

Richmond Woodturners

Newsletter October 2019



Meeting Notes of the Richmond Woodturners September 19, 2019

Welcome New Members & Guests:

Visitors: Gary Williams, Mechanicsville; Mike Blackburn, Hurricane, WV; Carin Clark, Huntington, WV

Club Shirts – See Steve Schwartz

Cabinet for Lending Library /Storage/Tool —Installed and operational

Reminder for Mid Atlantic Woodturning Symposium

State Fair— September 27 to October 6

Reminder for the November Elections:

Vice President

Resource Director

Membership Director

Past President

Demos:

Tonight: Demos & Hands-On

- The skew - Bowl/detail gouge - Texturing.

October: Bruce Robbins – Tops

Basic to Advanced.

November: Dean Cox – Tops from the Master

May include some hands-on.

December : Holiday Party – No demo

Quarterly Challenges

Tonight – Item with Feet or Handle

4th Quarter – December - Tops that spin – Competition

1st Quarter 2020: Purely Sculptural. Turn a piece with no real or perceived practical function

2nd Quarter 2020: Natural Edge / Bark Edge - Bowl, Platter, Goblet, Weed Pot.

Other Business or Announcements ?

Show and Tell and 3rd Quarter Challenge took place

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After the business portion of the meeting, three of our members described three different tools used in woodturning. Barbara Dill showed how to use her type of spindle gouge and a special bowl gouge to turn some basic shapes. Steve Schwartz described different types of skewes and how to sharpen and use them. Bob Silkensen used several texturing tools to add surface embellishments to a turning.

Steve Schwartz - Skew Demo

The first thing you need to know about a skew is that it is only intended for use on spindle turnings. By spindle turning it means the grain is parallel to the lathe bed. Skewes make 3 basic cuts, Planing, Peeling and Shoulder.

1) The Planing cut refers to shaving off a thin layer of wood. See Photo 1. This is a finishing cut in which you can only take off a very thin layer with each pass. Take your time and cut slowly. What is exceptional about this tool is the incredibly smooth finish you can get. Starting to sand with 400 grit or not sanding at all is not uncommon. Depending on how wide your tool is and how long a section you are planing, you can use this cut for shallow convex and concave surfaces.



Photo 1 The Planing cut

2) The Peeling cut is when you present the cutting edge of the tool at 90° to the wood while riding the bevel. See Photo 2. Like a paper lollipop stick, you unwrap layers of wood. This can be a very aggressive way to remove a lot of wood quickly which is followed by a planing cut or spindle gouge to clean up and shape the surface. A standard angled skew will work but a modified skew as shown in Ill. 3 is much easier to use for this cut.



Photo 2 The Peeling cut

3) The shoulder cut refers to using the long point of the skew to face off end grain. See Photo 3. You might use this when making a box. By facing off the top surface of the box, you remove all tear out and leave a surface that does not need sanding. Hold your tool with the long point down and the bevel parallel to the cut and try to take off 1/64 - 1/32 of wood on each pass. After a few passes, you will have no end grain tearout.



Photo 3 The Shoulder cut

The most common problem people have with the skew is catches when doing a planing cut. The tool suddenly flips over and you get a deep spiral cut going backward from the direction of cut. This has a really easy fix. You are only supposed to use the bottom 1/3 of the cutting surface. When the tool contacts the wood at the midway or higher, it flips.

The next most common problem of your skew is sharpening to a hard to use profile. The rule of thumb is that when looking from the top of the skew, the tip of the point should be roughly 1½ times longer than the width of the steel. See Photo 4. Real long bevels are extremely touchy and difficult to use. You can use any grinder with a flat plate to rest the skew on. Any stone from 120 - 600 will work fine. The traditional profile is great for planing straight surfaces and shoulder cuts. The curved profile is great for peeling as well as planing and shoulder cuts.



Photo 4 profiles

Finally, your skew must be sharper than the average bowl or spindle gouge. To do this, simply use a few strokes on a honing stone to polish a micro bevel at the edge. I rest the stone on the heel of the tool and move it up and down until it just contacts the cutting edge. After 3 or 4 strokes, you should be able to see a very thin sparkly line along the cutting edge - that's all you need. Repeat with a hone every 2 - 4 minutes. If the wood doesn't start a cut easily, then go back to the wheel.

