



Contains March 2021 Minutes

April 2021

NO MEMBERS OR VISITORS SHALL ENTER OR EXIT THE CAMP VIA THE CHRISTMAN ROAD ENTRANCE. MEMBERS MUST ENTER AND EXIT FROM MT.PLEASANT ROAD.

**BUCKEYE WOODWORKERS
AND WOODTURNERS
March 13th, 2021**

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

*******Note*******

**Buckeye Woodturners Meeting
ZOOM online meeting
March 13, 2021**

*Respectfully submitted,
Mark Stransky*

The March 13, 2021 meeting of the Buckeye Woodworkers and Woodturners was held via Zoom video conferencing. David Ellsworth hosted the meeting. There were more than 40 members signed in for the meeting. Today's demonstrator is David Ellsworth of North Carolina. David will demonstrate making a natural edge bowl.

George Barlow welcomed all to today's meeting. Before David started his presentation, Mark Stransky announced that Gary Langenderfer was the winner of this month's BWWT Newsletter "Did You Read It" challenge. Gary will receive a Hartville Hardware \$20 gift card. There were 7 members who read the newsletter and responded to Mark Stransky with the key word. As a recap, this is how it works: the first dues paying member to see a keyword buried somewhere in the newsletter and emails back to Mark Stransky that they have found it and where in the newsletter it was, will win a Hartville Hardware gift card. The new

keyword for this newsletter is "PLAN". Please keep in mind that the keyword used in the previous sentence doesn't count as a winning entry.

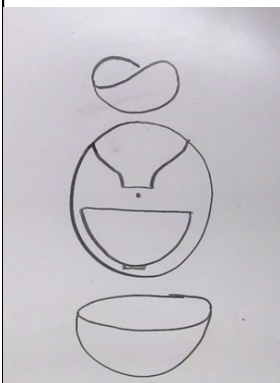
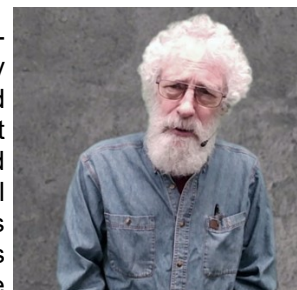
Turning a Natural Edge Bowl

David Ellsworth

March 13, 2021

*Respectfully submitted,
Mark Stransky*

David started his demonstration with a little bit of history on natural edge bowls and other pieces. After a short discussion, David described where in a log that a natural edge bowl comes from. His best description was sketched as shown, where the natural edge bowl is oriented in the top section of the log and the more traditional bowl is shown oriented in the lower section of the log.



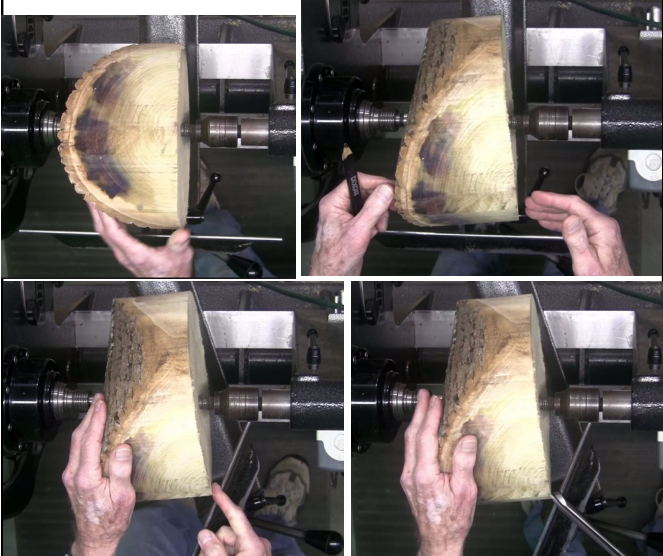
David next showed a short video on how he cuts his bowl blanks from a log. He uses this process for both traditional and natural edge bowls.

He first lays the log on a log cutting bench. After marking the log thru the pith, he then cuts the log in half as close to the mark as possible.

After splitting the log, he cuts the corners off of the half log so that it is now octagon shaped. Finally, he uses the chain saw to plane some of the bark in the middle of the log down through the first few layers to the sap wood so that he has a solid area to mount his drive center.



