



Contains December, 2012 Minutes

January 2013

BUCKEYE WOODWORKERS AND WOODTURNERS Dec. 8, 2012

The regular meeting of BWWT was held 9:00 AM on Dec. 8, 2012 at Kastner Hall on the campus of Camp Y Noah. There were a total of 55 members present at the meeting. Pres. Bob Scharl welcomed all the members and visitors to the meeting.

The president issued an apology for not being able to be at several of the past meetings due to family emergencies. He thanked VP Bob Taylor for his willingness to run the meetings in his absence. Bob also recognized Mark Stransky, as the newly elected treasurer of BWWT, and Bill Seabolt as the new Vice President. They will be taking office in January 2013.

President Scharl stated that the demo for January will feature, Marty Chapman of Minerva, Ohio. He will demonstrate the turning of a carvers mallet, a shop mallet and possibly a French rolling pin. Marty has given numerous demonstrations for our club as well as demonstrations at the Campbell School for the Arts.

In February, Dave Wells will demonstrate the turning of Easter eggs. They will be of the solid variety as well as the hollow egg forms. There will be a Turn and Learn ses-

sion at the end of the regular meetings following both of these demonstrations.

In April, Joe Herrmann, editor of Woodturning Design, will demonstrate the turning of a stamp dispenser. There will be a Hands On session after this meeting also.

Another demo is being planned to show how a bowl is made from a log form to the final stages of an artistic bowl. More information on this demonstration will be addressed in the coming months.

Ben Fix will be conducting a Turn and Learn session on Dec. 19, 2012 for young campers from the country of Columbia, South America. If you are willing to help in this presentation, please contact Ben to sign up for the session. Set up will begin at 5 pm, the evening meal will be served at 6pm and the turn and learn session will begin at 7 pm and conclude at 9 pm or after clean up exercises.

Ken Nuzum indicated that he had a Delta 14" variable speed lathe for sale for \$300. Contact him if you are interested in seeing it.

Tom Nellis, treasurer gave the financial report for December. He said that we are currently collecting dues for the 2013 calendar year and all members are invited to sign up for the coming year. If anyone would like a name tag, they are to check with Tom to make the purchase.

Dave Wells was invited to describe his wal-

nut band saw box that he had placed on the Show and Tell table. He said that he found a nice chunk of wood in his firewood pile and decided to see if he could make a box from last months instructions by Bob Taylor. He said that he used the bandsaw to cut out everything, but that there was a lot of sanding to do to get it to a presentable finish.

Marty Chapman had turned a very large vase and he was called upon to explain it. He stated that he used the articulated hollowing tool and an extra long tool rest to get into the deep part of the vessel. He said that the vase was made out of boxelder, which is a soft wood. This particular piece had a lot of red flame and coloring in it. He turned the wood when it was green, and used his critical eye to acquire the thin walls of the vessel.

The demonstration today was given by President Bob Scharl. He demonstrated the turning of an elliptical box on the lathe.

Respectfully submitted
Jerry Schaible, Sec.

Pictures this month courtesy of Darrell Dube

Elliptical Boxes

Bob Scharl

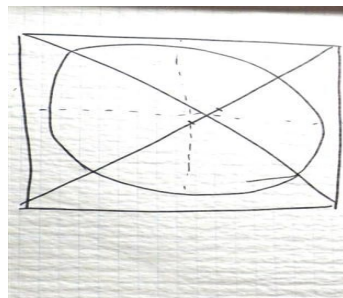
Dec. 8, 2012



Bob opened the discussion with identifying references where he received information on turning elliptical boxes. He stated that the first article where he acquired the techniques for turning elliptical boxes was from an article published in 2009, in Woodturning Design, by the author, Len Grantham. The article is "Make an Elliptical Box From Padauk. The second article was entitled, "Eccentric Turning" published in Woodturning Design in June 2011, by author Michael O' Donnell. Both articles were very descriptive on the turning techniques needed to complete this type of turning.



