



**FEBRUARY
2018**

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Ron Bartz demonstrated a variety of turned handles that he uses to hold many types of metal objects from large files to hammers.



PREZ SEZ

2

Hey guys and gals, hope all is well with you all and chips are flying at your place. If any of you still have bowls to donate to "Feed my People" let me know and I will pick them up from you.

I've been thinking about a presidents challenge for spring, probably for the April meeting, and we all make some neat stuff to sell or give away. So with spring just around the corner, how about we all turn a bird house that we can actually mount in our yard and use.

And just a word to you stow birds down there in the warm ??????

Stay warm to the rest of you

Duane



Turning Handles Demo

3

The write-up for Ron Bratz's Handle demo was not available at publication. During the demo Ron mentioned that he had a drilling sled that he used in making handles. Several members were interested in what the drilling sled looked like and Ron sent pictures.

Ron Bartz's Drilling Sled



Chippewa Valley Museum's Fiber Arts & Folk Life Festival

4

The CVWG was represented again this year at the Chippewa Valley Museum's Fiber Arts & Folk Life Festival on Feb. 17, 2018. I was their representing the CVWG and Rich Tielen played a dual role as both a wood carver and wood-turner. The other man in the picture with Rich is Ron Mastrobudni.

Though the visitor numbers were down this year, remember the weather Saturday morning, we did have many interested people look and compliment our creative works and ask questions on how it was done. It was an enjoyable day.

Dennis Ciesielski



SHOW AND TELL / GALLERY

5



Dennis Ciesielski with a budvase made of Amur Cork - an invasive species whose bark feels like cork - and a cracked pencil holder that was embellished with a string lacing effect





**Jeff Fagen with a
Butternut bowl**



**Richard Boettcher with a
Maple dish with some
bird's eye effect**



Mark Palma with a pedestal bowl and a cone used as a variable sander

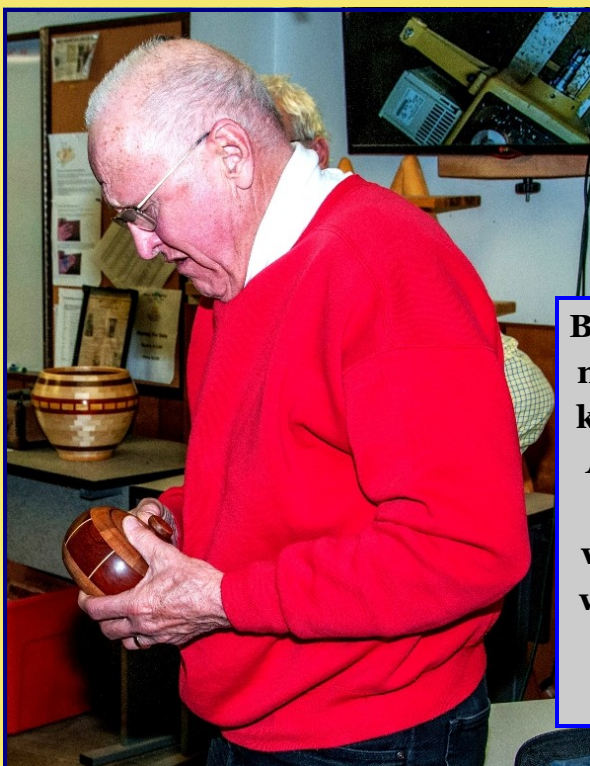




Mark Palma with a green stain lidded bowl and a bottle stopper



Barry Grill with a hollow form with finial. He contributed this to the Feed My People Bowl Event for the silent auction



Bruce Tremble with a segmented bowl made of Jakob, Maple and Walnut. A person sold it for only six dollars and he felt it was a shame that a bowl with so much craftsmanship was devalued so much.



Two items whose turners were not recorded.

Bruce Lindholm with a segmented bowl. The 385 piece Maple/Paduak/ Yellowheart bowl was donated to the Feed My People Bowl Event for the silent auction.





Cherry Burl hollow form turned by Colin Kenoe

Show and Tell presenters with no pictures

**Tom Leonard with a closed end Yellowheart pen and a
closed end Cherry pen**

**Jerry Lilly with bowl made of a Amur Cork - an invasive
species**

WOOD GRAIN FIGURES

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Figured wood is defined as "appearance of wood as seen on a longitudinal surface (side grain) which form due to a combination of wood grain, type of cut and innate properties of the wood." (Source: Wikipedia (Figure Wood)).

