

# Artistic Woodturners May 2023

May 2023 meeting was called to order by Jim Mencum, president. There were 36 members and 3 visitors present. No old business or new business was presented. Today was the club's first experiment with a silent auction, where members could sell excess tools, to their own benefit.

At our June meeting, Ed Rose will provide a live demonstration. Trent Bosch is scheduled for an interactive remote demo in July. Topics TBD.

Demonstrator today was Earl Rennie, who creates more projects in the tiniest workshop. He taught us today how to make a captured top, a device for bored CEO's that Earl can successfully market for \$35 each.



members starting to gather



silent auction table

Show and Tell: showings were sparse today but interesting



## DEMONSTRATION: CAPTURED TOP



Earl's tools, many handmade. Project in foreground.



Earl spent about 20 minutes giving a brief tutorial on Windows's Snip & Sketch tool, an app free with all Windows 10 or 11 operating systems if you know where to find it. It easily clips frames from YouTube videos, allowing you to save and refer to them later in hard copy while turning. He also discussed how your printer has software that allows you to resize what you want to print.

The following photos are representative of his valiant efforts to reproduce a project that he had made many times at home. To the audience's delight, his top would not catch. What followed was an excellent trouble shooting session, with suggestions offered by the audience. He did find the anomaly and his top finally caught.



Earl is referring to a template produced by a YouTube demonstrator that he improved upon with an autocad program.



The point and stem is finished, hollowing started. Dome finished, sanded, handle made and top parted off.



Earl displays his Nike turning footwear

Earl provided innumerable tips – precise measurements, choice of tools to complete various parts of the project, where to keep right angles intact, avoiding rounding over edges when sanding, the tiny chamfer on the outer edge of the catch cup, hardening the spinning point with CA glue, etc.

Most of us have filed and softened the tips of our outside calipers because they are grabby with spinning wood otherwise. Accordingly this makes them less precise when trying to set them to a mark. Better to use dividers and a sharp pencil to transfer measurement. Turn to your precise measurement, then set your outside calipers to that diameter. Likewise when turning a tenon for a mortice, size it to a standard wrench size. Turn until wrench fits over tenon and burnishes it. Always works!

Attached find a tutorial with sketches that Earl has made for inclusion in our techniques section on our webpage.

The original YouTube tutorial that got Earl interested can be found via this link:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NbpYUxkzTxk&t=119s>

