



Meeting: January 13, 2024

Attendees: 45 members, 7 visitors

Time: 9 AM

Chair: Jim Mencum, President



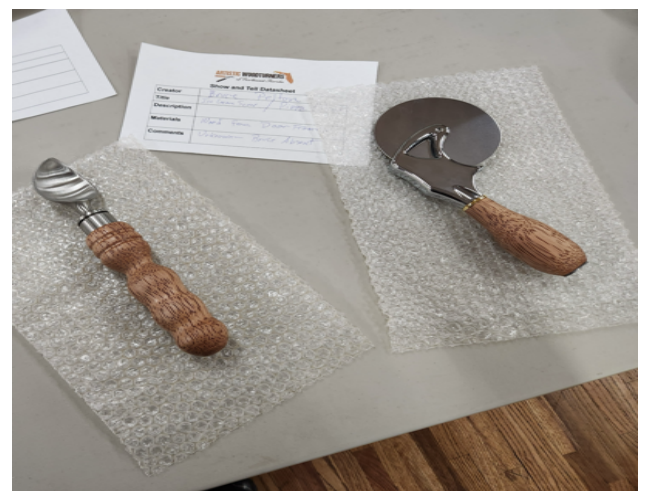
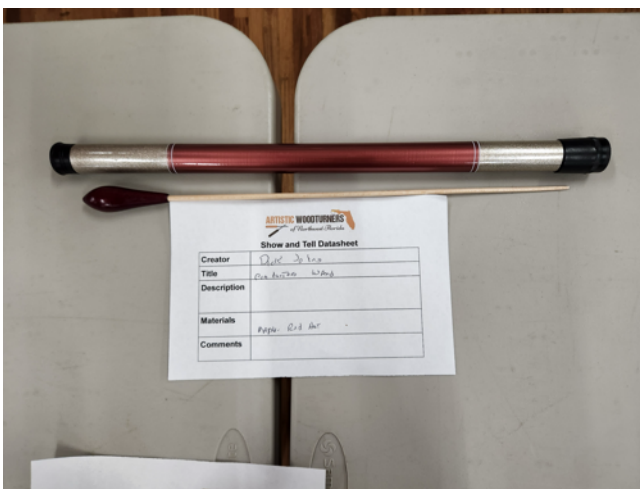
Business:

Jim reviewed the holiday party. Positive comments generally.

Dick reviewed the demos for the coming months. Ralph Thomas is doing the demo for this meeting. The following month we'll be sharing the demonstrator with Emerald Coast Turners. Walt Wager will be addressing marbling at another meeting. Dick asked for input on future demos.

Ed talked about a workshop following Walt's demo where Walt will be teaching Peppermill construction. Six people are already signed up. We have Mahogany, Walnut and Cherry and other woods for it. Walt is bringing the mechanisms. They can be up to ten inches in length. People can still sign up for backup positions.

Show and Tell





Darnell Jackson: Darnell showed green bowls turned from a variety of materials in a number of shapes.

Kim Huggins: Kim showed a couple of hollow forms. One was from Spalted Oak, another from a bat blank. Another was from an old Cherry blank.



Ed Rose: Ed showed some layered pieces. One was from Ambrosia Maple turned end grain. A small one was turned from Ash scorched with a torch. There was a piece of Canary Wood sourced in Atlanta from Mark Sillay. He also showed glued-up segmented rings that will be turned into a bowl in the future.



Mark McLain: Mark made a Sword for his grandchild. It's Maple and other woods.

Jack Lawrence: Jack showed a pizza cutter and ice cream scoop turned by Bruce Pelton from some recovered door frames the club has 30 some odd of. They are Mahogany and will be auctioned at the next meetings.

Alex Webster: Alex made bowls, Christmas tree made of recovered woods. They included Cedar, Red Oak, Cherry, Pecan and Magnolia



Barry O'Neal: Barry got some travel mug kits from Woodcraft and turned one from dried Red Oak. He fixed a crack with shavings and CA.

Dick Johns: Turned a Conductor's Wand for his grandson from Maple and Red Heart. He ended up using a skew and his thumb to turn it.

Scott Jacobsen: Referred by Ed with First Bowl he's ever turned and was looking for advice.

Nathan McCollim: Made Salt and Pepper Grinders using four different Forstner bits.



Leland Leonard: Showed a table with beautiful marquetry and turned legs from Sycamore with Walnut stain..

Auction



Neil McWilliams was back to conduct the auction with Ed Rose while Steve counted the money coming into the club. The auction provides more funds for the club than any other source.

Ralph Thomas:

Air Turning and Irregular Shape Turning Demonstration:



Ralph showed us a number of pieces, some finished and some in progress.