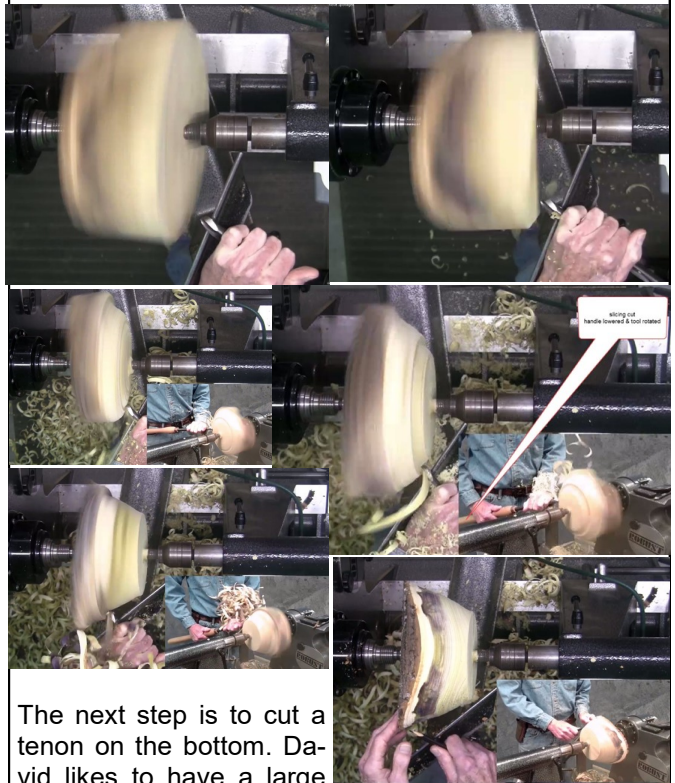
The blank that David used for the demonstration was a piece of unseasoned poplar that was about 12" diameter. He mounted the blank on his lathe with a 4-prong drive center and a live center in the tail stock. After loosely mounting the blank, he located the top of the wings so they were even on rotation. After he was satisfied with the top of the wings, he made further adjustments so that the bottom of the wings were even on rotation. When he was satisfied with how the blank was mounted, he tightened up the tail stock to be certain that the blank was securely mounted.



The next step was to start the turning. After making sure that the rotation of the blank did not interfere with the toolrest, he started by making the bottom flat. David used a bowl gouge to do almost all of the work. When he was roughing out the shape of the bowl, he rolled the flute over about 45° and cut with

the bottom tip of the gouge. Cutting with the tip of the tool allowed him to nibble away the wood and make the cut easier to control. He used a pull cut to flatten and clean up the bottom of the bowl. David also cautioned to frequently tighten the tailstock to ensure the blank stays safely mounted while turning.

After David was satisfied with the flatness of the bottom, he started to shape the sides of the bowl. He used a slicing cut going from the tailstock end towards the headstock so that he was cutting with the grain. As he got closer to a shape that he was happy with, he rolled the flute over to about 45° and lowered the handle of the gouge so that the tip was higher. This gave him a shear scraping cut that would give a smoother surface from the cut.



The next step is to cut a tenon on the bottom. David likes to have a large tenon on the bottom so that the bowl is held more securely and he has more latitude with the final shape of the foot of the bowl. David made the tenon about 3/8" high and about 4-1/2" diameter for his Vicmarc 120 chuck. He cut a dovetail on the tenon with a 1/2" skew to fit his chuck.



After David was satisfied with the outside shape of the bowl and the tenon, it was time to mount the bowl in a chuck. After the bowl was securely mounted in the chuck, he brought up the tailstock to trap the bowl and to reduce vibration.



David started trimming the outside of the bowl to its final shape. He started by cutting against the grain with a slicing push cut with the bevel rubbing so that he could keep the bark on the edge. After he was done with the shape, he used the gouge to make a shear scraping cut to put a smooth finish on the side.

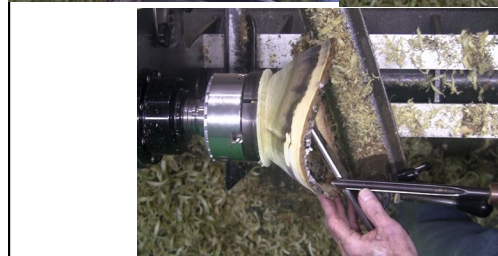


After the shear scrape on the side, he used a parting tool and 3/8" detail spindle gouge to shape the side of the bowl down as close to the chuck as he could.

It was now time to hollow out the bowl. David started by checking that the chuck was securely holding the bowl, backing off the tail stock and replacing the toolrest with a "J" shaped tool rest. He then started to hollow the bowl with a roughing cut from the edge to the center of the bowl, leaving a small nub in the center to prevent the gouge from skidding across the bottom of bowl. After several roughing cuts, David carefully removed the nub and continued with the hollowing.



After David was close to the depth he wanted it was time to start the finishing cuts. He first checked the depth of the bowl and then started with a push cut with the left tip of the gouge and the bevel rubbing. This allowed him to take small cuts that produced fine shavings and a smooth surface.

