Buckeye Woodworkers & Woodturners 1992

Contains December, 2014 Minutes

January, 2015

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 December 13, 2014

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

Respectfully submitted
Jerry Schaible, Sec.

President Bill Seabolt issued a welcome to all the members in attendance. He also welcomed the two guests that were from the local area. He wished all members a good day and hoped that they would enjoy the demonstration on the use of the skew tools, to be presented later by Ben Fix.

Pres. Seabolt went on to state that the Presque Isle Wood Turning club from Erie Penn. Will be having a professional woodturner, John Beaver, speak to their local group in April. Bill Blasic from Presque Isle club will be in charge of this event. John Weaver is to demonstrate the Wave Bowl effect in woodturning. If you are interested in attending this demonstration, you are to contact Bill Blasic at 1-814-796-4609 or email him at plwtmr@verizon.net or you can contact Bill Seabolt, BWWT Pres.

Pres. Seabolt announced that we will be selling the old lathes and chucks to make room for the new Nova lathes that we will be getting. We currently have people already signed up for the sale and if more people sign up, then we will pick numbers out of a jar to disperse the sale items in a fair manner. Contact Bill or Mark Stransky, treasurer, to make sure that your name is attached to the list. Bill announced that the sale will take place in January to make room in the store room for the new Nova lathes. Bill also announced that there will have to be a work day in January after the new lathes come in. He said that they all have to be put together and the stands assembled before they can be used. The new Nova lathes will be coming from Hartville Hardware.

It was noted by Bill that the Ohio Lumberman's Association will be having their annual meeting in the spring. Last year, we received a late request by Doll Lumber for some large turned items to be donated to the association for their annual charity auction. Vice President Bill Stone stated that he had contacted Eric Doll and there may be a new format to their association meeting in March. If the change of program goes through, they may not need the large donations like before. Bill Stone stated that he will remain in contact with Eric to see what the outcomes will be from the possible change of format.

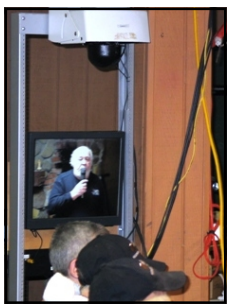
For the Show and Tell portion of the program, Tim Niewiadomski and Dave Wells were selected to describe their projects. Tim had turned a bottle stopper with a stand. He indicated that many times in his sales area, people say to him that they wished they had a mounting stand to show off their bottle stoppers when they are not using them. So Tim turned a wooden ring or circular ring base that was placed on its side. It was elevated by small quartz beads so that it would stand erect. Then he cut or drilled a small hole in the top of the ring for the bottle stopper to be inserted and shown off to the admirers. Dave on the other hand had turned 6 Christmas ornaments of varying shapes and sizes. Some were wood burned and others were decorated for the season. He

had them all hung on a Tee stand with horizontal arms glued into the main trunk of the piece. This all was glued to a nice base for support and standing vertical on a table. Dave indicated that he used a wipe on polyurethane for his finish.

Bill Stone asked the membership to notice the new AV monitor that we had purchased recently. This was to be placed at the right of the big lathe so that the demonstrator can see what he is showing to the membership and how to hold his tools or finished piece so that all can see the result. Bill also thanked Gail Seymour for his continued administration of our AV equipment and selection of views and pictures for all to see during the demonstrations.

Gail at the control panel.

New AV Monitor and Camera 1 mounted above it.



Camera 2 Over the Lathe.

Camera 3 Custom Post Mount looking down the lathe bed.

Mark Stransky, treasurer, asked the members to send in their forms with their checks for their membership dues for 2015. He also stated that tool steel is available for those who would like to make some of their own tools for woodturning.

The meeting was adjourned so that the monthly raffle could be held and the demonstration of using the skew by Ben Fix could begin.

Ben Fix, Skew Demonstration Dec. 13, 2014

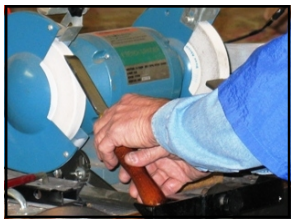
Respectfully submitted
Jerry Schaible, Sec.