He emphasized the need to always work between centers. He generally uses a spigot chuck but said that you can use a spur drive if you bore a hole to receive it. He emphasized that the pieces are frequently out of balance and must be well secured for safety. He also reminded everyone to use a face shield and eye protection at a minimum because pieces may well come flying off. Ralph has a combined helmet, air source and face shield - the 3M Airstream.

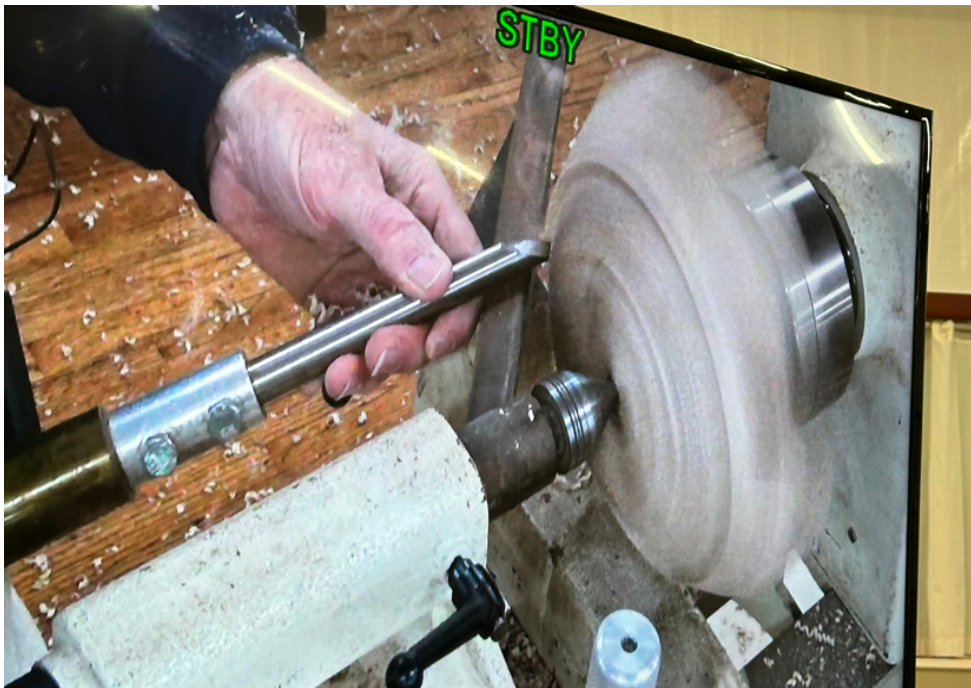


He advocated starting at a very low RPM until balance is achieved. Make sure that the tool rest is dogged down as you begin. Turn the assembly by hand before starting to make sure its clear.

He suggested starting on the side of extra length as you do your layout. He has adjusted lengths for equality with his joiner or belt sander. He reminds us that the whole process is much easier on a larger lathe. He said that burls frequently have voids that can cause them to come apart. He uses predominantly One-Way bowl gouge sharpened to 45 degrees. He uses basically two. One has a long point and the other predominantly flat. He has his Wolverine sharpener marked for each.



Ralph reminded us to turn pieces as close as possible to final finish because of the difficulty inherent in sanding this kind of work.



Bore a hole in the open bowl side of the work.



Ralph's discussed mounting the blank - center of blank vs center of mass - either is possible, with consideration of symmetric final appearance and dealing with the dynamics of an off weighted blank.

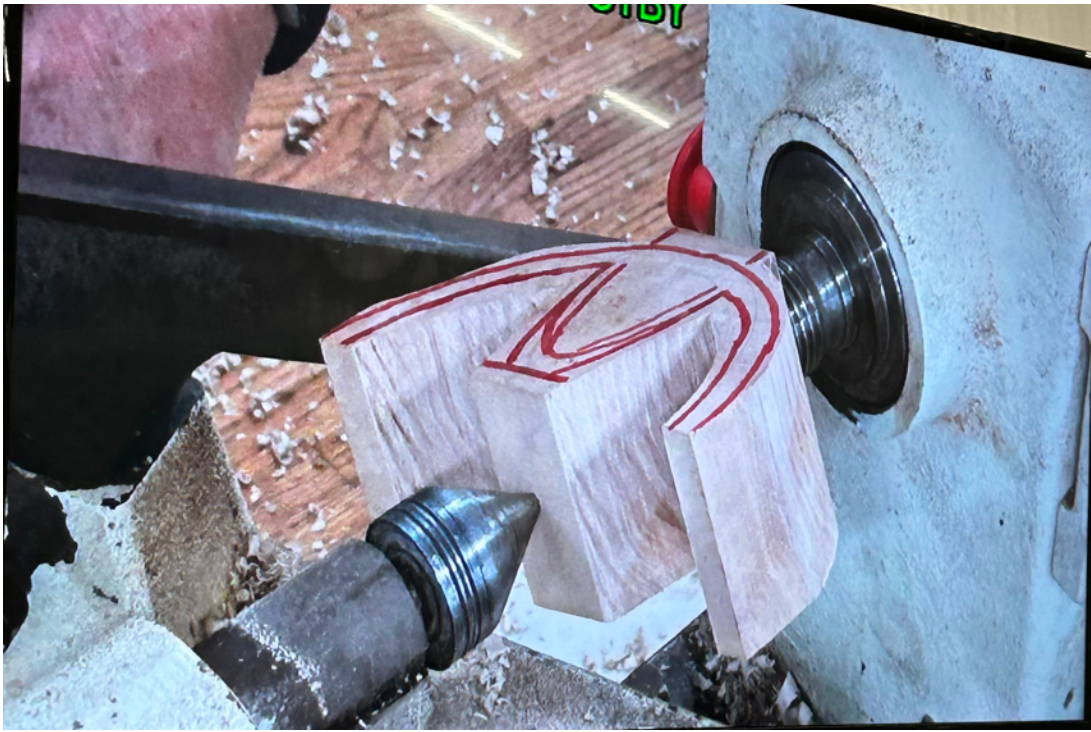
For mounting: Ralph used 1" spigot chuck expanded in a hole bored in blank, backed up by pointed live center in the tailstock. For those without a spigot chuck, he recommended boring a shallow depression with a spade bit the diameter of drive spur so that drive spur is captured and seated in good wood.

