



**MEETING DATE: 7-9-05
MEETING TIME: 10:00 AM
MEETING PLACE:
MIDLAND COLLEGE CENTER (ATC)**

FROM THE PROJECT CHAIRMAN

I am really excited about our July program. It is pretty hard to pick demos that everyone enjoys but this is a great opportunity to do exactly that. There are ten lathes set up at the Midland College Center (ATC). Generally, the plan is to have five lathes designated to demonstrations of various turnings and five lathes to be used as problem solvers. That is; any turner that has questions of any kind that desires help, people will be available to try and help that person.

I think this type of meeting will be very popular if we as members will participate to gain and learn from this format. I encourage us all to ask for help with those things we might be struggling with or something we just don't know how to begin to do.

Don't forget about sharpening of tools. We have people and machinery to show how to obtain most grinds on nearly every tool.

Let's make good use of this great opportunity. I hope to see all of you there on Saturday, July 9.

Don Farris

WOOD DUST FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Well, half a year is gone, and don't know where it went.

The last few months, I have offered some wood chips and other scraps, but this month I feel I am down to dust. I missed the last meeting and somehow, not attending leaves an empty feeling in my brain. I think this feeling demonstrates how important it is to attend every meeting when possible. If you don't attend, you don't know what is happening, and missing the demo's and the interaction with your fellow members, can cause an overall drop in interest.

I know that the last meeting was a good one, as I can't remember the last bad one. In fact, I don't think a bad meeting exists. The only way for a meeting to be bad is when we as individuals don't bring an open mind and share our thoughts and ideas with the

other members and guests. I think the July meeting will be another great one, if we allow ourselves to attend and participate. You may not think you are important, but you never know what your contribution or a small tidbit received will mean to you

SWAT is fast approaching. If you haven't attended, try to make plans to do so. You haven't really experienced woodturning unless you attend an event with 500 or so turners bubbling with enthusiasm. In addition, the opportunity to watch demonstrations by truly professional turners can't help to inspire. The ladies program promises to be another smashing success. If your wife isn't a turner, there is plenty to do, and a lot of nice women to get acquainted with. I don't mean to indicate we don't have women turners in our club and you know you are appreciated and wanted. Unfortunately, if your husband isn't a turner, they don't have a program for them. The program and registration information is on the website: www.swaturners.com. If you don't have a computer, call me (432-682-1477) and I'll see that you get a copy of the information you need. It is my understanding they aren't doing a mailing this year, and depending upon the chapters to get registration information to their members.

I want to share a little bit of "theory" with you regarding my experience in handling wet Apricot and Live Oak.

I have not been turning a lot, but I have been using the microwave with some success. The Apricot has been a real challenge, and I haven't been able to save every piece, but I have been able to slow the cracking somewhat. I haven't been able to dry a block 4"+ and save it. However, by roughing out the shape and then using the microwave before final turning has been reasonably successful. What I do is to turn the shape to between 1" and 1 1/2" thick. I then place it in the microwave (on a paper towel to absorb moisture) and heat it from 3-5 minutes at full temperature. I then let it cool, and repeat the process at least once. The number of times is based on how wet the towel becomes and the amount of steaming occurring. If after the second heating the towel is just damp, I call it good and finish the piece. If there are cracks that develop during the drying process I fill them with sanding dust of the species I'm turning, and use 5 cps super glue to solidify and bind it to the wood.

Remember:

1. Checking and cracking occurs with moisture is removed too rapidly. For some reason branches crack worse than the tree trunk itself. I'm not scientific enough to explain the reasons.
2. Heating the wood simply boils, and vaporizes the water. Check the pieces after 2 or three minutes, if it is steaming, you might want to let it cool some before completing the drying process.
3. In the second or third heat, if the steam being produced is minimal, you are probably good to go.

I look forward to seeing ALL of you Saturday. If you have a project you want to try, bring your material, and have some fun. There will be assistance and help available. I would like to see every lathe busy with the chips flying.

Keep our members who are experiencing difficulties, or who are ill in your thoughts and prayers.

