabinetry, toys, tools, restoration)?

Most of my hobby time was spent making furniture. I also made over 100 carving knives.

Which single piece are you most proud of, and why?

I designed and built the elbow tool – a lathe tool used to remove wood on the interior of a large bowl or vase. I later passed that business on to a friend.

WOODWORKER INTERVIEW – STAN TOWNSEND

BY VINTON KNARR

Tell me about a project that taught you an important lesson or that went wrong – what happened and what did you learn?

I worked with two other fellows to turn a very large bowl from a 4' x 4' chunk of wood that weighed about 2,500 lb. We had to use a forklift to get it on the lathe. We carved leaves on the inside and outside. It took the three of us about five months to complete, working five days a week, six hours a day.

What is your favorite tool (hand or power)?

Wood lathe.

What is your favorite wood to work with?

Walnut and maple.

Do you have a personal ritual or sequence you follow when starting a project?

I carefully think the project through before I start so I know what tools and supplies I will need.

Was woodworking ever a business for you? If so, how did that go?

Yes. In Norman I designed and built modular office furniture. After the pieces were made, we took them on site to assemble. The elbow tool was also a business. I also had a side business making aluminum pizza paddles used to place and remove pizzas from ovens.

What is the biggest technological or cultural change that has impacted woodworking that you have seen?

3D printing.

Are there any woodworking stories from your experiences that still make you laugh or surprise you?

It's fun to watch people the first time they try turning – they always want to have the shank angled straight into the wood. I've always been fascinated by making musical instruments. I have made several "sound boxes," which are like drums, and I've experimented with making some Indian flutes that involved both turning and carving.

What is one word that sums up your woodworking journey?

Curiosity.

2026 PROGRAMS SCHEDULED

May	Wood turning	Art	at NEOWTA club house
June	Reclaim wood & uses	Josh, Bill, and Marc	Hardestry
July	Hand saws	???	at Woodcraft
August	AI/ChatGPT	Gary and ?	Hardestry
August	Hand Plane restore	Robert or/and Jim	Hardestry
September	Finishes	Greg	a shop????
Oct	CNC uses	Marc Morgan	Hardestry
Oct	Epoxy work	Marc?	Hardestry

Annual Dues Payment

Club dues are \$20 per club member per year. Please make your checks payable to **Green Country Woodworkers Club** and mail them to Mike Ruttgen, 16394 E 77th Pl N, Owasso, OK 74055; note that we will not accept cash. You may also hand your check to Vinton Knarr or Mike Ruttgen or pay it through your bank's Bill Pay system. Once received, your payment will be credited to your account. Thank you for helping us keep the process simple and accurate for everyone.

Photos from Last Month's Meeting



Content Submitted by Club Members



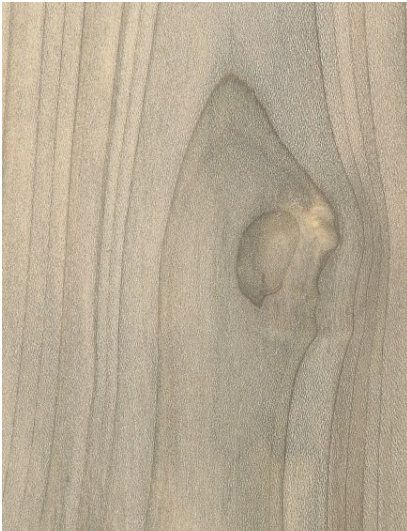
For sale Dremel 16"
Scroll Saw model
1671. \$25.00 Call or
text Vinton at (918)
508-5898.

I am making some
elephant wooden
puzzles for Toys4Tots.
Vinton



Refurbished for my grandson
this 5' long toy train made by
my parents for my son in 1972,
used by him and his son and
now ready for the next genera-
tion. Patched up paint where
worn/chipped, made a couple
of replacement wheels, some
new axle screws and couplers.
Bill Nay





Common Name(s): Southern Magnolia

Scientific Name: *Magnolia grandiflora*

Distribution: Southeastern United States

Tree Size: 50-80 ft (15-24 m) tall, 2-3 ft (.6-1 m) trunk diameter

Average Dried Weight: 35 lbs/ft³ (560 kg/m³)

Specific Gravity (Basic, 12% MC): .46, .56

Janka Hardness: 1,020 lbf (4,540 N)

Modulus of Rupture: 11,200 lbf/in² (77.2 MPa)

Elastic Modulus: 1,400,000 lbf/in² (9.66 GPa)

Crushing Strength: 5,460 lbf/in² (37.7 MPa)

Shrinkage: Radial: 5.4%, Tangential: 6.6%, Volumetric: 12.3%, T/R Ratio: 1.2

Color/Appearance: Very wide sapwood is a creamy white to grayish color. Comparatively narrow heartwood color ranges from a medium to dark brown, sometimes with green, purple or black streaks.

Grain/Texture: Grain is straight, with a medium to fine uniform texture. Moderate natural luster.

Endgrain: Diffuse-porous; small to medium pores in no specific arrangement, numerous; solitary and in radial multiples of 4 or more; growth rings distinct; narrow rays visible without lens, normal spacing; parenchyma marginal.

Rot Resistance: Rated as non-durable to perishable regarding decay resistance, and also susceptible to insect attack.

Workability: Generally easy to work with both hand and machine tools. Turns, glues, stains, and finishes well.

Odor: No characteristic odor.

