



North Carolina **WOODTURNER**

Journal of the North Carolina Woodturners Association
A Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners

Volume 12, Number 6

June 2002



May 2002 - Challenge Project Winner
Natural Edge Black Walnut Bowl , 14"Ø
by Ric Erkes, Davidson, NC

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By John Winslett

Our May demonstration was a special treat with Bobby Clemons, President of AAW, and a skilled turner and instructor. I think we all were refreshed with his precise techniques and clear explanations. He made it look too easy!

We were glad to welcome Mary Bachand back to our meeting. You were missed, Mary, and so were your goodies! I remind all that while Mary prepares the snacks you are expected to be generous in contributing to the cost. That is the purpose of the box on the table!

With regret, I received a letter of resignation from our Vice President and Program Chairman, Dwight Hartsell, effective December 31, 2002. I had hoped he would succeed me since my term expires at the same time. He is not leaving us but needs more free time. So be alert - a search committee is considering a candidate for both of us!

The Klingspor Corporation (our host) is planning another woodworking extravaganza show this fall and has notified me they would like to have our participation again this year. We will have a booth and will be demonstrating turning and display examples of our work. Those wishing to sell display pieces may do so. The event will be held in the Hickory Convention and details will be forthcoming.

Our June meeting will be on the 8th with Talmadge Murphy of Franklin, NC, demonstrating multiple axis turning. We begin at 1:00 p.m. but the Board will meet at 11:00 a.m. See you there.

John

We recently learned that Mary's mother passed away. We extend our deepest sympathy to Mary and Ken.

Raffle Report - by Ken Phillips

We wish to thank all that have donated articles & wood for the raffle, and we would like to continue receiving these donations from all who can donate.

Raffle prices: \$1 - 1 ticket; \$5 - 6 tickets; \$10 - 13 tickets

Behind the Scenes - by John Uteck

Special thanks to John French and Craig Summerville for the newsletter mailings.

Coming Events - by Dwight Hartsell and Ric Erkes

June 8th from 1:00 to 4:00 The demonstrator for June 8 will be Mr. Talmadge Murphy, from Franklin, NC. Talmadge has been turning for more than 20 years and his turnings intensified after his retirement in 1994. Being an engineer, he is more interested in more complex and involved forms with multi-axis vessels with handles being his specialty.



Talmadge will show us how to do a simple multi-axis vessel. For all turners, from novice to professional, this should be a very interesting demonstration. Come join us at 1:00 on June 8th.

[ed. see also, the Winter 2000 American Woodturner, Volume 15, No. 4, published by the AAW, for more information on Talmadge's turnings].

June 28 - 30th - AAW Symposium in Providence, Rhode Island.

July 13th from 1:00 to 4:00 will be our own Sam McDowell who will demonstrate turning a vessel and if there is time permitting, Jean Dampier will explain a tool that he designed and made.

August 10th 1 - 4. Dick Nielson will turn a sphere.

September 14th, John Hill will demonstrate vacuum chucking.

October 12th and November 9th are open for suggestion and demonstrators. If you have something you want to see, please let Dwight or Ric know.

December 14th will be the Christmas Party and Auction.

Member News - by Mary Bachand

Please welcome returning former member Harry Goodheart of Tryon, NC.

Library News - by Mary Bachand

Some of you have books and videos that are overdue. Please bring them to the June meeting (of course, you will owe rental for the extra month).

I have ordered the following new items for our library:

Video: "From the Tree to the Table" with Mike Mahoney.

Books: Turning Ornaments and Eggs by Dick Sing; and,

Projects for the Mini Lathe by Dick Sing.

NEXT MEETING: JUNE 8th at 1:00 pm

Demonstrator Review - April 2002

by David Propst

April's demonstration was by our own Ric Erkes. As a beginning turner three and a half years ago, Ric sought out the assistance of Don Oetjen. Don advised him on tools, sharpening, etc. and provided a solid foundation for Ric's beginning as a turner. How far Ric has come in that time was evidenced by his interesting and informative demonstration.

Ric began with a photo tour of his shop. He turns on a Nova 3000 with homemade stand weighted with about 450 lbs of sandbags. He pointed out tips about how the shop is arranged for convenience while turning.

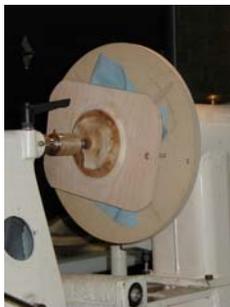
Next, Ric demonstrated the Oneway Wolverine Sharpening system and it's various attachments. The best thing about the system is that it allows for repeatable, consistent grinds with very little metal removed. He specifically showed how he uses the Varigrind jig to produce a fingernail grind on his 1/2" bowl gouge. For bowl bottoms, he uses a second gouge with a blunt grind made by holding the gouge on the grinder tool rest and rotating the tool. He rough grinds a second bevel at the bottom of the edge to increase the clearance of the tool.