George Hancock
President 2005

FINISHING YOUR TURNINGS PART IV

Commercial Finishes

There are literally thousands of these, but I only use a few. They are:

- BRIWAX friction polish Spirit based. Gives a high gloss "coating" type finish. I use this for smaller bowls that I want a high gloss finish on. It needs little care after the turning is finished.
- C O Wax and Shine (No: 6) A wax containing carnauba, paraffin, shellac, montane and beeswax, solvent based, quick drying. Cheap! (Silicon free) I use this for bud vases, non food bowls etc. Needs ongoing polishing and care.
- John Crossley's wood glow wax. This is a wax containing carnauba and beeswax, oil based, slow drying. Penetrates harder woods well. I use this on all sorts of things that I make from New Zealand native woods, which tend to be hard and respond well to the oils in his wax.
- Plasti-kote spray on poly. (Super Urethane) Alcohol resistant. Satin finish. I use this for wine goblets.
- BRIWAX natural wax polish. Fast drying combination of natural waxes. CONTAINS TOLUENE. Boy is this stuff hard on the skin. General polish, but I don't use it that often. It leaves a lasting finish.

WOODTURNING DEFINATIONS

Boring.

Drilling a hole

Bowl Rest.

Special rest which reaches into the bowl to reduce tool overhang.

Bowl turning attachment.

A bracket which holds the toolrest and joins to the lathe allowing large diameter turning.

Boxes.

Cylindrical turned containers.

Burr.

"Burl" A mass of tiny knots in the wood which gives an attractive and highly prized blank.

C:

Cam locking.

An eccentric pivoting lever operated mechanism is used to give powerful clamping force. Often used to clamp the "banjo" to the bed.

Capacitor start.

This is added to a single phase motor to give extra starting torque. Not needed on three phase motors.

Carbide Cutting Tools.

Not to be confused with high speed steel, an example is cemented tungsten carbide as used for tipping saws, router cutters etc. This is not a steel at all, it is powdered carbide fused into a solid with a cobalt binder. It will not take such a keen edge as steel.

Carbon Steel.

Steel which can be hardened by heat treatment and which becomes hard because of its carbon content? It is just as hard as HSS and takes a very keen edge. It is still used by some turners because of this. See high speed steel (which contains carbon but depends on other alloying elements for its cutting performance)

Carborundum.

Silicon carbide used for abrasive. Silicon carbide wheels (called "green grit" because they are green in color) are used for sharpening cemented carbide tipped tools but they are not recommended for HSS tools. The Carborundum Company also makes aluminum oxide wheels - which have been known to cause some confusion! The grey wheels on cheap grinders are corundum (impure aluminum oxide) not Carborundum.

Cast Iron.

This can be recognized by the molded dimpled surface and lumpy thick sections. Although less dense than steel, more is used to achieve the desired strength and cast lathes are nice and weighty. The consequence of the thick section is massive rigidity and very little vibration.

Center Points.

The drive centre and tail centre points.

Centre.

Used at the headstock end (drive centre) and at the tailstock end (tailstock centre) to support the work and hold it in place.

Centrifugal Switch.

A switch inside a capacitor start motor which disconnects the capacitor when the motor runs up to full speed.

Chuck work.

Projects which require hollowing or drilling such as bowls, goblets are held in a chuck. The term is sometimes restricted to projects having the grain running axially such as a goblet or vase.

Chuck.

A device used to hold a piece of wood firmly to the end of the spindle. If a piece of wood cannot be held between centers it is held in a chuck.

Cobalt alloy.

Cobalt is used in some grades of high speed steel.

Collet. A type of chuck jaw.

A collet set is closed by the action of a tapered chuck ring.

Continental spindle gouge.

All gouges were once this type - forged from strip not machined from round. They have a more regular thickness and are easier to use and sharpen (my opinion).

Copy turning.

Making identical replicas of chair spindles etc.

Counterbore.

A kind of drill bit which has a pilot which follows a pre-drilled hole to open it up to a bigger size. Will also function as a drive center. Handy for making lamps.

Crotch Figure.

A lovely grain pattern found where two limbs of the tree divide.