

WOODCHIPS - 2016



February



March Challenge:
A thin walled turning

**Look at the silent
auction items when you
come into the meeting.
Follow KCWT on Facebook**

March Demo
Chip Siskey will be
turning a square bowl

MEETING

We had a couple new members show up at the meeting along with a couple visitors. That's always a good thing.

We are looking for an individual to help **Jack Karstens** with the AV equipment. It involves some time during the meeting and, perhaps, during professional demonstration sometimes. If you can learn to turn you can learn to run this equipment. You could also find that helpful if you wanted to volunteer to help during the 2017 AAW Symposium here in KC.

The Library also needs some attention, especially during the meetings so that members can check things out and return them and we have a record of who and what. You don't even have to know the Dewey



Decimal System. Things are already catalogued and the system set up is pretty easy to use. No fine collection either. You won't even miss the meeting because you'll use a little time before the meeting, during the break, and a little after. How easy can it be?????? Common, you can do it. KCWT needs you. Just let one of the Officers know.

Open shop is going really well. There has been lots of participation. Please use the sign-in sheet attached to the door. We also appreciate the donations that are being made as they help to pay for the extra days and some of the repairs.

Rich McCartney, Chip Siskey, Mike McReynolds and **Shaun McMahon** and the members of the local committee working with the AAW to prepare for the 2017 Symposium here in Kansas City. You can let any one of them know that you want to help with the event.

April 8,9,10 Tool Show, Lots of fun and can use some volunteers - see **Rick Bywater**.

DEMONSTRATION

Jerry McMaster, KCWT's Hall of Fame Member, provided the demonstration this month and he specializes in doing thin walled vessels. Much of the time he decorates their exterior like he demonstrated in October of 2013. He pierces and burns and airbrushes. This night he demonstrated the techniques that he uses to get the vessels as thin as he does.



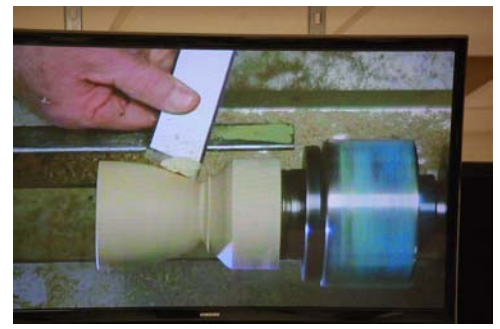
The first thing he did was to pass some of his thin walled turnings around. They do not have to be vases or bowls; he passed around a number of wearable pieces that he and Linda worked on. He said that if he can turn things thin then anyone can - it just takes a lot of time, a lot of practice, and more practice, and more time. If anyone intends to pierce the turning - which he does most of the time - , then he recommends turning to about 1/16 inches- that's what he does. Otherwise "thin" can be a lot of things to everyone.

He recommends that when starting, focus on smaller vessels so that you can see the tip of the tool when you are turning. It gets a lot more complicated when you can't see the tip. Also on some of the pieces there were tastes. He said that in a class with Binh Pho, Binh said not to use dates as customers typically want "newer" pieces and if they are dated, the older ones won't sell. Use a numbering system so that you know when it was made but no one else does.

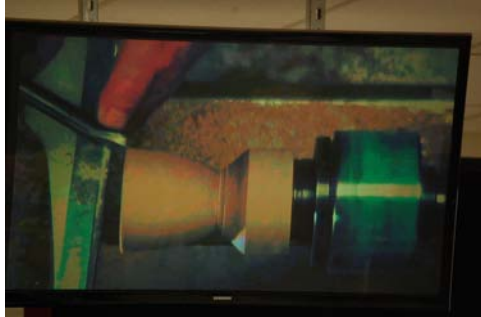


Jerry said that he no longer makes funnels because he's been at this for so long (Right!) but when that does happen (because of inattention, inexperience, or the wood just doesn't like you) frequently the piece can be used for other things. He will decorate a part of it, cut it, and sell the decoration. And, there's always the fire pit.

He said that he wanted to do two things: first, to give some tips that can be used in turning thin walled vessels and second, to discuss some of the tools that he uses in the process. He shared these things while turning, what he called the bottom third of the vessel - in other words, a small one. In doing the bottom one must be very careful because it is end grain and if the tool isn't the right one or very sharp, because it is so thin, the result can be a tear out and then there's a hole. One also needs to be very careful regarding technique on the sides of the vessel or there will be chatter marks. To start off with, keep your tools very sharp and get rid of the overhand choke hold on the tool. It is the overhand grip that causes the chatter marks. He also, on the larger vessels, likes to use the Jameson boring bar.