Bob Silkensen - Embellishments

Bob described several tools commonly used to add embellishments to turnings of various shapes. One of them is shown at right. Some of the tools mentioned are: small groove tool, mini and regular size detail gouges, pyramid tool, chatter tool, spiral texture tool, wire with beads and Robert Sorby marking tool. He mentioned the cost of several of these tools. Much of his discussion consisted of the various techniques to use each of the tools. While Bob described the use of these tools, he also described the various ways that the turning could be mounted. A little used embellishment is inserting a glass tube to convert the turning into a water proof vase. He described how to drill the hole to hold such a glass tube. Another little used embellishment is using a piece of wire (various sizes and thickness) held in a groove to burn the groove. It helps to have a bead at the ends of the wire in order to hold the wire in place. Speed of the lathe for different diameters of the turning has a different effect of how the tools act in the process of generating a same surface on the piece. Bob tried to show this effect in turning a piece similar to that in the mid-section of the photo.



Sorby Spiral Texturing tool is sold in two sizes, original and mini. Personally, I like the mini for nearly all my work on small items like bud vases or candle stick holders. Of course, as the name implies, creating a spiral is the easiest pattern to create.

End grain can accept many different patterns. In the picture to the right shows that done by using the mini-tool, first vertically near the center, then a slight rotate to get the next ring of a pattern, then rotate a little more then rotate a little more again then finally back to vertical and near straight in for the last ring of dashes. Here I colored the wood ping and added some liming was to highlight the patterns.



Here I used the same mini-tool set it at a slight angle, about one o'clock position, then moved the tool to the left while I continued to rotate the tool to about a two o'clock position near the edge. Again, it was colored and highlighted for a better picture.

The tool can also be used on the side grain. Here I used the tool on the 2 o'clock position and moved the tool to the left (right side of picture). Then I turned the wheel around (so that the tightening nut was on the right with the bevel on the right also). I then started on the far left and moved the tool to the right making the spirals shown.



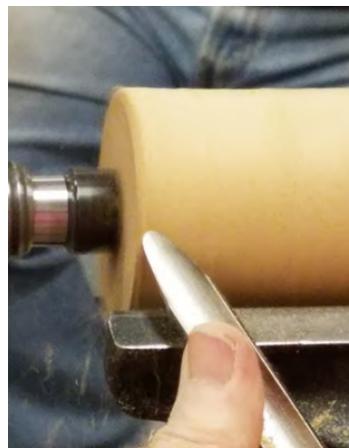
Then I did the same left and right spiral on top of each other to produce a knurled knob affect.



These are but a few of the many possible patterns that are possible with the Sorby Spiral Texturing Tool. Here is a small mini bud vase I have made using this tool!

Barbara Dill - Basic Shapes

Barbara's focus during this presentation was to show how to prepare a spindle to be used in a multi-axis project. Fundamentally, the cutting of coves and beads is a basic turning which almost every woodturner should know. The process includes the roughing out of the pieces and then turning some of the various shapes of beads and coves on the spindle. Her favorite tools for doing this is; a bowl gouge ground to a shape very similar to a roughing gouge (same shape but narrower) ground to 70-80 degrees. a regular ground spindle, and a plain half-inch spindle gouge but ground to a very sharp angle of 30 degrees. She mentioned that the tools used are sharpened using a Wolverine Tool holding system. She uses the same setup for each of her same type tools. Her sharpening techniques are documented in some of her publications, including "*Muliti-Axis Turning*" and in several on-line Youtube videos. At each phase of the process, Barbara showed how to complete the step, then let club members try the process instead of just watching. It was noted that the handles are removeable from each tool. This is so that they can be detached and packed for travel as well as to be attached to the favorite tool of the project.



Letter from the President – October 2019

Wow! In my mind our annual trek to demonstrate and to show what Richmond Woodturners are made of at the Virginia State Fair was a resounding success. The turnout by our members was fantastic. It was very gratifying to see that we were able to be there for the entire 10 day period. That's over 150 man and woman hours of turning and exposure to the public. With the smiles, looks of amazement and ensuing discussions I for one, had a great time. It was especially gratifying to see the obvious interest in young and older alike. Big thanks goes to Dan for his organizational efforts. and thank-you to all who took the time to show your skills and love of our craft in support of our club.

Richmond Woodturners will hold its officer elections next month at our November meeting. If you are interested in a Board seat or would like to find out how to help run the club, please see or e-mail any board member to find out more. Remember, your participation is what makes this club the best!

Four key elected positions need to be filled to keep our club strong:

Vice President: Jim Bumpass has served us in an exemplary fashion serving on the board and coordinating demonstrators as program director. As Jim will be stepping down, someone will be needed to coordinate our monthly demonstrations for the upcoming year.

Resource Director: Is in charge of maintaining the club's library of books, CD's, DVD's and loaner tools and to make library and loaner tools available to membership at monthly meetings.

Membership Director: Is charged with greeting new members and visitors, collecting dues, and to maintain membership roster and phone list.

