



Contains January 2019 Minutes

February, 2019

**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  
January 12, 2017**

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

### \*\*\*\*\*Note\*\*\*\*\*

**Buckeye Woodturners Meeting  
Camp Y Noah  
Jan. 12, 2019**

*Respectfully submitted,  
Paul Crouse*

The new presiding club president, Tom Nellis introduced himself along with the other two new members of the board; Dirk Falther as treasurer, Paul Crouse as Secretary as well as our new joining members.

Awards and Recognition: Tom Nellis recognized David Wells as out-going club president and new advisor for his dedication, & thanked him on behalf of the club with a \$100 Hartville Hardware gift certificate. Tom also recognized both Mark Stransky (former club treasurer) with an engraved Thompson tool handle and detail gouge for his 6 years of service, and Kim Ambrose (former secretary) with



\$50 gift certificate to Hartville Hardware. He personally thanked all the members that played a pivotal role in the logistics and movement of the club's new Powermatic lathe into the club house. Gayle Seymour was recognized for his voluntary upgrades to the club



house building at no cost to the club. Name Tag Winner was Lee McFarland and Show-n-Tell winner, Tim Niewiadomski. The following personnel received a \$20 gift certificate awarded to them for their dedication and selfless service to the club as a "Behind-the-scenes" contributors:

Marshall Holmes, Ray Marr, Bill Stone, Richard Rohr, George Raeder, Darryl Doby, Keith Bellamy, Jack Boggio, Gayle Seymour, & Hoby Horn.

### Announcements:

The AAW has announced that the process of Lichtenburg (electric rod) burning is now banned for demonstration purposes for all registered woodturning and wood crafting clubs affiliated with them due to the high risk of accidental injury and death. The Buckeye woodturning club followed suit and has also banned this activity as well, to meet in compliance with the AAW by-laws.

BWWT Challenge by Mark Stranski was announced. Each participant will receive a blank of wood (3.5" x 3.5" x 7") and a copy of the challenge rules. The quarterly contest starts as of February and all entries must be turned in by May. Winner will receive a \$20 gift card from Hartville Hardware.

Dirk Falther (club treasurer) announced the current financial spending report to the club members and discussed how the club acquires revenue to pay for demonstrations, activities and awards/recognitions.

Tom Nellis requested that members submit names for the clubs "Hall of Fame" nominees to be presented to the next officers meeting.

**Simultaneous Bowl Turning**  
**Bob Stone, George Raeder & Dirk Falther**  
**Jan. 12, 2019**

*Respectfully submitted,*  
*Paul Crouse*

For the first time ever, BWWT had three club members giving a demonstration, with all three lathe operators turning and instructing simultaneously. Dirk



Falther, Bob Stone and George Raeder demonstrated various techniques of bowl turning using a variety of tools and methods, while answering questions from club members.



Dirk Falther introduced and demonstrated various bowl blank mounting techniques such as face plate mounting, chuck mounting and chuck worm screw mounting. He addressed the many

pros and cons of each method as well as the safety concerns of the different methods. Dirk focused on how to create an ogee curve profile bowl and his method



for laying out and turning the curve transitions on the bowl blank. He also demonstrated how to use a padded PVC pipe jam-chuck on the headstock/chuck along with the tailstock to finish the bowl bottom without marking the inside of the bowl.

Bob Stone discussed the use of eye protection with prescription lenses, face shields, proper clothing and how to wear it. He said that prescription safety glasses are subsidized and are very reasonably priced.

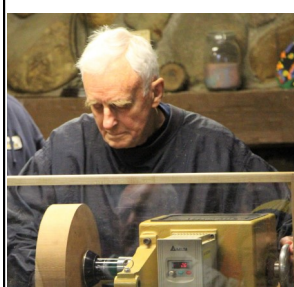


Bob also demonstrated the various types of turning tools he uses in bowl turning such



as gouges and negative rake scrapers. Negative rake scrapers are easily made from standard scrapers by grinding back the surface below the cutting edge—Bob grinds this lower

surface at a 60 degree angle. And he grinds the top back at a 30 degree angle, giving the scraper a cutting edge similar to a skew. This allows him to lay the tool flat on the tool rest and gently scrape the outside surface of the bowl for a better turned finish on the end-grain sections and less sanding. Bob prefers HSS tools over carbide for bowl turning as he feels they cut a smoother surface if used properly.