He does not use woodworm screws to drive a blank.



Other major points made by Ralph in this particular demo:

1. Never let any part of your body past the edge of your tool rest when turning a winged bowl.
2. Always hand turn your project anytime tool rest adjusted to assure clearance before turning on power.
3. Stop turning frequently to assess the thickness of your wings.
4. To avoid chipping off the corners on a bowl within a square or a rectangle, you must turn from outside to toward the center for at least the first half inch (and to avoid losing the bark when turning a live edge bowl).
5. Sanding of the wings must be done very gingerly and at slow speed or with power off.



After initial mounting, goal is to shape the bottom and to form a tenon/spigot so that blank can be reversed into a spiral chuck for shaping/hollowing of inside and the wings. Back up chuck mounting with use of tailstock as long as possible for safety. Turn topside of wings same fashion as bottom.

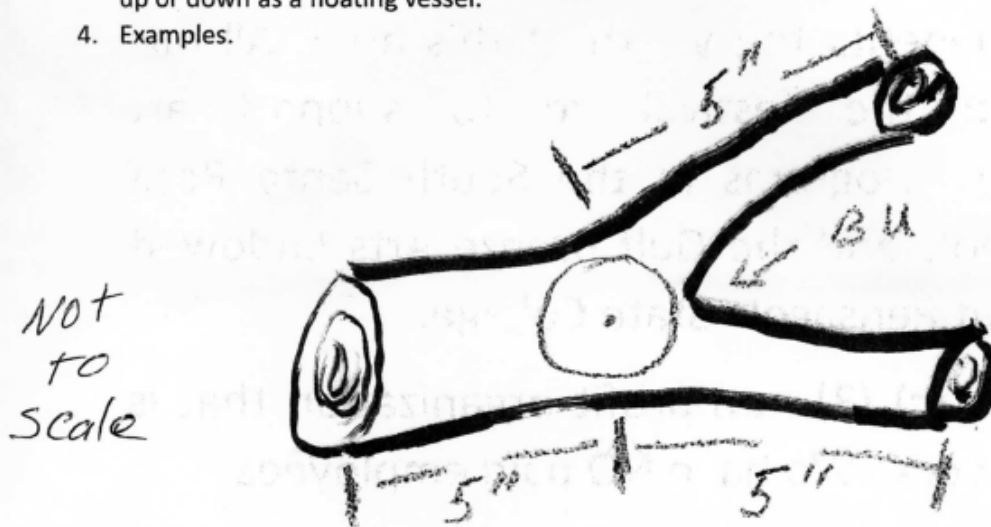
TURNING AIR AND IRREGULAR SHAPED WOOD

SAFETY

1. Always turn between centers
2. Remember irregular shapes can have voids - wear head and eye protection
3. Use spigot chuck or spur drive - if you use spur drive - bore hole for a tight fit to capture the drive.
4. Begin with slow revolutions, speed up as vibration eases.
5. Always rotate vessel by hand before starting lathe, make sure tool rest is tight and clear of rotation

LAY OUT

1. Crotch or branch union center must be = distance from each section
2. Make sure bowl edge is off the branch union or you will have a bowl with an open side.
3. Bore a hole in the side you wish the bowl opening to be, also now is the time to determine the wings up or down as a floating vessel.
4. Examples.



Thanks to Neil, Joe, Sally and Ed for their help on the Newsletter.