Ben introduced the demonstration by saying that there are various levels of proficiency in the use of the skew. He felt that it was directly proportional to the amount of time that one is able to spend using that tool. He felt that the first group were those who are novices and have been introduced to the use of the tool but have not been able to get the desired quality of use that they wanted and then just never used it again or used it very little. The second group are

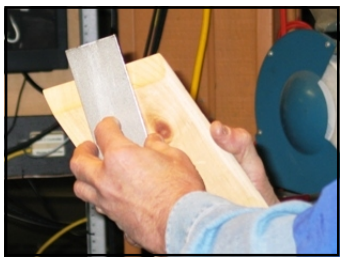
those people that have acquired the use of the tool to a point that they can see much better results than when they were in group no. 1. Group no. 3 is made up of those individuals who are extremely proficient and skilled in the use of the tool. The fourth group is made up of those that tour the country giving demonstrations and have written books or articles on the use of the skew. The fifth group are those that turn professionally every day for their job and have the skew in their hands continuously, but have no time to help others or give demos.

Ben indicated that he will attempt to concentrate on the problems that people have when they are trying to use the skew for simple turning projects. Some of those problems were acquired when he quizzed the members on what were their serious problems with using the skew. He said that he will attempt to describe catches, gouges made with the skew, anatomy of the skew, a skew slide, a curved skew, and tool presentation to the wood surface.

In describing the anatomy of the skew, one has to take into consideration the traditional grind that appears on most skews. This is where there is a straight line from the toe of the skew to the heel. This straight line is the sharpened edge that will touch the wood for the smooth cut. This straight line is "skewed" or slanted to one side. Traditionally this straight line from toe to heel is 70 degrees. The slope of the bevel should be 24 degrees. Ben did feel that the accuracy of these measurements really does not matter and it does not matter how you grind it. He said that the real concentration should be on where you find the "sweet spot" on the turning edge. Some users of the skew have felt that the length of the bevel should be 1 ½ times the width of the tool steel. The second type of grind is the arc. In this style of grind, there is an arc between the toe and the heel of the skew. From the toe, there is a flat / straight grind for approximately 1/3 the overall distance and then a more pronounced arc toward the heel. To help in sharpening these grinds, the Wolverine jig makes a skew accessory where the handle of the tool sits in a V-groove of the device. This device clamps onto the V-bar of the Wolverine Jig. You are to use both sides of the device to sharpen both sides of the skew.

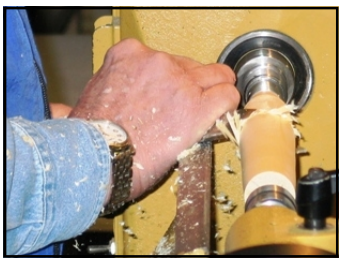


There are different styles of skews that are now on the market. There are narrow skews that are about 1/4" wide up to skews that are 1 ½" or wider. Most skews come with a rectangle shaped cross section of steel. There are oval skews, as well as round skews for various types of cuts. Ben mentioned that the oval and round skews do not work very well. However he did mention that you can roll beads easily with these shapes. On the rectangle cross section skews, Ben likes to have a rounded edge from the short heel edge of the cutting surface. He stated that it moves easily along the tool rest with that rounded edge. He cautioned that a turner should make sure that the tool rest is flat and that there are no nicks in the surface. He said that if you find a distressed tool rest, one should use a metal file and clean up the edge so that the skew can move smoothly. Ben does use a diamond stone to hone the edge of the skew. He feels that you can get about three or four honed events before you have to go back to the grinder to sharpen the tool again. He feels that the tool will last that much longer before you have to purchase a replacement. He stated that you bring the flat stone up to and touch the heel or thick part of the bevel and then roll the stone to the sharp edge and then make several slides of the stone toward the edge. Ben also mentioned that one can reduce the catches and digs into the wood turning blanks by using a drive center that has enough pressure to make the preferred cut but if a dig in or catch occurs, then the blank will just spin and the piece will be

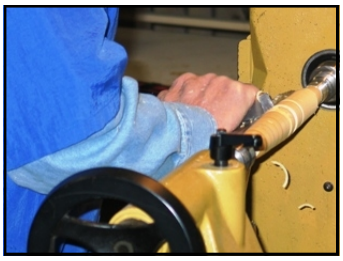


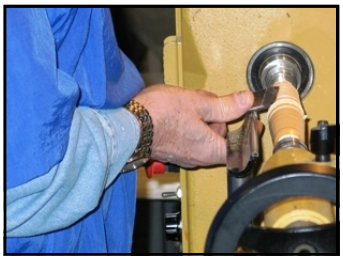
saved. The drive center is merely a cup center with a center point. This would mimic the design of the old tailstock dead centers that used to be waxed when used in the tailstocks. These do provide enough friction for you to turn the beads and coves desired. The pressure can always be adjusted by turning the hand wheel of the tailstock. Ben also mentioned that one should measure the diameter of the turning blank and multiply it times the revolutions per minute of the lathe speed setting. He stated that the inches X RPM should equal between 6000 and 9000. Please be informed that this is just a raw number comparison. However if one is getting a vibration from a higher speed, then one should reduce the speed until the vibration ceases.

