



Turner's Talk



By: Steve Heathman

**February's Meeting is on the 26th
Using a Coring System by Joel Benson**

CECIL CRAVEN'S BOX JOINT BOWL DEMONSTRATION

By Steve Heathman

Cecil Craven put on a fantastic demonstration in January. He spent the first half of his demonstration discussing the jigs he uses to make many of the designs in his furniture and turnings.



Cecil Craven

Photo by Howard Malone

The theme for this month's demonstration was Box Joint Bowls. Cecil spends many hours setting up, cutting and gluing his Box Jointed bowl blanks before he turns them. He explained the precise angles that must be achieved before a five sided Box Jointed bowl can be cut. Once the

Box Joint was cut and glued he holds them in place for a minute or two, then sets them aside to dry. He then cuts and fits the bottom. Elmers glue and saw dust are Cecil's preferred method for filling in inclusions.



Cecil Craven Photo by Howard Malone

He likes the way the glue dries clear and has that natural look. A waist block is then glued to the bottom and mounted on a face plate for turning.



Cecil Craven

Cecil's tool of choice for shaping his bowls is a sharp scraper. By using the scraper over the bowl gouge, he is able to make less gouges and chip outs. Cecil said because of the way the bowl is put together, it's very easy to catch the gouge at the joints.



Cecil Craven

He used a lot of words I personally have never heard (I must of spent to much time day dreaming in class). When he showed us a Dodecahedron, I thought to my self, way cool but there has to be an easier word to describe his work. When I got home I pulled out my handy Webster and looked up the word. If anyone else was scratching their

heads like I did, here is the definition.

Do*dec`a*he"dron\, n. [Gr. ?; ? twelve + ? seat, bottom, base: cf. F. dod[*e*]ca[*e*]dre.] (Geom. & Crystallog.) A solid having twelve faces. Note: The regular dodecahedron is bounded by twelve equal and regular pentagons; the pyritohedron (see Pyritohedron) is related to it; the rhombic dodecahedron is bounded by twelve equal rhombic faces.

Don't forget to Renewal your Membership

Presidents Corner:

By Hershel Miller



Hershel Miller Photo by Howard Malone

Thanks – To Cecil Cravens for an outstanding demonstration on “Box Joint” construction and for sharing with us several methods of achieving multi-angled saw setup procedures. Not that I proclaim to have neither patience nor skills to accomplish any of these projects – nevertheless, they certainly were impressive!

Many thanks for all of the support in stowing our equipment and cleaning up after the meeting. As announced the facility has a funeral scheduled for 12:00 and we were requested to finished as not to interfere with the funeral.

The Year 2005 – Make it a safe one! Listen to your inner voice and obey the brief warning it will provide when you’re trying to do something the machine wasn’t designed to do or exceeding your skills for the task!!

Personal Goals for 2005 – There isn’t a better method of improving your turning skills than – practicing. Make a goal to select an item and turn it until you’re pleased enough to put it in the Instant Gallery!

Instant gallery – January’s gallery had an excellent variety – keep bringing your work!

Raffle – This is an excellent time of the year to work with green wood! It will keep longer and the lower temperatures allow it to dry at a slower rate resulting in less checking. So pick up that freshly cut wood and share some with club members through the raffle.

Programs – We have contacted two professional turners for the spring and summer time frame – if all goes well, we might be able to have two spring and/or summer weekend symposiums. As of this writing, we do not have a re-

sponse for our quarries.

From AAW – The average woodturner has been a member of AAW for 3 years and 33% of them are between 55-64 years old. Woodturning skills list 52% as intermediate turners. Another 35% admitted to spending 5-10 hours per week woodturning and about \$2,000.00 annually on woodturning.

The Skill of the Turner: – As with NASCAR racing and woodturning, a true professional can often work at higher speeds. As your skill and control improve, you can turn at greater speeds. However, unless you are a production turner working on a piece-rate schedule, high speeds are not really the answer – so be careful here. Even production turners have had serious accidents related to speed. In most cases, folks don’t really care how quickly you made something – only how well it turned out. Remember, accidents don’t just happen – most are caused!

Cheers, be safe and enjoy the Turning Experience,
Hershel

HELP WANTED

As always, I am looking for articles from you the turner for our Turner’s Talk newsletter. If you have been to another club meeting, woodturning event, turned something you would like to share or have any ideas, please let me know at the meeting or email me at: heathman@earthlink.net.

Thanks,
Steve Heathman
Editor of Turner’s Talk

January Meeting Minutes

By Steve Foldenauer

The meeting was called to order by President, Hershel Miller at 9:30 A.M. Hershel welcomed members and visitors to the meeting. The minutes from the November meeting were approved as printed in the newsletter. Our Treasurer, John Stubblefield, gave the Treasurer's report, which was approved. A total of at least 40 Members and 4 visitors signed in at the meeting. However, my head count said we had 50 attendees. Please be sure to sign in at the business table when attending our meetings.