One of the tips Don had given Ric early on was that when a bowl is turned over there should be a surprise. This led Ric to start carving feet into his bowl bottoms which was the main topic of his demo. To prepare the bowl he first turns as normal with attention to achieving as smooth of a surface as possible with the gouge before sanding. He gave an excellent demonstration of using the bowl gouge to shear scrape. Before using the gouge to shear scrape he always puts a fresh edge on the tool.



Next, he used a propane torch to light burn the outer rim and then used 20-gauge steel wire to further accent the rim with a fine burned line.

To finish the bottom of the bowl, Ric uses a home made chuck that is a hybrid of a compression and Longworth chuck (see resources at the end of this review). The chuck gives him unrestricted access to the bowl bottom. To center the bowl on the



chuck he mounts the chuck on a tailstock chuck adapter in the tailstock. He then brings this assembly up to the bowl still mounted on the headstock and tightens it.

With the bowl now reversed on the headstock, Ric turns the bottom profile as he pleases and then marks the center point and the boundaries of the area to be carved. To carve the bowl he mounts the chuck holding the bowl onto a 1" post that fits into his workbench or lathe banjo. He then marks the shape and location of the feet.



To carve the majority of the wood from around the feet, Ric uses a Roto-Zip tool with a 1/4" burr cutter bit. He then uses power sanding pads and a palm sander to further refine the shape. To carve a fluted rim Ric follows similar steps which he thoroughly discusses in the video.



The video of this demo goes into much more depth than this brief review with additional tips on sanding, finishing, and more. The video quite clearly shows the steps Ric takes in carving the feet rims of bowls and is an excellent resource for the club library.



Sources

Oneway Wolverine Jig: Klingspors Woodworking Shop,
www.woodworkingshop.com

Tailstock Chuck Adapter: Packard Woodworks,
www.packardwoodworks.com

Burr Carving Cutter: Wholesale Tool,
www.wttool.com

Discount and Reconditioned Tools: Harbor Freight,
www.harborfreight.com

Longworth Chuck:
<http://fholder.com/Woodturning/chuck.htm>

Compression Chuck:
http://www.wwforum.com/faqs_articles/bowl_bottom.html

Demonstrator Review - May 2002

by Don Oetjen



Our demonstrator for the May meeting was Bobby Clemons of Pikeville, Tennessee, who is the current President of AAW. His demonstration consisted of turning simple small bowls, one open bowl, and a natural edge bowl. Lest you think it was beneficial only to beginning turners, I can assure you even experienced turners learned some things they had forgotten or maybe never even knew.

Successful turners can use many different types of tools, turn at different speeds, ride the bevel or scrape but one rule is the same for every one. The tool must be sharp. Remember the rule---You don't sharpen a tool because it's dull, you sharpen because the tool is not as sharp as it should be.

Symmetrical grain pattern in the bottom of a bowl gives a pleasing appearance and an asymmetrical pattern is off putting. One member of the audience insisted that such an attractive pattern was a matter of the luck of having a good piece of wood with which to work. Bobby showed how he gets lucky nearly every time. He pays careful attention to how the log is sectioned. When cutting through the pith to get two half sections, cut in such a way that the pith, as seen on the cut face, is equidistant from each side of the bark edges. This procedure will work very well unless the log has growth rings that are wildly unequal, in which case you might want to discard that piece and try another.

As wood dries there will be shrinkage that can result in cracking. On average, a log will shrink about 1% along the length, 2-4% across the diameter, and 4-8% around the circumference. These numbers are high for mesquite and low for the fruitwoods, but, in general, you can expect these kinds of shrinkage. Bobby doesn't treat his green wood rough turnings with wax or in paper or plastic bags, but simply sets them aside to dry in the shop. He loses some, but by turning to a uniform thickness and by careful selection of the wood, losses are kept to a minimum. It is thought that when a big crack develops, it has started from a crack that was already there. Bobby cuts 6-8" off each end of a log in an effort to eliminate any hairline cracks that may be present.



Bobby used a screw center held in a scroll chuck to mount the wood for an open bowl. He brought up the tailstock for safety, but perhaps more importantly, to mark the center of the bottom so that it would be visible when the bottom was reversed turned. Start by knocking the corners off with the first cuts. Don't round the blank. Don't rush the cuts. When cutting a tenon for the scroll chuck it's critical to form a sharp shoulder for the face of the jaws to seat against. Don't allow the tenon to bottom out in the chuck. With a sharp shoulder the face of the jaws seat to resist any tendency to rock.