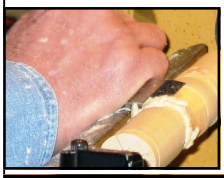
The tool presentation should be at a 45 degree angle to the spinning wood blank. Different woods have different properties and therefore the turning experience may be different. In some woods, the shavings come off easily whereas other woods, there may be considerable chip out. The entry of the skew into the wood at the end of the blank should be with the short heel end. A planing cut should provide a smooth straight surface as the skew moves across the blank. A V-cut is made with the toe of the skew into the wood blank with the long point down. To make the V-cut deeper, one can take another millimeter on the left side of the initial cut and another millimeter cut on the right side of the V-cut. More successive cuts can be made to make the V-cut even deeper into the blank. A rolling cut is used to make a bead. Use a planing cut on top of a bead and inset it into a V-groove. A scoop cut is a slender cove on the rounded blank. Here you are trying to make a valley between two higher points. You can use the skew



high up on the blank and then when you get to the middle of the cut, then scoop up at the end of the cut or at the low point of the valley. An end grain cut is where you are trying to make a cut at the end of the blank, like when making a rolling pin. Use the scraper with the point down and the side of the bevel at a perpendicular point to the end of the blank. If the bevel goes in at an angle, then the skew may skate down the round turning blank and produce an unwanted spiral cut. A pommel cut is when you have a round tenon on one end of the square blank and you want to transition from the square sides of the blank to the round tenon. This is done with light cuts from the corners toward the round tenon. Ben mentioned that most catches or digs occur when the turner has completed the cut and tries to remove the tool. Concentration is needed in order to remove the tool correctly and not lay the tool over or touch the sides of the beads that have just been completed. In using the skew to make many of the cuts referred to above, one needs to use the bottom third of the cutting surface edge of the skew. If one moves up to high on the point, then you are going to get a catch or dig in. The main reason for that is that at the lower 1/3 of the cutting edge, the tool is supported at the heel edge adequately on the tool rest. If one moves up toward the toe of the cutting edge, then that is in an area that is unsupported by the tool rest and a catch will result.







A very nice project to make where one can practice these cuts would be a small Christmas tree made out of pine. Turn the shape

of the tree as desired by being thin at the top and wider at the bottom. Mark off ½" lines around the blank tree until you reach the top. At the base of the tree mark off three points from the center point approximately ¼" apart. Indent those points. With the long point down make a cut at every third line. Reset the drive center to one of the other points and then make a V-cut the second line up towards the top of the tree. Then move to the third indent for the drive center and make the V-cut at the third lines of the piece. The result will be some V-cuts that are layered around the tree and at different locations. These could be colored or dyed to enhance the appearance of the tree.

Ben recommends the readings of David Reed Smith or Mike Darlow for additional hints on using the skew. These authors have written numerous books and articles on the subject.

Ben turning a carrot….

A few pictures from Hartville Tool Sale. Submitted by club member BJ Wrobel. Thanks BJ!

Show and Tell pictures.

Calendar of Events

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

January 10, 2015……Tim Niewiadomski, Square bowl

February 14, 2015….George Raeder, vacuum chucks

March 14, 2015……Dave Wells, using a bearing to support spindle turning.

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BWWT OFFICERS FOR 2015

President
Bill Stone
330-896-3687
wilsto@neo.rr.com

Vice President
Richard Rohr
330-484-2830
ritchard.rohr@powellind.com

Secretary
Gerald Schaible
330-673-6512
gschaible001@neo.rr.com

Treasurer
Mark Stransky
330-688-1690
mastran@neo.rr.com

Librarian
Dirk Falther
330-310-4570
dfalther3@att.net

Librarian
Bob Hasenyager
330-334-8314
bobhasenyager@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor
Bob Stone
330-928-3221
bstone@neo.rr.com

Web Master
John Adams
440-838-1122
JADAMS@NACS.NET

Membership Admin.
Phil Brower
330-688-7244
fbtoad@aol.com