



Contains February 2011 Minutes

March 2011



Fred Dutton, turned hats
Feb. 19, 2011

Fred Dutton is a founding member of the Columbus Woodturning organization from Columbus, Ohio. He has been woodturning for about 31 years and does large platters and architectural turnings. He also has turned a 6 foot mirror fashioned after a 1950s Ford and used in an art deco setting of a museum, as well as golf tees for Chi Chi Rodriquez and small a small hat for Terry Bradshaw. Fred does his turning on a Oneway lathe. During this session he will concentrate on teaching the members of BWWT how to turn those miniature hats.

Large style cowboy hats with wide brims that can be worn by an individual come from a large wood blank that is 16" in diameter, by 7" thick. The smaller miniature hats are

turned from blanks that are 8" in diameter and 4" thick. All wood must be free of knots. The popular woods that can be used for hats are maple, red boxelder, cherry, butternut, and sometimes oak. The wood must be green and freshly cut so that it has the bending capability needed to shape the brim and head region of the hat. The wood blanks are cut from full logs to the diameter desired for the hat. Then the log is cut in half through the pith. The center or pith of the log is the most unstable part of the log segment and must be removed or not used in the turning process. Once the half log has been created, then the woodturner must mount the log blank onto the lathe so that the bottom of the hat or brim area is located on the pith side of the log, with the top of the hat portion near the bark edge.

The large cowboy hat size is determined by a measurement of the individual head that it is supposed to fit. A large caliper is used to make a measurement from the front of the head to the back and another measurement is taken from side to side. He uses a formula that takes both measurements and adds them together, divide the result by 2 in order to get the average size, then add 1/4" for wood thickness for each side of the hat and an additional 1/8" for shrinkage or a total of 5/8" over the average head diameter measurement.

The wood blank should be mounted so that

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the bottom or open end of the hat is located to the headstock side. It should be mounted on a scroll chuck with the ball bearing tailstock brought up for support to begin the initial turning. The exterior of the head area should be turned first with a sweeping motion to the brim area. Shape the top of the hat to resemble an old cowboy hat of yesteryear and blend the cuts into the brim area. Use a shearing cut on the sides of the hat to get a good turned surface. The exterior should begin to take shape as continuous turning cuts are made. Make sure that you are getting a good proportion of the hat size to the brim diameter. Once the exterior has been turned and the desired shape has been achieved, then sand the hat exterior, from 150 grit through the grit sizes, to 320 grit sanding paper. Sanding wet wood will yield a satisfactory surface but finish sanding should be done again when the wood has completely dried. Turn a recess into the top part of the hat so that it can be reverse chucked in the next step.

The recess should be deep enough to hold the hat blank without wobble. Make sure that the recess will fit the chuck that is currently used.



When the woodturner has finished the exterior of the hat to his satisfaction, then the hat is reverse chucked into the scroll chuck in order to turn the interior of the hat. Begin turning the hat brim area to true up the bot-

tom of the hat. One should turn the brim to about 3/32" thickness and maintain a consistent thickness throughout. One should use a light bulb to illuminate the exterior of the hat and let the light rays show through the hat to the interior. One can then make a determination as to the proper thickness by watching the consistent light patterns on the interior walls. A caliper set at 3/32" can be used take measurements throughout the hat area. The wood needs to be this thin in order to be able to bend the brim to the desired shape. Use light push pull cuts on the brim area until the desired thickness is achieved. Use proper proportions when achieving final shapes. Make a small raised area near where the hat band will be located. Take a wood stick from bubinga or padauk and use a friction rubbing process to rub off some of the darker wood onto the light wood to represent the hat band. The wood resin should rub off satisfactorily. Use a bowl gouge to cut the interior or the head area of the hat. Watch for tool chatter that may occur with thin diameter tools. Switch to a 1/2 inch bowl gouge if necessary to gain stability in the deeper part of the hat. One may have to use a heavy scraper to get rid of any ripples or tool marks in the top interior of the hat. Sand the interior surface to get a desired finish and remove all tool marks from the interior surfaces.

Build a small jamb chuck too hold the hat interior so that one can turn off the recess on the exterior top of the hat where it was mounted on the scroll chuck to do the interior turning. This would be a slight cone shaped jamb chuck that the interior hat opening may fit over. Here, Mr. Dutton used a threaded rod placed through a small bearing that had been inserted into the head stock end to facilitate the spinning jamb chuck and a stationary light source. This was used to illuminate the interior of the hat that was placed on the jamb chuck so that the proper thickness could be achieved when turning off the top recess of the hat. A 60 watt bulb was used as the lighting source. A brass light rod was

used to go through the headstock and also through the jamb chuck. The light socket had to be wired after the rod was placed through the headstock. The hat was mounted on the jamb chuck and the tailstock with the ball bearing center was used to register the top of the hat correctly. Then a small spindle or bowl gouge was used to remove the dovetail recess in the top of the hat and shape it appropriately. Turn an indentation into the top of the hat to give it some character. This is done near the perimeter of the hat.

After the hat has been turned and still wet, the hat is placed in a frame to hold it in position. For the large hats that Fred made, he used a shaping frame that he built to hold the hat bowl in position. This frame was built from 1x2 oak material that was about 3 feet long. He had designed a pressure bar that would add tension to the hat bowl so that it would stay in position. When the hat was mounted in position he then used rubber bands to put pressure on the brim so it would roll up into the desired position. For the small miniature hats he used a hand screw clamps to hold the hat bowl with cloth material to protect the hat area. Then he would use rubber bands to clamp the hat brim in position. He would put light tension on the rubber bands so that it would have a gentle bending process. If too much pressure is used then the hat brim would crack where it transitions with the hat bowl. If using the pressure fixture or jig that he made, he would use a ¼ turn to provide slight pressure to the brim. As the sides of the hat brim go up into position, it will draw down the front and back of the brim. The hat usually remained in the drying racks for about 3 days with adjustment each day to get to the desired shape. He also used a 100 watt bulb for a heat source on the interior of the hat to provide additional drying capability.