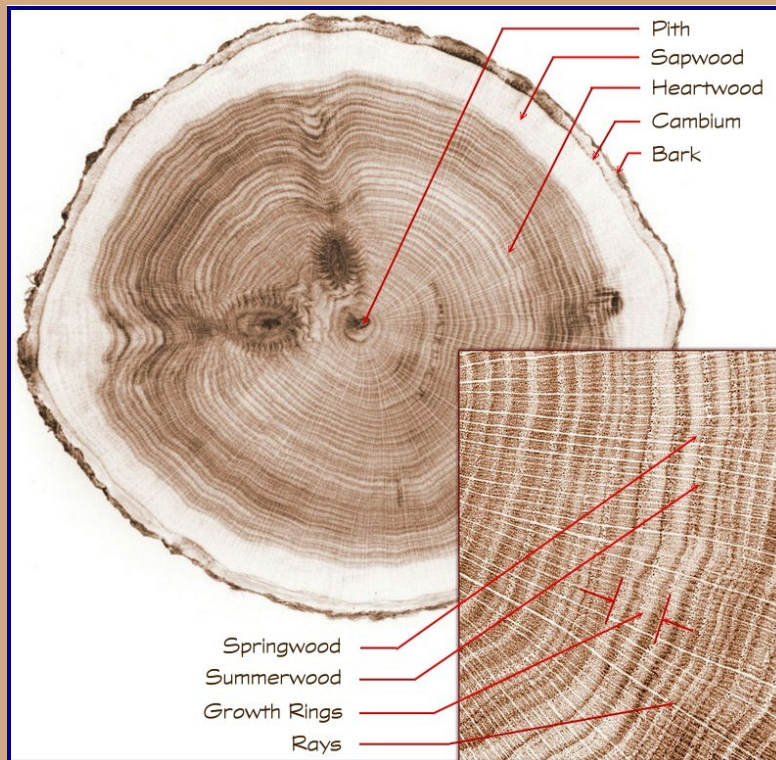
Another definition of figured wood is "when longitudinal and ray cells grow in unusual patterns which make it strikingly beautiful." (Source: Woodshop Companion.com) Longitudinal cells and ray cells are produced by the Cambium.

Longitudinal cells align themselves with the axis of the trunk, limb or root. These cells give the wood it's grain.

Ray cells line up in rays extending out from the pith perpendicular to the axis. (Source: Workshop Companion.com).

Rays run perpendicular to the rest of the wood fibers to channel nutrients between cambium, sapwood and pith. When viewed from the end grain, rays appear as more or less straight radial (vertical) lines spaced evenly across the wood sample. (Source: Wood Database).

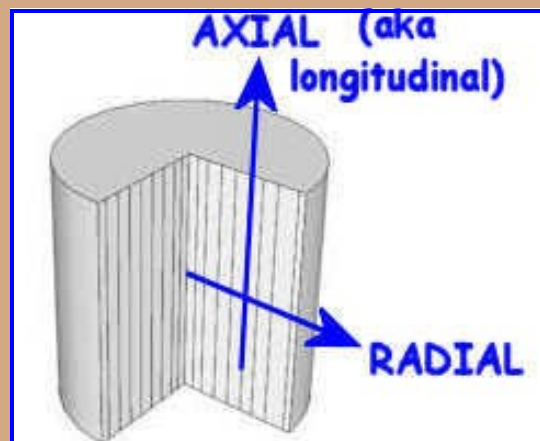
Editors Note: It was not my intention to be so technical, but I felt that in order to fully understand wood grain figures it was necessary to further define wood elements involved in causing or contributing to the effect of the figuring.



Source: Workshop Companion.com



Quarter sawn wood showing pattern of rays (whitish streaks)



Actual wood cut down long grain with axis to the trunk showing what longitudinal cells form - the grain.

There are a lot of names for wood grain figures. Many of these have regional descriptions that overlap commonly known patterns and one might think that an unfamiliar name for a wood figure is something new but it would be familiar when known under a common name.