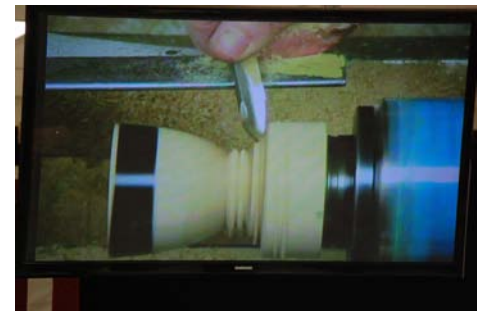
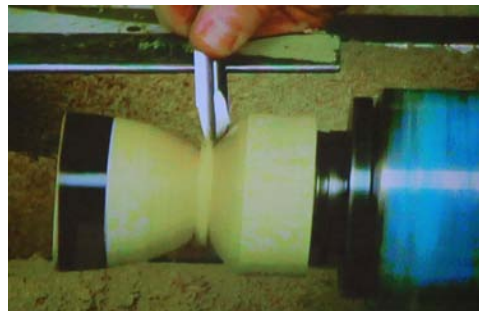
He uses a triangle tired round stocked tool to put the gouges on the bottom. He uses it to start a cut at the edge of a vessel to determine its thickness and so the gouge won't jump back when he engages it to make the first cut on the inside. He uses a skew to make the final cuts on the outside. Make sure you have a proper burr and use a very light hand to get whips of wood off the side.



You want to gradually work your way to the bottom of the vessel. After you have completed the top you take it to the thickness you want and complete it and then you never go back to it.



Make easy and light cuts. Take your time. Leave supportive wood as you work your way down the outside as well as the inside. Take your time when you are blending the inside between removing work with the gouge and scraping out to give a smooth finish. He uses a Hunter like tool on the inside.



One of the tricks to use to cut down on vibration at the edge so that it doesn't crack is to tape the top. Jerry uses electrical tape as it shapes itself to the outside shape of the vessel and it doesn't leave as much residue on the wood as masking tape might. He tends to leave the vessels a little thicker on the bottom as it help the vessel to "sit" better. Use a depth checker so that you are sure you won't end up with a funnel. In parting off, remember the end grain act the bottom - take it in a bit then complete using a saw. This prevents the bottom from tearing out. Make a Scotch vacuum chuck to finish the bottom.

If you follow the directions, use very sharp tools, pay attention, and practice, you too can end up with a very good looking thinned walled vessel.



The Challenge

Rich McCartney provided last month's demo on chucking a piece oddly in order to get a turning. The challenge was to chuck something up in a different manner than one normally does.



Sue Bergstrand searched around for a way to get things attached to her lathe. After a few calls and a few modifications she now has a process. **Jerry McMaster** took some manzanita burl and turned something that looks a bit like a heart. It required a couple different ways of mounting it. **Larry Sumner** also used manzanita burl - was a little jealous because Jerry's was larger. Both Jerry and Larry talked about how their burls contained rocks which made the turning tough. He said that his had a crack in it and he filled it with vanilla dust and said that it worked well.



If you have a really weird piece of wood, sort of small, and you don't know what to do with it, give it to **Kris Coyan**. (Won the challenge) He made something and doesn't really know what it is but it looks good and was chucked up differently by taking two of the jaws off the chuck and clamping it that way. **Efi Kamara** chucked his piece by using a glue gun and attaching it to a face plate. It's a burl and he didn't say anything about rocks. A piece of Birdseye Maple that was bought at Frank Hoage's auction enabled **Mike Erickson** to turn this plate which he attached to a face plate.

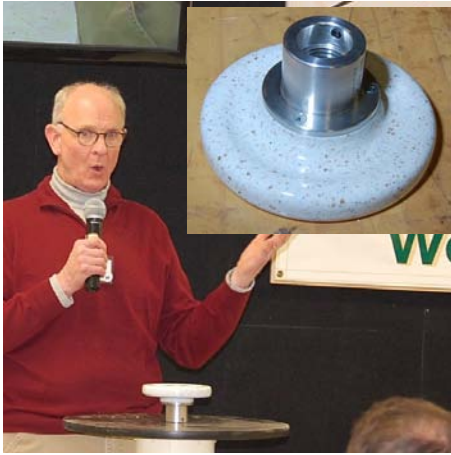


Rick Bywater made this rather irregular shaped sort of platter kind of thing out of Red Oak. He copied a technique used by a French turner (ask him). Turned 3mm thick. Taking his cue from last month's demo **Jack Karstens** used screws into a face plate and then counter balanced the piece so that it would turn smoothly. The flame ended scroot was captured by **Anthony Harris** and a number of parts are weirdly chucked and turned eccentrically. Some of them have chased threads - of course.



Harold Haines has been working with finials lately and they can be very delicate so he made an adapter that fit inside of a chuck for them also made a chuck for concentric off centered pieces. Having a piece of drift wood for a couple years gave **Mike Thomas** the impetus to turn something from it. He chucked it by cutting on the bandsaw, something about a miter track on the bottom, some glue., and something with a coat hanger. Want more-ask him.