Hershel reminded the members to be sure to renew their AAW and Midsouth Woodturners Guild memberships. Anyone who has not renewed their membership by the end of the January meeting will be dropped from the roster.

Hershel briefed the members on the John Jordan Symposium held in December. John was very informative and entertaining.

Per our new By-Laws, the newly elected 7 member board has met and elected Officers. The positions are:

Hershel Miller, President; Mike Kelly, 1st Vice President; Norm Fowler, 2nd Vice President; John Stubblefield, Treasurer; Steve Foldenauer, Secretary; Chuck Ludwigsen and Steve Heathman, Board Members.

Board members are normally elected for a 2 year term with 3 board positions re-elected in odd numbered years and 4 positions in even numbered years. This stagger insures some continuity in the board membership. To initiate this stagger, 3 board positions will be up for re-election in November 2005 and 4 positions in November 2006.

To date, 62 members have renewed their membership and we have 8 new members. Our annual dues are \$15 and you must be an AAW member. Please renew your member-

ship if you have not already done so.

Refreshments including donuts, sodas and coffee were provided by the club.

Our demonstrator for the January meeting was Cecil Cravens. Cecil showed us how to prepare and turn bowls and vessels with box-joint and other decorative construction techniques. The demonstration was very informative and entertaining.

Upcoming activities include:

February 26: Using a Coring System, Joel Benson.

March 26: Taming the Skew, Bill Newsom.

April 23: Lidded Candy Dish, Mike Kelly.

See you all in February.

Steve Foldenauer, Secretary

Raffle Notes:

Participating In the raffle each month is important. Your donations help support club functions such as monthly refreshments, prizes and lunch for our October Turning Festival. Plus, there's always the chance that you'll win that - prize piece of wood - or another useful item.

Donating to the Raffle:

Thanks to following individuals:

Terry Reynolds Chuck Ludwigsen
DuPree Cooper John Williams

Raffle Challenge! We're challenging everyone to bring something for the raffle! Donate a tool you no longer use, wood, a piece you've lost interest in, sandpaper, books, or just about anything related to wood turning. Gift Certificates are also great.

SHOP TALK

By Steve Heathman



This month I walked next door to visit my turning mentor, Joe Hagan. I met Joe in July of 2002. Our houses were being built at the same time, right next to each other. My Realtor informed me my neighbor worked with wood so I was excited to meet him.

Joe tells me he picked up his first lathe a Twin tube Craftsman Table top Lathe in the seventies. He started attending MSWT meetings in the early nineties when the meetings were on Sunday afternoon at Colco. When the meetings moved to Saturdays, he had to give them up because this was time he spent helping out at their book store.

After they sold the business and retired for good, he started attending the meetings again. It was at this time he got serious about turning and bought a new Delta 1642 from Colco. I helped him unload it and set it up. I think I was as excited as he was. I spent hours watching Joe turn bowls and boxes. I still remember the night he put a bowl blank on the lathe and handed me a bowl gouge and said have a go at it.

Joe likes turning just about anything, but lately has been working on segmented bowls. He enjoys the challenge of designing, using his wood working skills and finally turning it on the lathe.



Above picture shows a new design glued and clamped-up. This will be used in a new bowl Joe has designed,

He showed me lots of pictures of segmented bowls and told me one day I will make one. Well turns out that Jim Dunham donated a rough segmented bowl to the raffle and Joe won it. After he finished turning it, he was hooked!

Picture to the left is Joe's very first segmented bowl that he designed, built and turned.



Keep up the great work! We hope to see some of your masterpieces at our future galleries.

Instant Gallery Notes:

What have you been working on? What demonstration have you seen or tried? The Instant Gallery isn't just for finished items! Bring a mistake and we'll try to help you solve some techniques and/or share the do's and don't with other members. Remember, the way the "expert" does it—may not work for you. Try new ways until you feel comfortable with the shape, cut or technique. Seventeen members had items displayed in our last instant gallery.

Terry Reynolds

Don Faragon

Larry Marley

Wayne Cathey

Chuck Ludwigsen

Ruck Gillespie

Howard Malone

Keith Burns

John Ginski

Brad McCollum

Joan Kelly

Eddie Mitchell

Joe Griggs

Zach Ludwigsen

Bill Shaw

John Williams

John Wilcher

DuPree Cooper

What a great Gallery! Unfortunately, I was not able to include all of the pictures in the newsletter. Check out the web page in the January gallery for additional pictures not published in the newsletter. Please continue to bring items to future meetings. It's great to see enthusiastic members participating. This month's gallery had such a variety. From natural edge bowls, hollow forms, Christmas ornaments and Pens. I hope I didn't miss anything.