Past President 1: Should be willing to accept specific duties as assigned, based on current needs of the club.

Enjoy and digest the balance of the newsletter. Bob Marchese and Izumi Miller put a lot of effort into a great newsletter. Thanks to Tim Warren for his photography skills. Please remember to fill out a photo tag for your show & tell items so that we can accurately identify your work.

We'll see you at the meeting.

Keep your tools sharp, yourself safe and let the chips fly.

Bill Buchanan

Wooden Badges can be ordered shortly after the October meeting. This will be the last order until spring 2020. See Lee Scarbrough

CHALLENGE - SOMETHING WITH A FOOT OR HANDLE



Robert Gundel, Maple Burl, Buffed and Waxed, 5 X 7



Steve Schwartz, Osage Orange, Poly, 6 X 4½



Brad Miller, Cherry, Wax, 10 X 3



Chuck Moser, Maple & Walnut, Lacquer, With Glass by Lisa, 4 X 3



Bruce Robbins, Maple & Wart Hog Tusks, Danish Oil, 4 X 4



Jim Bumpas, Unknown Species, Bees Wax & Mineral Oil, Salt Pig/Tea Box

SHOW AND TELL



Gordon Kendrick, Paulownia, Shellac,
Ebony Ends



Ray Melton, Holly & Walnut, First Attempt



Steve Kellner, Cherry & Ebony, Small/Med-
Varnish, Large – boiled Linseed Oil, Practice
Avelino Samuel Teaching



Tim Warren, Butternut, Walnut, Ebony, Lacquer,
5½ X 2¾



Sherry Neff, Cedar & Unknown, Bowling Ally Wax &
Paint, Assorted Spindles



Tim Warren, Black Mesquite, Ma-
ple, Birch, & Cherry, Lacquer, 5 X 2

SHOW AND TELL - CONTINUED



Bob Silkensen, Walnut, Hampshire Shine, Resin Filled, 11½



Steve Schwartz, Red Oak, Wax



Robert Gundel, Ash/African Black
Wood, Buffed and Waxed,
9 X 3 & 2 X 3½



Jim O'Hanlon, Walnut, Oil, 8¾ X 2



Jim O'Hanlon, Walnut, Oil, 9¾ X 2

SHOW AND TELL - CONTINUED



Dick Hines, curly Maple, Lacquer,
3½ X 4 and 2 X 3



Dan Luttrell, Mixed Species, CA,



Jared Parker, Mahogany & Crape
Myrtle, CA & Sanding Paste



John Roberts, Sycamore, Wipe on Polly,
Early Halloween Witches Cauldron



Jerry Fisher, Mahogany, Poly, 5 ½ X 4 tall,
From the Avelino Samuel Class



Jim Bumpas, Maple, 13½ X 11½ wide



Jim Zorn, Various Species, CA,
Segmented

Introduction to Segmented Penturning

On Thursday, September 12th, the Penturners group met for an Introduction to Penturning, led by John Penberthy and Jim Zorn. After discussing some basic information on materials, cutting segments, gluing, drilling, and sanding, a discussion of four basic pen designs was presented.

For all segmented pens, accuracy in cutting and drilling is essential. In addition, slow drilling of blanks (prevent heat buildup and failure of the CA-glued joints), careful turning to avoid catches (turn from the ends toward the middle), and attention to contaminating lighter wood with dark wood or metal dust are important.

A couple of pens created with the first concept are shown below. In each case, a blank is created from four 3/8" by 3/8" pieces of wood. Various colors and sequences of colors can be used. After the four pieces had been glued and cured, a hole is drilled in the blank for the pen kit being used. The pen on top was created by cutting "slices" of say 1/8" thick pieces, stacking them on the tube, and securing them with CA glue. An alternating pattern is used when placing the pieces. For the pen on the bottom, the "slices" are cut at an 11-degree angle and then stacked and glued on the tube. Contrasting materials, such as colored veneer, can be used between each piece to enhance the design. Many different patterns can be created with this technique



The second concept involves the use of scallops at one or both ends of a blank (one- or two-piece pen as shown below). The scallops are created by cutting 4 pieces off the end of a blank, one at a time, at an angle of 45 or 60 degrees. An equal size piece of material is then glued back on the blank with CA glue. The replaced material can be the same as the blank, a contrasting piece of wood, or a "sandwich" of metal, veneer, and wood. After each piece is glued on, a disk sander is used to "square" the blank before the next cut. A jig and stop block are used to ensure each cut is made at the same distance from the end of the blank. Normally, two opposite sides are cut, followed by the other two sides. The second two sides can be cut further up the blank to create larger scallops on these two sides.