When finished with the shaping and drying, he would finish the hat with M. B. Campbell catalyzed lacquer.

Respectfully submitted,
Jerry Schaible, Sec.



**BUCKEYE WOODWORKERS
AND WOODTURNERS
Feb. 19, 2011**

The regular meeting of BWWT was called to order by Pres. Tom Johnson. He issued a welcome to all the members, visitors and guests that were in attendance. There were 56 people in attendance at the meeting. He indicated that we would have a demonstration today that showed us how to turn wooden hats. He also announced that there would be a brief business meeting so that we would have ample time for the hat demonstration.

The Pres. issued a second reading of the new bylaws that were going to be adopted. The first one was that the advisory board had two members at large and at the discretion of the officers, they could add a third advisor if they felt there was a need. This motion passed by unanimous voice vote. The second amendment to the bylaws was for an appointed position of Education Coordinator be established. This position would entail the coordination of the Hands On activities for the club members, as well as the summer camp program of woodturning at Camp Y No-ah. This also passed by unanimous voice vote.

Past president Bill Stone was awarded a gift for his service in the past several years for the input, organizational leadership and presidency of BWWT in the past several years. It was noted that he is currently serving as Chairman of the Demonstration Committee. The gift was a turned pen in a pen case that had his name engraved on case as well as the pen. The BWWT would like to thank Bill for all the service he has given to our organization.

George Raeder gave a short talk on the current standings of the Wooster Center for the Arts in Wooster Ohio. The 2011 show will be

held from July 14, to Aug. 27, with an Open House on the first Thursday evening of the public showings. Entry Forms will be provided to all members at the end of the meeting. There will be 8 categories and 3 awards in each category. The categories will be as follows: Platters, vessels, vases, bowls, boxes, spindle work, segmented pieces, sculptures and misc. This year there will be a reduced number of entries with members being allowed to enter only 5 turned pieces and they will only be allowed to enter two pieces in a category. The judging committee may allow a final category of carved items. That is yet to be determined.

Pres. Johnson introduced two woodcarvers from Stark County to describe their clubs current activity. They will be holding a carving show at the Cultural Center in Canton Ohio for March 26, and 27. This will be their 5th annual show. Last year was the first time that they invited a group of woodturners to show their work at the show. They had only 4 woodturners show up for the event. This year they indicated that they would like our club to have a table to show off some of the work that we are doing in our organization. They indicated that woodturners have the unique ability to show off work that is made from a varied list of woods, both domestic and exotic. They indicated that this will be a judged event for entry. The cost to get into the show will be \$4 with an additional parking fee of \$4. They said that the commercial table will rent for \$40 and the club rate would be \$30. If there are any sales, then the total price would go to the woodturner with no fees to the Cultural Center. Due to such short notice, it was decided that we would use one table for BWWT membership. Within the coming weeks, it will have to be decided who will offer up their pieces to be judged and entered for display on the table, who will oversee and manage the table and be responsible to return all the pieces at the conclusion of the show.

Ralph Kubal was chosen to show his turned piece to the membership. He had a glued up piece that consisted of walnut, and other light colored woods with a walnut top ring and bottom plate. He then turned it into a hollow form or vase that was about 7 inches high and about 4 inches in diameter. It was a beautiful piece and enjoyed by all.

Bill Stone introduced Fred Dutton from Columbus Ohio and the Columbus wood turning group. He would be demonstrating the turning of large hats as well as miniatures. In March we will have Ernie Conover demonstrate spindle turning.

Bill Seabolt, treasurer, indicated that he had some name tags for sale to the members at \$6 per tag. He also said that he was selling tool steel for \$5 per blank. He also gave a treasurers report of current funds.

Respectfully submitted,
Jerry Schaible, Sec.

Hartville Hardware

As many of our members already know twice a year once in February and again in November Hartville Hardware puts on a large tool sale bringing in vendors from across the country and often even Europe.

Our club puts on turning demonstrations at these events. It sure would be nice to see some new faces there representing BWWT. Please give some thoughts to volunteering at future events as everyone that has participated in the past always has a great time.

Here are a few pictures of Hoby Horn turning a bowl at Hartville Hardware this past February 18, 2011



BWWT Classifieds

13" Rigid thickness planer for sale. Asking price is \$250

This model was built in the USA, not China. Equipped with stand and shelves.

Equipped with "Repeatable depth" and "Shure Cut" system to reduce snipes

Excellent condition. Missing dust collector.

Contact: Karl Kerstetter @ (330) 608 3008
Planer located in City of Green near Middle School.

Calendar of Events

The March meeting of BWWT will be at YMCA Camp Y-NOAH on Saturday March 19, 2011.

There will be an allday demonstration by Ernie Conover on spindle turning. There will be **NO** Hands On activity after the meeting. Be sure to bring a lunch if so desired.

March.....Ernie Conover will demonstrate spindle turning. This will be an all day session. He will be making many spindle turned projects.

April.....Tim Niewiadomski will demonstrate the making of pepper mills.

May.....Tool making session.

June.....Visit to Doll Lumber Co.

July.....Annual Club Tool Auction at the Y Noah pavilion.

August.....Mirka Corp Rep. will demonstrate sanding techniques on woodturning.

Sept.....TBA

Oct.....Christmas Ornament Decorations.

Nov.....TBA

Dec.....Christmas Dinner.

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