Bob started out with a 4" X 4" X 6" long turning square made out of poplar. He highly recommended if this was the first elliptical box that you are making, that you should start out with a 2" square blank in order to become accustomed with the turning procedure needed to complete the box. He stated that turning an elliptical box is certainly an exercise in accuracy. He said that there is difficulty in getting the top and bottom lined up to fit correctly. He also said that there are different variations that can be used to make these boxes. To begin, one needs to make some cross lines from corner to corner on the blank. This is done on each end of the blank vide consistency in the shape. locate of the center turning plastic



on each the blank vide consistency in the This will the center turning Bob used center

finder to locate the center of the blank end. Then with a ruler, one needs to make an off-set mark 3/8" from the center of the blank along one of the diagonal lines. Bob indicated that the 3/8" offset measurement provides a very nice curved shape that is pleasing to the eye and artistic in design. Bob recommends a very sharp pencil to mark the center. One could also use a pair of dividers to get the measurement exact and both 3/8" marks would then be the same distance rather than allowing a pencil mark to determine the width of the indent. Bob indicated that there is a difference in the grain on the ends of the blank. He said that winter wood growth has very hard grain, whereas the summer wood is wider and softer. He said that this will make a difference when you are trying to indent the point of the dividers. The point may move off center if you are not careful. Bob indicated that you can make an arc from the edge of the side to the corner of the blank, thereby getting a line that you can cut toward to get some idea of what the shape will look like. One can enlarge the pinpoint indents with an awl and a mallet. Bob uses a multispur Steb Center to turn the blank between centers. The tool rest should be aligned perfectly with the ways or bed of the lathe. Bob uses a spindle gouge, bowl gouge, or an Easy Wood turning tool. You should select a slow speed prior to turning on the lathe. The lathe should not vibrate when you turn it on, due to the unbalanced nature of the turning blank. With a parting tool, cut a narrow tenon on the tailstock end of the lathe to the line scribed in place by the compass on the end grain. Using the parting tool, begin cutting a tenon on the headstock side of the lathe. And again, one is to cut to the scribed line made by the compass.

Next the blank of the set in- and still



Bob reset wood into one 3/8" off-ends between

the centers of the headstock and the tailstock. He used a roughing gouge to cut away the excess wood on the side of the box to get one half of the elliptical shape. The use of the roughing gouge provides a uniformity of cut that is straight across the side of the box. To help facilitate this cut, one can anchor the end of the roughing gouge on the turners' hip for stability. Hold the roughing gouge at approximately 45 degrees to the turning blank or the direction of the cut. Take light cuts across the blank so as not to create a dig in situation or a catch. Do not adjust the tool rest while the lathe is running. But as wood is being removed, move the tool rest closer so that greater control of the roughing gouge is possible. If you are using the Easy Wood cutting tool, make sure that you use the square cutter to get the straight cut desired. The tool rest should be moved so that the tool is touching the wood at dead center of the turning blank. You should push straight for a push cut or you can even use a pull cut for this procedure. This will leave a slightly rough surface. By using the roughing gouge at an angle, one can get a smoother cut.

Once the turned blank has reached the pencil line on the end grain placed there by the compass pencil on either end, then switch the turned blank to the other 3/8" indent point using the centers of the headstock and tailstock. Using the procedure mentioned in the previous paragraph, use the roughing gouge to remove wood from the side of the box. Again, use shallow cuts at all times to get the best surface on the box and no dig in or catches. Use your most comfortable hand holds for the final cuts to secure the best finished surface. Keep the tool rest as close as possible for maximum tool control.

Remove the turned blank and remount using the center indent. Mark a circle on the end grain using the center indent. Use a parting tool and cut a dovetail tenon on the tailstock side. Start the point of the parting tool high on the blank and lift the handle to bring the

point of the parting tool down toward the center of the cut until the tenon will fit into your dovetail chuck. Then, using the parting tool, cut a dovetail tenon on the head stock side of the blank in the same manner. One can make a dovetail tool for this purpose by using some of the clubs $\frac{1}{4}$ " x $\frac{1}{4}$ " x 8" tool steel. Make the handle and then grind a dovetail shape on the end. This will work nicely to making the dovetail tenon on the blank. Cut a dovetail tenon on both ends of the blank. One can flip the blank end for end, if you want to cut the dovetails to the right side of the blank.