George Raeder demonstrated how to rough turn a green wood blank. He tries to turn the green blank to a wall thickness that's 10% of the overall blank diameter/width. The rough-turned blank is then left to dry for up to a year or more. He moves the

blank outside to his shed in the winter when the humidity is low and brings it back in to his basement in the spring. A large diameter blank can shrink up to a couple inches across the grain of the wood and the rim will warp as well. After the drying is complete, a new recess must be turned on the bottom of the blank and

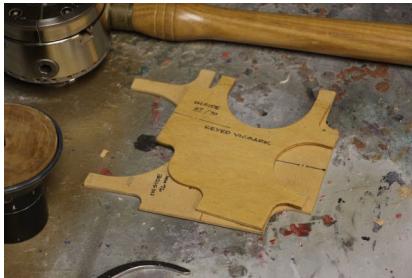






the blank must be re-turned back into round. There are several ways to do this, but George likes to carefully mount the rough blank using the original bottom recess and turn a new spigot on the inside of the bowl.

George uses a set of templates he made to size recesses & tenons so they fit properly in his chucks. You have to be careful to leave enough



thickness in the rough blank to allow for this, but once the inside spigot is turned, it can be used to bring the old bottom spigot back into round. After the new bottom recess is complete the blank can be turned to its final shape and finished. George prefers a simple curve on the

outside of the bowl that runs continuously from below the rim to the very bottom of the bowl, with the foot of the bowl included in this arc.



Meeting was adjourned at 11:45am.

## Help for new turners:

Here's a link to a great AAW article on ["Turning Your Very First Bowl"](#)



Also, more bowl turning tips for beginners:

## Twenty Ways not to turn a bowl

By Nick Cook

(Excerpted from the Spring 2006 American Woodturner)

### Stop! Don't do that!

**1 Too big.** You will learn a lot more about turning techniques by turning lots of small, shallow bowls than you ever will by turning one or two really large pieces.

**2 Too valuable.** Whatever you do, do not pay for practice wood. There is plenty of free wood out there—the stuff really does grow on trees. Ask around at your AAW chapter; you'll find a resourceful group with plenty of practice pieces.

**3 Too hard.** Green wood is a great way to start. Wood lots and local tree cutters are great sources for practice materials.

**4 Too deep.** Start out with a small (8"-diameter) platter before attempting any type of bowl. When you are comfortable with that, transition to a shallow bowl—just slightly deeper, but still about 8" in diameter. Keep the form open rather than making the openings smaller. The smaller the opening, the harder it is to cut the interior.

**5 Not ready for prime time, (or finish).** Don't worry about applying finish to anything—that will come later. Think practice pieces. I suggest that you use a screw chuck or faceplate and turn shapes that resemble bowl forms until you get to the point of becoming comfortable with the bowl gouge. When you get to where you do not have to think about what the tool is doing, you are ready to turn a bowl. Once you get a few decent-looking forms, turn the bowl around and begin hollowing the interior. Then, get out the finish.

**THE RIGHT SPEED** Too often, novice woodturners go from turning spindles to turning bowls without adjusting the lathe speed. Too big and too fast is a deadly combination.

**Stop! Don't do that!**

**6Too much speed.** Before mounting stock between centers or on a faceplate or chuck, switch on the lathe without anything mounted. This will give you the opportunity to see where the speed was set when the lathe was last used. Developing this habit will prevent an accident. I encourage students to reduce the speed of their machines at the end of every turning session. This is easy on variable-speed lathes, but I meet resistance to this when students are learning on machines with step pulleys. Do it anyway; it's never too early to develop good safety habits.