Another interesting technique is the use of medallions as shown below. These appear as circles on the blank. These are created at the drill press using a hole saw, with a jig and stop to ensure consistent locations for the medallions. Only a small piece of the hole saw cuts through the blank. After cutting each medallion, a replacement piece is glued in its place. The same material, contrasting material, or a "sandwich" of materials can be used, similar to doing scallops.



The final design uses a mortiser with a 1/4" bit to create diamonds in the blank. The opening is then filled with a 1/4" by 1/4" piece of wood or other contrasting material. The remainder of the blank is created by cutting small pieces of wood at a 45-degree angle and then gluing them together as shown.



To learn more about any of these techniques or pens in general, come to one of our meetings!

Thanks to Jim Zorn for providing this article.

Richmond Woodturners Library as of January 2017

Books

Turning Projects	Richard Raffan
Turning Bowls	Richard Raffan
Turning Wood	Richard Raffan
Turning Boxes	Richard Raffan
The Woodturner's Workbook	Ray Key
Pens From the Lathe	Dick Sing
Lathes and Turning Techniques	Fine WoodWorking
Turning for Furniture	Ernie Conover
Multi-center Woodturning	Ray Hopper
Encyclopedia of Wood	
500 Wood Bowls	
Collector's Choice SOFA Chicago, 2002	
Lathe-turned Objects	
AAW American Woodturner Journals:	
Spring 2004 Vol 19, No.1	
Fall 2004 Vol 19, No.3	
Summer 2005 Vol 20, No.2	
Winter 2005 Vol 20, No.4	

DVDS

Richmond Woodturners Presents	Matt Birchfield
Tony Cortese Carving	Tony Cortese
Turning Pens	Kip&Rex
Turning Projects	Richard Raffan
The Skew Chisel	Alan Lacer
Turning Wood	Richard Raffan
Cindy Drozda Club Demo	Cindy Drozda
Woodturning with Steven Russell	Steven Russell
Bowl Turning	Del Stubbs
Turning Boxes	Richard Raffan
Richmond Woodturners Presents	Tom Crabb
Dyeing/Staining Acrylics Vols 1 & 2	Irene Grafer
Patination Pyrography	Irene Grafer
Bowl Turning	Lyle Jamieson
Tip & Tricks	Lyle Jamieson
Hollow Forms	Lyle Jamieson
Easy-core Coring system & The Wolverine jig	
AAW American Woodturning 1986-1992 Vols.1-8	
AAW American Woodturning 1994-2001 Vols. 6-16	

VCR TAPES

Turning Wood	Richard Raffan (2)
Turning Projects	Richard Raffan
Turning a Box with a Fitted Lid	Richard Raffan
Turning Boxes	Richard Raffan
Club Demo	Matt Birchfield
Woodturning Techniques	Dave Hout
Bowl Turning	John Jordan
Tips for Turners	David Ellsworth
First Steps in Woodturning	Chris Stott
Natural Edges & Hollow Forms	Chris Stott
The Ellsworth Signature Gouge	David Ellsworth
Turned Bowl Fundamentals	Phil Pratt
Introduction to Bowl Turning	Russ Hurt
The Skew Chisel	Alan Iacer
Practice of Woodturning	Mike Darlow
The Kelton Hollower Part I	Kelton Industries
Basic Offcenter Turning	Chris Stott
Turning Projects from Scrap	Robert Rosand
Dust be Gone	Pajo Inc.
Skill Building Projects	Mark St. Ieger
Demo	Tom Crabb
The AAW /Who we are-What we Offer	
The Instant Gallery/Critique 1998 AAW Symposium	
Techniques of the AAW Symposium Vol. 1	

Richmond Woodturners Library (Added 4-18-19)

BOOKS

Ornaments & Eggs	Dick Sing
TOPS-Making the Universal Toy	Michael Cullen
Miniature Birdhouses	Dick Sing
Woodturning Xmas Ornaments	Dale Nish
Turning Custom Duck and Game Calls	Ed Glenn & Greg Keats

DVDS

Turning The World Vol. 1, Vol. 2, Vol 3	Jimmy Clewes
Turn It Up Vol. 1, Vol. 2, Vol. 5	Jimmy Clewes
Turn It On Vol. 1. Vol. 2, Vol. 3	Jimmy Clewes
Skew Chisel	Alan Lacer
Son of Skew	Alan Lacer
Vessels of Illusion	Trent Bosch
Decorative Utility Bowls	Trent Bosch
Hollow Forms-The Easy Way(2)	Lyle Jamieson
Aesthetics & Properties of Wood	John Jordan
Finial Star	Cindy Drozda
Basic Pen Turning	Bill Baumbeck
Turned Bowls Made Easy	Bill Grumbine
Beyond the Basic Bowl	Bill Grumbine
Making s Peppermill	Ted Sokolowski
Turning for Food(Kitchen Projects)	Nick Cook
Hollow Forms and Urns(Workshop)	Mike Mahoney
Closed-End Pens Design & Turning Techniques	Davidson



