

Meeting: July 13, 2024

Attendees: 32 members, 1 guest

Time: 9:01AM

Chair: Jim Mencum, President



Business:

Jim welcomed the members and told them about the IRD with Colwin Way we were having. Jim again mentioned that Bruce would be moving away and that the secretarial position would need to be filled. The secretary takes the photos, records the minutes and puts out a newsletter that is mailed to the membership. I'll be happy to provide the templates, files and data files to the person that will step up. The next Board Meeting will be coming up soon.

Note: I hope someone will step up and take on this role. It has been a real pleasure serving in it for such a wonderful group of people. I have learned so much and still have my fingers and vision. It's been a ball doing it and I'll sure miss all the friends I've made here.

Show and Tell



















Jeff Olive: Ralph showed a bowl turned from a Chinese Tallow that was made in two sections and glued together. It was finished with Walnut Oil and Carnauba Wax. The two smaller pieces were Live Oak.

Earl Rennie: Showed the Crosses that he's making for a donation. He's making 50 total **Frank Buchanon**: Found this piece made by Frank Buchanon in a thrift store for \$1.99.









Ed Rose: The first bowl was made from the Ambrosia Maple that he brought in for auction last month. It came from North Carolina where he cut it and hauled it back here. He offered more to the club members at auction. The segmented bowl was made from two rings that were too large for his lathe until it was fixed. It's made from Sapele and Maple. The two banded bowls were made from Maple with a technique found on YouTube from an English turner that calls herself "The Tidy Turner". He used Mica Flakes embedded in a sizing glue. The materials are available from craft stores like JoAnn's or Amazon. He said that you have to wait 20 minutes or so until the adhesive partially sets up. The groove was gouged or ground out.





Ralph Thomas: These have been in progress for the past 18 months. One is Bay the others are Black Wood from the auction and Maple dyed with fabric dye, sprayed with pre catalyzed lacquer, buffer and finished with Renaissance Wax. He hollows through a hole on the bottom and then plugs it with 3 rings. There is a tutorial he's done on the process on our website.







Nathan McCollim: He turned this, his first plate from an unknown woods and the colored part is from colored paste and Epoxy. For the second piece he purchased a pewter lid from Woodcraft. He patterned the top with a flower pattern lasered into the wood.









Jack Lawrence: Weaved together pieces of Oak flooring and Walnut door panels to make segmented laminated bowls. One has LED color changing bling within. They were hand glued from pieces cut on a 30 year-old Craftsman Miter Saw. He also showed a natural edge Oak he got from Ed.

Jim Mencum: Showed a bowl turned from Popcorn that he hoped to get finishing advice on. He gave it color and texture with a torch.







Auction

Ed Rose and Neil McWilliams teamed up on the auction while Steve counted the money coming into the club. The auction provides more funds and more fun for the club than any other source.

Demonstration: Colwin Way of Gammon's Hill, Axminster, Devon, England and his wife Vickie



Colin introduced himself and told us he was going to do several demonstrations. The first were to help us overcome our reservations regarding skews and the last to show us how to make a rocking pots from Oak with thin walls about ½ inch which would be finished with vinegar and steel wool. He said that he would also like to make a a holiday tree and a little wooden skew ornament. He took us on a brief tour of this part of England including Jurassic Beach which is covered with fossils. His shop and showroom are in an old farm just up the road from Axminster manufacturing who he has represented for twenty-eight some years. He told us that he participates in their design process. (He didn't tell us that this is also an endless supply of lathes, chuck and turning tools.)









First we were shown a conventional skew and a German Splayed Skew with hammered shank and a wider nose. He said that a thinner skew gives one more feeling. He said that feeling vibration is essential for skews. He then added a Russian Blade Skew with a very narrow profile. Then a round nosed radius cut skew from Alan Lacer of the US was added. It's thicker and heavier. A different style of skew and of turning.

He started with a softwood blank of what they call European Redwood that we would call something else- not redwood like that on the West Coast. He was going to fabricate a mock table leg to demonstrate various uses of a skew. He was going to make the square pummel and then put several beads on it. He started with the tool rest ½ inch above center. About 1600 to 1800 RPM.







He angled both ways onto the pummel to make a recess and then cut both directions to round out the blank. He showed us a catch. After rubbing the bevel smoothly with the short point he did a push cut with the long point instead and generated the catch. He showed us the sounds of both and told us we should be able to see a catch coming from the sound.



He marked the position of the first bead and then angled into the pummel to round it and then the other way to round one side of the bead.



He formed the recess by the foot and then formed 3 beads by the pummel.



He turned down the shoulder and started the taper of the leg with a spindle gouge.



Final form of leg. He suggested a lot of practice with soft wood and getting the smoothest cut possible. No one in the audience was excited to move to the skew.









He showed us the Axminster O'Donnel jaws and mounted more softwood in it. Tool rest was high again. He moved to a smaller ¾ skew and shaped the piece to a sharp point. He then cut a groove with the short point and pushed the fibers back. The heal forms them. He repeated again and again.







Finally he used the Russian Skew to part it off. It is finished with an airbrushed color.





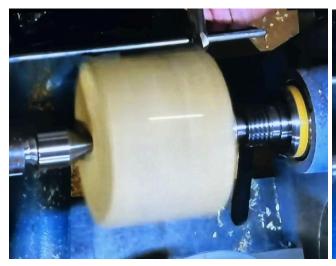
Using a 4 jaw self centering chuck and a ring center on the tailstock. 3/8 skew.







Then sanded into a skew shape. It can become a pendant.





After checking alignment he reverted to a bowl gouge and formed a tenon.





He checked the piece and hollowed it.





He brought the wall down to slightly under 1/8 inch. He supported the sides as he turned and sanded





Despite Vickie's protestations (and ours) he stained the pot with steel wool dissolved in vinegar. He avoided getting it on his hands. He allows it to work long enough to even and then neutralizes by wiping it off or rinsing it with water. That is the final finish.