With the piece now secured in the chuck, the hollowing out can begin. Bobby's tool control is really a joy to watch. He can start and stop a cut with barely noticeable marks. Perhaps the most obvious feature is that the cut is smooth and slow, then slower still as the tool approaches the center. Reverse turning on a padded form completes the bottom.

Turning a natural edge piece follows a similar procedure. Because Bobby normally uses a vacuum system for holding a bowl to reverse turn, he has no way to knock out a drive center held in a morse taper spindle on his lathe, so he uses a 2 prong drive center held in the same scroll chuck as his screw center. The trick now is to align the piece so that the high ends rotate in the same plane. Cut the bottom until the bark edge at the low points is revealed, then realign the piece so that these points rotate in the same plane. If you cut the log properly as described above, and both the high and low points each rotate in the same plane, a symmetrical pattern in the bottom of the bowl is assured. Completing the piece is similar to doing an open bowl except perhaps in one area. When cutting near the bark try to approach it from the bark side. This way you have the best chance of saving the bark.



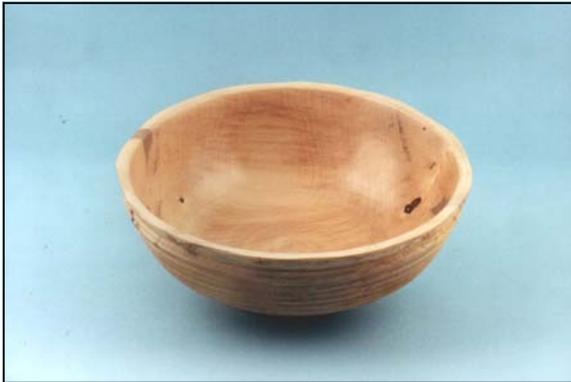
It was a good demo and we thank Bobby for doing it.

I have recently seen a vacuum system and I am convinced that it is a superior method of holding a piece for reverse turning. It also allows you to put a finished piece back on the lathe for further turning if say the bottom warps and needs to be fixed. I encourage you to be sure to come see John Hill later this year as he demonstrates his homemade vacuum system and shows us how to build our own.

NCW GALLERY

Photos by Bonner Guilford

Wet Maple (?), 12 1/2" Ø x 4 3/4"



Wayne Manahan

Sweet Gum, 12 1/4" Ø x 3 1/2"



Edgar Ingram

Silver Maple, 12 1/2" Ø x 4 1/2"

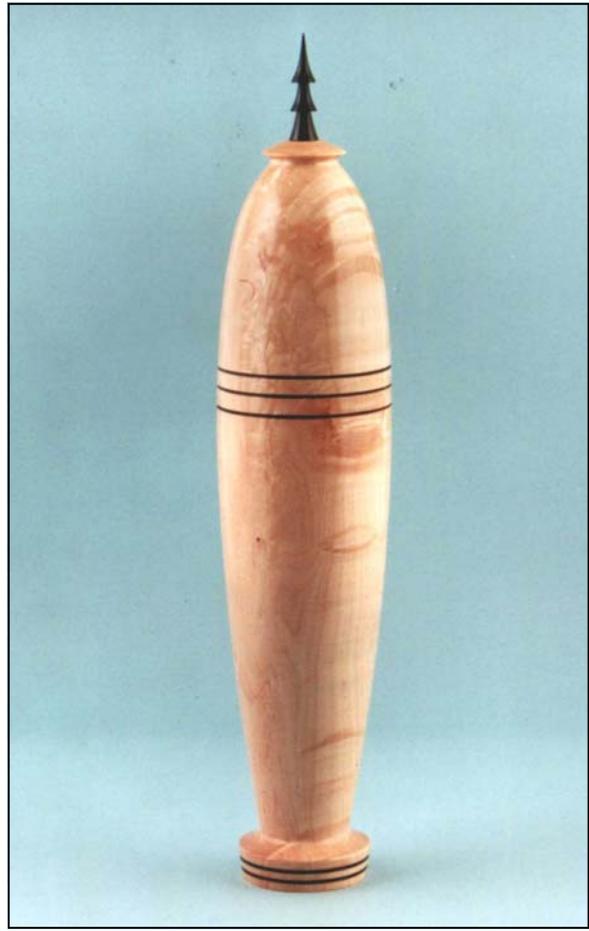


Ric Erkes

Teak, 9 3/4" Ø x 4"