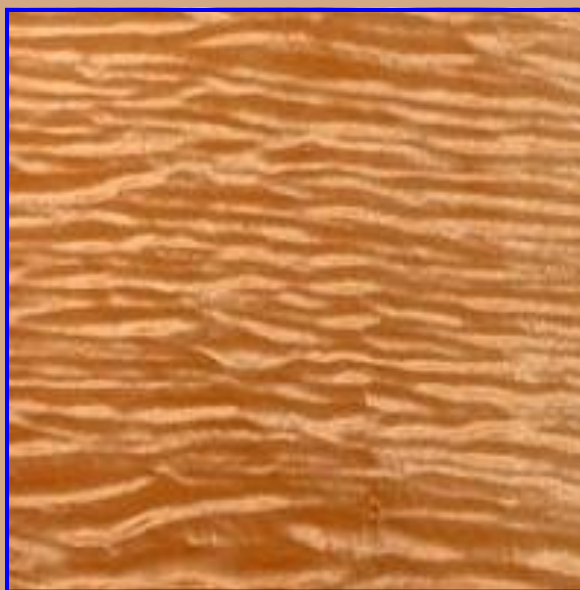
This series of articles will explore the diversity of figured wood grains and describe what caused them if known and the uses for these figured woods.

Grain Figure "Curly"

Maple is the most well known of the woods associated with the term Curly. It is not the only wood that can have this pattern. Others are Cherry, Red Oak, Yellow Birch and Sycamore. And this is not a complete list.

The "Curly" figure is also known as Flame, Tiger, Pin Stripe, Ripple, Ribbon, Tiger Stripe and Fiddleback.

Fiddleback is usually distinguished from the Curly because it has more wavy lines.



Curly is described as a "distorted undulating pattern producing wavy lines sometimes known as flames." (Source: Wikipedia). The distortion is perpendicular to the grain direction. Described another way is "longitudinal cells grow in waves." (Source: Workshop Companion.com)



Figured Maples fall into the category of Tone-woods because the wood carries the sound waves well and are used for a variety of musical instruments such as violins, bassoons and guitars.

Products of Curly Figured Wood



Pen Wood of the Month

16

Granadillo (Macacauba)

Common Name(s): Macacauba, Macawood, Hormigo, Orange Agate

Scientific Name: *Platymiscium* spp.

(*P. dimorphandrum*, *P. pinnatum*, *P. trinitatis*, *P. ulei*)

Distribu-

tion: Central and South America

Tree

Size: 65-80 ft (20-25 m) tall, 2-3 ft (.6-1.0 m) trunk diameter



Color/Appearance: Heartwood color can be highly variable, ranging from a bright red to a darker reddish or purplish brown, frequently with darker stripes. When the wood is referred to as "Hormigo," various suffixes are used to describe the heartwood color: "Hormigo Negro" for darker pieces or "Hormigo Rojo" for orangish red pieces. Clearly demarcated sapwood is yellow to white.

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

Endgrain: Diffuse-porous; large pores in no specific arrangement; solitary and radial multiples of 2-3; heartwood mineral/gum deposits (yellow) occasionally present; growth rings indistinct; narrow rays not visible without lens, fairly close to close spacing; parenchyma lozenge, confluent, and banded (not marginal).

Rot Resistance: Heartwood is rated as durable to very durable regarding decay resistance, with good resistance to insect attacks as well.

Workability: Overall, good working characteristics for both hand and machine tools, though areas of interlocked grain should be approached with care to avoid tearout. Able to take a very high natural polish. Turns and glues well.

Odor: No characteristic odor.

Allergies/Toxicity: Besides the standard health risks associated with any type of wood dust, no further health reactions have been associated with *Macacauba*. See the articles [Wood Allergies and Toxicity](#) and [Wood Dust Safety](#) for more information.

Pricing/Availability: Commonly imported under a variety of common names, and in a number of forms (lumber, turning blanks, flooring, etc.). Expect prices to be moderate for an imported exotic hardwood.

Sustainability: *Macacauba* is not listed in the CITES Appendices or on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species, although a single Costa Rican species, *Platymiscium pleiostachyum*, is listed as endangered. The species is estimated to have less than 2,500 mature individuals still living, and the population is estimated to continue to decline at least 20% over the next two generations. This species has been exploited for lumber in the past, but there's no indication that it's been exported internationally.

Common Uses: Furniture, cabinetry, veneer, musical instruments, turned objects, and small specialty wood items.

Comments: This wood goes by a number of common names, with none of them having a clear predominance. *Macacauba* or *Macawood* is usually used when referring to the lumber, while *Hormigo* is more commonly used for specialty applications such as turning or musical

instruments. Orange Agate has also been used as a trade name to help sell the wood. The ambiguous name Granadillo is also sometimes applied to this wood (along with dozens of other species).