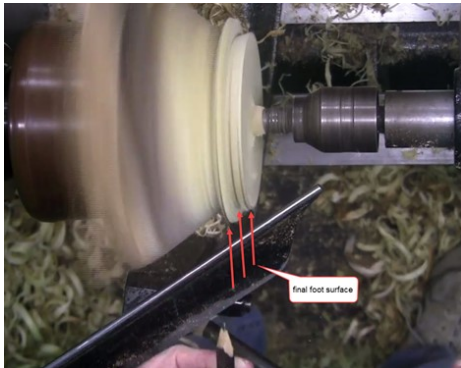


The last step in turning is to finish the bottom of the bowl. David used a chuck from his homemade vacuum chuck to mount the bowl to the headstock. He gave a short description of how he made the chuck. The chuck was made from walnut with a tapped hole to mount to his lathe spindle, and a closed cell foam gasket that was glued to the rim.

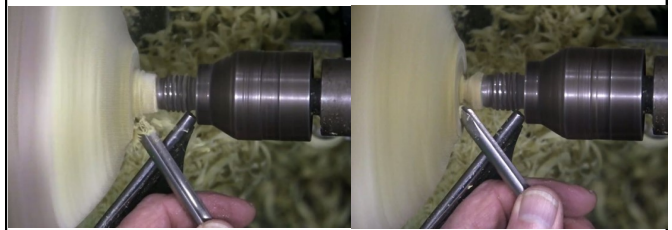


After he placed the bowl against the chuck, he brought up the tailstock for support and carefully checked that the bowl was centered, making adjustments as needed to make sure it was as close to centered as possible. He marked with a pencil approximately where the inside bottom of the bowl, the bottom wall thickness and where the bottom of the foot would be.

The first step of finishing the bottom was to remove the excess material by using a scraping cut to make the bottom of the bowl dead flat.



Next, the tensions were removed and the side blended together to finish the shape of the side of the bowl. The next detail was to add the foot of the bowl. David cut a slight undercut around the foot to raise the bowl when it sits on a table. He followed this up with a final cut on the side using a shear scrape. Finally, David used a 3/8" detail gouge to carefully remove the nub on the bottom.



David explained that while this bowl was not sanded, he typically finish sands the inside of the bowl before he reverse chucks it to finish the bottom and the outside. When sanding the inside he cautioned to hand sand the areas up around the edge to preserve the bark on the edge. He sands the outside of the bowl after he has almost finished the bottom, right before he removes the bottom nub. After he removes the bowl from the lathe, he hand sands the bottom.

The finish that David uses depends on the wood. For harder, denser woods he uses several coats of Waterlox and builds up the finish before he buffs the finish. For softer woods, he uses a spray acrylic lacquer to build up several coats before buffing.

After the demonstration was complete, David gave a very informative discussion on using a rigid wire gage that he uses to determine wall thickness for bowls, platters and hollow forms. Throughout the demonstration he also showed short videos on how he sharpens gouges with his sharpening jig and some exercises that he does as a warm up for his hollowing. David's demonstration today was very informative.

MORE INFORMATION ON FINISHING

At the last Show and Tell session on February 27, Don Horn's friend Steve Harris showed some pieces with a new finishing technique. A few members asked for more details on how this finish is applied. Here is the scoop:

- After turning and sanding is complete, apply at least two coats of oil-based polyurethane. The more coats that you apply, the easier it is to get the PLAN desired tint that you want. If the wood is very porous, more coats might be needed as too much of the ink from the cotton will soak into the wood and it is almost impossible to clean it up.
- Dip a cotton ball or Q-Tip in alcohol and then ink the cotton with the felt tip pen and rub it on the piece. The pens that Steve uses were purchased from Amazon. The pen package (shown below) contained 60 different colored double ended (one end sharp point, one end brush point) pens for about \$25.

- If you aren't satisfied with the results, the ink can be removed with a clean piece of alcohol-soaked cotton.
- After you have finished coloring the piece, add a couple more coats of polyurethane to the piece.



Shown below are a bird house that Don's wife Cheri inked and a couple pieces from the Show and Tell that Steve did.



DISCOUNT PROGRAM UPDATE

For those who have not heard, Woodcraft in Cleveland is now offering a 10% discount to BWWT members when purchasing any woodturning tool or accessory. The discount does not apply to the purchase of lathes or any sale items.

SAFETY NOTE

Be sure to use proper safety equipment including eye, hearing and breathing protection whenever you are working on projects in your workshop. Make sure that you fully understand and follow the safe operating procedures for every piece of equipment that you use.

Calendar of Events

PLEASE NOTE

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

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BWWT Library Online Guide brought to you by the BWWT Club Librarians, Dirk Falther and Bob Hasenyager.

The online guide lists the books and videos that are available in our club library along with descriptions on the subject matter and other useful information. Follow the link below to check it out.

<http://uh.cx/uVS1S>

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