Harold Lineberger

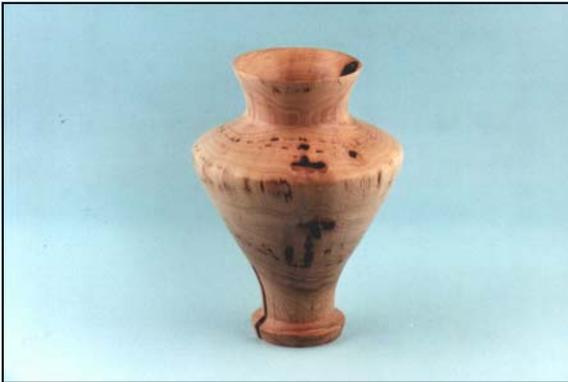


Dwight Hartsell

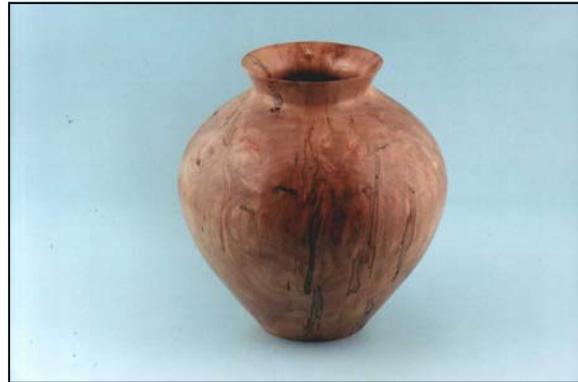
NCW GALLERY

Photos by Bonner Guilford

Hickory, 8 1/2" Ø x 11"



Sp. Maple, 10" Ø x 10"

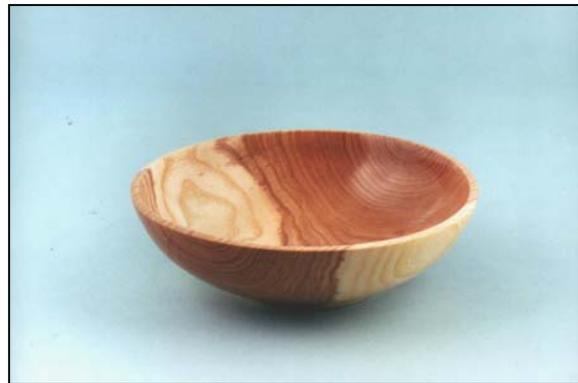


Jerry Ostrander

Ky. Coffee, 7 1/4" Ø x 2 1/4"



Ky. Coffee, 8" Ø x 2 1/2"



Edgar Ingram

Challenge Projects

June: Carving ; i.e., feet, rims, lids, pedestals, etc..
July: Lidded vessels.

August: Back-to-school; i.e., something for teachers or students.
September: Best use of spalted wood.
October: Halloween theme.

November: Thanksgiving or Christmas theme.
December: Annual Christmas party - auction and gallery.

Tops For Charity - Bobby Clemons, reminded us during his demonstration last month, that the AAW is featuring spinning tops at this year's symposium in Providence, RI. He asked that we donate as many tops as we can for charity, so bring your spinning tops, any design, to the June meeting.



NCW GALLERY

Photos by Bonner Guilford

Mahogany, 4" Ø x 4"



John Winslett

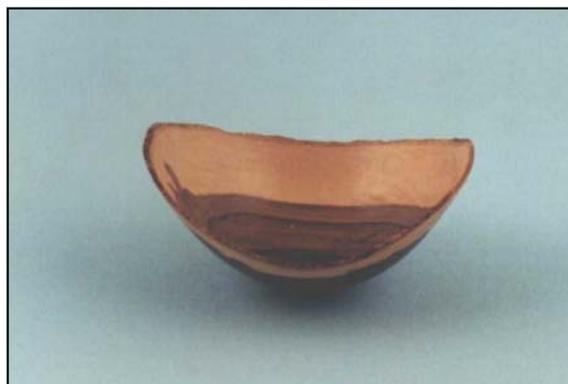
Corian and Various Hardwoods



Dwight Hartsell



Bobby Clemons



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TOPS FOR CHARITY - REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR SPINNING TOPS TO THE JUNE MEETING.

NCW GALLERY

Photos by Bonner Guilford

May Challenge Entries - Natural Edges

Oak Burl, 13" Ø x 6"



Don Olsen

Cherry Burl, 4" Ø



John Winslett

Maple Burl, 5 1/2" Ø x 5"



Jerry Keys

Hickory, 8" Ø x 4 1/2"



Jerry Ostrander

Maple, 7 1/2" Ø x 7"



Jerry Keys

Manzanita Burl, 2 1/2" Ø x 4"



Jerry Keys

Remember, our meetings are always at 1:00 on the second Saturday of the month at Klingspor's Woodworking Shop in Hickory unless otherwise noted in the Journal.
NEXT MEETING: JUNE 8th at 1:00pm