**7Too much of a hurry.** Another problem that can ruin your day occurs when you have a large piece on the lathe and stop the machine too quickly. This happened to my friend Andy Marinos, who suggested adding this tip to the Don't Do! list. To turn the bottom of a bowl, Andy mounted his large flat jaws on his scroll chuck and mounted the rim of the bowl in the jaws. Without checking the speed, he turned on the lathe. It was going much too fast for the task at hand. Andy quickly hit the stop button on the machine, and the motor stopped. But, the chuck and the bowl had enough momentum to keep spinning—even with the lathe stopped. When it came off the spindle, the assembly caught his hand between it and the tool rest. Andy's wound required numerous stitches. Here's a safer plan: Start the lathe at a low speed or use the setscrew in the chuck to lock it onto the spindle.

**8Standing in the wrong place.** You should always stand to one side of the workpiece (out of the path of the spinning blank) when you turn on your lathe.

**THE RIGHT TOOL**

Before anyone stands in front of a lathe, I review all of the tools, their uses, and how to sharpen each. I identify each tool, explain how it is used, show how to sharpen it, and also show the various cuts that can be made. I also explain what each tool is not designed to do. But sometimes, that's not enough.

Stop! Don't do that!

**9No roughing-out gouge for bowl work.** For bowl turning, never turn with a roughing gouge. This should be a no-brainer, but I have seen it done. In my mind, this tool should be referred to as a spindle roughing gouge. Here's a classic example. One student mounted a large, square blank on a lightweight

lathe and turned it on at too high of speed. Needless to say, I screamed from across the room, "Stop, don't do that!" When I got to where he was working, I also discovered that he was about to attack the piece with a 1¼" spindle roughing gouge. Oh, and it wasn't sharpened yet; it had just come out of the box. You should not use the skew on a bowl either!

**10Big gap at tool rest.** One of the most common problems is extending the tool too far out over the tool rest. Many times, students will continue cutting without moving the rest any closer to the blank. Once the tool extends more than 1" or so beyond the rest, stop the machine and move the tool rest closer. Lathe tools have been known to break over the tool rest—a very bad thing. The height of the tool rest is determined by the tool you are using and your height and stance. Always place the tool on the rest first, touch the back of the tool to the blank, then gently lift the tool handle until the bevel makes contact with the wood. This will ensure the bevel supports the cutting edge. You will be less likely to get catches this way.

**11Moving tool rest with lathe running.** Don't even think about it! Never move the tool rest with the lathe running.

**12Not following the curve.** It is not uncommon for a beginner to make straight cuts along the length of the tool rest, correctly move the rest closer but continue to cut in a straight line. To produce better profiles, move the tool rest around the shape of the bowl. The result is a cone-shaped bowl. This is where a curved tool rest can be helpful, although not a necessity. Work on a continuous curve—not thinness.

**13Wrong direction.** For face-grain bowls, cut uphill or from bottom to top on the exterior of the bowl. On the interior of your bowl, cut downhill or from the rim to the center.

**14No body movement.** You are not bolted to the floor. To produce better curves, use your body and move it through an arch. Learn that "woodturner's sway." Place the tool handle against your hip and hold the handle with your right hand near the shaft and your left hand on the tool rest. Keep your left hand on the tool rest throughout the cut to provide additional support. Remember, if you move your feet, you move the pivot and lose the curve. Learn to swing your body, but don't move your feet.