Instant Gallery

Our Instant Gallery had numerous items. All very beautiful and exquisitely turned. The following is a sample of the items in our gallery



LEFT: Zach Ludwigen
Mushroom turned from Pecan
FAR LEFT: Joan Kelly
Natural Edge Bowl from Box Elder
RIGHT: Wayne Cathey
Vase Turned from Cherry
FAR RIGHT: Terry Reynolds
Footed Natural Edge Bowl



Far Left: Chuck Ludwigen
Salt & Pepper Shakers from Walnut and Ash

LEFT: Don Farage
Vase turned from Carved Birch
RIGHT: Bill Shaw
Hollow Form turned from Cherry



FAR LEFT: Joe Griggs
Bowl turned from Birch Burl

LEFT: John Williams
Vase turned from Walnut
RIGHT: Keith Burns
Segmented Vase turned from Zebra and Bloodwood



LEFT: Rick Gillespie
Bowl turned from Spalted Birch

RIGHT: John Wilcher
Pen & Pencil turned from Buckeye Burl



LEFT: Eddie Mitchell
Carved Bowl turned from Magnolia

FAR RIGHT: Larry Marley
Vessel turned from Sycamore
RIGHT: John Ginski
Threaded Box turned from Red Oak



LEFT: Howard Malone
Goblet turned from Mahogany

RIGHT: Brad McCollum
Lidded Vase turned from Maple Burl



The Basis of Proportions

By: Hershel Miller

Proportion is a fundamental sign. Subtle changes in proportion produce substantial changes in a piece and determine whether it is graceful or awkward. All other efforts in design and detailing are in vain if the proportions of a piece are not right.

Proportions are either relative or absolute.

Relative - proportion is the size of one portion in relation to another, and indeed in relation to the overall piece.

Absolute - proportion is defined as the relation of an object to itself, for example, the proportion of overall width to the base or foot.

How are proportions established? Sometimes they are suggested by function or space limitations, but when there are no given restraints, pleasing proportions can initially be arrived at through formulas. Some of these follow. It's interesting to note that proportioning systems were originally developed by architects in search of visual order.

Good proportion can therefore be achieved only when the entire piece is considered the proportion of the front to the side, for instance, as well as the proportions of the front within itself. Remember, any proportioning system should be used only as a starting point for making design decisions. Design is not an exercise in geometry. There really isn't any right or wrong system for any given problem, and there is no system that by itself can solve all proportioning problems. In addition, factors such as composition, detailing, structure, texture and color can affect the proportion of a piece by changing what the eye most readily perceives. This distortion can be used to advantage by a designer when basic proportion is dictated by function or space requirements, because it allows what might be an unpleasing proportion to be visually altered.

Probably the best-known and most widely used proportioning system is the Golden Section, which seems to satisfy our sense of harmony better than any other. The basis of the golden section is that a division of a length or a shape is such that the smaller is to the greater as the greater is to the whole. This ratio is 1 to 1.618, approximately 5 to 8.

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TOXIC WOOD

By: Steve Heathman

I was asked to provide an article on Toxic wood and the potential effects on us as wood turners. So, I type Toxic wood into Google and spent the next three hours taking notes. I'm sure I didn't even scratch the surface.

Seems that developing a reaction to a specific wood really depends on the individual. All wood has the potential to make us sick. Therefore, it is important to recognize a possible reaction to a specific species of wood. A reaction can be as simple as nasal discomfort and eye irritation to migraines, breathing difficulties and possibly death.

I'm no expert on Toxic woods, but from what I read the problems people experience are from the dust produced while working a piece of wood. Make sure you have a good dust removal system and wear protective gear. It's always important to clean up after turning to get all the dust and sap off your skin. Even if you don't experience any symptoms or allergic reaction, it is possible to develop sensitivities to a species that can result in a severe reaction.

Below is a list of the most common woods known to cause irritation or reaction in wood workers, along with the possible effects.

Blackwood: sensitizer/eye & skin

Cocobolo: irritant/respiratory, eye & skin

Dahoma: sensitizer/respiratory

Ebony: irritant, sensitizer/respiratory, eye & skin

Greenheart: sensitizer/respiratory, eye & skin

Iroko: irritant/respiratory, eye & skin

Mansonia: irritant/respiratory, eye & skin

Mimosa: irritant/nasal

Myrtle: sensitizer/respiratory

Obeche: sensitizer/respiratory, eye & skin

Olivewood: sensitizer/respiratory, eye & skin

Padauk: irritant/respiratory, eye & skin, nausea

Peroba rose: sensitizer/respiratory

Rosewood(s): irritant, sensitizer/respiratory, eye & skin

Satinwood: irritant/respiratory, eye & skin

Teak: sensitizer/eye & skin

Wenge: sensitizer/respiratory, eye & skin

W. redcedar: sensitizer/respiratory, nasal cancer

Yew, Europe: irritant/eye & skin

Officers and Board Members

President - Hershel Miller, - hershelmm@aol.com

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1st VP - Mike Kelly - mdkelly@bellsouth.net -