Place the scroll chuck on the lathe with dovetail jaws. Place the bottom end of the box into the dovetail jaws. The top of the box is on the tailstock side. Mark the no. 1 jaws so that when it is remounted it will be balanced. Tighten the jaws of the chuck to hold the piece securely. Mark off the top of the lid about $\frac{1}{4}$ of the way down the blank with a pencil. Use a $\frac{1}{16}$ " parting tool and cut about $\frac{1}{4}$ " deep into the flat side of the elliptical box. Make the cut about $1\frac{1}{2}$ widths wide for tool clearance. This will prevent the tool from being pushed back toward you as you make the cut as well as preventing overheating of the tool and possibly leaving burn marks on the blank. Insert the parting tool to cut deeper into the blank. With about 1" remaining in the center of the blank, stop the lathe. Now separate the top from the bottom using a Japanese saw to cut all the way through the blank.



To hollow out the interior of the box, Bob

used a $1\frac{3}{8}$ " Forstner bit. He inserted the bit into a drill chuck in the tailstock. With about 400 rpm speed of the lathe, he used the hand wheel to insert the bit into the wood. Because of the high torque situation, he held onto the drill chuck with his left hand so that the Morse taper on the drill chuck would not spin or turn in the tailstock. He would insert the drill bit about $\frac{1}{8}$ " and then back out the bit in order to clear the wood chips and not have them clog up in the wood blank. This procedure also allowed the bit to cool off somewhat, while it is being used.

He continued drilling until he had between $\frac{1}{2}$ " and $\frac{3}{4}$ " left in bottom thickness. This is easy to check since one can use a measuring depth the bottom. finished procedure moved part of in in the the



vice or a jig to figure out the bottom thickness. When he finished the drilling procedure, he re-mounted the bottom of the box and stalled the lid chuck using dovetail ten-

on for the gripping technique.

Bob measured the outside diameter [OD] of the lip on the bottom piece. He would transfer that measurement to the top lid and then hollow it out with a spindle gouge. He used the Cindy Drozda spindle gouge for this effort. He would check the fit many times against the bottom part of the box to make sure that it fit nicely. He warned that one should not take off too much wood at one time. The rule of thumb was to check the fit often so as not to be disappointed with the outcome. At this point one can jam fit the lid onto the base and square off the lip of the lid so that it will fit even with the bottom. It should be noted here that some turners may wish to use the Hunter Hollowing tool to clean out the lid interior. This would be a personal preference. Bob also pointed out that one can use a diamond grit card to sharpen your tools. He has done this on many occa-

sions.

Using the bottom of the box as a jam chuck, place the bottom into the scroll chuck and tighten the dovetail jaws. Place the lid on the opening of the bottom and tape the lid in place with some painters' masking tape. Bring up the tailstock with a ball bearing center and support the lid by placing the center point into the indent from a previous mounting. Using very light cuts and pull strokes on the top of the lid, shape a profile that looks artistically pleasing and slope it down to the sides of the box. Again, use very light cuts so as not to get a catch on the almost completed box. Remove the tailstock and turn off the nub that is on the top of the lid. Remove the painters tape and the top of the box from the bottom.

Bob now parted off the bottom of the box from the scroll chuck. Use a 1/16" parting tool and slowly cut a flat bottom or very slightly concave shape for the bottom. Cut with the parting tool very slowly so as not to tear out any fibers along the bottom. One can use a random orbital sander to smooth out the bottom of the box.

Bob indicated that you can use a wipe on polyurethane finish made by General Finishes and then a couple of coats of EEE Ultra Shine wax. Bob also indicated that Johnson wax will also work very nicely.

Respectfully submitted
Jerry Schaible, Sec..



Calendar of Events

**PLEASE NOTE
BWWT MEETINGS ARE NOW
HELD ON THE SECOND SATURDAY
OF EACH MONTH BEGINNING AT
9:00 AM**

January 12, 2013... Spindle Turning by Marty Chapman of Minerva, Ohio will demonstrate the turning of a carvers mallet, a shop mallet and possibly a French rolling pin. Marty has given numerous demonstrations for our club as well as demonstrations at the Campbell School for the Arts. There will be a Hands On after the meeting.

February 9, 2013..... Turned eggs by David Wells. There will be a Hands On after the meeting.

March 9, 2013....

April 13, 2013.....Joe Herrmann, editor of Woodturning Design, will demonstrate the turning of a stamp dispenser. There will be a Hands On session after this meeting.

Anyone wishing to submit pictures for the newsletter please send them to the editor within two days of the meeting

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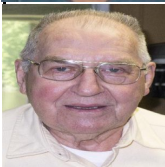
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