**15Dull tools.** Beginners also have a problem determining whether a tool is sharp or not. It takes experience to be able to tell. Different woods react differently to being cut. Most beginners merely increase

pressure as the cutting edge gets dull. This can be dangerous. When in doubt, sharpen the tool. And, the best way to sharpen a tool for beginners is with jigs and fixtures; they all work, and they all provide excellent results. Hand-sharpening also works after you learn what you are doing, but the jigs and fixtures will provide consistent results each and every time. Be sure to touch up your edge on the grinder before making your final cut. A dull tool will pull or tear at the fibers, leaving a surface that you can't sand smooth. This is especially true on end grain. Each instructor will show you his or her favorite grind for the bowl gouge. They all work if you take the time to learn how to use them. It is more important that you learn to consistently reproduce the grind you are using than which profile you choose. Grinding by hand is important to learn, but for the beginner, jigs and fixtures are a great help.

**16Too much pressure.** Another common problem is applying too much pressure when cutting the surface. This will force the heel of the tool into the surface and bruise the fibers, leaving lines that remain invisible until you apply finish. Yikes! These lines are almost impossible to sand away. You must recut the surface. Relax and let the cutting edge do the work rather than forcing it. The right mount A lot of bowl-turning problems begin with how the material is attached to the lathe. Because every new lathe is shipped with a faceplate, this is the obvious choice for the beginning woodturner. Stop! Don't do that!

**17Wrong screws.** Trouble can begin at the first step when you screw the blank to the faceplate. Here, several problems can occur. It usually starts with drywall screws; they are too thin and too brittle. You exacerbate the problem when you draw up drywall screws with a power screwdriver, which pulls them up tight and snaps them. Sheet metal screws are a better choice to attach turning stock to a faceplate. These screws are casehardened and have deeper and sharper threads. Make sure you choose a length that is appropriate. Square-drive screws are also popular and are much easier to remove from hardwood. For securing turning stock, one size does not fit all. For an 8"- diameter blank that is up to about 2" thick, I recommend #8×¾" screws. For a 14×8" blank, secure with #14×1½" hardened screws.

**18Difficult grain.** You must also consider the material you will be putting the screws into. End grain requires larger and longer screws. Beware of punky or spalted woods; once the wood has started to decay, it is extremely difficult to get a screw to hold. Sapwood does not hold screws as well as heartwood. To be on the safe side, bring up the tail-

stock with a live center for insurance. This will give additional support if the screws do not hold. Choose turning stock that offers a better chance for success. Dale Nish says it best: "Life is too short to turn crappy wood!"

**19Poor grip.** Once you get excited about turning, it probably won't be long before you purchase a 4-jaw scroll chuck, which I think holds material better on the lathe. However, this chuck has its own set of challenges. I have had many instances where students have made tenons too small or the recesses too shallow. Either case can cause the blank to separate from the chuck. Punky wood and sapwood present the same challenges and grain problems as noted above.

**20Loose fit.** Green wood requires you to tighten the jaws of the chuck repeatedly as moisture is forced from the blank. Just as with the faceplate, remember to use the tailstock and center whenever possible. Turn safely and have fun. But by all means, think about what you are doing and consider the risks involved. If you are unsure, ask someone with more experience. If it looks dangerous, it probably is. "Stop, don't do that!"

Nick Cook ([nickcook@earthlink.net](mailto:nickcook@earthlink.net)) is an American Woodturner contributing editor.

## Calendar of Events

### PLEASE NOTE

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

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SHALL ENTER OR EXIT THE  
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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 de-  
scriptions on the subject matter and other useful  
information. Follow the link below to check it out.

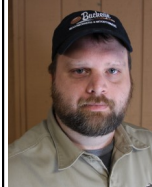
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## BWWT OFFICERS FOR 2018



### **President**

Tom Nellis  
330-947-3441  
brewmeister43@hotmail.com



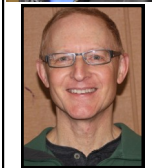
### **Vice President**

Brent Wells  
330-606-6724  
thegrumpywoodchuck@  
gmail.com



### **Secretary**

Paul Crouse  
330-432-9659  
paulecrouse@hotmail.com



### **Treasurer**

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



### **Librarian**

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



### **Newsletter Editor**

Keith Bellamy  
330-221-2845  
akbellamy@gmail.com



### **Membership Admin.**

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