SHOW AND TELL



What do you do when your lathe doesn't come with a hand wheel? **Mike Thomas** made one out of dry oak and it didn't work very well so he made one of corion and got the material as waste from a company that uses it (Top Masters) and this one works. **Andrew Mitchell** -when people find out that you turn wood you get some. Got a nice piece of cherry, help on Saturday open turning, and it changed the way he was going to turn it. We found out that **Joe Vega** cooks a lot of meat. His wife gave him these pigtail turners for Christmas and he needed to make handles for them cause he didn't like the tiny handles they came with. He made his out of Corion, Mahogany, and Hackberry.



Tulip # 6 by **Rick Bywater** titled "Ouch." It is made from one piece of Hickory and he glued the rose thorns on it. He got some Box Elder from Urban Lumber and **Phil Royer** turned it the first time last March and recently finished it and thinks it turned out pretty good. Agreed. **Sue Bergstrand** comes to open turning and started this box a couple Thursdays ago. This is the first piece she finished with her mini chuck at home.



Kris Coyan never knows what his “hippie” daughter is going to want. This time it was a mortar and pestle. Used Paduk and Pear and made it thick on purpose because it is used to crush things.. Finished it using the beall system. Used oil on the inside and on the crushing end of the pestle.

Ken Moberg had a bunch of Walnut that a friend gave him. He sprayed the inside of the vase black (Jerry uses black milk paint) so the imperfections can't be seen. When you have a really nice car like an Avanti and you lose a hubcap on a wire wheel just what can you do? Well **David Stallings** decided to make new ones. OK it involved a 3D printer and plastic but designing to really tight tolerances is something special.



So pay your dues please. You can do it on line using the web site or you can see Kevin at a meeting, send him a check, or pay at open turning. We do need you.

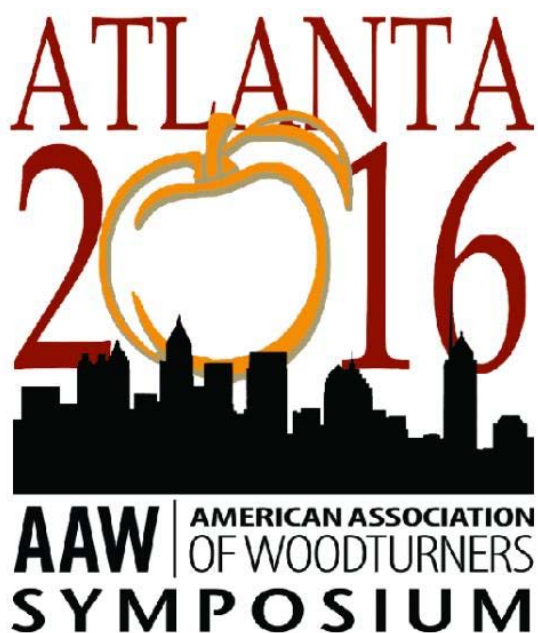
Keep Turning with the AAW

WHAT IS THE AAW TODAY? We have e 15,000 members. Eighty percent are 55 or older. We loose about 2,000 members annually because of age, loss of interest, health, and other issues. Our efforts 9in recruitment have resulted in a similar number of new members. This of this: every three years forty percent of our members are new to AAW. Some have been members sine 1986, but the average member has been with us for just eight years....There is something very simple that any member can do: "adopt" someone ten years younger that you and get him or her into turning. **Also, join the AAW - one of the best deals ever.**

Greg Schramek, the current president of the AAW, wrote this in his message for the February issue of the American Woodturner. **You get the publication when you join the AAW.**

KCWT probably reflects similar statistics. We do see some members for a short period of time and there are a few of us that just might be a little over 55 in age. Every organization needs new and younger members to sustain itself and grow. There are certainly lots of activities that are vying for everyone's attention and they are very attractive. As you know, we offer some things no one else does - we offer them us. We offer the personal contact and the personal help, and the personal relationships with very talented, knowledgable. and very creative and imaginative people that they can't get anywhere else.

Greg is very right about the significance of inviting others into an organization. It really is the very best way. Start with personal contact, offer a personal invitation, and we sustain that for the entire length of a person's membership. If you have some ideas about how to attract and sustain membership in **KCWT**, please let the Officers and Board members know. **Can join AAW when you join KCWT**



30 YEARS
1986-2016

AAW's symposium is an opportunity to step out of your shop and tap into the greater woodturning community. With a culture of cooperation, camaraderie, and sharing, you'll be able to gain knowledge and relationships that will last a lifetime, socialize with friends, establish and renew connections, and schmooze.

Registration is open for AAW's 30th Annual International Symposium at the Atlanta Convention Center at AmericasMart, Atlanta, Georgia, June 9-12, 2016.

REMEMBER - We are hosting this event here - in Kansas City - in 2017 and we are going to need your help. More information will be coming in future issues of Woodchips.



Rick Bywater contributed this to Woodchips. Don Frank cutting ash bowl blanks for the club's silent auction - this contraption allows Don to make straight cuts down on both sides of the pith. The modified bracket is bolted to the chainsaw and slides down as Don makes the cut.

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