Allergies/Toxicity: Although severe reactions are quite uncommon, species in the *Magnolia* genus have been reported to cause asthma-like symptoms and runny nose. See the articles *Wood Allergies and Toxicity* and *Wood Dust Safety* for more information.

Pricing/Availability: Readily available within its natural range, though difficult to find elsewhere. Prices should be low for a domestic hardwood.

Sustainability: This wood species is not listed in the CITES Appendices or on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species.

Common Uses: Veneer, plywood, interior trim, upholstered furniture frames, and general utility wood.

Comments: Southern Magnolia is the hardest and heaviest of the three primary magnolia species that are commercially harvested in the United States.

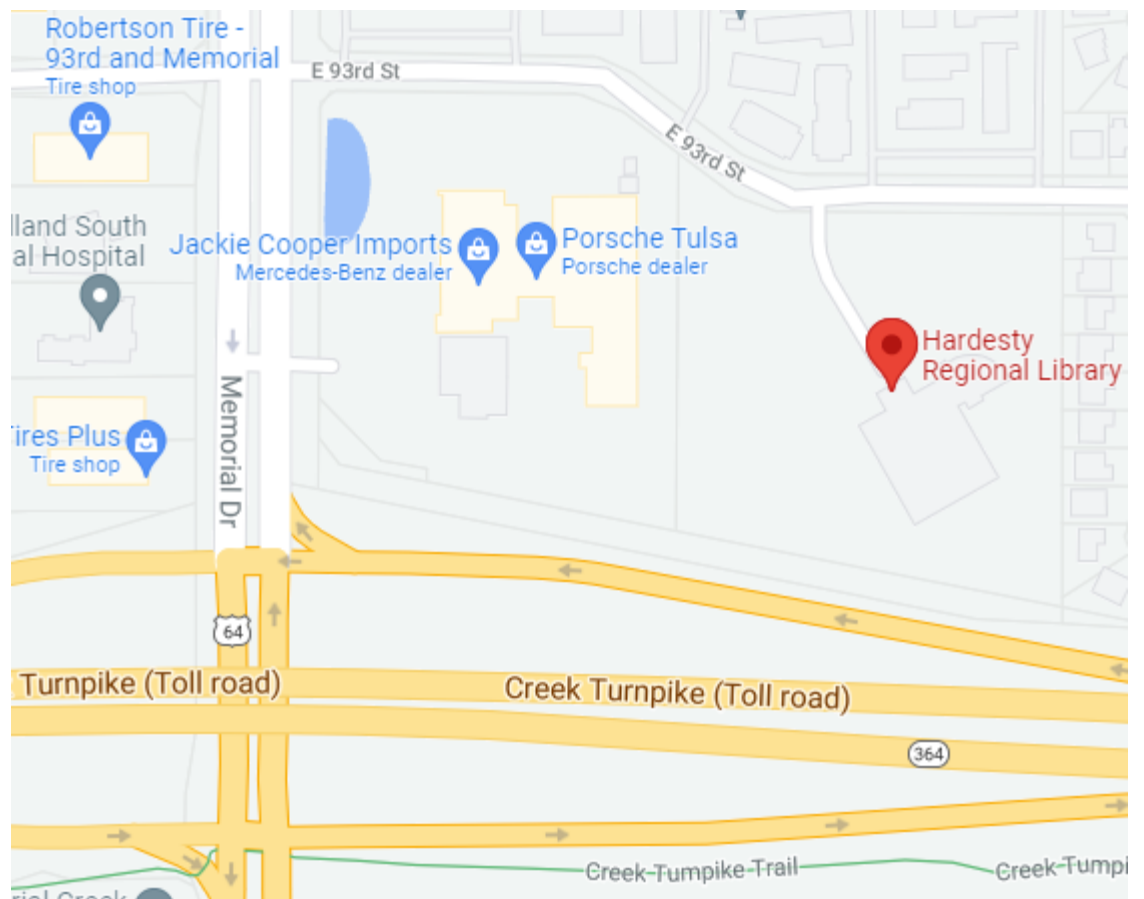
MEETING LOCATION



Hardesty
Library

Off of
S Memorial Dr
and
E 93rd St

8316 E 93rd St
Tulsa, OK 74133



GREEN COUNTRY WOODWORKERS

The Green Country Woodworkers are made up of men and women who are interested in woodworking as a hobby.

The monthly meetings are conducted as educational forums for the benefit of our members and guests. We have idea exchanges, problem solving sessions, safety tips and tool tips plus a main speaker on topics related to woodworking in all its phases.

The club sponsors community service projects such as making Toys for Tots at Christmas and supporting Beads of Courage by turning bowls and making boxes for children undergoing cancer treatment at Children Hospital at Saint Francis. The containers hold the children's beads. The beads represent their treatment progress.

KNOTHOLE NEWS

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OBJECTIVES

- To provide the Knothole News, a monthly newsletter
- To promote woodworking and participate in woodworking and craft shows to inform the public of club activities
- To make wooden toys which are donated to selected organizations throughout the year
- Monthly Show & Tell; all items entered in the show and tell will be presented to the membership by the builder

Membership applications are available at each meeting from the club secretary or treasurer. At this time, no membership fee is charged.

MEETINGS

The club meets on the second Thursday of each month at 6:30PM at Hardesty Regional Library.

We also have a monthly dinner/social on the 4th Thursday of the month at 6:00PM; the location is determined during the regular monthly meeting.

WWW.GREENCOUNTRYWOODWORKERS.ORG

Please be sure to check out our web site for more information about the organization, past Knothole News publications, pictures, resources, etc.