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Secretary - Steven Foldenauer -

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Treasurer - John Stubblefield (H) 901-274-4581

Board Members:

Steve Heathman - heathman@earthlink.net

(H) 901-837-3720 (W) 901-874-3841

Chuck Ludwigsen (H) 901-485-4851

The Mid South Woodturner's Guild is a not for profit organization formed to promote and encourage the art of woodturning and in doing so promote and encourage the art and craft of woodturning in general. Membership is open to any individual and includes a subscription to the monthly newsletter. Meetings are held monthly at Central Christian Church, 531 S. McLean Blvd., Memphis, TN, on the fourth Saturday of each month at 9:30 am. Annual dues are \$15.00. Address inquiries about the to Mid South Woodturner's, c/o Hershel Miller, 4875 Black Gum, Millington, TN 38053. News letter items should be sent to Steve Heathman, 115 Haley Lane , Atoka, TN 38004 or heathman@earthlink.net. Send Web site items to Chuck Ludwigsen at chuck@ludwigsen.org

Meeting Format:

Club Business: 9:30 - 9:50am

Demonstration: 9:50 - 11:20am

Raffle: 11:20 - 11:30am - Items donated by members

Meeting Schedule:

Feb 26 - Using a Coring System - Joel Benson

Mar 26 - Taming the Skew - Bill Newsom

April 23 - Lidded Candy Dish - Mike Kelly

Member News:

Membership:

To date, 70 members have joined/renewed their membership. Our membership goal for the year 2005 is 100+.

• **January Meeting:**

40 members and 4 visitors

The Basis of Proportions Cont Fm PG 7

The golden section is found quite often in nature as well as in man-made objects over the centuries. Used in turning, it can help develop both the over all form and detail form of a piece.

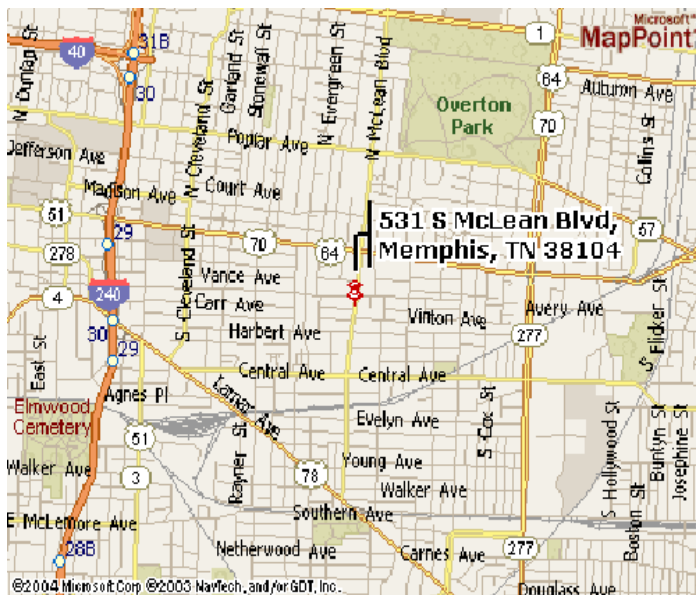
If you've never applied the golden section to one of your pieces, then it's time that you find a way to proportion your projects in a manner that makes them pleasing to the eye.

Classified:

OLDER DELTA (POS 32" BETWEEN CENTER) REVERSE SWITCH, TOOL REST AND FACE PLATE. READY TO PLUG-IN & TURN \$150.00

**Delta 13" model RC-33 PLANER
Delta stand, 2hp single phase motor, dust hood, Very good condition. \$750.00
CALL ROBERT JOHNSON AT 525-3200**

Please forward your items for sale, trade, or free to Steve Heathman at heathman@earthlink.net or call (901) 837-3720. Items will be published in the newsletter for one month only. Deadline for entry is the 5th of each month.





SPECIAL

**JET ELECTRONIC 17" VARIABLE SPEED
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E-mail: colco@colcofinewoods.com
Monday—Friday 8:00AM—5:00PM
Saturday 9:00AM—12:00 noon**



Class Schedule

RAISED PANEL DEMO	Sat, Feb 12th 12pm
WIPE-ON FINISHES	Sat, Feb 19th 12pm
Sanding and Finishing	Mon, Feb 21st 6-9pm
Finger Joint Jig	Sat, Feb 26th 12pm

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Phone: 901/755-7355 Fax: 901/755-2907
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