Related Species:

None available.

From the Wood Database (wood-database.com)

Other Information

Deep reds, browns, blacks and occasional violets penetrate through this exotic hardwood. Similar to Cocobolo, another name for Granadillo is Mexican Rosewood, though Granadillo is easier to work and glues much more readily. It is dense and straight with a closed grain structure. Although not a true Rosewood, it is commonly used by many in South America for instrument building under the name Macacauba (*Platymiscium pinnatatum*).

The Pen Kit

The pen kit used was a **No Press Comfort**. No Press pens give you the ability to change the blanks using the same hardware parts. The tubes have threads inside the tubes and the hardware pieces have threads. In the case of a 2 part pen one of the tubes has only one threaded end because the twist mechanism slides into the upper blank as with any press pens and this presents an orientation issue when gluing the tubes in the blank. I gave Penn State Industries an average rating for this pen. I was not impressed with the tightness of the hardware and felt No Press pens would tend to unscrew too easily.





**Hardware parts of
the No Press Pens
have threads for
easy changing of
blanks**

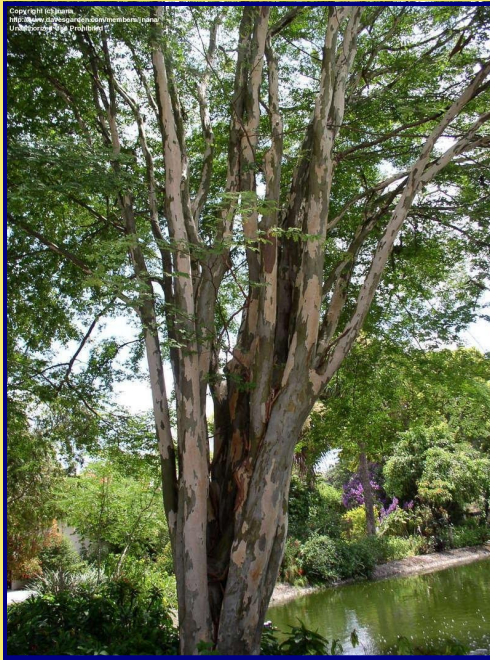


**The same hardware parts changed the Granadillo
pen into a Canarywood pen**



**With a little tweaking and a smaller center ring
the larger Comfort pen can be made into a Slim-
line pen. (This one is of Zebrawood). Note: The
No Press Comfort pen uses a 7.5 mm drill bit
and the tubes are slightly larger than a SlimLine.**

Granadillo Tree and Some Uses



COMING EVENTS

Meetings are first Wednesday of the month at 7 pm. Open house—Coffee and Chips - is the second Saturday of the month from 8 am to 12 pm

Meeting Dates and Demonstrations

March 7 - Tom Leonard - Closed End Pen Turning

April 4 - John Layde - Basket Illusion

Preident's April Challenge is Turned Bird Houses

May 2 - Barry Grill - Fluteless Bowl Gouge

June 6 - To Be Determined

July - Date to be determined because 1st Wednesday is the Fourth

August 1 - To Be Determined

Open House-Coffee and Chips Dates

March 10

April 14

May 12

June 9

July 14

August 11

Meetings and Coffee and Chips are held in the Eau Claire Insulation building at 1125 Starr Ave on the northeast side of Eau Claire, Wi.

March Demonstration Closed End Pen Turning Tom Leonard

Demo Description

Closed end pens are pens that do not have hardware at one or both ends. Turning requires special mandrels. The demonstration will show how to use two different closed end mandrels and the differences between the two. The mandrels are one from Penn State Ind. called the Big Grabber and the other is from Craft Supplies USA called Pen Makers Choice Closed End Mandrel.

Demonstrators Comments

I have had glancing interest in woodworking for many years and my friend Jerry Engedal told me of the CVWG from his friend Brian George. This was in 2009. I came to a few meetings and finally bought a lathe. I didn't get into turning pens until 2014 when the group called for members to help with the Learn To Turn at the 2014 Expo. When I took over the newsletter editor's position I wanted at least one article to be local and hit on the Pen Wood of the Month. It presented a long term local item because of the large variety of woods and the pen kits. I have done 26 pen features of which the last 2 have been closed end pens.



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***Photos of Show and Tell / Gallery items
provided by : Bruce Lindholm***