We came, We turned, They loved it

The State Fair project, this year, was a huge success. 23 turners, 40 shifts, 10 days, 160 hours of demonstration, our largest event so far. Personally, I had a great time. A lot of smiles were achieved, from the very young, to those somewhat older. Perhaps there will be some future turners as a result. Thank you to all who participated. Now it's time to begin thinking about what we can do next year.



Board Officers

Bill Buchanan - President
Jim Bumpas - Vice President
Bob Silkensen - Secretary
Cody Walker - Treasurer

Directors

Dan Luttrell – Membership Director
Georgia Wood – Activities Director
Stan VanDruff – Information Director/Webmaster
Chuck Bajnai – Resource Director
Ray Deyo – Past President
Lee Scarbrough – Past President

Committee Chairpersons

Jim O’Hanlon – Turning Competition
Jared Parker – Audio/Video
Charlie Hamilton – Social Media
Meg Turner – AAW Women in Turning Liaison

Newsletter Staff

Bob Marchese – Editor
Izumi Miller—Contributing Writer
Tim Warren—Photographer

October Snacks & Drinks

Providers

Georgia Wood Ice/Cooler
Mike Squire 2liter Coke
Ned Robertson 2liter Pepsi
Philip Duffy 2liter Coke
Ralph Lutz Caffeine free soda
Ray Deyo 2liter Diet Coke
Ray Melton Chips
Richard Crook Sweet Snack
Rob Morgan Salty Snack
Robert Gundel Salty Snack

Please Text Georgia if you cannot bring
assigned snack @ 804-525-8291

2019 Demonstrations

October 17: Bruce Robbins. Tops, Basic to Advanced.

November 21: David Sterling will: How to Prevent End Grain Tear Out

December 19: Holiday Party and Tops Competition.

January

February

Financial Report

There are no changes to our balance of \$5,019.96

Quarterly Challenges

The Challenges are regularly scheduled for the third month of each quarter (March, June, September, and December). Entries will be placed on a table separate from the Show-n-Tell table.

4th Quarter, 2019 – December Tops that spin – Competition

1st Quarter, 2020 - Purely Sculptural. Turn a piece with no real or perceived practical function

2nd Quarter -Natural Edge /Bark Edge - Bowl, Platter, Goblet, Weed Pot, Etcetera

Richmond Woodturners Info

Our club meets on the third Thursday of each month at the Richmond Woodcraft Store (see last page for directions). Dues are \$25. per year and due each January. Guests are welcome. Special rates for those who join late in the year. See Dan Luttrell (Membership Director, danluttrell@verizon.net) or at the meeting for more information. Our events are now incorporated into the Richmond Cultural Arts Calendar which is a community-based organization that supports local arts organizations and individuals by highlighting events, performances, etc. Our current page can be accessed at the following link:

http://calendar.richmondcultureworks.org/event/richmond_woodturners_monthly_meeting

or at: <https://www.richmondwoodturners.org>

Tools that can be borrowed

Several new tools have been added to our collection recently— a list as well as photos of the newly acquired should be available soon.

Wooden Badges can be ordered shortly after the October meeting. This will be the last order until spring 2020. See Lee Scarbrough



Contact the store at:

Phone: [804-355-3945](tel:804-355-3945)

Fax: 804-355-2532

Email: richmond-retail@woodcraft.com

9862 West Broad Street

Glen Allen, VA 23060

Organizations such as the Richmond Woodturners, Richmond Pen turners and James River Woodcarvers would not exist if it weren't for the kindness of their sponsors. We are blessed and grateful to have the Richmond Virginia Woodcraft store supporting us and our activities. Members get a 10% discount on meeting nights for most turning related items.

Please remember this and support them at every opportunity!

For the classes provided at this location see:

<https://www.woodcraft.com/stores/richmond/classes>. Look for classes taught by Ray Deyo, Clark Brummett, David Sterling, Brian Noble-Marx and others.

For sale: Delta 1440 Iron Bed Lathe—model 46-715. Recently refurbished with new spindle pulley set and v-belt. Runs great. \$400. Call Bob Marchese at 585-509-7087.

Available for demo at shop in Glen Allen—very near Woodcraft store.

